



# Quill & Scroll

## Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

December 2020

Web Site: [SoCoConsistory.org](http://SoCoConsistory.org)

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**Ill Bob Cook, 33°**  
Valley Personal Representative

We have our work cut out for us

We are still looking forward to a 3-day reunion in April 2021. There is work to do. The conferral of our degrees requires significant manpower and commitment from a large number of our Brothers in order to be successful. In hopes that we will be able to hold a Reunion in April 2021, I have directed the Director General (Ill Barry Nightingale, 33° [barry@ncnfinancial.com](mailto:barry@ncnfinancial.com)) to begin the work to get both the degree casts, as well as the supporting Departments, ready for a successful Reunion.



For the casts, we need Brothers that are willing to take on both small or large parts. You do not have to be a skilled ritualist, as we can impart all the knowledge you will need to perform the part. You do need to be willing to learn a part, and fully committed memorizing it, before next April. And of course, you must be present on the day that we conduct your particular degree, and you can volunteer for more than one degree cast.

For the supporting departments (Lighting, Property, A/V/Sound, and Wardrobe), we need Brothers that are willing to work hard, and put in some extra time before and after the Reunion (setup and teardown), as well as be available for all three days of the Reunion.

Being part of our Reunion staff is an important commitment, but one that is filled with great feelings of reward, when we are able to put Black Caps on our new Masters of the Royal Secret at the end of the Reunion. Please step forward and be part of the team effort. We need you!!

On another note, we need to hear from Brothers in the San Luis Valley, the Lower Arkansas Valley and other Brothers that are unable to attend in-person stated meetings. These virtual (Zoom) meetings will continue even after all the constraints for in-person meetings are lifted. If you are in a position where you cannot attend our meetings but would like to access them via Zoom, please email me and we will work on getting you online. Our meetings are going to take on the regular appearance of our normal stated meetings. That means we will open and conduct our business and education tasks like usual. Please consider wearing your cap – it helps to get the feel of a regular meeting even if it is virtual. Participate during the education parts, share your thoughts on the topics being presented.



**Br. Bob Harper 32° KCCH**  
Commander, Council of Kadosh

My Brethren,

The end of the year is fast approaching and the holidays will be upon us and yet with the Corona virus still very active it makes the traditional way we are used to celebrating difficult if not impossible. We are being asked by government and health officials to stay home. To celebrate with just those in our household and not have neighbors, close friends or family come to the house for dinner or parties during Thanksgiving and possibly even during Christmas and New Years. Science tells us the virus does not care nor recognize the time of year or holiday season. Understanding the data and the extreme risks involved, although proven by facts, does not make the obvious choices any easier.

While considering all this, certain sentences in the Charges, from the Blue Lodge Degrees come to mind. We are admonished to "patiently submit .....", and "by the regularity.....". This being said I would say it is for us as Masons to lead the way in word and action as what should be done and encourage our family and friends to seriously consider what is being advised and recommended.

To use patience and make wise decisions.

There is however, a bright spot on the horizon with the positive results of two different vaccines achieving a ninety percent or higher rating against the virus.

Hope that the situation might be better next year.

We can still share the holiday with our families and friends using phone calls, email and Zoom or similar platforms. It is up to each of us to make the holidays the best that they can be.

I wish all of you and your families the very best and look forward to our meeting again in the future.





**Br, Michael Mabbit, 32°**  
**Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection**

In the 14<sup>th</sup> Degree, one of the things we learn is to be devoted to virtue and the cause of humanity.

The meaning of virtue seems to be lost in our modern culture. We tend to associate virtue with being “good.” But what does that mean? How can we possibly improve at something that we don’t understand?

We live in a time when being “good” can mean vastly different things to different people or in various situations. It may mean doing what’s best for ourselves and our future. I always hear the phrase, “you do you,” as a reminder that we have to look out for our own interest. Another way to define “good” may be pleasing the people around us.

How much of our days are devoted to pleasing our spouse, children, boss, friends, or parents? When we please others, we receive immediate feedback that we are doing something good. Then there’s the traditional definition of “good,” which usually manifests itself in negatives – not cheating on a test, not telling a lie, not gossiping about others, etc.

All these definitions are great, but none of them help us narrow down the meaning of virtue. The truth is that being virtuous can be all of these things, but there are a couple distinct qualities that sets virtues apart.

While it is completely possible to act virtuously on a one-time basis, this kind of spontaneous behavior won’t lead us to be consistently virtuous. Think about the virtue of Patience, for example. Choosing to be patient one time will not make us a patient person. However, if we practice being patient and improve at it over time then it starts to come natural to us.

Each virtue is a good habit that we intentionally work at to become better.

The original meaning of the word virtue in Latin was translated as strength, excellence, or valor. The word “virtue” was meant to express a goal that, by working at it, would lead to each man’s perfection.

By intentionally forming virtuous habits we open up new opportunities for ourselves. We can learn to choose peace when our world is in chaos, we can choose to be assertive when we’d otherwise be passive, and we can build up the courage to face our fears. Growing in virtue leads us to become a better version of ourselves, a truer version of who each of us were created to be.



**Br. Craig Fabec, 32°**  
Prior, Consistory

The great thing about masonry is that through its various degrees it exposes us to different religions, mythologies, and stories that we may have never encountered before. I focused my previous article on The Vedic poets we hear in the 32<sup>nd</sup> degree for this very reason. This month I have continued some of my very basic research regarding these poems and the deities discussed in them.

The first poem references Agni and his connection to light and fire. Agni believed to be especially important in The Vedas and is referenced in them more than any other deity. He is considered to be a friend and protector of humanity, and is associated with many forms of fire. One of his principle duties is in relation to sacrificial fires, in which he carries the offerings of humans to the gods. Agni has been associated with different trinitarian aspects throughout his existence, such as creation, maintaining, and destruction. Agni is often depicted with two heads that sprout flames, riding a goat or chariot, carrying a fan and an axe.

Usha is referenced as fair and having a girlish grace in the second poem. She is the chief goddess of the dawn in The Vedas. As the goddess of dawn, she imbues life into all beings, driving away the darkness and chaos of night. She is often represented as a beautiful woman riding a golden chariot across the sky making way for the sun.

Mitra is referenced in the third poem, in connection to not only a morning star, but also spring time growth and showers. Mitra is the patron of contracts and meetings, he is also seen as one of the deities who is a keeper of order and the gods law. He is more often than not paired with another deity, Varuna. Together they are said to represent the order and stability of the universe. Some relate them to the cycle of night and day, or the change of seasons. They are depicted young wearing glistening garments.

These are very basic explanations of the deities referenced by the Vedic poets. We as Masons are always taught that the literal or outright explanation is not the whole picture, and this applies to these poems as well. I hope the very miniscule amount of information given here can help you better understand these three poems and their deeper meaning the next time you read or hear them in a reunion.

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[www.sococonsistory.org](http://www.sococonsistory.org)

Grand Lodge Members: <http://members.grandlodgeofcolorado.org/>  
Promotion Of Masonry: [www.beafreemason.org](http://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:

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Lumen Artis #190, 7pm. Contact Russ Mason, [secretary@lumenartislodge.com](mailto:secretary@lumenartislodge.com)

Colorado Springs York Rite, David Reynolds, [davidd1@comcast.com](mailto:davidd1@comcast.com)

Thursday

G L Education Committee, 7pm, Dave Williams, David Reynolds, [davidd1@comcast.com](mailto:davidd1@comcast.com)

Friday

Virtual Happy Hour, 6pm, Michael-Ryan Fletchall, [manitoulodge68@gmail.com](mailto:manitoulodge68@gmail.com)



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

Eugene Canady

John Cooper

Douglas Gabel

William Greathouse

James Johnson

Denzil Kuns

Donald McAninch

John McConnell

Charles Phillips

Samuel Pisciotta

Harold Rominger

Arlan Strait

Wayne Thompson

Larry Ward

Vernon Turner

Carl Hagans

William Johnson

John Stulp

Earl Sandman

Jay Bernard

Maurice Heikes

Richard Fyock

Nick DeBono

William Ferrier

Charles Kovach

Robert Trevorrow

Kennard Henry

Paul Sazonick

Daniel Coburn

Charles Magness

Donald Noffsinger

Henry Taylor

James Myrick

James Wright

Dwain Jack

Michael Kruse

Dean Hopkins

Darrell Fulkerson

Ian Wood

Ronald Bowen

Scot Autry

Terry Nothaft

Daniel Campbell

Ricky Haskell

Charles Hillyer

Tam Tran

Mark Giffin

Christopher Madril



### Memorial Scroll

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Dennis J Snyder	9/29/2020
Dan E Sheets	10/31/2020
Howard G Pease	11/9/2020

Notices received from October 21, 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.



*You will never be forgotten,  
we pledge to you today,  
a hallowed place within our hearts,  
is where you'll always stay.*

## Southern Colorado Consistory Quill & Scroll Guidelines and Staff

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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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Word format) are due by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month, period. Compilation of the document and approval before review by the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month. Publication on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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



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Sovereign Grand Commander



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



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Valley  
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Wise Master  
Chapter of Rose Croix



**Robert Harper, 32° KCCH**  
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Council of Kadosh



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**James S. Eaches, 33°**  
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**Vincent T. Johnson, 32° KCCH**  
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# Support your

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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!*