



Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

February 2024

Web Site: SoCoConsistory.org

Email: socolorcoscott@qwestoffice.net



Ill Barry Nightingale, 33°
Valley Personal Representative

My Brothers,

As we go from month-to-month with our Scottish Rite activities, I suspect that we often forget about what is happening “behind the scenes” within our Valley, and none of them with any reimbursement for their time. For instance:

Our Secretary, Illustrious Brother Bob Cook is constantly working with the Supreme Council and its personnel database (Sentinel) to provide accurate membership tracking, dues tracking, and dealing with unique individual situations as our Brothers move, or pass, or otherwise need some type of special support. And additionally, he works the minutes of past meetings, and agendas for future meetings.

Our Treasurer, Brother Cliff Snow, is in the office at least two mornings every single week, working finances – dues receipt, payment of bills, statements on our investment accounts, and generally dealing with all things financial.

I’m on the phone or a zoom with our Director of Education, Brother Craig Fabec at least twice a week (not mention a dozen emails and texts) as he plans, coordinates, and approves educational initiatives for the Valley.

Brother Cliff Weiger is responsible for establishing and coordinating the two financial committees of the Vally (and that is a lot like herding rabbits !!).

Brother Blake Simmons is working to improve the already excellent Ceremony of Remembrance, as well as making sure that we have Rose Croix funeral support always well trained and ready as needed.

Illustrious Brother Jerry Underwood has year-round responsibilities to constantly oversee education, oversee Reunion prep, evaluate and improve degree work, coordinate with the supporting departments under Illustrious Brother JD Potter (and try to keep me off of his back !!)

Every single one of the leaders of our four bodies in the Valley have responsibilities to prepare for and execute meetings throughout the year, and are involved every single month in one or more meetings to coordinate those meetings.

Brother Zach Smith is working to improve the KSA (Knights of Saint Andrew) to better support our Valley's activities.

And this list doesn't include all the Degree Masters, cast members, and department leaders that have work year-round to keep our Reunions on track.

And of course, like all of us, these very busy Brothers have to balance their blue Lodge responsibilities and activities, their Scottish Rite work, support to other appendant bodies, their families, and their work.

Let us never forget all the work that goes on "behind the scenes" to ensure that we try so very hard to make the Scottish Rite experience the very best that we can collectively prepare and provide. And we always have more work for those of you that are ready to step up and assist!!



**Ill Bob Cook, 33°
Secretary/Recorder**

Secretary's Corner

Our January stated meeting was an interesting experience. The education focused on some of our "standard" admonitions regarding conversations in a tiled lodge. In keeping with our approach to education, the topics were selected to encourage discussion, not just a presentation. If we are going to live up to our tagline – "The University of Freemasonry" we must investigate our customs and standards. In the January meeting we had a lively discussion of what some of our principles affect our day-to-day lives. The good news is that the future meetings will continue to have the four bodies present topics that encourage discussions. The February meeting will continue this process and focus on movies that contain references to Freemasonry. How do you react to the ideas in these movies. How do you deal with conversations with non-Masons about these movies?

The Spring Reunion is right around the corner (April 25 – 27, 2024). Most of our recent recruits have taken advantage of the online petition system. We have handout cards with the QR code to put in the hands of potential candidates. If you want some, please contact me (bcooksc@gmail.com) and I will get them to you. In case you forgot here is the QR code:



Here is the link for the online petitions.
Make sure your candidates know this is available.

URL for the online petition: <https://scottishrite.jotform.com/213205802575956>



Blake Simmons, 32°
Wise Master
Chapter Rose Croix

Brothers of Scottish Rite, we often talk about looking for new Brothers to join this organization of the Masonic Fraternity. What qualities do we need to consider when looking for new candidates? Scottish Rite is often referred to as the “University of Freemasonry”. This gives the first hint. We are a dedicated group of men of service to Masonry and Brotherhood but most especially to the knowledge that Masonry offers to us. If a candidate simply wishes to become a 32° Mason and assumes that once he has gone through the 3 -day conferring of degrees at a reunion that he will have sufficiently obtained the knowledge the degrees offer, he is mistaken. Only further study can enlighten him to the deeper meanings. This should be an indication when considering a new candidate.

In the 8°, ‘Intendant of the Building in’ *Morals and Dogma*, (Annotated edition by Arturo De Hoyos 33° page 209) it states, “none are entitled to advance in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, who have not by study and application made themselves familiar with Masonic learning and jurisprudence. The Degrees of this Rite are not for those who are content with mere work and ceremonies, and do not seek to explore the mines of wisdom that lie buried below the surface.”

Furthermore, in *A Bridge to Light*, in the 8th degree lecture, (page 50) it states that “Pike often uses the lectures in *Morals and Dogma* to explain Masonry – its history, doctrines, and teachings – and only to hint at philosophical ideas and arguments, enticing the Mason to reflect and develop a positive approach to life. This is a process in which the Mason must participate in order to benefit.”

These are only a couple of examples which explain the importance of further study and participation to obtain knowledge. The Master Craftsman course is a good place to start.

So, brothers, when considering a new candidate for Scottish Rite, look for the men who are seeking more knowledge. These men will benefit more greatly for joining the Brotherhood, and the brethren will benefit more greatly from them. Please do not think that I am being arrogant, or judgmental, quite the opposite, but the more I learn, the more I gain personally and the more I can be of benefit to the collective knowledge of the Fraternity and my Brothers.



Cliff Wieger, 32°
Venerable Master
Lodge of Perfection

Hello, as your 2024 Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection, I thought it best if I give you a brief bio. I am a life time resident of Colorado Springs. I graduated from Palmer High School in 1965 and continued my education at the Western State college and graduated 1969 with a BA in Business Administration. I spent 16 years working as a manager of Levine's Toy / Hobby /shop in downtown Colorado Springs. Later I managed Wilsons / Service Merchandise catalog and showcase for 5 years. I retired from School District #12 Cheyenne Mountain with 23 years of service as the Transpiration Supervisor.

I married my lovely wife Diana 50 years ago. We have 2 daughters, Carrie and Andrea, who have blessed us with 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. I enjoy traveling with my wife. Our favorite vacation spots are Mazatlán, Mexico and Pagosa Springs. I enjoy Bowling, reading, rock end mineral collecting, nature photography (a few are displayed in the C.S Shrine Club) and target shooting.

I am active in my church (Chapel of Our Saviour Church). Being junior warden for the past six years.

I entered the Masonic order in 1988 with Ramah Lodge #165. Was Master there in 1991. I have been treasurer for the last 22 years.

I was in the Reunion Class of 1992 at Denver Consistory and as of 1998 life member of the same. Since I am a resident of Colorado Springs, I hold an affiliate membership with SCC. Devoting my time here for the last 10 years or so.

Now that I am Venerable Master, I hope to help the craft grow, making sure that the finance committees establish a viable budget. I also desire to continue to learn as much from Scottish Rite to help me become a better person for my family, community, and in my spiritual life. As well as helping brother Mason where I can.



Luis Fores, 32°
1st Lt. Commander
Council of Kadosh

WHO WOULD NOT BE A MASON

By Bro. Charles F. Forshaw, M.D.

(From Masonic Constellation, St. Louis, Mo., Nov., 1905)

Printed in THE MASONIC ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

BOOK OF POEMS

Copyright 1924

Who would not be a Mason
And wear the apron white?
And feel the bonds of Friendship
The rich and poor unite?
To know Masonic virtues,
To do Masonic deeds?
And sympathetic minister
Unto Brother's needs?

Who would not be a Mason
And join the brethren true?
To see our noble teachings
Their glorious work pursue?
To feel a bond fraternal

Is theirs where 'er they go?
And find a hearty welcome
As they journey to and fro?

Who would not be a Mason
A craftsman just and fair?
To meet upon the level
And part upon the square?
To hear the voice of Charity,
Where'er our Lodges be?
And to know our Grips and Passwords
And share in all our glee?

Who would not be a Mason
To labor day by day?
And laboring try to lessen
The thorns upon life's way?
To help to form a column,
All perfect and complete?
Fit for building that great Temple
Wherein we hope to meet?

Masonic Brothers, each year, Scottish Rite assembles in the spirit of Fraternity to renew acquaintances, remember our friends, and pledge ourselves to aiding Humanity.

It becomes our duty, therefore, to honor our Brethren past as we renew our fraternal ties to our Brethren present. This is one of the most important and moving Masonic ceremonies of each year, not only to Brothers of Scottish Rite, but to all Masons as a whole.

This Ceremony is open to all Masons, Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Masons.

Join with us this April 3rd at 7PM and be a part of this a wonderful opportunity to experience another part of Masonry and share brotherhood while learning more about the wonders that Masonry has to offer each one of us.

Ceremony begins at 7PM and we welcome you.

The Southern Colorado Consistory is located at: 1150 Panorama Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado. 80904

Contact Wise Master Chapter Rose Croix Brother Blake Simmons for more information. Blakester1008@gmail.com



Southern Colorado Consistory JROTC Awards Program

It's that time of year again where we recognize outstanding high school students that have chosen a path that will hopefully lead them to a long and exemplary military career. We recognize them with a certificate and medal; the recipients are selected based on certain criteria, most notably, being in the top 25% academically.

We are seeking members who are passionate about supporting and encouraging the next generation of leaders. If you have a background in the military, education, or leadership, your insights and experiences will be particularly valuable.

To express your interest in becoming a presenter, please email johnvtncoa@aol.com by March 4, 2024. If you have a specific school you would like to cover, feel free to include that information in your response.

Your commitment to being a part of this event will make a meaningful impact on the JROTC cadets, fostering a sense of pride and motivation as they continue on their leadership journey.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and willingness to contribute to the success of the Southern Colorado High School Junior ROTC Award programs.

I have listed the schools we have regularly supported, plus there are several other schools in the area that also have a JROTC program and hopefully, they will be included this year.

High School
Canon City
Doherty
Falcon
Fountain-Ft Carson
Harrison
Mesa Ridge
Mitchell
Pueblo County
Centennial - Pueblo
Central -Pueblo
East - Pueblo
South - Pueblo
Pueblo West
Sand Creek
Vista Ridge
Widefield



Fraternally,
Vincent Johnson 33°
719.330.1735 (johnvtncoa@aol.com)

HOT Pipe Organ Capital Campaign

Since 1916 the Temple Room at the House of the Temple has had an Organ to make our events even more special with music. The Shantz organ console located behind Lieutenant Grand Commander's Chair controls the sound from the 1,417 pipes located high above floor level. The acoustics perfectly allow the room to be flooded with sound. Typically, the organ is played by the Grand Organist for various Masonic events and ceremonies. On occasion, guest organists hold concerts in the Temple Room. The public also visits the Temple Room every week during tours at the HOT.

The current Shantz Organ needs rebuilding and improvement. Currently, only about 50% of the keys will produce correct sounds. This is why the Scottish Rite has opened the HOT Pipe Organ Capital Campaign to save our treasured Organ. We formed a committee of members with vast knowledge and experience in Organs to plan this work. We need to keep music as an important part of the ceremonies and rituals of our fraternity.

Our goal is to raise \$400,000 to pay for restoration, improvements to the instrument, and provide an endowment to pay for its maintenance and repairs in the future. Members all around the Southern Jurisdiction are giving, and we are making progress, but we are counting on every member's help – and your help – to reach the goal.

Gifts to this Capital Campaign are tax deductible as allowed by law. Your gift made payable to the **HOT Historic Preservation Foundation** can be mailed to:

Supreme Council - Development Office
Attn: Caitlyn Kent
1733 16th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20009-3103

Or you can simply call Caitlyn Kent at (202) 777-3111, tell her your gift is for the "Pipe Organ Campaign" and give her your card payment information to complete your gift. All information will be kept confidential.

You can also make your gift directly online by going to: www.ScottishRite.org. Hover over "How to Give", then "Giving Types" and left click on "Cash Gifts". You will gain access to a secure jotform with blanks in which to type your information.

- Select House of the Temple Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc.,
- Select "House of the Temple Pipe Organ Capital Campaign"
- And continue completing the questionnaire/form.

If you would like more information about this work or the campaign, please reach out to Donor Officer Phil Shortt at (240) 608-7425 or PShortt@ScottishRite.org. Help keep our rich music culture alive in the Scottish Rite by helping with this earnest effort.

The January/February edition of the Scottish Rite Journal has greater detail about saving the House of the Temple's Musical Treasure. Go to <https://scottishrite.org/media-publications/scottish-rite-journal/the-scottish-rite-journal/> for even more.

The secret of Masonry, like the secret of life, can be known only by those who seek it, serve it, live it.

Aaron
Abif
Abraham
Accepted
Accord



Badge of a Mason

Ballot Box

Balloting

Barefoot

Beehive



Degree

Demit

Destitute

Dew of Hermon

Diety



Candidate

Canopy

Cardinal

Carpet

Catechism



Emblem

Emblematical

Equality

Edict

Emblem

Emblematical

Equality



God

Dispensation

Eavesdropper

Ecliptic

Edict

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

CALENDAR

February 7, 2024

Closed Meeting

Details

5:30 PM Punch Bowl

6:00 PM Dinner

Menu: Chimichurri Chicken dinner (grilled chicken breast with chimichurri sauce, cilantro rice, seasonal vegetables, and buttered garlic baguettes). Desserts!

Dinner cost is \$25.00/person (cash or check). To reserve your dinner(s) email sccdinnerreservation@gmail.com or call the Consistory office at 719-471-7966 and leave a message. Reservations required before 12:00PM on Friday, February 2, 2023.

7:00 PM Stated meeting program: Discussion about movies that reference Freemasonry. What are the positive and negative influences on the Craft? How do you respond when asked about these depictions.

March 6, 2024

Closed Meeting

Details

5:30 PM Punch Bowl

6:00 PM Dinner

Menu: TBA

Dinner cost TBA (cash or check). To reserve your dinner(s) email sccdinnerreservation@gmail.com or call the Consistory office at 719-471-7966 and leave a message. Reservations required.

7:00 PM Stated meeting program: TBA

April 3, 2024

Open Meeting

Details

5:30 PM Punch Bowl

6:00 PM Dinner

Menu: TBA

Dinner cost TBA (cash or check). To reserve your dinner(s) email sccdinnerreservation@gmail.com or call the Consistory office at 719-471-7966 and leave a message. Reservations required.

7:00 PM Meeting program: See information above in this newsletter.

April 25-27, 2024

Spring Reunion – More details to come in future newsletters



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

Jason A. Bednarek
Benjamin H Bell, Jr
Ronald G Book
Norman L Bryant
Jon Earle Busick
Gerald A Byassee
Bryce E Case
Joe R Caven
Thomas S Eagle

Kendall L Esgar
Jimmy Lee Frank
William Arthur Haaren
William R Heath
Terry K Lingle
Chad M Merfeld
Paul Richard Nigro
Felipe V Pinero, Jr
John Frederick Reinking

Donald B Russell
Karl E Shanstrom
David Shipley
Timothy J Sigler
Richard D Smith
Steven R Stanek
Michael L Thacker
Larry C Ward
Eric Brian Weddington



<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Gerome Walton	8/7/2021
Larry L Holland	8/12/2021
William D Greathouse	9/23/2021
Bob Vunovich	1/24/2022
Robert E Burkepile, Sr	4/16/2023
Paul M Campbell	10/26/2023
Charles E Hawkins	11/18/2023
Robert W Wilson	12/12/2023

Notices received since December 31, 2023

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.



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

Editor – Ralph Newby, 32° KCCH ralphnewby@yahoo.com

Web/social media – Ralph Newby, 32° KCCH ralphnewby@yahoo.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 text format (MS word, no Adobe pdf) 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, 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



Barry Nightingale, 33°
Personal Representative
Valley of Colorado Springs - Pueblo



Cliff Wieger, 32°
Venerable Master
Lodge of Perfection



Blake Simmons, 32°
Wise Master
Chapter of Rose Croix



Zach Smith, 32°
Commander
Council of Kadosh



Harry Andrews, 32°
Master of Kadosh
Consistory



Michael L. McMillan, 33°
Almoner



Charles E. Lewis, 32°
Prelate



Clifton Snow, 32° KCCH
Treasurer



Robert R. Cook, 33°
Secretary/Recorder/Registrar

Support your

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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!