

Masonic Fire

The Skirret

By Bryan R Musicar, Illinois Freemasonry Magazine, Winter Issue 2022, Volume 33, #1

Non-US ritual explains that the skirret is an implement which acts on a center pin, whence a line is drawn, to mark out ground for the foundation of the intended structure. Whereas we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of pointing out that straight and undeviating line of conduct laid down for our pursuit in the Volume of Sacred Law. Further, we learn that “the Line teaches us the criterion of moral rectitude, to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps to the path which leads to immortality.”

The skirret is a tool to be used in the preparations for laying a foundation. It is like a spool of thread with a handle. The loose end of the thread has a loop or ring which will catch the center pin. The skirret’s tread is allowed to unwind and is kept taut. Once the desired length is reached, a piece of chalk or pencil may be used to mark the foundation. It serves a similar purpose to a ruler when drawing a straight line on paper. The cleverness of it though is in its versatility. With the thread wound up, it takes up little space and can be carried in the pocket of an apron. When the skirret thread is affixed to a center pin and allowed to unwind, it becomes longer than any practicable ruler, straightedge, or twenty-four-inch gauge could ever be and equally as precise.

When we consider these qualities in relation to the Volume of Sacred Law, the skirret becomes the tool which helps us understand how the Volume of Sacred Law applies to ourselves. Most Volumes of Sacred Law were written millennia ago, in cultures and contexts vastly different from our own. Yet we are told in the EA charge “To consider it as the unerring standard of truth and justice, and by regulating our actions by the Divine precepts it contains. How do we apply the stories and laws of these ancient tomes to our daily lives? Via the use of reason, faith, and proper behavior at all times, which is emblematically represented by the skirret.

Contacts

Call **303-279-9902** to contact Golden City Lodge #1 AF&AM, Mt Zion Chapter #133 OES, Friendship Court #7 Amaranth, Bethel #43 Job’s Daughters, Columbine Assembly #96 Rainbow for Girls, and Golden Chapter DeMolay

Call Lee Miller **303-961-6455** or Randy Penn **303-466-8521** for York Rite Bodies at Golden: Golden Chapter #5 RAM, Jefferson Council #24 R&SM, Jefferson Highlands Commandery #30

Call **303-861-4261** for Denver Consistory or **1-866-289-6797** for Scottish Rite Child Language Disorders Foundation

Call **303-455-3570** for El Jebel Shrine or **1-800-237-5055** for Shriners Hospital or Burn Center for Children.

Call **303-756-9489** for the Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Center and Village.

Fees for Degrees is \$150

2023 Annual Dues and Per Capita

\$210 – Regular Members (\$125 + \$85)

\$185 – 65+ years of age with 25+ years as a MM (\$100 + \$85)

Items for Sale

Golden Lodge T-Shirt.....\$10.00
Golden Lodge Polo-Shirt.....\$15.00
Further Light (booklet).....\$ 8.00
Clear Text Key (MM).....\$35.00

The Golden City Temple Facility is Available!

For weddings, receptions, anniversary, graduation, reunions, gatherings, recitals, plays, meetings and the like. The facility is beautiful, functional, and affordable!

Please contact the GMTA **303-279-9902** or visit <http://www.goldencitylodge1.org/calendar.html> for rental fees and availability.

Veterans and First Responders

We are adding your service to our database. Please advise the Secretary if you have served or are serving in the military (your branch) or if you are/were a first responder.

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**Golden City Lodge No. 1
AF & AM**
400 Tenth Street
Golden, Colorado 80401
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Golden City Lodge #1 A.F. & A.M.

Chartered October 17th, 1860

February 2023

Masonic Temple Street / Mailing Address

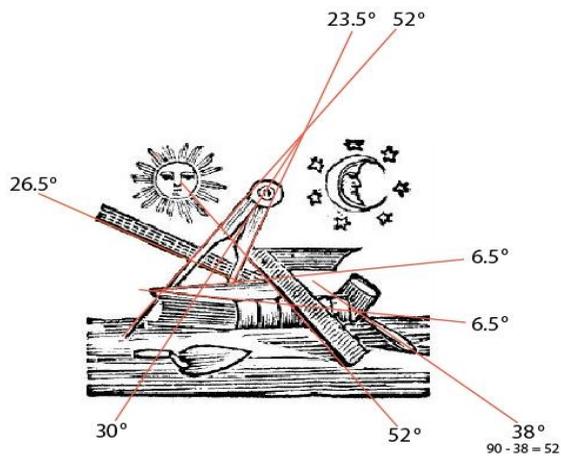
Golden City Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M.
400 10th Street
Golden, Colorado 80401

Masonic Temple Phone

(303) 279-9902

Masonic Temple Web Site

www.GoldenCityLodge1.org



Message of the Worshipful Master

Brethren,

As I sit to write these words, the calendar tells me it's Friday 13th. A date the superstitious believe to be a harbinger of bad luck. I see we have another Friday 13th this year, in October. Which interestingly, will be the anniversary (the 716th) of an infamous event in Masonic history, and one which a popular theory credits as the origin of the 'bad luck' superstition.

Founded in the 12th century, The Knights Templar protected pilgrims traveling to the Holy Land. Thanks to lavish donations from Europe's Royalty, they quickly became a rich and powerful order. This did not go unnoticed by King Philip IV of France who coveted their wealth. Beginning on Friday 13th, more than 600 Templars were arrested, imprisoned, tortured, and forced to confess to charges of heresy, among other offences. Ultimately, many died in prison or were later put to death. Their lands and money were confiscated and in 1310, Pope Clemence formally dissolved the Order. 4 years later, several high-ranking Templars, including Grand Master Jacques de Molay, were burned at the stake in Paris, bringing an end to their remarkable era and launching a long-lasting theory about the evil possibilities of Friday 13th.

On a lighter note; the Brothers present at the first Lodge of the year were treated with two excellent proficiency deliveries. Brother Eric Stuart for the Entered Apprentice and Brother Jorge Crespo, for the Fellowcraft (in his 2nd language no less.) It's heartening to see such dedication to the craft from our younger Freemasons and I look forward to watching them both advance through their degrees in the

coming weeks and months. Please join me in congratulating them both on a job well done.

Fraternally,
Andrew Smith Worshipful Master

From the Desk of the Secretary

Brethren,

I have received back some trestle boards and dues invoices. Fortunately, the Return Service from the Post Office provides us with most of the necessary updates. However, even some of those are coming back as "number unknown" or "insufficient address."

If you know any brethren that have not been receiving mail from the lodge, let them know to contact me to verify contact information. And if there are changes to your address, phone number, and/or email address, please notify me so I can update our records.

Fraternally, WB Ryan Puckett

February Birthdays

Brother.....Ted Beer
 Brother.....Devon Campbell
 Brother.....James Higley
 Worshipful Brother.....Jeffery Lockwood
 Worshipful Brother.....Charles Noah
 Brother.....Mark Powell
 Brother.....Levi Alan Wait
 Worshipful Brother.....Byron Walker
 Brother.....Victor Walker
 Brother.....Robert Williams

Golden City Lodge #1 A.F & A.M.

2023 Officer Line

Worshipful Master.....Andrew Smith
 303-667-1332
 wiley258@gmail.com
 Senior Warden..... Benjamin Miller
 Junior Warden.....Nick Puma
 Treasurer.....Richard Wenzell
 Secretary.....Ryan Puckett
 720-218-0770
secretary@goldencitylodge1.org
 400 10th St, Golden, CO 80401
 Senior Deacon.....Aaron Combe
 Junior Deacon.....Devon Campbell
 Senior Steward.....Bill Ott
 Junior Steward.....David Buckingham
 Chaplain.....Thomas McKean
 Tiler.....Craig Petty

District Lecturer.....Michael Tims

2023 Committees

(Chairman)
 Welfare.....Andrew Smith
 Benjamin Miller, Nick Puma
 Finance.....Nick Puma
 Rick Wenzel, Ryan Puckett
 Grievance.....Benjamin Miller
 Aaron Combe, Bill Ott
 Posting.....Aaron Combe
 Tom Zumalt, Byron Walker, Chris Westeroff
 Memorials.....Andrew Smith
 Bill Ott, Tom Zumalt, Rick Wenzel
 Investments.....Andrew Smith
 Thomas McKean
 Scholarship.....Andrew Smith
 Ryan Puckett, Benjamin Miller
 Technology.....Ryan Puckett
 Tom Zumalt, Benjamin Miller
 Education.....Nick Puma
 Benjamin Miller, Byron Walker
 Music.....Tom Zumalt
 Thomas McKean, Aaron Combe

Events Schedule

February 6th Stated Meeting

Dinner at 6pm

February 20th Stated Meeting

Pizza, Pool, and Darts

1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6pm
 Come and enjoy some fellowship. Bring a friend.

Mt Zion OES Pancake Breakfast

4th Sunday at 8am to 11am. All you can eat pancakes, eggs, sausage, and hash browns

Youth Group Information

Bethel #43 Job's Daughters

2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:45pm
 (Girls, 11-18 / Jobes2be 8-10)

Columbine Assembly #96 Rainbow for Girls

1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7pm
 (Girls, 10-18 / Pledges 8-9)

Golden Chapter Order of DeMolay

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7pm
 (Boys, 12-18, Squires 9-11)