



Marquis de Lafayette Lodge No. 41



Denver Masonic Temple, 1614 Welton St. Denver CO 80202
www.mdl41.com

Jan - Feb 2021

TRESTLEBOARD

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**"I read, I study, I examine,
I listen, I reflect."**

- Marquis de Lafayette



From the East *W.:B.: Nick Christoff, Worshipful Master*

Brethren, as we enter the new year I am sure that I am not alone in wishing that we could once again meet upon the level in person. In the mean time the safety and wellbeing of all of our brothers remains of the utmost importance and thus we will continue to meet virtually for the foreseeable future. While I know that this can remove some of the joy and purpose received from meeting in person I hope that each of you can find a way to connect with the fraternity even if in nontraditional ways.

I have already heard of several great ideas that are being put in place to re-engage with everyone, from book clubs to the development of a Master Masons posting session. I encourage anyone who has other ideas to reach out to me or another officer that can help. Even if it's something as simple as changing a Zoom call setting to make it easier to use your experience is our top priority.

Hopefully this crisis will come to an end soon and we can move forward with the degree work and in person conversations that I'm very excited for! Until then It is my hope that we can use this time of virtual communications as an opportunity to meet with brothers who have moved to different states or who can simply no longer attend in person. So reach out to those you haven't seen in too long and invite them to join the call even if it's just for a few minutes. My brothers, I am honored to be in the East and look forward to being part of the continued success of Marquis de Lafayette Lodge No. 41 that is only made possible by all of your hard work and dedication to the craft.

W.: Bro.: Nick Christoff

Worshipful Master



Please feel free to share this eTrestleboard!

From the West *Bro.: Nick Miller, Sr.: Warden*

Brethren,

I am glad to start a new year and am honored to be serving the lodge as the new Senior Warden. With the new vaccines being rolled out I am hopeful there is an end of this pandemic in sight. I look forward to a time when we are able to meet in person again and resume our normal masonic activities. I've enjoyed being able to see and speak to many of you through our virtual meetings as well as over phone and email. While we don't know when the next time we will be able to meet, I encourage you all to be prepared for when we can. If not for a part in lodge, then I encourage all others to continue to study for love of the craft.

Additionally, we have seen great amounts of tension in our country lately. It is important to remember that we must act accordingly to our professions as freemasons. This means to we must keep our point within our circle and subdue our passions. This can be difficult, but it is in trying times when we really show our ability to do so. Finally, I offer my help to any brother or family of theirs who needs it. While this offer is always available, this is just a friendly reminder that it is there. With that, I hope you're having a happy new year and I look to it as a positive light forward in this time of darkness.

Bro.: Nick Miller

Senior Warden

Secretary's Desk *WB.: Bro.: Lee Miller, Secretary*

Brethren,

We've all come to accept the reality of not performing our ritual via electronic platforms. The rationale is that we can't guarantee the privacy of cowans and eavesdroppers outside of a tiled meeting. That's not entirely true; anyone could leave a computer, cell phone, or other device enabled during a meeting to record or transmit our ritual, but privacy concerns are indeed valid reasoning.

My personal rationale is much deeper.

Our degrees aren't granted by recorded lectures or gained by studying a text. Our rituals and symbols are merely dead letters when they are printed on a page; it's only by the personal experience of those words and actions that the ritual becomes alive.

As I tell my students, healing begins with touch. It's the personal interactions that define a healer rather than merely a diagnostician. So it is with Masonry. Only ritual experienced in person with the personal touch of a Brother will be meaningful, and only until we can meet again in person will we perform our cherished rituals.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

W.: Bro.: Lee Miller, PM - Secretary

secretary@mdl41.com

From the South

*Bro.: Johann Ortner,
Jr.: Warden*

A new year has begun and the ongoing pandemic has been a life-changer for our Brothers and their families, causing illness, disruption, hardship, annoyance, and frustration. As we protect ourselves, our families, and those around us, from the spread of disease, we must remain mindful that both the disease, and the steps being taken to slow its spread, can be taxing. It appears that our community – our neighbors and friends as well as our Masonic family – is resilient. But, we must remain vigilant – respectful to our authorities and the changing regulations, and always aware that a need may arise that we can attend to.

Let me suggest that when thinking about the pandemic, and the disruption and changes it caused, that despite a lot of restrictions it also presented new opportunities: By holding Zoom meetings many members who are far away or out of state have been able to participate and we got to see and talk with Brothers we didn't know yet from the comfort of our homes. I realize that this cannot replace the in-person fellowship at our lodge, but I hope you all agree that virtual meetings are a welcome tool in an effort to 'dwell together in unity'.

Hopefully sometime this year, we will be permitted to return to the Lodge. Until then, let's all continue to meet virtually, participate in online meetings, and gently encourage our fellow Brothers to do the same.

Bro.: Johann Ortner

Junior Warden

Wednesday Jan 13th, 2021

Virtual Meeting

Watch your email for the Zoom link

Open at 7:00pm

Wednesday Jan 27th, 2021

TBA

Wednesday Feb 10th, 2021

TBA

Wednesday Feb 24th, 2021

TBA

*Until cleared by the City &
County of Denver, we will
continue to meet via Zoom.*

Memorial Roll

**No Brothers have passed
to the Celestial Lodge
above**

"Gone, but not forgotten"



Directors of the Work

Nick Miller - MM Degree
Johann Ortner – FC Degree
Johann Ortner– EA Degree

Posting Mentors

Entered Apprentice Degree

W Bro Jay Allen
Bro Nick Miller

Fellow Craft Degree

W Bro Lee Miller

Master Mason Degree

W Bro Bill Busby



Fee for Degrees

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

2021 Yearly Dues

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Marquis de Lafayette: | \$100.00 |
| 2021 Per Capita Dues: | \$82.00 |
| Total: | \$182.00 |



Social Media & Internet

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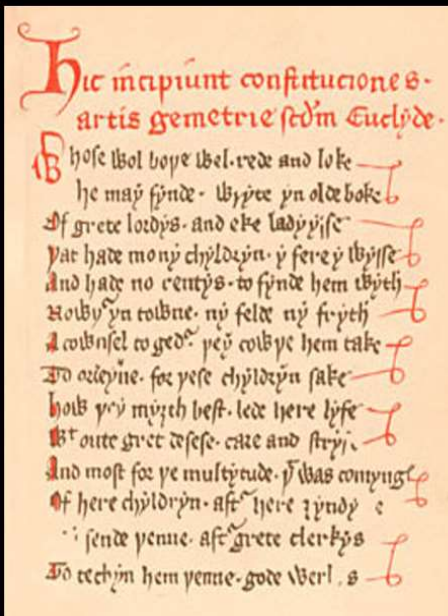
www.facebook.com

The Regius Poem

Is this the oldest Masonic document?

It was originally dated to 1390, but the British Museum now believes that it dates from the second quarter of the fifteenth century.

The manuscript was recorded in various personal inventories as it changed hands until it came into possession of the Royal Library, which was donated to the British Museum in 1757 by King George II.



THE REGIUS POEM

THE REGIUS POEM (ALSO KNOWN AS THE HALLIWELL MANUSCRIPT), IS WRITTEN

It consists of 64 vellum pages of Middle English written in rhyming couplets. In this, it differs from the prose of all the later charges. The poem begins by describing how Euclid "counterfeited geometry" and called it masonry, for the employment of the children of the nobility in Ancient Egypt. It then recounts the spread of the art of geometry in "divers lands." The document relates how the craft of masonry was brought to England during the reign of King Athelstan (924–939). It tells how all the masons of the land came to the King for direction as to their own good governance, and how Athelstan, together with the nobility and landed gentry, forged the fifteen articles and fifteen points for their rule. This is followed by fifteen articles for the master concerning both moral behaviour (do not harbour thieves, do not take bribes, attend church regularly, etc.) and the operation of work on a building site (do not make your masons labour at night, teach apprentices properly, do not take on jobs that you cannot do etc.). There are then fifteen points for craftsmen which follow a similar pattern. Warnings of punishment for those breaking the ordinances are followed by provision for annual assemblies. There follows the legend of the Four Crowned Martyrs, a series of moral aphorisms, and finally a blessing.

2021 Officers

| | |
|--|---|
| Nick Christoff | Worshipful Master (303) 886-6406 |
| Nick Miller | Senior Warden (720) 323-2360 |
| Johann Ortner | Junior Warden (303) 882-1296 |
| 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 |
| Erick Benson | Senior Deacon (720) 666-1632 |
| Richard Heath | Junior Deacon (303) 841-1020 |
| Kyle Ennenga | Senior Steward (720) 323-2360 |
| Scott Dent | Junior Steward (720) 412-7430 |
| Harry Sanders, PM | Chaplain (303) 325-4702 |
| Lawrence Laurent | Marshall (774) 289-3218 |
| Justin Syzmik | Tiler (303) 888-2591 |
| Ricky Haskell, PM | District Lecturer |

Prompter

W. Bro. Bill Busby, PM

Webmaster

W. Bro. Lee Miller, PM

Social Media Coordinators

W. Bro. Lee Miller, PM

W. Bro. Jay Allen, PM

W. Bro. J. Randy Penn, PM

Past Masters

Albert Pike 117

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Emerson R. Bails | 1959 |
| Herbert E. Akins * | 1979 |
| Robert R Swope * | 1984 |
| Samuel L. Wittner | 1986 |
| Robert R Swope * | 1987 |
| James W. Oliver | 1988 |
| James W. Oliver | 1989 |
| David R. McDaniel | 1990 |
| David R. McDaniel | 1991 |
| Robert R. Swope * | 1994 |
| Stephen T. Parce | 1996 |
| Curtis L. Sorensen | 1997 |
| Douglas K. Parce | 1998 |
| James M. Desmond | 2000 |
| John A. Myers | 2001 |
| Stephen T. Parce | 2002 |
| James W. Oliver | 2003 |
| Robert R. Swope * | 2004 |
| Edward F Charter | 2005 |
| David Parce | 2006 |
| Keene Daiss* | 2007 |
| James Oliver | 2008 |
| Herbert Akins * | 2009 |
| Robert R. Swope * | 2010 |

(* Deceased)

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Christopher Wm. Scott | 2011 |
| Daniel R. McCune | 2012 |
| Jeremiah "Jay" Allen | 2013 |
| Richard M. Murray | 2014 |
| Dean McConnell | 2015 |
| Bill Busby | 2016 |
| Lee Miller | 2017 |
| Anthony Florez | 2018 |

Pythagoras 41

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Ricky Haskell | 2017 |
| Ricky Haskell | 2018 |

Marquis de Lafayette 41

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Harry Sanders | 2019 |
| John Davis | 2020 |

Past Grand Masters

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

Secretary Emeritus

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



The Lafayette Apron