

Our last meeting was held July 30 at Byers Lodge No. 152. If you missed the meeting then you missed great BBQ, fellowship, and presentations by W. Bros. Eric Lowry and Eric Weddington.

Research Lodge of Colorado has been collaborating with the Grand Lodge Education Committee to evaluate speakers trying out for the Grand Lodge Masonic Speakers Bureau. It was decided that some vetting process needed to be put into place, and RLC was considered the appropriate venue to host speaker tryouts.

In that vein, W. Bro. Eric Weddington came to RLC to try out for the Bureau, presenting his talk *Renaissance Emblems and Freemasonry* in which he shared compelling images having apparent Masonic symbolism predating the formation of the premiere Grand Lodge of England in 1717. Members of RLC were provided an evaluation form, devised to score speakers on delivery, content, references and research, as well as on other aspects of public speaking. The standards are high – an average score of over 90% is required for appointment to the Bureau.

We're pleased to report that W. Bro. Eric Weddington exceeded the threshold.

Three Brothers were elected to membership: Eric Lowry, Bruce Lawrence, and Hunter McCallum. Please share your congratulations with these Brethren when next you see them, and welcome them with fellowship and brotherly love.

## WEBSITE

Our new website is up and running. Please visit [www.rlc Colo.org](http://www.rlc Colo.org) to check it out. You can find out details of our next meeting there as well as RSVP for attending (no cost) and purchase tickets for lunch and dinner (when scheduled).

RLC voted to use the cloud-based app "EventBrite" to handle reservations. This allows

for tiered ticket prices for our meals, and provides an automated means for collecting payments and donations. For a small fee, you can now pay for your lunch and/or dinner by credit card through the site.

We hope the website will be a useful tool in increasing participation in RLC and in making RLC the quarterly destination for Master Masons in Colorado!

Some work is still needed to enable the site to accept dues payments. That might take some time. But we're working on it. After reviewing the site, please let us know if you have any suggestions or concerns.

## NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 29, at Blackhawk Lodge No. 11. **Please note a change in our schedule:**

**Officers meet early at 2 p.m. and the meeting proper begins at 3 p.m. Dinner will follow Lodge at 6 p.m.**

Blackhawk Lodge No. 11  
4625 Morrison Rd.  
Denver, CO 80219

Speakers Include:

Peter Preston, S.D. of RLC  
*On The Length of the Cable Tow*  
Ben Williams, Sec'y of RLC  
*On the Coevolution of Christianity & Hermetecism*

Dinner will be hosted at *Peppers* at 3500 Morrison Rd.

**Please RSVP at [www.rlc Colo.org](http://www.rlc Colo.org)**

# GIVE THE LIE TO THE DEVIL - MASONS MEET UPON THE LEVEL!

by W.Bro. Ben Williams

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**Freemasonry has never been more relevant. By uniting manifold faiths – even bridging faith and science – Freemasonry is an aperture for light in a world otherwise overwhelmed in darkness.**

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It is ironic that perhaps the most profound impetus of Freemasonry is also its chief cause of criticism. Freemasonry unites men of different faiths around a common altar, providing a shared space for contemplation of sacred things. This upsets fundamentalists – Christians, Muslims, Jews – and rankles their zeal.

Rather than seeing tolerance as a road to shared understanding, and thereby peace, zealots see this sharing of sacred space among contrary faiths as somehow impious. If the teaching of a group is not exclusive, they murmur, then it must be profane.

They couldn't be more wrong.

In an attitude of tolerance, and to show that good works transcend ideological boundaries, Jesus Christ, for example, chose a Samaritan (and significantly not an Essene or any other member of a Jewish sect) as the exemplar of practicing the moral law. When asked what one need do to inherit eternal life [Luke 10:25] Christ responded with, "Love the Lord you God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" [Luke 10: 27]. This, we might imagine, applies to anyone, then, indeed everyone, who fulfills this law of laws – the so-called golden rule.

It is of great concern, then,

at least in the United States, that many Christians reject Freemasonry simply because it entertains (or at least tolerates) additional faiths. It is precisely in such an air of peaceable tolerance where any conversion is more properly effected. Moreover, Freemasonry is not a religion in and of itself. Freemasonry is a means to assemble, and a code of moral conduct enforceable across, and perhaps recognizable within, all faiths. It is as improper to decry Masonry for admission of a plurality of faiths among its members as it is to denounce the United States of America because it protects a plurality of faiths across its citizenry!

There is no doubt that religion, with its ideological tenets, is frequently abused by the warmonger. By positioning a religion contextually in support of a bellicose agenda, the ideologue readily recruits soldiery in place of disciples, supplants morals with situational ethics, and assumes material wealth in lieu of any spiritual treasure.

It's remarkable how often money becomes the tool by which faith is measured.

This is just as much the case amidst those peaceable annals of religiosity – that domain frequented as much by the televangelist as the prestidigitator. But any time faith is used to excuse war, or any time sins are rendered

redeemable by some financial donation, it's unlikely salvation that is transacted. Religion becomes the pretext by which a zealous flock will pay any – indeed, the ultimate – price.

But Freemasonry lives the golden rule. Freemasonry donates millions of dollars every day to charities around the world, and for the most part anonymously. Freemasonry brings together men united under a common experience, in Lodge assembled, to move together as a single body governed by the will of the majority. It respects all its members equally, without prejudice.

It is wrong for any religion to denounce Freemasonry. Because Freemasonry is concerned with good works, philosophical exegesis and, in that space where all faiths overlap, mutual discovery of an archetypal truth that underpins the world. There can be no doubt, as a system of moral instruction, as a bastion of mutual tolerance, as a light to personal discovery, in pursuit of excellence – Freemasonry has never been more relevant!





**New Research Lodge of Colorado T-Shirts. \$20.00. All profits donated to Research Lodge of Colorado. If you would like to order one, please contact the secretary.**

**The T-Shirts cost \$9.07 each to produce. That means for each T-shirt bought, \$10.93 goes to Research Lodge of Colorado!**



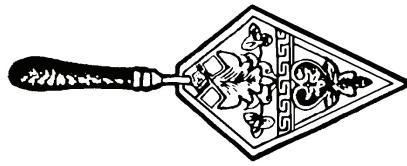
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**Don't forget the Colorado Masonic Symposium**  
Oct. 8 and 9 at the Denver Consistory! Visit:

**[www.coloradomasonicsymposium.org](http://www.coloradomasonicsymposium.org)**

For more information!



# MASONIC EVENTS CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	FOR MORE INFORMATION
Grand York Rite Sessions	Sept. 8, 9, 10	Doubletree Stapleton North	<a href="http://www.yorkrite.com/co">www.yorkrite.com/co</a>
Northwest Department Conference	Oct. 15 & 15	Boise, ID	<a href="http://www.nwyr.org">www.nwyr.org</a>
Colorado Masonic Symposium	October 8 & 9	Denver Consistory	<a href="http://www.coloradomasonicsymposium.org">www.coloradomasonicsymposium.org</a>
Research Lodge of Colorado	October 29	Blackhawk Lodge No. 11 A.F. & A.M.	<a href="http://www.rlcolo.org">www.rlcolo.org</a>



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Under the Jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful  
Grand Lodge of Colorado



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