

All Masonic Trestleboard November | 2022



November Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2 Palisade Lodge Practice GJ Masonic Center 6:30 PM	3 Mesa Lodge Stated Communication GJ Masonic Center 7 PM	4	5 Palisade Lodge Stated Communication GJ Masonic Center 10 AM
6	7 Rainbow Girls Stated Meeting GJ Masonic Center 7 PM	8 Sunshine Chapter (OES) Stated Meeting GJ Masonic Center 7:30 PM	9 Temple Association GJ Masonic Center 6:30 PM Leadership Council GJ Masonic Center 8 PM	10 DeMolay Boys Stated Meeting GJ Masonic Center 7 PM	11 GJ Lodge Stated Com- munication GJ Masonic Center 7:30 PM	12 Shrine Club Veterans Day Parade 2 PM Down- town Grand Junction Shrine Club Annual Meet- ing GJ Masonic Center 4 PM
13	14 Temple Commandery Stated Meeting GJ Ma- sonic Center 7:30 PM	15 Fruita Lodge Stated Communication Fruita Masoinc Center 7 PM	16	17	18	19
20	21 Rainbow Girls Stated Meet- ing GJ Masonic Center 7 PM Scottish Rite Stated Meeting GJ Masonic Center 7:30 PM	22 Sunshine Chapter (OES) Stated Meeting GJ Masonic Center 7:30 PM	23	24 DeMolay Boys Stated Meeting GJ Masonic Center 7 PM	25	26
27	28	29	30 Palisade Lodge Officer Practice GJ Masonic Center 6:30 PM	1 All-Masonic Christmas Party GJ Masonic Center 6:30 PM	2	3 RiteCare Breakfast with Santa GJ Masonic Cen- ter 8-10 AM Palisade Lodge Stated Communication GJ Ma- sonic Center 10 AM

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Birthdays

Wish these Brothers a Happy Birthday the next time you see them.

- Charles Shear
- David Van Dyke
- Floyd E. Williams
- Gene Dreher
- Glen Revelle
- Gregory Motz
- Harry Marshall
- Jack Biddle
- Jerry Nisbet
- Jim Marshall
- Jimmy McBride
- Michael Murphy
- Ricardo Dominguez
- Roger Phillips
- Vernon Dillard
- Waymond Perona
- William Clarke
- William Sightler III

Masonic Anniversaries

Wish these Brothers a Happy Anniversary on being Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason the next time you see them.

- Calvin Bilger
- Gregory Foster
- Gregory Motz
- Harry Webster
- James Williams
- Jeff Miller
- John Anderson
- Joseph Saunders
- Michael Day
- Nicholas Gazunis
- Reed Orr
- Richard Barkley
- Ross McIntyre
- Robert Johnson
- Waymond Perona
- William Brassette

Sickness & Distress

If you know of a Brother, his Widow or Orphan in distress please contact your local lodge Secretary to add him or them to the list.

- Roger Phillips broke his foot and ankle.

Temple Association



Linn Armstrong

New-New Stove

The new stove in the kitchen has been a problem since it was installed early this year. It is being returned and replacement should be installed within the next couple of weeks.

The Roof

The Temple Board has approved plans to replace the roof from from the dining room to Lodge Room 2. The work should begin in November sometime.

Remember the old adage, the best-laid plans of mice and men.

Notes:

To help with heating and cooling costs please close all doors leading to the hallways. Also, please refrain from posting signs, advertisements, notes and etc. on walls. The two spots west side of the snack room doors will be a \$25.00 to \$50.00 repair. Finally, the coffee pot is working as of now. Please don't place a plastic basket that holds Coffee on the warming plate.

Thank you for your attention.

President of the Temple Association Board

The Grand Junction Masonic Center Temple Association meets on the second Wednesday of each month, except for July and August, at 6:30 PM in the Snack Room of the Grand Junction Masonic Center. Any member of the Masonic bodies of the Grand Junction Masonic Center are welcome to attend the meetings.

*Masonic
Christmas
Fair*

*Gifts, Jewelry, Crafts, Food, and much more!
Open to the Public*

Saturday, December 10

From 10 AM to 3 PM

*For more information & to register go to
www.MasonicFamilyGJ.org/ChristmasFair2022*



Mesa Lodge No. 55

Greetings Brothers and friends,

I want to begin with an announcement per the Mesa Lodge Bylaws. At our October State Communication, an amendment to the lodge bylaws was proposed to address the financial situation of the lodge. As you may be aware over the last several years our lodge has not been able to fulfill its financial obligations with the income from our lodge dues and the lodge has been losing thousands of dollars a year in savings.

To address this issue an amendment was proposed to restructure our dues to allow for the fluctuation of Grand Lodge Per Capita and Temple Rent Per Capita and allow us to meet the other administrative and operational costs we incur throughout the year. Each of you should have received an email or physical letter with the current bylaw and the proposed amendment. If you haven't received it please reach out to a lodge officer.

At our Stated Communication on Thursday, November 3rd, a quorum of the members present will discuss and vote on the proposed amendment. After which, if the amendment is approved, the revised bylaws will go to Grand Lodge and the Grand Master for approval.

I understand that this amendment may bring up strong feelings amongst our members and I encourage you to come to our meeting on November 3rd so that we can discuss this critical issue.

There are several other upcoming events that you should be aware of. First of which is the Election of Lodge Officers for 2023. The election of officers will be held at our meeting on November 3rd and the Joint Installation of Officers will be held at the Grand Junction Masonic Center on Friday, December 9th. Dinner will be at 6:30 PM with the installation ceremony at 7:30 PM.

Second, the Christmas Craft Fair is on Saturday, December 10th. To ensure the success of the craft fair

we need your help. If you or anyone you know would like to be a vendor at our craft fair please go to the craft fair website for instructions on how to register. We also need you to tell people about the craft fair so that we have lots of people showing up to shop. This craft fair is open to everyone and is not restricted to members of the Masonic Bodies of the Grand Valley. The more people that hear about it the more people will register as a vendor, and the more people will come to shop.

Third, this year the Masonic Bodies of the Grand Valley are participating in the Salvation Army Toy Drive. Donations of toys can be dropped off at the Grand Junction Masonic Center until the All-Masonic Christmas Party on Thursday, December 1st. If you wish to make a donation by cash or check for toys please send it to the address below and designate it as a donation for the toy drive and the lodge will use that money to buy toys for the toy drive.

Mesa Lodge
P.O. Box 2501
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Finally, the All-Masonic Christmas Party will be on Thursday, December 1st at 6:30 PM at the Grand Junction Masonic Center. The Sunshine Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star will be making a traditional Christmas Dinner and the Rainbow Girls will be auctioning off desserts as a fundraiser. We will also have a face painter and Santa will be dropping by so please bring your kids and your grandkids.

Please [RSVP HERE](#) for the evening.

Bro. Gregory Foster
Sr. Warden

Mesa Lodge No. 55 Officers

Worshipful Master	Harry Clark (PM) (970) 986-9315
Senior Warden	Gregory Foster (505) 350-0197
Junior Warden	Tim Claypool (PM) (970) 712-3280
Secretary	Christopher Geisler (970) 250-8979
Treasurer	John Groves (PM) (970) 261-5189
Senior Deacon	Andrew Weber (970) 312-4774
Junior Deacon	Tom Verdieck (PM) (970) 270-8504
Senior Steward	Buck Henry (970) 261-9138
Junior Steward	Kenny Whitson (620) 260-0817
Tiler	Jim Marshal (970) 712-9207
Dir. Of the Work	John Groves (PM) (970) 261-5189
Chaplain	Jason Kohles (PM) (970) 250-8004
Marshal	William Marshal (970) 260-5432

Mesa Lodge No. 55
Chartered: September 18, 1883

Meets the 1st Thursday of the month
in Lodge Room 1 of the Grand
Junction Masonic Center at 7:00 PM,
with dinner before lodge at 6:15 PM.

Dark: July & August

2022 Dinner Assignments

January.....Harry Clark
February..... Greg Foster
March.....Tim Claypool
April.....John Groves
May..... Chris Giesler
June..... Andrew Weber
July..... Dark (No Meeting)
August.....Picnic
September.....Jim Marshal
October.....Jason Kohles
November.....David Marshall
December..... Christmas Party

Fruita Masonic Lodge No. 120



Fruita Lodge No. 120
Chartered: September 21, 1904

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 106 N. Mulberry St Fruita, CO, 81521 at 7:00 PM, with a dinner before lodge at 6:00 PM

Dark: July & August

2022 Dinner Assignments

January Glen Phelps
February.....Naaman Moorehouse
March.....Gary Weiszbrod
April.....Jim McBride
May.....Ian Hughes
June.....Randy Rehwoldt
July.....Dark (No Meeting)
August.....Dark (No Meeting)
September.....Andrew Weber
October.....Jeff Koenig
November.....John Groves
December..... Lee Anderson

Hello Brethren,

Last month's joint communication with the Palisade Lodge, in its 54th year was a splendid event. Bro. Lee Anderson presented the masonic education for the evening with a talk about the life of the astronaut Gordon "Gordo" Cooper that had us on the edge of our seats at times, Gordo also had a western slope connection in that he spent summers at a home his parents had purchased in Carbondale to seek relief from the hot summers in Oklahoma where they lived. The evening was followed by a remarkably interesting discussion about our brothers at the Prince Hall Lodges and AF&AM recognition of those lodges.

November brings our yearly election of Lodge officers of the square, the level, and the plumb. These elections are to vote on new top lodge officers in the blue lodge. Any blue lodge that does not hold annual election of officers is considered irregular by most Grand Lodges.

These elections happen in the end of the year to elect the following years leadership team, so, I would like all Fruita Lodge members to attend our stated communication on the 15th of November.

Excerpt from Masonry for Dummies

There is supposed to be no politicking or campaigning for an officer's position. In the ideal lodge situation, each man simply advances each year, learning each position's duties and a portion of the Masonic ceremonies. By the time he becomes Worshipful Master of the lodge, he has

sat in every chair except the Secretary and Treasurer. He has learned public speaking, management of a volunteer organization, decorum, and responsibility. And eliminating the annual popularity contest for election that many groups suffer results in a smoother, friendlier line of succession. Any man, regardless of his social, business, or economic position outside the lodge room, may aspire to be Master of his lodge.

December will be step up night for the newly elected officers and appointed positions so, keep that in mind as we approach our meeting in December.

W. Bro. Glen Phelps



Joint Fruita Masonic Lodge & Palisade Lodge Communication Dinner

Fruita Lodge No. 120 Officers

Worshipful Master	Glen Phelps (970) 390-7146
Senior Warden	Naaman Moorehouse (970) 433-5570
Junior Warden	Gary Weiszbrod (970) 433-8978
Secretary	Randy Rehwoldt (PM) (970) 434-4608
Treasurer	Jimmy McBride (PM) (970) 683-1957
Senior Deacon	James Anthony (PM) (970) 306-1580
Junior Deacon	Andrew Weber (970) 312-4773
Senior Steward	Jeff Koenig (PM) (970) 318-1004
Junior Steward	Mike Murphy (970) 640-5570
Tiler	Lee Anderson (970) 846-8493
Director of the Work	Lee Anderson (970) 846-8493
Chaplain	
Marshal	

Palisade Lodge No. 125



Palisade Lodge No. 125
 Chartered: September 17, 1907
 Meets the 1st Saturday of the month
 in Lodge Room 1 of the Grand
 Junction Masonic Center

2022 Snack Assignments

January.....Naaman Moorehouse
 February.....Naaman Moorehouse
 March.....Jason Gaskill
 April.....David Krogh
 May.....Chad Davis
 June..... James Krogh
 July.....Greg Foster
 August.....Naaman Moorehouse
 September.....Don Halford
 October.....Kerry King
 November.....Harry Clark
 December.....Chris Eglet

Greetings From the East,

Well, it is almost the end of my year. It has been a privilege to be your Worshipful Master this past year. We accomplished a lot this year doing numerous Entered Apprentices and Fellow Craft degrees and raising Brothers to Master Masons and 2 more almost to the Third Degree.

We participated in numerous parades trying to make a presence in the community.

We all gave short talks about ourselves so that our brothers could get to know us better. Chad gave some excellent Masonic educational talks and it was much appreciated.

We had our Joint Communication with Fruita Masonic Lodge on 10/18 and it was great visiting with Brothers from another Lodge. The food and camaraderie were great and a good time was had by all who were there.

Right Worshipful Brother William Marshall brought up an interesting that all Lodges might have in the future, which caused a lot of discussions amongst the Brothers. Thanks, William.

In November we will be electing new officers, so make your choices for the good of Masonry. Thank you, Brother Greg, for being our secretary this past year. Your help was greatly appreciated.

We have a prospect to become a Mason and one from Alabama thinking about becoming a member of Palisade. As you can see, we are growing and active as a Lodge and that takes all of us pulling together and being good and proper Masons.

W. Bro. Kerry King

Palisade Lodge No. 125 Officers	
Worshipful Master	Kerry King (PM) (970) 434-3267
Senior Warden	Harry Clark (PM) (970) 986-9315
Junior Warden	Naaman Morehouse (970) 250-0942
Secretary	Gregory Foster (505) 350-0197
Treasurer	David Krogh (970) 314-9664
Senior Deacon	James Krogh (PM) (970) 260-3773
Junior Deacon	Don Halford (970) 250-4277
Senior Steward	
Junior Steward	
Tiler	Chris Eglet (970) 640-4986
Director of the Work	
Chaplain	Mike Briscoe (PM) (970) 433-6766
Marshal	William Marshal (970) 260-5432

Grand Junction Lodge No. 173



Brethren,

I can not express my pride and love for you. In serious and unpleasant discussions about problems our lodge is experiencing, you have shown the qualities of true Masons. No bickering, whining, or confrontational attitudes. Everyone has shown affection and support to my less than perfect attempt to address these problems. I have faith we will reach a consensus and the lodge will prosper. We must find a Secretary and a new Worshipful Master before Elections in November. Looking at our membership roster there are many inactive members of our lodge in the Valley. I truly hope that some of these Brothers might step up and fill a position and help to fulfill our many obligations.

Grand Junction Lodge No. 173
Chartered: January 23, 1952

Meets the 2nd Friday of the month
in Lodge Room 1 of the Grand
Junction Masonic Center at 7:30 PM,
with dinner before lodge at 6:30 PM.

Dark: July & August

Everyone is invited to be part of the Election of Officers in November, and the All-Masonic Christmas Party in December (12/1). Donations of new toys, and or money for the Toy Drive are due by the day of the All Masonic Christmas Party.

May the blessings of Heaven rest upon us.

W. Bro. Michael Briscoe (PM)

GJ Lodge No. 173 Officers

Worshipful Master	Mike Briscoe (PM) (970) 433-6766
Senior Warden	James Anthony (PM) (970) 242-2199
Junior Warden	Darrell Manroe (816) 500-1550
Secretary	Gregory Foster (505) 350-0197
Treasurer	Linn Armstrong (970) 234-0444
Senior Deacon	Jeff Koenig (PM) (970) 201-3371
Junior Deacon	Jeff Bush (970) 623-3651
Senior Steward	Nathaniel Pavlisick (970) 242-1584
Junior Steward	Craig Miller (PM) (970) 241-0997
Tiler	Randy Rehwoldt (PM) (970) 250-1672
Director of the Work	
Chaplain	
Marshal	Steven Ganskow (970) 640-7433





Rainbow Reminders

Hello All,

Rainbow Girls will be helping Scottish Rite with the Breakfast with Santa event in December for part of our service projects. We will also be part of the All Masonic Christmas Party with our Dessert Auction. We will make great yummy desserts to enjoy now or freeze for later. We are grateful for the opportunity to do this at a great family event.

We just worked with the DeMolay for our Craft Fair and Trick or Treat for Cans where we collected food for the Salvation Army food pantry. It was a good time working together. We will be Initiating a new sister soon.

Support Rainbow by:

1. Collecting Aluminum cans and bring them to the snack room.
2. Sign up for Amazon Smile
3. Register with Kroger/City Market Community Rewards Program at the bottom of their web page.

Ellen Rehwoldt
Mother Advisor
Grand Junction Assembly #12

Grand Junction Assembly #12 meets on the first, and third Mondays of each month at the Grand Junction Masonic Center at 7:00 PM.

For more information on The International Order of Rainbow for Girls please visit www.iorgcolorado.org.

Attention Members of Mesa Lodge No. 55 A.F. & A.M.

Proposed Amendment to Mesa Lodge Bylaws.

At the October Stated Communication of Mesa Lodge No. 55 A.F. & A.M. W. Bro. Harry Clark, W. Bro. John Groves, Bro. Chris Giesler, and Bro. Gregory Foster introduced an amendment to the Mesa Lodge #55 bylaws to adjust the dues structure. This notification is to inform you that at the November Stated Communication of Mesa Lodge on Thursday, November 3rd, the lodge members present being a quorum will be voting on the proposed amendment.

Background

For the last several years membership dues have not covered operating expenses. In 2021 the deficit was approximately \$2,100; our best estimate is that we will end this year \$2,200 in the hole. This has not been the result of lavish expenditures but by the ever increasing and unavoidable payments for the Grand Lodge per capita (currently \$85/member) and Masonic Center rent (currently \$75/member).

Over the years we have invaded an investment account to make up the difference. If we continue this practice the investment “cushion” will soon be exhausted. While we have funds set aside for charity and scholarships, we have been unwilling to invade those funds to balance the budget. In simple terms it is the philosophy of the proposed bylaw amendment that membership dues should suffice to cover the normal lodge operations. The proposed amendment would change the dues structure to cover the Grand Lodge per-capita, Temple rent per-capita, and \$45/member to cover all other operating expenses of the lodge. To that end, 2023 dues would increase from \$162 to \$205 per regular member.

Below you will find the text of the applicable Bylaws as written and the proposed change.

Bylaws as Written

ARTICLE 7

Sec. 1. Each member shall pay annually to the Secretary the sum of fifty dollars (\$80.00) on or before the first day of January of each year for the lodge dues of that year.

Sec. 2. That in addition to the annual dues, each member, except plural members, shall pay to the Secretary the amount approved by the Grand Lodge as Grand Lodge Per-Capita dues.

Proposed Changes

ARTICLE 7

Sec. 1. Each dues paying member shall pay annually to the Secretary the sum of forty-five dollars (\$45) plus the current Grand Lodge Per-Capita and the current Temple Rent Per-Capita on or before the first day of January each year for the lodge dues of that year.

Sec. 2. DELETED



Sunshine Chapter No. 53 (OES)



Hello All!

Sunshine Chapter #53 has been busy hosting dinners and doing Craft Fairs and preparing for our Official Visit on November 4th. Worthy Matron, Nancy Eriksen; and Worthy Patron Willis Grundvig are working to be sure everyone has read our Red Book of Instructions and signs the paperwork.

Sympathy goes out to our Secretary and PM Beth Nelms in the loss of her brother Dale in Iowa.

Something that has been on my mind since I was Worthy Matron of Palisade Chapter during the year it closed: Our Ritual states that we are to “make our Order worthy of the protection and support of all good Masons.” We desperately need your support by submitting an application to join Eastern Star. We have 3 Masonic members at present which is barely enough to hold the stations they usually hold. Sunshine #53 does not have a full roster of officers and, although we had to close Palisade Chapter due to attendance, I won’t do this again. Our members are aging and not able to get out at night. Our younger members cannot take on every project that is required. I have petitions, I will hand deliver, email or mail them to you. Please help us.

Further into this year we will be participating in the SPUNK campaign; the SOUPERBOWL OF KINDNESS campaign and two projects of mine: Jewels of Hope for the Juvenile Diabetes Society and Purposeful Purses will we will talk about in January.

“We are all passengers aboard one ship, the Earth, and we must not allow it to be wrecked. There will be no second Noah’s Ark. “

Worth Matron
Sunshine Chapter #53

The Sunshine Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star meets on the first, and third Tuesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 PM at the Grand Junction Masonic Center.

For more information on Order of the Eastern Star please visit www.oes-colorado.org



Western Colorado Shrine Club

Hello Fellow Nobles, Ladies and Friends,

I hope everyone is enjoying the Fall weather and all the colors that the cooler weather brings to the area. With the Fall Season, I wanted to bring everyone up-to-date on a few activities we are participating in.

First, I wanted to thank everyone who sold raffle tickets for El Jebel's Sportsmen's Raffle. As of writing this article, The Western Colorado Shrine Club was able to raise nearly three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for El Jebel.

Second, I wanted to remind everyone that we are participating in the Grand Junction Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 12th. We are still looking for a place to assemble for the parade so please stay tuned for more information. After the parade, we will be going to the Grand Junction Masonic Center for our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers at 4 PM.

Third, the Masonic Bodies of the Grand Valley are collecting toys and cash for the Grand Junction Salvation Army Toy Drive. We ask that you bring your donations to the Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 12th. If you wish to send cash and have the Grand Junction Temple Association buy the toys please send your checks to the address below and make a notation on the checks this is for the Salvation Army Toy Drive.

Western Colorado Shrine Club
2400 Consistory Ct.
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Fourth, we have been asked to supply Shrine Clowns for the Scottish Rite RiteCare Pancake Breakfasts with Santa. The first Breakfast with Santa is on Saturday, December 3rd from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM at the Grand Junction Masonic Center. The second breakfast is Saturday, December 10th in Montrose, time and place to be determined. If you are a clown we ask that you contact W. Bro. Mike Briscoe and volunteer for at least one breakfast.

Finally, El Jebel dues notices have gone out, and Shrine Club dues notices should be coming out shortly. Please pay your dues by December 31st.

That's all for now. I hope you have a wonderful November and I will see you all at the parade.

Gregory Foster,
Vice President | Western Colorado Shrine Club

The Western Colorado Shrine Club meets at the Grand Vista Hotel Restaurant the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August) at 11:45 AM.

For more information please visit www.ElJebelShrine.org

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

Salvation Army Toy Drive

Bring your donation of cash or toys
to the Grand Junction Masonic
Center by the All-Masonic Christmas
Party on Thursday, December 1st.

Grand Junction Masonic Center
Physical: 2400 Consistory Ct.
Mailing: P.O. Box 366
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Calendar 2022



- Consistory
- Rose Croix
- Lodge of Perfection
- Council

2022 Calendar of Dinners & Meetings Dinner at 6:30 PM, Lodge at 7:30 PM

- Consistory) Dinner & Lodge
- December 19th (CoRC) Pancake Dinner & lodge

2022 Special Events

- December 3rd - Breakfast with Santa (GJ Masonic Center)
- December 10th - Breakfast with Santa (Montrose Memorial Hospital)

Need to contact the Consistory?

Call: (970) 245 AASR (2277)

Mail: P.O. Box 3000
Grand Junction, CO 81502
E-Mail: AASRSecretary@Mac.com

2022 Officers

John Groves 33° Personal Representative

Montrose Lodge of Perfection

Mike Briscoe, 32° KCCH	Venerable Master
Gary Weiszbrod, 32°	Senior Warden
Glen Phelps 32°	Junior Warden
Randy Melton, 32°	Master of Ceremonies
Greg Foster, 32°	Expert
James Anthony 32°	Captain of the Host

Glenwood Chapter of Rose Croix

Tim Claypool, 32°	Wise Master
James Anthony, 32°	Senior Warden
John Groves, 33°	Junior Warden
Joe Wells, 32° KCCH	Master of Ceremonies
Jason Kohles, 32°	Expert
Andrew Weber, 32°	Guardian of the Temple

Gunnison Council of Kadosh

Chris Eglet, 32°	Commander
Harry Clark, 32°	1st Lt. Commander
Randy Rehwoldt, 32°	2nd Lt. Commander
Randy Melton, 32°	Marshal of Ceremonies
Mike Murphy, 32°	Chancellor
Darrell Manroe, 32°	Lt. of the Guard

Grand Junction Consistory

Lloyd Stahl, 32° KCCH	Master of Kadosh
Gary Weiszbrod, 32°	Prior
Randy Rehwoldt, 32°	Preceptor
Randy Melton, 32°	Marshal of Ceremonies

Officers of All Bodies

Gregory M. Allen, 32° KCCH	Orator
Donald A. Hobbs, 33°	Almoner
Jeffrey G. Bush, 32° KCCH	Treasurer
Jimmy McBride, 33°	Tiler
Wayne Quade, 32°	Prelate
William C. Nickell, 33°	Secretary

Brothers & Friends,

Masonic Education

Have you ever wondered:

- What is an “Elu”?
- How many of the original astronauts were Masons?
- Who was Lawrence Greenleaf?
- Why are women not allowed membership?
- Was George Washington the first Mason to be President?
- Who doesn’t like us and why?
- Why are Masonic lodges called “Blue”?

These and other Masonic topics are presented in a new folder on our Consistory Website: <https://masonicfamilygj.org/education>. There we have currently published 43 “short talk” articles by the late Dr. Bing Johnson, 32° KCCH and Lee Anderson, 32°. We plan to expand the library to include offerings by others. Browse to your heart’s content and share with your Blue Lodge for their Masonic Education!

New Scottish Rite Club

We are extremely pleased to announce that our Southwestern Colorado brothers, under the leadership of Aaron Brewer, 32° have formed the Four Corners Scottish Rite Club. The club held its inaugural and organizational meeting at the Durango Masonic Center on October 14th. While the club is chartered under jurisdiction of the Orient of Colorado, Valley of Grand Junction, it will open its membership to Scottish Rite Masons from Utah, New Mexico and Arizona. Thirty SR members from the area have been invited to become club members. The club is now making plans to form degree casts for the Spring Reunion, organize study groups for the Master Craftsman’s program, and future social and charity events. For further information you may contact Aaron at aaroncbrewer32@gmail.com or (435) 459-3217.

Fraternally, John Groves, 33°

Personal Representative | Valley of Grand Junction

The Grand Junction Scottish Rite Valley meets on the third Monday of every month, except July and August, at the Grand Junction Masonic Center. Dinner is served at 6:30 PM with Lodge at 7:30 PM.

Grand Junction York Rite Bodies



Masonic Education

“FEAST OF TISHRI - A MASONIC PERSPECTIVE”

By Dr. Bing Johnson, 32° KCCH

Hello Companions and Sir Knights,

Below is a table of the scheduled Grand Junction York Rite Events. Please add them to your calendars.

Fraternally,

Scott Wilson | Excellent High Priest, Grand Junction Chapter #24
Michael Briscoe | Thrice Illustrious Maser Grand Junction Council #16
Jeff Bush | Eminent Commander, Grand Commander #23

Month	Day	Event
November	14	Temple Commandery #23 Stated Meeting
December	12	Grand Junction Chapter #24 Stated Meeting
December	18	Special Event - York Rite Christmas Observance
January	9	Grand Junction Council #16 Stated Meeting & Gene Dreher New Moon
February	13	Grand Junction Chapter #24 Stated Meeting
March	13	Temple Commandery #23 Stated Meeting & Valentines Day Dinner
April	19	Grand Junction Council #16 Official Visit
May	3	Temple & Delta Commandery's Official Visit (in Hotchkiss)
May	13	Special Event - Able Kids Bowling
June	8	Grand Junction Chapter #24 Stated Meeting

The Grand Junction York Rite bodies meet on the second Monday of each month at the Grand Junction Masonic Center at 7:30 PM. For more information, please visit www.YorkRite.org or contact Jeff Bush at (970) 623-3651.

The origin of the Feast is described in the Book of Leviticus where it is said that the Lord spoke unto Moses saying that on the fifteenth day of the month of Tishri of the Hebrew civil calendar “ye shall have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD.” The Feast of Tishri is the Hebrew equivalent of Thanksgiving or Harvest festival.

To best understand the significance of the Feast of Tishri and its connection to Masonry it is necessary to have some understanding of the Jewish Holy Days. For this understanding I am going to use the words of Melville H. Nahin, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California, who is Jewish.

On the first day of the seventh month, the month of Tishri on the Jewish calendar people of the Jewish faith observe the beginning of the New Year, Rosh Hashana. It is a time for introspection and reflection, for it is said that on that day the Creator writes in the Book of Life the story of what shall take place in the coming year.

And on the Day of Atonement which follows ten days later, the Book of Life will be sealed.

The period of ten days is often called the Days of Awe. They are the time for soul searching, for recognizing the sins which one has committed with respect to his relationship to his God. The forgiveness which is sought during these Days of Awe is a forgiveness from the Creator for sins which we, as humans, have done to Him. We do not believe that he will cleanse the sins that we have committed against our fellowmen. But in turn we must realize and rededicate ourselves to atoning for the sins of man to man by making retribution and dealing fairly with our fellowmen by indeed being brothers to them.

Our own Masonic vows were given only after being assured that they would not interfere with the duty we owe to God, our country, our neighbor and our selves. It is not easy to examine oneself and admit one's errors and to pray for forgiveness of what we know is injurious and harmful to ourselves, our families and our fellowmen, and return to a positive action that will give us satisfaction and gratification.

Rosh Hashana is observed for two days during which time those of the Jewish faith gather in the synagogue and by deep introspection and inspection realize the seriousness and the necessity of doing that which is right to one's fellowmen and in keeping faith with He who rules and guides our lives.

Jews are taught that during the ten days which they call the Ten Days of Penitence, and which take place from the first day of Rosh Hashana to the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, this evaluation must take place and in order to avert the punishment of God, they must repent, pray and do good deeds. They must in effect account for their souls.

On Yom Kippur, Jews fast, having no food or drink from sundown preceding the Holy Day to sundown of the following day. It is a belief, it is a self discipline whereby they as individuals seek to recognize that they are involved in introspection and in re-dedication. It is a time when all earthly pursuits are put aside and if no other day in their lives belongs to their Deity, that day certainly does.

Simply put, Rosh Hashana is the anniversary of the creation of the world and all its inhabitants are judged anew and given an opportunity to accept the Kingship of God for the year to come.

During the ceremonies of Rosh Hashana and You Kippur, a ram's horn known as a shofar is blown to specific notes that our reader, recite. Jews believe that the same Holy notes will herald the final coming of the Messiah.

Primarily the shofar sounding is a call to spiritual awakening and revival. Judaism takes for granted that all humans are prone to sin. Even Moses, the great prophet, was not perfect and because of his imperfection never reached the Holy Land.

But this does not mean that man is burdened with sin from birth. It implies however, that when we fail of do right we must make amends. And we can not make amends simply by turning a new page and starting all over again. In Hebrew there is no word for sin. The word "het" is utilized for the word sin and translates as distance. The word for repentance is "tshuva" which means return.

So, now you have made a major mistake and trespassed the will of God. God still loves you just as parents still love the child who has committed errors. And now how does one bridge the gap, by simply returning to God, by first realizing the error of the error and then endeavoring to improve the harmonization of his deeds with God's will. Erring is part and parcel of human spiritual and physical growth. We recognize also that God does not expect nearly as much from us as we seem to do ourselves.

If, after all this, we still make the same mistakes, we commit the same sins, we recognize still that God among his other attributes is all patient and He will wait for us if only we try, if only we attempt to make amends. If we do not, if we make no attempt to sincerely repent our atonement, is for naught.

The lesson of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur is a very simple one. Man is human and commits error. Therefore both God and his fellowmen will forgive him if he seeks to make amends. But these amends must indeed, be with sincere effort to better oneself, to practice the law of his Creator.

Is this not also the teaching of our Masonic fraternity? As we think of each others holidays and customs, we appreciate all the more how universal the philosophy of Freemasonry really is. We are indeed Brothers, the children of the ever loving Father.

No other occasion epitomizes the character and purpose of the Rite more wholly than our historic celebration, held in conjunction with the dedication of King Solomon's temple. To marshal the meanings of the feast is to summarize the principle ideals and traditions of our Fraternity.

The statutes of the Supreme Council, enacted in 1866, consider the feast an obligatory observance. Freemasons have always revered order since we recognize that there is a Supreme Order that structures all creation. Masonic law emulates this divine order, and we serve the purposes of the Great Architect Of The Universe when we meet in the bonds of brotherhood, intent on making contributions to humanity.

The rich legendary of the Temple's dedication, held in connection with the Feast of Tishri furnish symbolic details of the Temple's position, design, construction, furnishings and decoration carry special meaning as they apply to the metaphorical Temple of Freemasonry built in the heart of every Brother. Through the symbols of the Temple we learn to rededicate ourselves to building Freemasonry "in the hearts of men and among nations."

God forbade David, a warrior and man of blood, to construct the Temple and, instead delivered this responsibility to Solomon, whose name derives from the Hebrew word, shalom meaning peace. Thus in observing the Feast of Tishri, we reaffirm our dedication to human accord and brotherhood of all men in a world of peace. As individuals and as Brothers in the Rite, we resolve to build, as Solomon did, through harmony and cooperation, ever seeking peace for all mankind.

The consecration of the Temple must also be observed at the Feast of Tishri because it teaches the equality and unity of all members of the Rite.

Yet another reason to keep the Feast of Tishri is that such observance fosters the warm spirit of fraternal fellowship. With in the context of the Feast of Tishri, we realize more deeply the value of our fellowmen, without which the individual is lost in a self-imposed prison of human isolation.

Lastly, the law, legendary, peace, equality, unity and fellowship of the Feast of Tishri combine to make this the most Masonic feast of feasts. In a common voice of thanksgiving where every man can share his attitude and express his sincere thanks to Him who made all things, the Deity has given us life, the strength to live it fully, and the joy of sharing the beauty and goodness of His creation with our fellowmen. Most of all, He has given us freedom. The Feast of Tishri celebrates this freedom which the Israelites won with the guidance of Providence, despite the shackles of Egypt and the armies of the Philistines.

This ancient victory celebrated in dedication of Solomon's Temple is kept forever fresh through our keeping of the Feast of Tishri. It promises to all men that the burdens of tyranny are temporary, that the darkness will yield to light, that knowledge will conquer ignorance, and that the Creator intended men to be free.

The first Feast of Tishri was the culmination of the most significant architectural achievements of the ancient world. It was the fulfillment of the Lord's direct command to King David.

So it came to Solomon to build the first Hebrew Temple in Jerusalem. He laid the cornerstone with his own hands following the vision which the Temple's true builder, the Supreme Architect of the Universe, gave him. He sketched its symbolic dimensions and planned its impressive decorations. He set its famous pillars, Jachin and Boaz, as magnificent independent columns at the Temple entrance, and he saw to it that the interior was heavily overlaid with an abundance of glistening gold. Though modest in overall size, the Temple's massive substructure, formed about a mountain, tilted it high above all the surrounding buildings and temples, making it the focal point of ancient Jerusalem.

Temple and faith became one and the Lord's will was made manifest. Today Scottish Rite Freemasons need only recall this great Temple of Solomon to realize that the Almighty will never forsake men of good will and that we, too, can build mighty temples of spirit and stone to the Lord.

The dedication of the Temple of Solomon is a celebration of freedom. It marks the birth of Abraham, whose spirit of independence sustained Israel during generations of bondage. This great feast remembered the Exodus from Egypt, the land of slavery. It recalled the sojourn in the wilderness and celebrated the Freedom of the Promised Land.

It is from that moment of mystic communication, nearly three thousand years ago, that the Scottish Rite derives its traditional impetus the quest for freedoms of conscience which began in the dim reaches of time. Our dedication today is as firm as those heirs of Solomon in the magnificent Temple on that historic Feast of Tishri nearly three millennia ago. Let us

remain worthy of this inheritance of freedom.

So now may I say to you, as those of the Jewish faith say to one another in this Holy season, "May you be inscribed for a happy new year."

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2. Nahin, M. H., THE DAYS OF AWE , Short Talk Bulletin, 2005
3. Kleinknecht, C. F., FORMS AND TRADITIONS OF THE SCOTTISH RITE, The Supreme Council, 33°, S. J., U. S. A.

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Websites

- www.MasonicFamilyGJ.org
- www.ColoradoFreeMasons.org
- www.ScottishRite.org
- www.YorkRite.org
- www.Shrinersinternational.org
- www.EasternStar.org
- www.OES-Colorado.org
- www.GoRainbow.org
- www.IORGColorado.org
- www.DeMolay.org
- www.ColoradoDeMolay.org
- www.FreeMasonryToday.com

Magazines

- Freemasonry Today
- The Journal of The Masonic Society
- Short Talk Bulletins by The Masonic Service Association

Podcasts

- From Whence Came you
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- What is a Mason
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