

Thanksgiving Is a Gift to Ourselves, Reminding Us How Blessed We Are

With all the news from around the world, we hardly need a reminder that we have much for which we can be thankful. Thanksgiving is our opportunity to remember that. I don't know of any other country besides Canada which has a day set aside solely to contemplate one's blessings.

When I give the opening prayer at my weekly Rotary meeting, I like to say that "We are blessed, and we are a blessing." In other words, it is because we are so blessed that we are able to bless others with our gifts of time, love, financial assistance and service. It is out of our *gratitude* for how blessed we are that we are driven to do good in the world — and Rotarians do a world of good!

What are you thankful for? It's a metaphysical law that we draw to us more of what we think about, so let's think positives, not negatives!

I'll start with my family, especially my now-deceased father, Abbott Smith, who taught me values I still hold dear. He was never a Rotarian, but those values he taught me are entirely congruent with the values of Rotary.

My family moved from Maine to Colorado when I was in kindergarten, and for that I couldn't be more grateful! Somehow I was lucky to be enrolled in St. Anne's Episcopal School, where I was taught first and second grade by then-Sister Irene, the school's now deceased founder. What a blessing that was!

Space doesn't allow me to recount my other personal blessings, so I'll limit myself here to listing some professional blessings. It starts with being introduced to real estate as a career by the fine people at Coldwell Banker, including Kathy MacLeod and Rich Sands. I

still recommend that agents begin their career at CB, even though I moved on to RE/MAX Alliance and then launched Golden Real Estate.

Being rather outspoken, I know that I have irritated some of my colleagues in the business, especially in my early years, and for that I apologize. Nonetheless, I am grateful for what I have learned from many of them and from people in related industries such as lending, inspection, appraisal and repair. I am so much smarter than I was 10 years ago, thanks to them.

And, of course, I am thankful for the several hundred clients who have honored me with their business. Without the experience I gained from serving them, I wouldn't be nearly as knowledgeable.

My wife, Rita, has been my love and inspiration since we met in 2003, and I wouldn't be the success I am today without her presence in my life. I wish all could have the kind of relationship we enjoy.

REAL ESTATE TODAY



By **JIM SMITH, Realtor®**

Two Great Solar-Powered Homes

How would you like to have an electric bill under \$10 per month year round? That's what you'd have if you owned either of these two Golden homes. The one pictured at right is at [16488 W. 55th Drive](#), east of Easley Road.



As with the other listing, you wouldn't know from the street that it has a solar PV system, since the panels are not facing that direction. The above picture is of the back of the house, displaying its brick patios, covered and open, and professionally landscaped yard. It has two master suites upstairs, plus two other bedrooms, a main-floor home theater and hot water heat. The home at left is at [455 Wyoming Circle](#) in the Mesa Meadows subdivision. It has extraordinary finishes, which are reflected in its higher price. Tour both homes at [JeffcoSolarHomes.com](#).



GOLDEN REAL ESTATE
Serving the West Metro Area

Jim Smith   
Broker/Owner
Golden Real Estate, Inc.
DIRECT: 303-525-1851
EMAIL: Jim@GoldenRealEstate.com
17695 South Golden Road, Golden 80401
COMMENT AT: www.JimSmithBlog.com

NEW

Visit www.GreatGoldenHomes.com to browse all Golden Real Estate listings.
Find 100 or more other columns archived online at www.JimSmithColumns.com.