

# South Denver #93 Trestleboard

Stated communications the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month September–May Dinners at 6:30 pm - **\$15** Lodge opens at 7:15 pm www.SouthDenver93.org



### CALENDAR – April 2016

April 5<sup>th</sup> – Stated Communication, Official Visit from the Grand Lodge of Colorado. Dinner 6:30 Chopped Steak with Mushroom Sauce. Lodge opens at 7:15

April 16<sup>th</sup> – First Degree

**April 19** – Stated Communication, Presentation on Masonic Philanthropy Dinner 6:30 Cappelli Con Pollo Lodge opens at 7:15

April 30th - Past Master's Dinner 6:00

#### Greetings from the East...

May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement

us..... Positively Shakespearean

It has been nearly 400 years since the death of the lauded playwright and poet William Shakespeare. He is considered the greatest playwright of all time (unless, of course, it was actually Christopher Marlowe who wrote it all ... but that's best saved for another trestleboard), giving the world the majesty of *Henry V*, the passion of *Julius Caesar*,

and the heartbreaking beauty of *Romeo and Juliet*. However, it is less known (though probably suspected by anyone who struggled through English lit) that Shakespeare, when he was unable to find that perfect word to complete a stanza, would simply make words up. In fact, he invented well over 1,700 new words that are commonly used today – even by us, here, way across the pond.

And many of those words are some that, well, may fall short of the lyrical beauty we usually associate with Shakespearean verse. Words like "**seamy**," "**gnarled**," **hobnob**," and even "**obscene**" (no doubt coined in defiance of the puritan class who tried ceaselessly to have his productions banned on the basis of, well, obscenity).

See if you can spot in this excerpt from *As You Like It* the word coined by Shakespeare that is still used quite regularly in today's university settings: And one man in his time plays many parts,

His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,

Mewling and **puking** in the nurse's arms.

Yes, even though Shakespeare is **dead as a doornail** (*Henry VI, Part 2*), his legacy comes **full circle** (*King Lear*) and it is a **forgone conclusion** (*Othello*) that his brilliance will be with us all the **live long day** (*Julius Caesar*). Even 400 years on, his **parting is such sweet sorrow** (*Romeo* 

and Juliet). How about wordplay more applicable to Masons…about when your parent's asked you to **level with me**, yet probably **getting the third degree** when you didn't. Sound familiar?

Hope to see you in Lodge soon.

Fraternally,

Stell W. tot

## Brethren,

#### Message from the West...

This past month was an exceptionally difficult one as a mason in the state of Colorado. We laid to rest Most Worshipful Brother Gerry Ford. MWB Ford was incredibly inspirational for me as a young mason. Although he was incredibly warm and easy to chat with and sit in lodge with, I was in awe of his masonic career and the masonic character that he exuded. He will be more than missed, his memory and his legacy is one that South Denver Lodge No 93 as well its members and all masons in Colorado should strive diligently to uphold and instill in our youngest entered apprentices. It was an incredibly emotional and moving experience to be present at and a part of his masonic funeral service. It is an experience that I will never forget. Although it is always difficult and heart wrenching for a brother to pass onto that celestial lodge in the heavens, it is incredibly difficult to lose a masonic legend like Most Worshipful Brother Gerry Ford.

In our last lodge meeting we read the memorial role, and MWB Ford's name and masonic dates were read along those of 8 other brothers who have passed. Somber reflection and grief are natural, but I want to use this message to the brethren to strongly remind them that the life that we live as men, citizens, and masons is what prepares us for our unavoidable and all too imminent fates. Even if it is not at the front of our minds because of our busy lives and unrelenting, fast-paced lives that we lead, that destiny awaits all of us. We must not despair or worry, but instead live out the values of friendship, morality, and brotherly love. We must take care of those whom we have an obligation to take care of, that is our duty as masons. Join me as you read this, to think about how MWB Ford lived out those values, and to think earnestly about how we can do so better ourselves. Fraternally,

Andrew Schnackenberg