



# CASSADAGA SPIRITUALIST CAMP

Colby Memorial Temple Training

# Welcome



TEMPLE HISTORY



TEMPLE ACTIVITIES &  
ROLES



EXPECTATIONS

Welcome to the Colby Temple Volunteer Presentation. In this presentation we will briefly cover the history of the temple, volunteer roles and expectations of volunteers as a representative of the temple and the camp in general. This is an interactive presentation so feel free to ask questions along the way.

## Temple History



The original building at this location was built in 1895 and known as the Auditorium. The building had an unusual octagonal shape and was made entirely of wood. In 1923, construction was started on its replacement structure built of locally created "sand brick" in a Mediterranean style of architecture. Over the years, this building has had many uses, including that of a general meeting hall. In 1975, the building was renamed "Colby Memorial Temple" in honor of George P. Colby, an early benefactor of the Camp and is used primarily for church services today.

Colby was born in 1848 and was a well-known trance medium in his time. He traveled across the country conducting seances and public speaking. He served churches across the USA as a Trance Speaker. In 1875, Colby received instructions from his Spirit Guide, Seneca, to travel to Florida to establish a Spiritualist Camp. Following his arrival by boat at Blue Springs near Orange City, he discovered this area which matched the vision he had been shown. He then purchased the land that eventually became Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp. The temple is just over 6,000 square feet and is where Cassadaga Camp Mediums hold, lectures/workshops/seminars, Sunday Services and concerts all relating to Spiritualism. There is an energy at this temple like no other.

## Caesar Forman Healing Center



Originally built as a typical open gazebo around 1925 it had been enclosed and is now a healing center. This is the only octagonal shaped building in the district and is located North of Colby Memorial Temple. Healing services are preformed in this center from 10am until church services start at 10:30am every Sunday.

## Grove Service History



Grove Service a/k/a Sunday Afternoon Message Service, is a message service now held in the Andrew Jackson Davis Educational Building. However, this service was once held in front of Spirit Pond located in Seneca Park located North East of the Colby Memorial Temple and started by the pioneers of Spiritualism. This service is message service which provides guests with brief greetings from spirit and are performed by a group of Mediums and Student Mediums of Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp every Sunday afternoon after Church Services. The Mediums do their best to reach as many people as they can within one (1) hour. This service is held every Sunday from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm.

## Temple Activities



There are several activities that take place in and around the temple on a weekly basis.

These activities are as follows:

Adult Lyceum – Sundays at 9:30 am in the temple

Healing Gazebo – Sundays at 9:30 am just outside of the temple

Sunday Service – 10:30 am in the temple

Grove Service – Sundays at 12:30 pm in the AJD Building

Wednesday Message Services – 6:30 pm in the temple

As you will note that there are a number of service extensions to the main event, Sunday Service and there are a variety of ways that a volunteer could assist with these services. In the next slide we will discuss at a high level these ways a volunteer could assist with these services.

# Temple Roles

- Pastor & Associate Pastor
- Healers
- Chair Person
- Greeters
- Ushers
- Live Stream Tech
- Organ Tech
- General Volunteer



**Chair Person** – This is an individual that has taken the camp’s required class that we call- Platform Class. This training will provide you with all the necessary tools of how to conduct yourself as a public speaker and camp decorum. This is a fun class and it is highly recommended if you enjoy public speaking and if you do not, it will help you gain that confidence needed to be able to speak publicly.

**Greeters** – These are the individuals that not only welcome guests into the temple but also help the pastor set up in the morning prior to the temple opening. These individuals assist the Pastors with setting up the Hymnals on the table as guests walk in. Check to ensure all cushions are stacked properly in the areas and that there are no obstructions or garbage in or around the seating areas. Greeters also ensure that these books have the monthly activities and church pamphlet in the front of the books. They assist with filling the mint bowls. Ensure that candles are lit. During meditation, greeters take a headcount of all guests in both Lyceum and Church services. Greeters also ensure that guests do not walk out with the Hymnals during and at the end of each service. Greeters also thank guests for attending services and may advise on when and where guests can attend the Sunday Grove Service.

**Ushers** – These individuals assist with directing guests where they can sit to receive healing as well as direct them to the next healer during the meditation part of the service. Ushers also assist the greeters with end of services collection of hymnals and seating and aisle checks to ensure no obstructions or items are left behind by our guests. Any items left

behind are to be brought directly to the Pastors.

**Donation Collection Ushers** - These individuals are also responsible for the collection plates during the intermission. Only camp members may service as Ushers to collect donations. We are a 501(c)3 organization. We do not force a donation, however they are lovingly accepted. Even if it is a \$5 donation. Healers don't charge. This is our way to give back to the community.

**Live Stream Tech** – These individuals handle the live stream through YouTube and Facebook during Lyceum and Sunday Services. A separate comprehensive training will be done with these board approved techs. This is a team of two (2) individuals.

**Organ Tech** - The playing of the music discs at the times of when the hymnals are announced during service.

**General Volunteers** – These volunteers are needed to help the pastors put out the snacks, start a pot of coffee and put away the snacks and coffee at the appropriate times before and during Gove Service.

**Holiday Event Decorators** – During the holidays the camp enjoys decorating the temple. We are always looking for new ideas to give the temple an authentic look each year but we also need volunteers willing to help set up the decorations as well as take them down.

## Dress Code



**Greeters/Ushers/Live Stream Techs** – The expectation for these individuals is business casual\*. Slacks, collared shirts/dresses or a dressy blouse are all appropriate. Shoes are appropriate, however it is understood that there are conditions of which sneakers\* are appropriate.

**Sneakers** – These must be clean and without holes.

**Tights** - If a woman prefers to wear stretch pants, sometimes called “tights”, these items must be a solid color (non-see through) without holes. The top worn over this item should be long enough that it is mid thigh. Modesty is the best policy.

**Dresses** – Dependent upon the role or the individual, if you choose to wear a dress it should be no higher than just above the knees. Again we are a modest camp and ask that all representatives of the camp respect this requirement.

## Decorum



Here at the camp, we are family. Like most families we have our highs and lows of which need not be shown in public. The expectation is that we follow the camps “Declaration of Principles” when in public on camp grounds. Gossip and aggressive behaviors in public are unacceptable. If you happen to observe this behavior amongst members, volunteers or to the public, this should be reported to the event leads and/or the BOT President. Discussion amongst volunteers and/or members is highly discouraged and we ask that you refrain from such discussions.

Remember principle number “6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: ‘Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them.’” You may not have the entire story and there may be more going on in the background than you realize.

If you find yourself in a situation that makes you uncomfortable or if someone is being aggressive towards you, please do not feel like you have to tolerate such behavior. You do not, you can walk away and reach out an event coordinator or the BOT President or Vice President.

Please note that if going to an event coordinator makes you uncomfortable, the next step is to reach out to the BOT President/Vice President. If you do not know who these individuals are, you can always call the camp office at (386)228-3171 or send an e-mail to the office@Cassadaga.org. They would be more than happy to help in any situation you may find yourself in or observing.



Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Pastor, Associate Pastor or BOT President or Vice President. We are all here together and value your dedication to volunteering here at the camp. We know that volunteers are the heart and soul of this camp and we really appreciate all that you do everyday and in every way. Thank you.