

Rite Works

SCOTTISH RITE
MASONIC CENTER

CO. PALM

HISTORY · NUMBER · ONE · A & A · S · R ·

ONE WAY

NO
PARKING
ANY TIME

NO
PARKING
ANY TIME

**Volume I • Issue V
September 2008**

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This publication is produced by and for the benefit of members, staff and interested parties pertaining to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America and, more particularly, the Denver Consistory in the Valley of Denver, Orient of Colorado.

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LEADERSHIP

ALLEGIANCE

*The bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Denver, Orient of Colorado, acknowledge and Yield allegiance to the **Supreme Council** (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspector General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third degree of the Ancient Scottish Rite of Freemasonry For the Southern Jurisdiction of The United States of America.*



Ronald A. Seale, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council, 33°, Washington, D.C.



Stephen M. Munsinger, 33°
Sovereign Grand Inspector General
of The Supreme Council

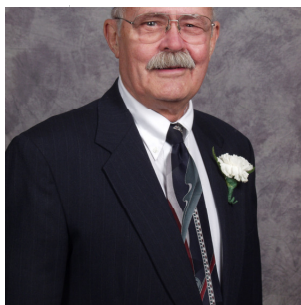


David W. Powell, 33°
Personal Representative of the SGIG in Colorado
for Denver Consistory

THE DENVER



CONSISTORY



Warren L. Glover, 33°
Venerable Master
Centennial Lodge of Perfection



Norman C. Wright, 33°
Master of Kadosh
Denver Consistory



E. Michael Connely, 33°
Wise Master
Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix



Burney W. Brandel, 32° KCCH,
Commander
Colorado Council of Kadosh



M. Edward Johnson, 33°
Almoner



Donald L. Emarine, 33°
Treasurer



Darrell L. Tygart, 33°
Secretary-Recorder-Registrar

CALENDAR

2008 Denver Consistory Schedule

September

Mon – Sept 1 Consistory closed for Labor Day

Mon – Sept 15 **Stated Meeting** 5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner

Fresh Fruit Salad
Herb Roasted Chicken
Roasted Red Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Rolls with butter
Sherbet with cookie

7:00 PM – Entertainment: *Sports Team Shirt Night*
Scottish Rite Foundation Program

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

October

Thur – Oct 9 Historical Narration 7:00PM

Sat – Oct 18 Oktoberfest at El Jebel Shrine Center 5:00 PM

Mon – Oct 20 **Stated Meeting** 5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner

Green salad
Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Green beans
Rolls with butter
Apple Pie

7:00 PM – Entertainment: Feast of Tishri Observance

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

November

Sat – Nov 1 Jazz Concert 7:00 PM

Fri- Sat Fall Reunion - 33rd consecutive
Nov 14 – 15

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Mon – Nov 17 **Stated Meeting** 5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Entertainment: Veterans Recognition Program

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Sat – Nov 22 Consistory Decorating Party 9:00 AM – ?
All members, officers and wives are invited

Thurs – Fri Consistory closed for Thanksgiving Day
Nov 27 & 28

December

Sat – Dec 6 Scottish Rite Foundation 10:00 AM – ?
& Consistory Children's Christmas Party

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Mon – Dec 15 **Stated Meeting** 5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Entertainment
Annual Election of Officers

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Thurs – Fri Consistory closed for Christmas observance
Dec 25 & 26



REMEMBRANCE

~ In Memoriam ~

| | |
|---|------------------|
| William Lester Bonner, 32° | 6/9/2008 |
| Edward Lun Chin, 32° | 6/11/2008 |
| Thomas Howard Coolidge, 32° | 7/26/2008 |
| Claire Henry Cusick, 32° | 6/12/2008 |
| Marlin James Edwards, 32° | 7/10/2008 |
| Lee Durward Engelking, 32° | 5/28/2008 |
| Robert Harold Fisher, 32° | 7/18/2008 |
| Herbert Roy Hale, 32° | 6/10/2008 |
| William Alward Hessin, 32° | 6/14/2008 |
| Carroll Veo Jones, 32° | 6/15/2008 |
| Chauncey Clay Kerr, 32° | 6/2/2008 |
| John Allan Kirkpatrick, 32° | 7/19/2008 |
| Harold L. Little, 32° | 5/26/2008 |
| Norman Rowland Lucia, 32° | 7/14/2008 |
| Eddie Adam Martin, 32° | 5/24/2008 |
| Paul Emerson Miller, 32° | 7/28/2008 |
| Paul Raymond Mullen, 32° | 7/10/2008 |
| Neil Richard Paul, 32° | 5/26/2008 |
| David Alan Prince, 32° | 7/18/2008 |
| Everett Lee Roberts, 32° | 7/6/2008 |
| Willie C. Shorter, 32° | 6/6/2008 |
| John Ronald Simmons, 32° | 6/26/2008 |
| Julius Edwin Waterman, 32° | 7/17/2008 |
| Calvin Richard Watson, 32° | 6/3/2008 |
| Robert William Wright, Jr., 32° KCCH | 6/11/2008 |
| Leslie Dean Williams, 32° | 6/19/2008 |



FEATURE ARTICLE



SILENCE

By D.J.Cox, 32°, KCCH

From the largest to the smallest organizations, a typical complaint is the lack of communication. People want to know

what is going on and why. We certainly aren't any different.

Can you hear it? Can you *feel* it? I can. From the Executive Committee, down through the officers, to our newest members --- silence. Why? Aren't we doing anything? Don't you have questions? Do you know what is happening with the organ fund? Or why activities are cancelled for a lack of participation. Are we so informed that we have no curiosity or interest or concerns? How did this happen? When did it happen?

I find it truly interesting that getting information for this publication is like pulling teeth. I guess only a few really care or am I wrong? I like knowing what the ladies are involved in and what the Knights of St. Andrew have planned. I like having the officers explain their programs and direction the Consistory has charted. I like the tidbits of educational material I can read. But maybe that's just me.

I like discussing articles or facts of historical significance such as:

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

- *Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died.*
- *Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned.. Two lost their sons serving in the*

Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

- *Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.*

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

- *Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.*
- *Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his Ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.*
- *Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.*
- *Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.*
- *At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.*
- *Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.*
- *John Hart was driven from his wife's*

bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't.

So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

Remember: freedom is never free!

We should never take our freedoms for granted and treat them as mere holidays, but too many do.

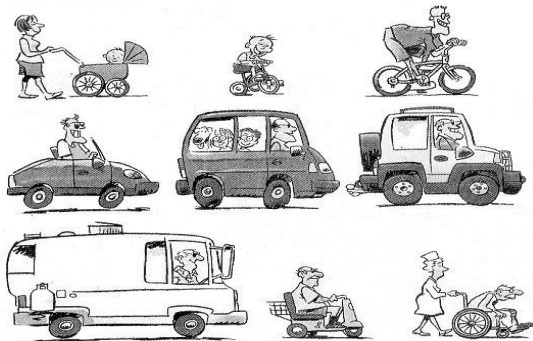
We are constantly reminded that politics and religion should never be discussed in Lodge, but does that mean we have to stop talking about those subjects? How do you feel about statements made by celebrities concerning these subjects? For example:

'With hurricanes, tornados, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, 'Are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?'

Jay Leno

Shouldn't we be talking about these things? What do you think about when you see cartoons like ...

The Wheels of Life



What do you think about when you see articles like this on the internet ...

Check your Driver's License

I definitely removed mine. I suggest you all do the same. Now you can see anyone's Driver's License on the Internet, including your own! I just searched for mine and there it was...*picture and all!*

Thanks Homeland Security! Go to the web site, and check it out.

It's unbelievable!!! Just enter your name, city and state to see if yours is on file. After your license comes on the screen, click the box marked 'Please Remove'. This will remove it from public viewing, but not from law enforcement. Please notify all your friends so they can protect themselves, too. Believe me they will thank you for it.

<http://www.license.shorturl.com/>

There is really so much to talk about. Don't you think you could spend a few minutes to write down a story ... or an article about Masonic tenets ... or about what's going on in the Consistory ... or ... the list is definitely extensive. Think of it as having a conversation with your friends. After all, aren't we all Brothers? Don't we have much in common? I hate to do all the talking. Let's break the silence and start a conversation that reverberates throughout the Consistory. Let's talk!

If you want to check out a couple of really interesting stories, check out the Grand Junction Consistory Sep/Oct newsletter articles by Bob Hatton 32°, Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection in the *News of Colorado West* section.



From the Secretary's Desk

by Darrell L. Tygart Sr. 33°

From Darkness to Light!

It is that time of the year again! The summer and all of its activities are behind us and we come together again in anticipation of our labors for this "Masonic Season!" We have many things to look forward to and the committees have labored all summer in planning and preparation of this coming year.

I would like to welcome Ron Birely 32° K.C.C.H. as our new Director General. Ron has been a wonderful contributing ritualist to these bodies for years and brings a great deal of enthusiasm, motivation and new ideas to the job. He inherited the plan for a two day Reunion in November but has put together a great schedule accordingly. He will hold his first Degree Council meeting on September 17th and like I said before, has many new and exciting ideas for all of our ritual work. Please welcome Ron to his new position and give him all the support he needs!

Our three Supreme Council "Fellows" continue to labor in the good name of the Denver Consistory Bodies and are very involved in the promotion of the Master Craftsman Program. For those unaware, this program is sponsored by the Supreme Council and is specifically directed to the further education of all Scottish Rite brothers. It is a self directed course using the Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide and the Bridge to Light with the study guide/open test provided by the Supreme Council. It involves six lessons to complete the course and the enrollment fee is \$45.00 total. You are provided the Monitor and Guide textbook by the Supreme Council which is a \$65.00 value in itself! Our three "Fellows" are Michael Moore, Peter DeLaurier and Bobby Juchem. You may contact any of these brothers or the Consistory office for further information. I can personally guarantee a feeling of awareness and satisfaction that a member receives as he works his way through this program.

The Scottish Rite Cathedral Board has been hard at work taking care of the building and we will very shortly be involved in commercially "washing" the

entire exterior of the building followed by tuck pointing which will seal the outside walls and joints from leaking water into the interior of the building.

For your information: the second floor of the new addition has now been totally rented to the State of Colorado Legislative Information Services Unit. They have signed a 5 year lease and we look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with them. So if you see a new face around the building during the daytime, be not alarmed. They are most probably your friendly state government!

Please try and attend the stated communication on September 15th! This is a very special Scottish Rite Foundation Celebration and will be a rewarding and informative meeting for all. The business of the "tiled meeting" will occur with the officers at 5:30 p.m. in the Red Room. The meeting after dinner will remain "open" for all family and friends and I know you will enjoy the program.

I would encourage and ask that all of you become involved with the work of the Consistory. Our membership declines a little each year and I find we need serious help with the Rose Croix Funeral Teams, degree actors and committee members. Our membership is now down below 4,000 and we could use all the help that we can find! Not to mention that it is just simply rewarding and satisfying to labor and celebrate with all of your Scottish Rite brethren. Its near the fall season, we are back to labor from the summer, and we look forward to seeing you real soon!

**HISTORICAL NARRATION OF
SCOTLAND'S TWO GREAT
HEROS, WILLIAM WALLACE
AND ROBERT THE BRUCE, BY
ERIC W. MCBRIDE, 32°, 7:00 PM,
SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC
CENTER, \$10.00 ADMISSION
WITH PROCEEDS TO GO TO THE
MASONIC CENTER.**

MEMBERSHIP

By Wesley L. Campbell, 32° K.C.C.H.
Senior Warden,
Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix



Membership in all fraternal organizations has been falling for many years. The reasons and or causes can be discussed and cussed for many more years. That does not solve the problem. Only you and or I can solve this problem. It is up to us to go out and find the new members. They

are out there. They are out there; the only thing is that we (You and I) may be looking in the wrong places.

Membership starts at the basic unit that is the Blue Lodge in your area, and in the other Lodges around the state. How long has it been since most of us have gone to our own Lodge, let alone a friend's Lodge that we do not belong to.

Maybe we should think outside of our own box (Lodge). Maybe we could interest a friend's friend if we showed up at his Lodge and talk up the benefits of the Consistory, and what we get out of it. Maybe we should use this method of communication. It is well worth a try.

Membership has been related to a contact sport. But have you ever seen a good team without a good coach. You must think like a coach. You must hone up your game plan and COMMUNICATE. It is not enough to just think that you are doing your part, you must actually do it. We all think that we are overloaded, many of us are, but that does not stop some from doing more. How many times have you seen a quarterback do all the work without contacting the coach at least every other play? Even the best has help. So lets all do our best to help.

It has long been mentioned that if you want a job done, give it to the person who is overloaded, and he seems to be able to get it all done. WELL that is not the only or maybe not even the best solution. That person is apt to burn out, become disgusted, or just give up in despair. HE NEEDS help from the rest of us. Maybe we all can learn from his example. Maybe we need to take lessons from him or at least try to imitate his form and style. I am almost positive that he will not be angry that we are copying his work style and ethics.

Let's all find a mentor that can teach us how it is possible to contact the younger crowd and interest them in joining. I for one, am fully retired from the working world, and have been for over 14 years. That was the part of my life where I got paid to do my job. Therefore, I do not have the contacts to co-workers that I used to have. I only have one son, who is a Mason, in York Rite, in the Consistory, and in the Shrine. I have grandsons, who I have contacted, those interested are now Masons. I am just waiting for my GREAT grandson to be born, so his father, a Colorado Mason living in upper New York can get him into the Fraternity. But in the meantime, shouldn't I try harder? Maybe we all should. Have you contacted your associates and families lately to be Masons?

We cannot expect the retired members to find all the new contacts, as their circle of friends are probably mostly Masons who are Scottish Rite Masons already. We must get out and find new young candidates.

Finally, remember that once you get your contact, he joins, he becomes a Mason and then into the Consistory, your work is not done. You must follow his Masonic career and help him to continue. You did not learn or get to where you are all by yourself. You had help and guidance. Finally, once he has joined, DO NOT OVER LOAD him with work, other duties, and other units until he is ready. If he is young, he probably has a job, a family, and outside interests that will consume some of his efforts. We should not expect him to give all that up. BE patient, let him grow and mature slowly. After all good wine was not bottled and drank the same year.

***LOOK, CONTACT, FOLLOW THROUGH AND
CONTINUE OUR SEARCH.***

**JAZZ CONCERT ON NOVEMBER
1ST BENEFITING THE SCOTTISH
RITE FOUNDATION'S RITE CARE
PROGRAM. IT IS AT 7:00 PM
AND COSTS \$30.00 GENERAL
ADMISSION.**



Articles for this Column may be FAXED to 303-477-0782 or FAXED to Denver Consistory, 303-861-4269 or e-mailed to HarryL72@q.com.

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*Be kinder than ever, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of a battle....***Bill Woods, 33°**, (a veteran Marine) stumbled in his home and severely damaged a hip. He is in a recovery center.... *a bumblebee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor....***Homer Goodman, 32°**, and **Harry Lindstrom, 33°**, (a veteran Marine) were introduced at a Memorial Day Colorado Rapids soccer game, as guests for the night....**Jack Wyatt, 32°** and **Ken Pearce, 32°** assisted the Castle Rock Municipal Band for a Memorial Day Concert....*forgive your enemies – it messes up their heads....***Rick Frolick, 32° KCCH**, and Linda spent a few days at Lake Powell – (Fat Tire?)....Brooke, daughter of **Steve Munsinger, 33°**, SGIG, and Susan, presented them with a brand new grandson, Adam...our long-time bass drummer, **Charlie Crow, 32°**, is now on leave from the Shrine Band, as he has been having some eye troubles....*don't interfere with something that ain't bothering you none....*at the last Castle Rock Band Concert, **Marvin Feldman, 33°**, commented that he knew **Jerry Fenimore, 33°** was in the audience by the scent of his wonderful cigars....*heard on TV by a breathless female announcer during the Belmont Race..-“I can't be sure, but this I am certain of ”...*(say wot??) ...never miss a good chance to shut up....****Dave Schweitzer, 32°** recently had knee surgery...**Greg LaFavor, 33°**, met with some of the Denver Consistory members, in Seattle at the Leadership conference....the First Colorado Volunteer Band, consisting of **Marvin Feldman, 33°**, Director; **Steve Munsinger, 33°**, SGIG; **Rick Frohlick, 32°**, KCCH; **Kent Brandebery, 32°**;

Harry Lindstrom, 33, (a veteran Marine); **Ken Pearce, 32°**; **Jack Wyatt, 32°**; **Robin Knox, 32°**, KCCH; **Jim Brigman, 32°**, KCCH; and **Mike Zeff, 32°**, played at the 150th Anniversary of Fort Garland, at Fort Garland the weekend of June 19, and 20th....*every path has a few puddles....*

we need your "happenings" for this column. Your Brethren are interested. Send to the addresses listed at the start of this column.

The Double Headed Eagle

by Brian House, 32°

The symbol of the Double Headed Eagle is actually not the symbol of the Scottish Rite but rather the symbol of the 32nd degree. It is first seen in Sumeria, the first recorded civilization. Later it was used in the Byzantine Empire by the emperor as a symbol of his role as the head of the religious state as well as the secular state. The Romanoff's in Russia, as well as other European monarchs, used the Double Headed Eagle as a symbol of their two roles as head of state and head of the church. In early masonic history it was described as the symbol of the Knights of the East and West. Manly Hall, the masonic scholar, thought it stood for the union of the female and male in one entity. Albert Pike saw it as a symbol of the duality of all things, i.e. hot and cold are not opposites but are instead measurements of the same thing: temperature. Light and darkness, far and near, tall and short etc. describe the same phenomenon.

So once again there is no official meaning of the symbol but a variety of possibilities, which is the beautiful thing about masonic symbolism. We have to figure it out for ourselves to our individual satisfaction.

OKTOBERFEST, OCTOBER 18TH
IN CONJUNCTION WITH EL
JEBEL SHRINE AT THE EL
JEBEL SHRINE CENTER.

Denver Consistory Ladies



Here we are in “the dog days of summer”. This phrase refers to the hottest, most sultry days of summer. The term “Dog Days” was used by the Greeks as well as the ancient Romans who called “days of the dogs” after Sirius (the “Dog Star”), the brightest star in the heavens besides the Sun. In recent years, the phrase “Dog Days” have found new meaning. The term has frequently been used in reference to the American stock market when summer is a slow time and poorly performing stocks with no future potential are known as “dogs”.

The Consistory picnic beat the “dog days” by having their picnic on a pleasant, breezy day on the scenic picnic grounds at the Fitzsimmons Complex. If you missed the picnic you missed some good eats! A special thanks to Shelly and Mike Rowan for the menu and hard work of preparing the food for the picnic. It was delicious—loved those brats! Chuck Farley fired up his equipment and made his wonderful cold, vanilla ice cream. It was fun visiting with everyone and learning how they were spending their summer. We were glad to see David Dorn at the picnic and recovering well from his heart surgery.

Our tote bag project is progressing well. At our June meeting we completed 42 bags for delivery to the Audiology Department at Children’s Hospital. We are in the process of setting up a delivery date. We wish to acknowledge the valuable contribution that Lula Ellsworth and June McMullin have provided in sewing the bags and matching tags for us so all we have to do is attach the tag and add an item(s) to the bag. A special thanks to the ladies who have made donations of coloring books, crayons, etc. to put in the tote bags.

We are working on our program for September. If any of you have suggestions or requests for the types of programs you would like us to have, please contact the Consistory Office with your suggestions.

As always, if you know someone who is in distress or needs to be remembered in some way, please contact the Consistory office. Mary White is standing by with cards to send.

Hoping your “dog days” of summer are fun filled days. See you in September.

Delivery Date – September 30th, Call 303-861-4261 by September 23 for your reservation.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

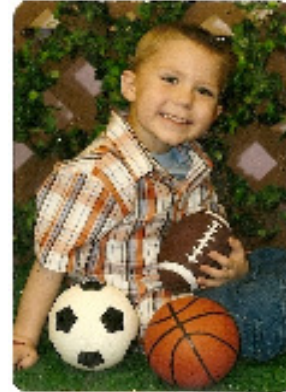
| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Ikey Starks, 33° | Treating prostate cancer |
| Darrell Tygart, 33° | Treating lymphoma |
| Andy Anderson, 32° KCCH | |
| Scott Anderson, 32° KCCH | Passing of their wife and mother |
| R. Gerald Screws, 33° | Passing of his Mother-in-law |
| Bill Wood, 33° | In care center after a fall |
| Lois Whitney | widow of Les Whitney, 32° KCCH recovering from a stroke |
| Ralph John, 32° | Pneumonia |
| Ruth Harlan | wife of Jack Harlan, 32° Radiation treatments |
| Lynn Reed, 32° | in assisted living with his wife |
| Alan Hatfield, 32° KCCH | in assisted living after fall |
| Pete Ricker, 32° | Esophagus cancer |
| Bill Wooten, 33° Past Grand Master, | Prince Hall in Aurora North several problems |
| Jesse McMahan, 32° | in Care Center |



SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION

What Colorado RiteCare Did in 2007

In 2007 the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado provided financial assistance enabling 1,133 children in Colorado to receive speech-language care. This is more children receiving care than in any previous year of the Foundation's 55-year history. The Foundation provided \$1.4 million to help parents pay for the expense of this care.



**Lestate, A Head Start
Treasure Chest Boy**

Children Served in 2007

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Speech-Language Therapy..... | 934 children |
| Treasure Chest Program..... | 199 children |
| Total Children Served in 2007..... | 1,133 children |
| Valley of Denver..... | 652 children |
| Valley of Colorado Springs/Pueblo..... | 118 children |
| Valley of Grand Junction..... | 363 children |

At the end of 2007 the Foundation's net assets reached an all-time high of \$29.1 million. This was made possible by more than 2,700 gifts made to the Foundation since January 2000. Of particular significance are the more than \$2.6 million in estate bequests made during this period. These gifts were instrumental in helping our net assets grow while at the same time providing \$10.4 million in assistance to families. And, the Foundation continues to manage and administer the RiteCare Childhood Language Program at a very low overhead rate. In 2007, this rate was 1.7 percent.

The following articles provide information regarding the Treasure Chest Program.

Lestate's Speech is Improving by Elizabeth, Lestate's Mom

My son Lestate was enrolled in the "Treasure Chest" program all year. We received five boxes this year of family fun and learning. My son has a speech problem, and this program has helped him so much in his speech growth that I am amazed. Carmen [Western Slope Head Start's Treasure Chest Coordinator] is an amazing person who sincerely cares about us and the program. Carmen mentioned that the funding on this program could

end at any time. I ask not just for my child but for all the children who need help in learning that you please continue funding. Especially since this program has helped my family, I would like to see other families benefit as much as mine has. Thank you for everything!

The Treasure Chest Program is Making a Difference by Carmen Marsh, Early Literacy Specialist Western Slope Head Start

The Treasure Chest Program helps Head Start families learn better ways to become the primary educators of their children. Through home visits with tubs of educational activities, the program's curriculum is a parent friendly approach for teaching young children early language and literacy skill development. The program also screens children from birth through age five for possible speech delays, allowing parents an opportunity to seek early intervention prior to preschool and kindergarten.

In the preceding article you were introduced to Lestate. Based on his limited speech, Elizabeth his mom felt the Treasure Chest Program could help him, along with receiving speech services through the local school district. During my home visits, I noticed multiple drawings of Lestate's hung

throughout her home. The drawings were from the activities in the Treasure Chest. She was so proud of his accomplishments and so was Lestate. She also said the activities in the Treasure Chest created family time as well as a valuable learning experience. Elizabeth said that by the end of the program, Lestate was able to better communicate with his teachers and friends.

As always, the success of the Treasure Chest Program is due to the continued interest, funding, and support of the Scottish Rite Foundation. On behalf of the families and the Head Start staff, thank you.

What is the Treasure Chest Program?

The Treasure Chest Program is an early language and literacy program for promoting speech, language, and learning. It is based on age-appropriate materials including books, games, and toys that are organized into theme-based groups and placed in bags, boxes, tubs, or backpacks for parents to check out. Parents are taught how to most effectively use these materials in the home.

Since inception of the program in 2000, more than 800 children have been enrolled. Children in the following six communities are now participating in the program: Cortez, Dolores, Dove Creek, Grand Junction, Mancos, and Towaoc on the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation. The program is managed and coordinated by The Piñon Project, a not-for-profit childhood development agency in Cortez and by Western Slope Head Start, located in Grand Junction.

The Piñon Project's Treasure Chests Help Provide Focused Family Time by Valerie Hernandez Special Assistant to Dr. Deborah Hayes The Children's Hospital

In May Dr. Deborah Hayes, Vern Ingraham, and I traveled to Cortez for the annual review of the Treasure Chest Program managed by The Piñon Project. We met with Virginia Howey, Director of The Piñon Project, and Kathi Sutton, The Piñon Project's Treasure Chest Coordinator.



Ethan & Dad Playing With Treasure Chest Materials

Kathi is doing an excellent job in managing this program; coordinating with several pre-schools, Head Start programs, and the Cortez public library; and providing parent training and education on use of the Treasure Chest materials.

In testimony to Kathi's dedication and ability, she recently saw a mother of a child in the program while shopping at the grocery store in Mancos. The Mom gave her a big hug and thanked Kathi for having provided this program for her son. The Mom said that the program gave them opportunity to work with books and age-appropriate materials – an opportunity they would not have otherwise had.

Ethan, the boy in the above photo, looks forward to his treasure chests. His Dad says, "The treasure chests contain a wealth of focused family time. Immeasurable value!" His Mom says, "We set aside a special time for them after bath time each evening. Ethan cries when it is time to return them and has on occasion hid a favorite book or even the entire Treasure Chest in a closet or under the bed. Thank you for this valuable resource."

Last year, The Piñon Project and the agencies it collaborates with in five communities served 160 children in the Treasure Chest Program. The families that seem to be most successful are those in a very structured environment, i.e., children enrolled in preschool and with stay-at-home moms. In one of the communities a child with speech and language delay and her family were actively involved with the program. Her teachers and Mom report that the program has been very helpful in her progress.

