



Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

February 2021

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Ill Brother Bob Cook, 33°
Valley Personal Representative

Continuing to make progress – but slowly.

While there have been some hiccups along the way, citizens are getting their vaccinations. This is a massive undertaking, and some complications are to be expected. The overall plan looks good – it is now up to the state and local organizations to deliver the shots according to the plans.

We are in jeopardy of not being able to hold our Spring reunion. There are still several hurdles to get over before the Masonic Center is accessible. I will be reviewing contingency plans at the Executive Committee meeting and polling the leaders of the four bodies for alternatives. The Denver Consistory has been highly successful with their J2SR (Journey to the Scottish Rite) program. This is intended to give their petitioners a glimpse into the philosophies and principals of our degrees. The sessions are conducted virtually, and attendance has been good. The presentations are well done, and the discussions are lively and engaging. They are almost at the end of the journey and I believe they have done an excellent job of “preparing” their candidates to get the maximum benefit of the Reunion experience.

It is clear to me that even after our meetings can return to in-person, we will still want to use the Zoom platform to reach those Brothers that are either too far away or otherwise unable to attend in person. The logistics of accomplishing this will be a challenge and we are always open to suggestions and assistance on how to make this a valuable experience for those brothers that cannot attend. As always, we will continue to emphasize our education efforts. The presentations so far have been well done and have always stimulated a lively and thoughtful discussion among the attendees.

I still want to encourage brothers from the San Luis Valley and the Lower Arkansas Valley to contact me (bcooksc@gmail.com) on suggestions for how to join in these meetings and participate in our discussions. We have been successful in keeping the meetings short (less than an hour and a half), and still conducting the business that needs attention and presenting engaging topics for review and discussion. Please join us for our monthly meetings and see what we are doing. Other Orients have also been working on alternatives to regular in-person meetings and we will continue to review the options and “borrow” and modify those that we think will enhance our membership experience.

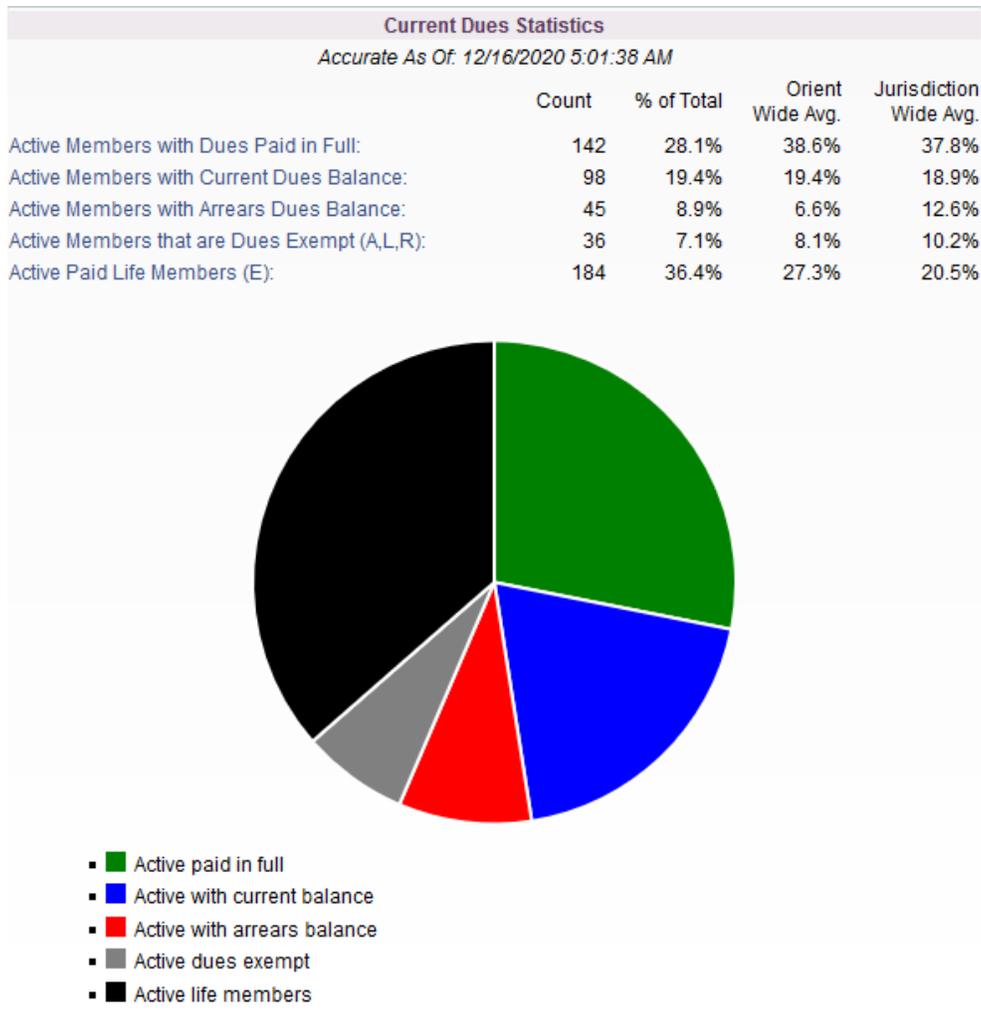


Brother Vincent T. Johnson, 32° KCCH
Secretary/Recorder/Registrar

Brethren,

I wanted to let you all know how the Southern Colorado Consistory is going to look going into the new year. Yes, the budget was approved and it's a pretty tight but manageable. One caution is that we cannot continue our current trend, of our dues paying members, we have only realized less than 50% of what we expected in dues monies. I'm making one last plea, talk to your brothers, find out if Covid-19 is the main reason for non-payment and if it's not, let them know we still need them. As many of you may already know, we are planning (keeping our fingers crossed) on having a Reunion in April, and I've already heard that there are Degree teams that are missing actors and could use the help. Below is the most update membership numbers and as you can see, we are not looking good. After the membership stats I've also submitted a summary of the approved Budget for 2021. As usual, contact me if you have questions.

Vincent



Income	Total
Membership All Categories - All Arrears	\$ 41,400.00
15% Projected Losses	\$ (6,210.00)
Prior Year Dues	\$ 200.00
Member Donations	\$ 1,000.00
Income from Meals	\$ 1,000.00
Projecting five Candidates	\$ 1,000.00
2020 Carry Over From General Fund	\$ -
2021 Projected General Fund	\$ 29,570.00
2021 Projected Endowment Fund	\$ 8,501.00
2021 Total Projected Income	\$ 76,461.00
2021 Projected expenditures:	\$ 76,216.00
Delta	\$ 245.00



Brother Bob Harper, 32° KCCH
Commander, Council of Kadosh

My Brethren,

I have read an article on " Our Temple " and will share some of the interesting thoughts for you to ponder.

A large part of our ritual is allegorical and symbolical. We never learn the real secrets of Masonry until we learn the meanings of our Allegories, and until we are able to interpret our Symbols. The effort will be an interesting one and require some effort. The following is an attempt to give meaning to the Allegory of the Temple, and interpret it as a symbol.

The Temple of King Solomon spacious and magnificent, was constructed by several celebrated artists, and the greatest structure of all time - is a Symbol of the Living Temple, more spacious and magnificent and constructed by a more celebrated artist. This Living Temple has never had a counterpart.

Our feet may be the Entered Apprentices as bearers of burden, our hands may be the Fellow Crafts who shape the stones for the builders use, and these are directed in their labors by the plan and thoughts of the Master's mind.

Our Temple is no less beautiful than that of King Solomon's, with its aisles and Winding Stairway, outer and inner chamber. We have within us a Holy of Holies for the worship of the Grand Architect of the Universe, who gave us this Temple. This building not made with hands, finished without the burnished gold of service to our Fraternity and within with the Precious Jewels of love of our Brethren and Fellows.

This Mortal Temple, in imitation of the other, may be brought low by deceit or dishonesty, by intemperance, by flagrant disregard of the laws of God, Nature and Reason; it may also be rebuilt for Nature is quick to repair when given the opportunity. Let us be warned, like the Temple on Mount Moriah, this Mortal Temple, once destroyed may never be rebuilt to its original splendor. This Temple will one day crumble and return to dust. **Whether its glory lives on afterwards depends on the use to which we put it while it is ours.**



Brother Michael Mabbitt, 32°
Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection

Where will you place your cornerstone for 2021?

Last year was by anyone's definition a challenge. As with the cornerstone of a building, our personal/moral corner-stone lies between the place of darkness (the north), the place of light (and the east); and hence our cornerstone symbolizes the Masonic progress from darkness to light, and from ignorance to knowledge.

As the foundation on which the entire structure is supposed to rest, it is considered as the most important stone in the edifice. The symbolism of the cornerstone when duly laid must be perfectly square on its surfaces, and in its solid contents, a cube. Now the square is a symbol of morality truth.

We have all had to make tough decisions in the last year which and as with inclement weather, had the potential to erode the foundation on which our cornerstone was laid. When it comes to making moral decisions, we often think of the golden rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Yet, why we make certain decisions that chip away at the foundation in which our cornerstone is laid is something we always ask ourselves after the decision has been made. Are we motivated by feelings of guilt, where we don't want to feel bad for letting the other person down? Or by fairness, where we want to avoid unequal outcomes?

At the end of the day, we as Masons have all obligated ourselves to be true to the duty we owe to God, our country, our neighbor and ourselves. When our words match our intentions and when our actions match our words our word becomes more and more powerful and your reality will begin to reflect that.

We continue to be a fraternity of individual choice with the most worthwhile agenda, for each of us to live ideals consistent with Masonry. We should take pride in our fraternity, in all its accomplishments to leave the world a better place, and live by its principles.



Brother Craig Fabec, 32°
Master of Kadosh, Consistory

A New Discovery in Egypt

On Sunday January 17th Egyptian authorities presented a new discovery had been made in Saqqara, a burial site for the ancient capital Memphis. The famed Egyptologist Zahi Hawass and his team uncovered the burial temple of Queen Neit who was a wife of King Teti. Inside the burial site 50 coffins, burial masks, mummies, toys, and papyrus scrolls were discovered. Many of these scrolls are over 10 feet long, and contained chapters and writings from the Egyptian Book of the Dead. The items found in this burial site are believed to be older than items found previously in this area. It is believed that a majority of the new area has not yet been explored, which will lead to more interesting archeological findings.

The Egyptian Book of the Dead was a set of spells and direction to help the deceased navigate the afterlife. These books were commissioned and buried with those who could afford them. Many of the remains that have been discovered show a general theme and commonality between each other, but no two books are exactly the same. Within this book often called “spell 125” The Egyptians describe an individual’s judgement after death. In the Hall of Truth a person’s deeds done in this life were weighed and balanced by Osiris in front of 42 judges. This was believed to be a pivotal point to gain access into the afterlife, and knowing how to act and what to say before these judges was viewed as extremely important. Some of these traditions and stories are referenced to the new Inspector Inquisitor during the 31st degree. Many brothers do not know this scene’s importance to the Ancient Egyptian people or its connection to The Book of the Dead. Take a few moments re-read our 31st degree, take a look at the items discovered, the full article, and some further reading on the Egyptian Book of the Dead by following the links below.

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/egypt-unveils-ancient-funerary-temple-south-cairo-75307566>

Book of the Dead: https://www.ancient.eu/Egyptian_Book_of_the_Dead/



Brother Blake Simmons, 32°
Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix

As a brother of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite I learned about Faith, Hope, and Charity which are the primary tenets of Scottish Rite Masonry and Chapter Rose Croix, but what about the 3 principal columns of Blue Lodge Masonry; Wisdom, Strength and Beauty? Do the Scottish Rite tenets of Faith, Hope, and Charity replace the Blue lodge Columns of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty or rather improve them or add to them?

Some Masonic Scholars attribute the change as occurring in the 18th degree, where after destruction, there is a new beginning and here is where they believe the old Columns of the Blue Lodge were destroyed and replaced by the new tenets. This is just one perspective on this issue but it is widely accepted.

The important issue here is to realize how they work together to help us to improve ourselves and humanity.

This is a search for more meaning which we may never quit but will undoubtedly make us better men and Masons

Here is how Bro. Albert Pike describes the correlation of the columns and tenets:

Faith, Hope and Charity

“The three greatest forces are;

- FAITH, which is the only true WISDOM And the very foundation of all government
- HOPE, which is STRENGTH and ensures success
- CHARITY, which is BEAUTY, and alone makes animated, united effort possible

These forces are within reach of all men; and an association of men, actuated by them, ought to exercise an immense power in the world. If Masonry does not, it is because she has ceased to possess them.”

May we as Masons never cease to possess Faith, Hope, Charity, Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty.

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

3rd Thursday

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

Friday

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



FEDRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

James Babcock

Benjamin Bell

Norman Bryant

Ben Crossno

Billy Edwards

William Heath

John Morrison

Michael Thacker

Billy Thornburg

Larry Ward

Curtis Allen

Steven Stanek

Kendall Esgar

Richard Smith

Mark Lipsky

Christopher Rahm

Thomas Eagle

Timothy Sigler

Joe Caven

Ronald Book

Karl Shanstrom

Chad Merfeld

Terry Lingle

John Reinking

William Dak

Keith Jernberg

Bryce Case

Jon Busick

Paul Nigro

Felipe Pinero

Christopher Stout

David Shipley

William Haaren

Eric Weddington

Donald Russell



Notices received since December 22, 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 Blake Simmons, 32° for more information.



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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 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



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Sovereign Grand Commander



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



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Valley of Colorado Springs - Pueblo



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Lodge of Perfection



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Wise Master
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Master of Kadosh
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Almoner



Charles E. Lewis, 32°
Prelate



Cliff Snow, 32° KCCH
Treasurer



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

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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!