



Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

August 2020

Web Site: SoCoConsistory.org

Email: socolorcoscott@qwestoffice.net



Br. Bob Cook
Personal Representative for the Valley of
Colorado Springs – Pueblo

Some thoughts for the future

I have been reviewing and discussing our future plans with several brothers. If I haven't talk to you, please feel free to call or email with your thoughts. Our future is difficult to plan on one side due to the uncertainty of the pandemic and our political and Fraternity obligations to our members. Will we be able to hold meetings soon? Who knows? It seemed that recovery was beginning to work and now the numbers are working against us as we have more interaction than in the past. Are we going backwards or is there light at the end of this tunnel? All we know for sure is that the virus has a mind of its own and we are still looking for the right answers. Maybe the vaccine work will bear fruit in the next six to nine months.

Meanwhile, we need to continue to plan for our future return to some form of normalcy. Internet-based meetings have become the norm. As each meeting is scheduled and held, we learn better techniques and logistics to have a more meaningful discussion. We set a pretty high standard with the discussions we held last year at our stated meetings. The electronic versions are difficult to get the same spontaneous exchanges between brothers.

SCC Connects – We are starting our second round of phone calls and need to expand our calling list to more members. If you feel you could make 20 phone calls each 30 to 45 days to brothers in our

Consistory, please contact Br. Bob Harper or Br. Vince Johnson to get a list of names to call. This gives us a chance to touch base with brothers and keep our contact list (phone and email) up to date.

Other options we have for Masonic conversations are appearing everywhere. I have been able to attend a couple of the Grand Lodge Education meeting and have found the topics and presentations informative and educational. Check the Grand Lodge web site for sign up options. The Supreme Council sponsors a Tyler's Talk pod cast that always has some interesting topics. Most are available as recordings at the Supreme web site. Br. Maynard Edwards, 32° KCCH has a weekly email column entitled Monday Morning Masonry. He covers one degree each time and relates some to the key aspects of the degree to our personal lives. The most recent column (week of July 20th) dealt with the 26th degree and covered his feelings about the importance to a Mason of forgiveness. Let me know if you want to find out how to subscribe to his emails.

During the next year I want to see our Consistory be more visible in our community. Too often we have been living in our own little world and outsiders have no idea of what we do. I have read a very interesting plan for the Ceremony of Remembrance, Renewal and Commitment. This could be an open meeting idea – some parts of the presentations are very moving and inspirational.

On another topic, we're honored to have our SGC contribute to the newsletter! Reprinted with his permission on a very timely subject, enjoy!



GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

CHANGE! Really?

A mentor of mine, Illustrious and Most Worshipful George H. Chapin, 33°, forcefully stated in his presentations as grand master: "C-H-A-N-G-E ... is NOT a four-letter word!"

Any Masonic leader can share stories of a brother (or two) who resisted change, insisting that it is worse than any four-letter word.

As I write this article, everyone is trying to anticipate the "new normal." Fear roams the streets like a villain and lurks in the minds of most humans. Certainly, it is in part fear of the COVID-19 virus, but perhaps more menacing is the fear of the unknown, of how life will appear in our "tomorrow." A reasonable view is that we may fear the change from old habits and lifestyles to the unknown new. Often, we simply fear change itself.

In such times, I hope we can realize that Freemasonry has always been involved with change. Our fraternity was perhaps once operative (stonemasons) and then became more speculative (Freemasons) in nature. Our speculative history traces back more than three hundred years, past the founding of the first grand lodge, so there was a time when we Freemasons had no grand lodges.

Once we rode horses to our meetings; today we ride in automobiles.

Once, our lodge rooms were lit entirely by non-electrical lights. Masonic buildings replaced backrooms of taverns. For many Valley secretaries, computers have replaced typewriters. Recently, online meetings have replaced in-person meetings.

However, through all this change, we maintained our essence. We remain a brotherhood of good men, each expressing a belief in a Supreme Being, but respectful of one another's personal expression of that Creator. We continue to take basic principles and teachings from our applicable Volume of Sacred Law, weaving lessons through beautiful ritual to improve our personal relationship both with our Creator and with one another. Above all, we remain bound together by our commitment to care for one another and to share that care with those beyond the walls of our meeting rooms.

In this time of crisis, fear, and uncertainty, Freemasonry needs to remain true to itself for the world. Once we can move about more freely, we must continue to care for one another as we do today. Whether we



James D. Cole, 33°

are limited in our practices or methods does not change who we are.

Stonemasons today have better tools, stronger mortar, and improved techniques compared to three hundred years ago. However, they still build stone walls. We may experience more

online meetings, perhaps fewer face to face contacts, but that cannot and must not change our essence.

Let us use these new tools and embrace technology, just as we accepted electricity, automobiles, and computers. If technology can allow us to communicate and to experience time with one another, then I say let us use it and celebrate it, and let us by all means not stop using it once we can hold "regular" meetings again.

We are Scottish Rite Masons. We look out for one another. We care for one another, and we care for those in our communities who need us, whether they are Masons or not. We can do that by visiting in person or with a phone call or with an online meeting or with an email. That is living in a Masonic manner.

That is what we can never change. ☞



Bro Blake Simmons
Senior Warden Rose Croix Chapter

Hello Brothers!

In a continuing effort to share more about Chapter Rose Croix with the Brethren, here is some more information about this Chapter of the Consistory and especially the Rose Croix Funeral team and their duties and service to the Consistory

Rose Croix...Let us start with the beginnings... In the year 1747, the Pretender Prince Charles Edward, Bonnie Prince Charlie, established a Chapter in the town of Arras, in France, with the title "Chapitre Primordial de Rose Croix " In the charter of the body the Pretender styles himself "Sovereign Grand Master of the Chapter of Heredom, known under the title of the Eagle and Pelican, and since our sorrows and misfortunes are great, under that of the Rose Croix" From this we may infer that the title of "Rose Croix" was first known in 1747 and that the degree had been formally known as "Knight of the Eagle and Pelican", a title, which it still retains.

Rose Croix, generally known for the 18th degree, is also the Scottish Rite Chapter that helps assist the Brethren with Sickness, distress, and death. I prefer to call death, transformation because as we know as Masons, we do not die, but continue on our Celestial Journey after this life. With this in mind, below are certain selected portions from the Rose Croix Memorial service in order to illustrate a part of this Wonderful Ceremony we perform for the life and service of our dear departed brothers. We are sharing this with the Brethren so we can all know more about the Rose Croix Ceremony and our service to the Consistory. We also expect, in the future, to perform this ceremony in Lodge for all the Brethren to see and experience.

Wise Master; "Our Brother has been overtaken by that relentless fate, which is sooner or late to overtake us all, and which no worth or virtue, no wealth or honor, no tears of friends or sorrow of loved ones can avert or delay; teaching us the impressive lesson, do often repeated, yet so very soon forgotten, that each one of us must ere long pass to his reward." "The Rose was anciently sacred to Aurora and the Sun. It was the symbol of the dawn, the resurrection of light, the renewal of life, and there of immortality. The cross was also an ancient symbol of life. The two symbols united mean immortality, won by suffering and sorrow."

Senior Warden; "It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the Salvation of the Lord, for the Lord will not cast him off forever. His love is as deep as the ocean, his compassion as broad as the sea. His truth, Eternity itself." "The memories and examples of the good and true Knights that leave us these as legacies are the precious treasures of Masonry. Or praises of them ought to be preserved like laurels and coronets to reward and encourage the noblest of things"

Junior Warden; "May we not forget the lessons taught us, but remembering the uncertainties of human life and those things of little value that men most strive for, may we most earnestly endeavor to obey the laws of God, avoid dissention, hatreds and revenges and labor to do good unto our fellow men. May we be true and faithful and live and die loving our Brethren"

Brothers, the Rose Croix Memorial team is a wonderful and enlightening service to the Consistory and our brothers, their families, and friends during a difficult time. We are assisting our departed brothers on their new journey, and what better service can we do. I urge any brothers to join the Rose Croix Memorial team and be part of this service to our Brothers. Although our duty is at a very difficult time and can come with sadness, there is also much appreciation, pride, and joy expressed by the families of our departed Brothers for Masonry, the Scottish Rite, and the service and Ceremony we provide.

Rose Croix, a wonderful way to be of service.



Brother Bob Harper, 32^o KCCH
Commander Council of Kadosh

The 21st degree Noachite or Prussian Knight

This degree was originally known as Grand Noachite Patriarch in the Rite of Perfection, formed by the Council of Emperors of the East and West in France. It was controversial since it abandoned the Hiram legend and the building of Solomon's Temple entirely, and its early focus was on the building of the Tower of Babel.

Recognizing this controversy, Pike chose to rework the degree and base his ritual on the German judicial institution of the Middle Ages known as the Vehmgericht, or secret tribunal. Pike may have made this choice since he was a self taught lawyer who had practiced in Arkansas and New Orleans. Having a more than casual interest in the history of law and jurisprudence.

The secret tribunal developed in the Middle Ages when knighthood and chivalry were in bloom, and it is more in line with the other Council degrees than the version that based its ceremony on the Noachites and the story of Babel. There is just a brief mention of this in the present ritual . The story of the Tower of Babel can be found in the King James version of the Bible Genesis 11. In the present version of the degree the parallel to the moral lesson of this story is the in the fate of one who acts bodily and with conceit not living within God's will.

During its most powerful period, the Vehmgericht with its extraordinary power meet only at night. To become a judge, Freischoffen, was an honor and brought many privileges. A prospect was, ... to prove he was free born, of a good family, not suspected of any misdeeds, and was in the enjoyment of all his rights; and finally two Freishoffen were obliged to be his security.

...A solemn oath held all the members united and not even in the confessional were they suffered to reveal the secret of the Vehm tribunal; neither were the clergy admitted into it. (Legenda XIX - XXX,p.18-19)

In its early years almost all princes, nobles and knights became Freischoffen. There was a rite of initiation and had both a secret sign and peculiar greeting , similar to our password and sign, whereby they recognized each other. In time it grew to several thousand men from the highest to the lowest classes throughout Germany. The punishments were banishment and death by hanging at a tree or post near where the condemned criminal was found. If caught in the commission of a crime, the criminal was hanged without a trial. The Freischoffen were only re-quired to stick a knife in the ground close to the body as a sign that the sentence of the Vehmgericht had been carried out.

At the end of the 15th century the power and authority of the Vehmgericht deteriorated. As Pike had mentioned, ...Such power placed in human hands without the protecting check of publicity and responsibility could not long exist without misuse. In the great development and extension of the association, it could not be avoided but that unworthy individuals should be received as members who used the power confided to them for the sole satisfaction of their revengeful and baser passions . (Legenda XIX-XXX,p.18-19).

Send us your content & visit your website for the latest updates!

www.sococonsistory.org

Grand Lodge Members: <http://members.grandlodgeofcolorado.org/>

Promotion Of Masonry: www.beafreemason.org

...and with our Grand Master's edict a number of online "Fraternal Gatherings" now meet regularly. The response has been very positive with the ability for Brothers to make the stay-at-home order a bit less lonely and keep in touch with one another and share Masonic education. All is public information, nothing tiled.

The following is a schedule of those gatherings as of this letter. If you're aware of others please let us know.

All meeting are weekly gatherings:

1st & 3rd Wednesday

Lumen Artis #190, 7pm. Contact Russ Mason, secretary@lumenartislodge.com

Colorado Springs York Rite, David Reynolds, davidd1@comcast.com

Thursday

G L Education Committee, 7pm, Dave Williams, David Reynolds, davidd1@comcast.com

Friday

Virtual Happy Hour, 6pm, Michael-Ryan Fletchall, manitoulodge68@gmail.com



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

Raymond Barbour
Charles Brown
Robert Burkepile
Robert Buxmann
Norman Farrington
Wayne Sauer
Bob Vunovich
Jerry Allin
Henry Saldana
Leslie Saylor
Gilbert Cook
William Pedley
Robert Mourguies
James Brehm

Timothy Watts
Robert Dwyer
Thomas Fortner
Michael McMillan
David Reynolds
James Archuleta
Bill McMurdo
Billy Swartz
David Guevara
John Brown
Roger Chilcoat
Shawn Beyer
Elmo Gardner
Phillip Leggitt

Robert Hamilton
Wayne Smisek
John Potter
William Kirby
Timothy Shrodes
David Linebaugh
William Medina
Charles Edgar
Travis Stevens
Michael Cruz
Michael Mabbitt
Richard Deluca
James Adeyelu



Memorial Scroll

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Roy W Wampler</i>	<i>6/12/2020</i>
<i>Robert N Ragan</i>	<i>6/30/2020</i>

Information updated from June 24, 2020

ROSE CROIX FUNERAL TEAM

All Scottish Rite Masons in good standing are entitled to have a Rose Croix Funeral service at the time of their passing. Members should advise their families of their wishes to have this beautiful service. It is a very dignified service intended to help bring comfort to the family. The current members of the Southern Colorado Consistory Rose Croix Funeral Team are: Wise Master, Ronald Smith, 32° KCCH; Senior/Junior Warden, Charles Lewis, 32°; Junior Wardens, Blake Simmons, 32° and John Weed, 32°. If you are interested in joining the Rose Croix Funeral Team and helping them, contact the office or Jason Bunch 32° for more information.



Southern Colorado Consistory Quill & Scroll Guidelines and Staff

Robert R. Cook, 33° - Personal Representative & Bulletin Advisor / 719-598-5638 rrcook@4masonry.com

John A. Moreno, 33° - Staff Photographer 303-238-3635

Editor - Jeff Beauprez mason@colorado-networks.com

Web/social media – Jeff Beauprez mason@colorado-networks.com

This publication is produced monthly by and for the benefit of members, staff, and interested parties associated with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, and more particularly the Southern Colorado Consistory in the Valley of Colorado Springs/Pueblo, Orient of Colorado. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the Southern Colorado Consistory or its officers.

Deadline for article submission is the 3rd Wednesday of the month prior to the stated meeting (first Wednesday). Articles should be approximately 250-1000 words long. Where appropriate, relevant high-resolution images with proper copyright permissions may be included with your submission. Articles may be submitted in electronic format via email to the editor. All articles are subject to editing and are published without restrictions unless clearly marked as copyrighted. No compensation is given for any articles, photographs, or other materials submitted or published.

Notice of publication is provided to members of the Southern Colorado Consistory who have provided a valid email address.

This publication is published on the web site as an Adobe .pdf file. It requires the free Adobe Reader program to read. (A copy of this program can be found at <http://www.adobe.com>). Current and past issues (subject to available storage space) are available for viewing on the Southern Colorado Consistory Website.

Questions pertaining to this publication should be forwarded to the Editor or the Consistory Office.

If you have comments, constructive criticisms, recommendations, or articles for submission, please send them to the EDITOR, *Quill & Scroll*.

THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION!!! Let us know how we're doing and provide us your Masonic wisdom and content! We need to know if you want to see something of particular interest that we haven't published previously. If you are receiving this e-newsletter, it is because we have a valid email address for you. If you know of a Brother who has email but is not receiving these notices, PLEASE have him contact the Consistory Office and get his email updated or added to our database.

Publishing schedule: Submissions (in compressed Adobe format, period) are due by the 3rd Wednesday each month, period. Compilation of the document and approval before review by the 4th Tuesday each month. Publication on the 4th Wednesday.

ALLEGIANCE

The bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Colorado Springs/Pueblo, Orient of Colorado, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon.

Southern Colorado Consistory Valley of Pueblo/Colorado Springs



James D. Cole, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander



Karl J. Hinkle, 33°
Deputy of the Supreme Council
Orient of Colorado



Robert R. Cook, 33°
Valley SGIG's
Personal Representative



Michael Mabbit, 32°
Venerable Master
Lodge of Perfection



Jason M. Bunch, 32°
Wise Master
Chapter of Rose Croix



Robert Harper, 32°
Commander
Council of Kadosh



Michael 'Bo' Cruz, 32°
Master of Kadosh
Consistory



Michael L. McMillan, 33°
Almoner



Charles E. Lewis, 32°
Prelate



James S. Eaches, 33°
Treasurer



Vincent T. Johnson, 32° KCCH
Secretary/Recorder/Registrar

Support your

Southern Colorado Consistory Scottish Rite
1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715



Email: socolorcoscotti@qwestoffice.net
Office hours 9am-1pm Tuesday-Thursday
Telephone numbers:
719-471-7966
877-471-7966
719-635-1560

We aspire to *inspire* our Members
We constantly work to *develop* meaningful Degrees and Programs
We endeavor to *create* opportunities for our Members
We *believe* in Fellowship
We *encourage* in Personal Growth
We *care* for our Members
We strongly *support our charity* RiteCare
(Speech and language therapy for children in need)

We *cherish* in our Historical Presence
We *honor, respect and promote* Patriotism and support our Troops / Veterans

All of this requires strong and dedicated members to accomplish our goals and tasks. And, unfortunately, ever increasing financial support. Please consider SCC in your estate planning. Planned gifts, also known as legacy gifts, are the result of financial planning often involving a future estate. These gifts include bequests in wills, trusts, life insurance, personal property, and annuities. Such gifts would allow SCC to continue Scottish Rite activities. Thank you in advance for any and all support!