



On the Level



Sep-Oct 2022

Marquis de Lafayette Lodge No. 41, AF & AM

Denver, CO

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Our home, the historic Masonic building at 1614 Welton Street in downtown Denver

This month in Masonic history



Bro. Darryl F. Zanuck

Bro. Darryl Francis Zanuck was born on September 5th, 1902.

He was best remembered as the founder of 20th Century Pictures. Zanuck made such films as *Pinky*, a movie about racism in the American south, *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Tobacco Road*, two films which took on poverty, *Gentlemen's Agreement*, which took on antisemitism, *How Green Was My Valley*, which took on unionization and the environment and *The Snake Pit*, which addressed mental illness. *The Snake Pit* compelled 13 states to change their laws regarding mental health after the film was released.

Zanuck was a member of Mount Olive Lodge No. 506 in California.



Calendar of Events

September



Thursday, September 9th & Friday, September 10th

York Rite Grand Sessions
Golden City Lodge, 400 Tenth St, Golden



Wednesday, September 14th

Stated Communication: Education is "King Solomon's Temple" by Bro. Erick Benson
Dinner at 6pm, Lodge opens at 7pm on the EA degree



Wednesday, September 28th

Stated Communication: Education to be announced
Dinner at 6pm, Lodge opens at 7pm on the EA degree

October



Saturday, October 1st

Joint Table Lodge with Union 7 at Welton Street. If you haven't sent in your RSVP, please contact WB Nick Miller immediately
Opens at 6pm



Sunday, October 9th

WB J. Randy Penn invites you to join he and Lady Brenda at a performance of "Into the Woods" at The Arvada Center. Curtain goes up at 2pm. See OLP for registration links for ticket pricing at The Arvada Center



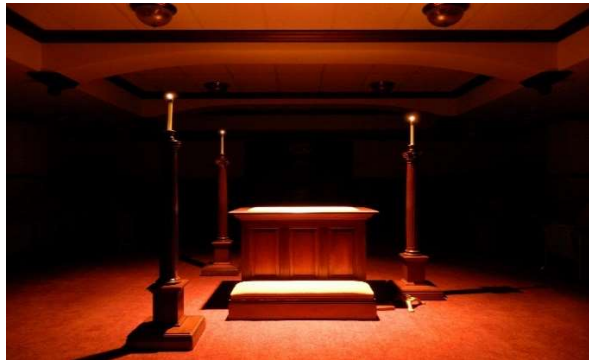
Wednesday, October 12th

Stated Communication: Education to be announced
Dinner at 6pm, Lodge opens at 7pm on the EA degree



Wednesday, October 26th

Stated Communication: Education to be announced
Dinner at 6pm, Lodge opens at 7pm on the EA degree



Light From the East

WB Nick Miller, Worshipful Master

I hope you've all had a good summer.

I've enjoyed my time off but I'm ready to get back to Lodge again. Many of us are involved in multiple Masonic bodies and the break can be welcoming. While we may use going dark in the summer to rest and refresh ourselves, this was not always the case.

The practice was adopted during a time when most people still lived in farming communities and needed this time to harvest crops. For many, this was not to take a break, but the time to get to work. Going dark for the summer allowed those men the time they needed to take care of their livelihoods.

We still use this as a tool for a similar sense today.

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From the South

Bro Erick Benson, JW

Brethren, what a year so far! We have experienced a lot as a species, but when have we not? We adapt to the times; we grow and we stumble. We as Masons are reminded that we as individuals will also follow in suite.

We will adapt to the times we are in. We have held Zoom meetings and conducted posting sessions online with members across states.

We grow as Masons and as individuals; we have learned and gained new experiences as we have come out of a global pandemic, we have grown in our understanding of the human condition, as we observe the issues our great nation and the planet we live on.

We stumble. We as a species in my thoughts may have lost our identity. We have stumbled in these later years. But that does not mean we can't get up and continue to push forward. Continue to be the example that our species needs to create a more just and safer world we live in.

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From the West

Bro Johann Ortner, SW



I'm on an extended family leave in Germany and write these lines while spending time in Munich - therefore please forgive me if these notes are briefer than usual. Family keeps me pretty busy.

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer. September is approaching rapidly and soon we are coming back out of darkness to start our regular stated communications.

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Light From the East *(continued from page 2)*

Many of us are able to take much needed vacations and spend time with our families. While we may not be laboring away on the farms, we are able to take care of our home lives. The lesson of the 24-inch gauge reminds us we must balance our time. However, once the break is over, we must return as the true spirit of Masonry is in the Brotherhood.

Masonry can feel like a job at times and that time in the summer can be much needed. However, by the time the summer is over, we remember that something that was missing in our lives before we found Masonry, and are happy to return.

I'm ready to come back and looking forward to seeing everyone in Lodge.

W.: Bro.: Nick Miller

Worshipful Master

From the West *(continued from page 2)*

I am still trying to visit lodges here in Germany and Austria. I received feedback from the Austrian Grand Lodge and learned (to my surprise) that they are dark too during summer. Attending as a visitor is unfortunately a remote possibility due to my travel schedule. Still hope to hear from some German brethren.

One thing I noticed is that Freemasonry is kept much more secret and under the cover than in the US. One has to dig hard to get in touch with the brothers over here. Still haven't given up hope, I will keep you posted.

Lastly, a little educational quote regarding the rewards of Masonry:

"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 earned and paid in their dealings with one another; sympathy that begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason."

Wise words from Benjamin Franklin - thought I'd share them with you.

I'd like to finish expressing that I'm very excited to see you all again in person at our second meeting in September (I'll miss the first one as I'll still be abroad then).

Bro.: Johann Ortner

Senior Warden



"Associate yourself with men of good quality, if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company." -- Bro. George Washington



The Secretary's Desk

WB Lee Miller



Every new Entered Apprentice receives the instruction that "...as the sun rules the day and the moon governs the night, so should the Worshipful Master endeavor to rule and govern his Lodge with equal regularity." Where did this come from, and what should it mean to us as individual Masons?

From Genesis Chapter 1, v16-18: "And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of heaven to give light upon the earth. And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from darkness: and God saw that it was good."

The surface meaning is just that; the Master should rule and guide his lodge with the same equality as the day and night. But as always, there's more hidden in that admonishment.

We see the sun and moon as guiding forces in nature, to balance the day and night, sometimes visible and other times hidden. This two are often interpreted as symbols of the spiritual and the physical worlds, and as a connection between our Creator and ourselves. We progress through life beginning at the dawn of day and ending in the dark abyss of night.

During that time, we should reflect on our connection with our Creator. We should endeavor to work on our own spiritual temple while the sun is shining, because as the darkness of old age begins to set, our ability to use our working tools diminishes until our feeble hands are no longer able to raise them.

Use your time wisely. Do not get so caught up in days of working or other activities that you ignore the family with whom you spend your nights. Remember the words "with equal regularity" and the lessons of the 24-inch gauge so that you may rule and govern your personal life in the same way.

W.: Bro.: Lee Miller

Secretary

From the South

(continued from page 2)

We all need to remember that while we stumble, and live in a world of chaos, we can adapt and we can grow to become the species we are meant to be.

This is not to be viewed or perceived as a globalist/humanistic statement but rather as a reminder that if we want to see change, a positive change in this chaotic world, we must first lead by example. By adapting, growing and knowing that we are not perfect, and that we will stumble.

I would like to give a huge round of support and applause for Bro Richard Health for taking on the design, the cost, and the time and effort to create a new storage cart! Bro Richard has put a lot of effort and time into creating a handmade storage cart and has made some customizations to it that reflect our lodge and the lodges that have come before. Thank you, Brother --we all owe you a round!

I do have one more item I would like to share. For those that know (and for those who don't know) I have encountered some struggles this past year. Without hesitation, the Lodge and the Brothers have provided endless support in various aspects of my life. I cannot be thankful enough for the support and the number of ears willing to listen to this blonde, crayon-eating Marine vet.

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Masonic Trivia

A Masonic conspiracy in Colorado



Masonic Capstone in Jeppeson Terminal

From the South

(continued from page 4)

I am beyond humble, and eternally grateful for all the Brothers and our Lodge for the support and help. Thank you! I owe you all so much! Thank you!

Wrapping up... At our first meeting back, I will be giving a presentation on the topic of King Solomons Temple with a short video to provide some visual aids for us.

I look forward to seeing all of you in lodge in September!

Bro.: Erick Benson

Junior Warden

Masonic conspiracies have abounded over the years, and they have proliferated since the rise of Internet forums that allow people to instantly share whatever crazy things they believe.

Denver International Airport has plenty of its own conspiracy theories: There are hidden levels below the airport where aliens and lizard people live. The runways are laid out in a Nazi swastika patterns. Tunnels beneath the airport lead from secret bunkers for the world's elite to live in after the apocalypse a hundred miles south to NORAD's control room inside Cheyenne Mountain. The 28' murals in the terminal contain clues about the apocalypse, including Nazi symbolism that is proof that DIA is linked to a fascist secret society. The giant blue horse (the "Blue Mustang", aka "Blucifer") on Peña Boulevard leading into the airport represents the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, and its glowing red eyes are Satanic.

One of the best-known conspiracy theories that has been circulating since the airport was dedicated is that the New World Order (which usually are the Illuminati, the Jewish banking cabal, the Masons, the Rothschilds, or all of them) is headquartered in the secret buildings buried many levels below the airport's tunnels. Supporting this theory is the Masonic capstone in the Jeppeson Terminal.

As Masons, we know that capstones and cornerstones were once laid in almost every public building in our country. Even today, our Grand Lodge officers travel all over Colorado for cornerstone ceremonies. But that knowledge seems to have faded from the general public's consciousness, leaving this (in)famous capstone at the center of a popular conspiracy theory in our own backyards. Dan Brown couldn't have come up with a better combination - the Masons, the New World Order, aliens, and a new international airport.

The capstone has the square and compasses and bears the inscription "New World Airport Commission" which is now ominously misquoted as the "New World Order". The mysterious symbols on the brass plaque mounted above the capstone are alien instructions for the elite to use this control panel and reveal the hidden entrance under the capstone leading to the secret bunkers below. As silly as it all sounds, this conspiracy theory is widely believed.

Oh, and the alien symbols on the plaque? They are Braille letters that mirror the inscriptions on the capstone. ∴



2022 Officers

Nick Miller	Worshipful Master (303) 808-5944
Johann Ortner	Senior Warden (303) 882-1296
Erick Benson	Junior Warden (720) 666-1632
Dean McConnell, PM 402 E 131 st Ave Thornton CO 80241-1736	Treasurer (303) 915-4709
Lee Miller, PM 14456 W Iliff Ave Lakewood CO 80228-5424	Secretary (303) 961-6455 secretary@mdl41.com
Richard Heath	Senior Deacon (303) 841-1020
Kyle Ennenga	Junior Deacon (720) 323-2360
Lawrence Laurent	Senior Steward (774) 289-3218
Justin Szymik	Junior Steward (303) 888-2591
Grant Sanders, PM	Chaplain (720) 648-0222
Bryan Kemper	Marshall (720) 891-2721
Nick Christoff, PM	Tiler (303) 886-6406
Marc H. Rich, PM	District Lecturer (979) 575-5833

Past Masters

Albert Pike 117		Christopher Wm. Scott	2011
	Emerson R. Bails	Daniel R. McCune	2012
	Herbert E. Akins *	Jeremiah "Jay" Allen	2013
	Robert R Swope *	Richard M. Murray	2014
	Samuel L. Wittner	Dean McConnell	2015
	Robert R Swope *	Bill Busby	2016
	James W. Oliver	Lee Miller	2017
	James W. Oliver	Anthony Florez	2018
	David R. McDaniel	Rob Morris 92	
	David R. McDaniel	Grant Sanders	1999
	Robert R. Swope *	Schiller 41	
	Stephen T. Parce	J. Randy Penn	1996
	Curtis L. Sorensen	Pythagoras 41	
	Douglas K. Parce	Ricky Haskell	2017
	James M. Desmond	Ricky Haskell	2018
	John A. Myers	Marquis de Lafayette 41	
	Stephen T. Parce	Harry Sanders	2019
	James W. Oliver	John Davis	2020
	Robert R. Swope *	Nick Christoff	2021
	Edward F Charter		
	David Parce		
	Keene Daiss*		
	James Oliver		
	Herbert Akins *		
	Robert R. Swope *		

(* Deceased)

Past Grand Masters

Glenn B. Van Fleet, P.G.M. (1958)
R. Keith Milheim, P.G.M. (1984)

Secretary Emeriti

Christopher Wm. Scott, PM (2012 – 2017)
Samuel Wittner, PM (1987 – 2011)



Fee for the Degrees

EA: \$150 FC: \$50 MM: \$50 = \$250.00

2022 Dues

\$ 182

The Grand Lodge will increase per-capita by \$3 for 2023



This is the Marquis de Lafayette's apron which is proudly displayed in our Lodge. It is one of five known of his remaining aprons. See our website at www.mdl41.com for more information.