

JULY-2026

THE TEMPLE TIMES

The Official E-newsletter of The Roswell Masonic Bodies



FROM THE EAST - Roswell 18

Brethren,

As I write this month's message, my heart is full of gratitude for our lodge and the many positive things happening at Roswell Lodge No. 18.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend our July Stated Meeting. Brother Darren Davis will be presiding in the East, and I ask that you provide him the same friendship, support, and good counsel that you have so generously provided me throughout this year.

Our Saint John's Day Celebration was a tremendous success. It was wonderful to see so many brethren, families, and friends gathered together in fellowship. Events like these remind us that Masonry is more than meetings and ritual—it is a brotherhood that extends into our community and our homes. The celebration also attracted the interest of several potential candidates and even a brother from Texas who now calls Roswell home. You never know who may be watching our work and considering joining our fraternity.



Further Light

From the East Cont.

I would also like to thank Brother Jacob O'Neal for volunteering to host the fellowship meal before our July meeting. Dakota and I are pleased to announce that we will host a Thanksgiving meal before our November meeting. We still need volunteers for our August and September meals. Hosting does not have to be elaborate, and sharing a simple meal together is one of the many ways we strengthen the bonds of brotherhood. If you would like to volunteer or partner with another brother, please let us know.

As we look ahead, two important events are quickly approaching.

The Eastern New Mexico State Fair will be held 5–10 October 2026. This is one of our greatest opportunities to engage with the community and represent Masonry in a positive light. Please mark your calendars and let Brother Gary Shubert know when you can lend a hand.

On November 7th, we will host our Cash Party in support of the Scottish Rite Learning Center. There is much work to be done, and every helping hand makes a difference. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthy cause.

With these events on the horizon, I encourage every brother to consider purchasing a Roswell Lodge No. 18 shirt. Wearing our lodge apparel demonstrates unity and professionalism, makes us more visible in the community, and helps create a positive image of Masonry. Short-sleeve shirts are \$45, and long-sleeve shirts are \$55.

In August or September, we will have the honor of raising Brother Aki Houghtby to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The date is still being finalized, but I encourage every brother to participate as he is able. Whether learning a speaking part, assisting with the degree team, or simply attending, your presence will make this degree even more meaningful.

Finally, our officers have completed visits to every lodge in our district and several beyond. Now I have taken on a new mission: finding the Roswell Lodge No. 18 Traveling Gavel. I am told it was last taken to a lodge in Texas. If any brother has information or knows where our gavel may be, please let me know. We would very much like to bring it home.

I hope you enjoy an excellent program this month presented by Brother Bob Parish. Thank you, brethren, for your continued support, enthusiasm, and dedication to our lodge. Together, we are building upon the traditions of the past while creating an even stronger future for Roswell Lodge No. 18.

Art Houghtby
Worshipful Master
Roswell Lodge No. 18



Regular Communication
Thursday July 2, 2026

***Dinner 6:30**

***Lodge Meeting 7:30**

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Further Light

THE STORY OF DR. JOSEPH WARREN

It was June 17, 1775.

The British Army had landed in Boston, and colonial militia occupied Breed's Hill overlooking the city. The battle that would become known as the Battle of Bunker Hill was about to begin.

Among the defenders was Dr. Joseph Warren.

Warren wasn't just another soldier. He was:

- A respected physician.
- President of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress.
- One of the principal leaders of the Patriot movement.
- A Freemason who had recently served as Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.

Because of his position, everyone expected him to stay safely behind the lines directing the war effort. Instead, Warren requested a musket. General Israel Putnam offered him command of the battlefield, but Warren declined.

"I came here today not to command, but to fight as a volunteer."

He chose to stand shoulder to shoulder with ordinary soldiers.

As the British charged the hill, the Americans famously held their fire until they were close enough to inflict devastating losses. Eventually the colonial defenders ran out of ammunition. The British overran the position.

Joseph Warren was killed while covering the retreat of his fellow Patriots. His death shocked the colonies. Even the British recognized his courage. General Thomas Gage reportedly remarked that Warren's death was worth the loss of five hundred ordinary men.

Many of Warren's closest associates were Masons.

Paul Revere, also a Mason, later recovered Warren's remains by recognizing a small piece of dental work he had made years earlier. It is considered one of the earliest documented uses of forensic dental identification.

Warren became a symbol of selfless service, duty, and sacrifice. Joseph Warren demonstrated that leadership isn't about titles. When danger came, he didn't ask others to do what he was unwilling to do himself. He laid aside rank, picked up a musket, and stood beside his brethren and neighbors. That reflects the Masonic ideal that true leaders serve first.



One remarkable aspect of the Revolution is that both sides contained Freemasons. British officers and American officers sometimes recognized one another as Masons. There are documented instances in which Masonic courtesies were extended despite being enemies in battle. The obligations of military service remained paramount, but mutual respect occasionally transcended the conflict. This demonstrates one of Freemasonry's oldest teachings:

Men may differ in politics, nationality, or religion, yet still recognize one another as Brothers.

"When we think of the American Revolution, we often remember Washington crossing the Delaware or the signing of the Declaration of Independence. But behind those famous moments stood men like Joseph Warren, Masons who believed that liberty required sacrifice, that leadership required service, and that principles were worth more than comfort. They remind us that the greatest title a man can hold is not General, Doctor, or Grand Master, but Brother."

Joseph Warren's story is especially powerful because it illustrates Masonic virtues, courage, humility, leadership, and sacrifice, without exaggeration. It's historically well-grounded and resonates strongly with both Masons and non-Masons.

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Further Light

Lincoln Lodge 2026

It was another great year in Lincoln. The BBQ was excellent thanks to RWB Chuck Bass and the rest of the lodge in Carrizozo. There was plenty of food, fun, and fellowship for all. Albuquerque 60 had the winning bid to open lodge this year, but they couldn't make it, so the Grand lodge officers stepped up and made it happen.



The Roswell Masonic Lodge, in partnership with the Roswell Masonic Foundation and the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, proudly awarded \$15,000 in scholarships to outstanding local students pursuing higher education. We are honored to invest in the future of our community by supporting the next generation of leaders in Roswell.



The Roswell Lodge hosted our St. John's day celebration. They had a water slide, foam cannon, and a traditional meal of burgers and dogs. Later in the evening, we were treated to a spectacular firework and drone show. .

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The Roswell Masonic Appendant Bodies



Roswell Shrine Alien Patrol



You can't get much more patriotic than a Shriner in a 4th of July parade! The Alien patrol will be in Mescalero, NM this Saturday representing the Roswell Shrine Club.



A very special thank you to Brother Mark Daniels and Brother Travis Daniels for quietly and faithfully caring for the grounds at the Roswell Lodge. Their recent work adding gravel beyond the parking area helped make our lodge look its best for the 4th of July celebration. If you haven't seen it, drive by and take a look.



Roswell Masonic Heritage Trust June Donation List 2026

Donations

Mr. and Mrs. Mark W. Daniels

Mr. and Mrs. Travis Daniels



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July 2026						
◀ June						August ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Roswell 18 Practice 6:00 PM	2 Roswell 18 Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:30	3	4
15	6	7	8 Roswell 18 Practice 6:00 PM	9	10	11 Pecos Valley #7 Meeting 1:00 PM
12	13	14	15 Roswell 18 Practice 6:00 PM	16	17 Rocky Mountain Masonic Conference Albuquerque	18 Rocky Mountain Masonic Conference Albuquerque
19	20	21	22 Roswell 18 Practice 6:00 PM	23 Roswell Shrine Club Meeting 6:30 Backdraft BBQ	24	25 Pecos Valley #7 Meeting 1:00 PM
26	27	28	29 Roswell 18 Practice 6:00 PM	30	31	

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