



Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

January 2024

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**Ill Barry Nightingale, 33°
Valley Personal Representative**

My Brothers,

I hope that this message finds you and your family are preparing for a very merry holiday season. I send you best wishes for the same, from myself and my wife Debbie!!

I've had a conversation with a newly raised Mason from a Lodge north of Denver. We were discussing some future opportunities in Masonry, both within his Lodge, and within the Appendant bodies.

- He said that he sought out opportunities to learn more about Masonry at the basic levels – history, philosophy, ritual, etc.
- He also said that members in his Lodge were pushing him hard to join one of the appendant bodies, since he had just completed his Master Mason proficiency.

We got into a long discussion about the way forward for him, and pretty much got into a discussion of getting some “balance” in his Masonic journey. I could have said “equilibrium” but I didn't

I counseled him to first and foremost be active within his Blue Lodge, as that is the heart of Freemasonry. I told him to:

- Learn the ritual, and more importantly, learn the lessons of that ritual
- Participate actively in his Lodge, and contribute to the experience for all the Brothers in the Lodge
- Study on his own, learning about Masonry

He then asked me where he should look for more education. I always find it interesting that so many Lodges have fairly weak education plans / programs, yet both new and old Brothers continually want to learn more about the Craft. I told him:

- Consider the Scottish Rite for educational opportunities, but not at the expense of active participation in his Lodge
- Think about what aspects of Masonry most interest him, and begin by studying in those directions

Reflecting back on this conversation, I am reminded of my continual effort to bring more education to our local Lodges. As I have said in earlier newsletters, the Scottish Rite has the potential and ability to be a significant part of the education programs in many Lodges. We need to be BOLD, and reach out to our Worshipful Masters and other officers, and offer our services.

Recently, Brother Dave Reitan and I had a discussion with the newly-installed Master of Ute Pass Lodge #188 in Woodland Park, and offered him help with both Lodge work and with educational support. He enthusiastically accepted our offer, and we are working on developing a program for that Lodge.

If you build it, they will come – the Scottish Rite already has the ability to help. Let's reach out NOW and offer our help to make the Masonic Experience better for everyone, as well as spreading the word about Scottish Rite.



III Bob Cook, 33°
Secretary/Recorder

Secretary's Corner

Happy New Year!

While I always look forward to the new year, I feel we must remember the Brothers we have lost to the Grand Architect of the Universe. They have certainly left a void in our Fraternity, but the good news is that we brought 9 new members into the Rite. All of us old timers are excited about the enthusiasm that these new Masters of the Royal Secret bring to our Rite. Our new officers have been elected and most were installed during the December stated meeting. Some of our newest members have taken positions in the four bodies and are anxious to help us move forward.

New Years' Resolutions – how many can we make and keep? I know that I have been frustrated with my ability to reconcile our membership numbers. I plan to have a better report each month. This is difficult mostly due to Brothers that have passed away, but we were never notified. It makes it hard to get a good starting number when part way through the year we are notified of a Brother that passed away a few years ago. Please remember to let your family know that reports of illness or death are important in our continuing support of all the members.

The calendar for 2024 is taking shape. Several interesting educational topics are on the list. The Spring Reunion is right around the corner (April 25 – 27, 2024). The January meeting will have an open session for all Master Masons and members. If you have a brother Master Mason in your Blue Lodge that you think would be interested in joining the Scottish Rite, bring them along to the meeting, Wednesday night, January 3, 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 (bcooksgc@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, I write this article today, December 21st which marks the Winter Solstice. Since prehistory, the winter solstice has been a significant time of year in many cultures and has been marked by festivals and rituals. It marked the symbolic death and rebirth of the Sun; the gradual waning of daylight hours is reversed and begins to grow again. May we all look upon this time when we, here in the Northern Hemisphere come from more Darkness back to more light as a symbolic time. We as Masons look for light in the dark. During the Holiday season I see many lights adorning homes, towns, and such. I often think of how the small points of light bring so much joy and happiness. In the darkness of night, each small point of light illuminates the world with joy. When joined with many other points of light, they make a beautiful and illuminating display which becomes a true thing of beauty for all to see. Let us look at ourselves as a single point of light, and when joined together with our Brothers in Masonry, we too can become a beautiful and wondrous joy for all to see while helping to illuminate the darkness with light. I wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season and hope that we all take time to remember each other, and all our dear Brothers who are no longer with us but traveling to the Celestial lodge. May we never forget them or their families.





Zach Smith, 32°

**Commander
Council of Kadosh**

My Brothers,

As we look to a new Masonic year, I wanted to start off with a little education. In our apron lecture, many orders are made mention of and I wanted to go in to a few of them to give us some context that the writers of the ritual were very aware of, but might be lost on us. The orders referenced are the Order of the Garter, Order of the Star, and the Order of the Golden Fleece.

I. **Order of the Garter** (Most Noble Order of the Garter)

- A. Founded - 1348
- B. Founder - King Edward III of England
- C. Recognized by - unrecognized by the Catholic Church
- D. Purpose - Appointments are at the Sovereign's sole discretion, typically made in recognition of national contribution, service to the Crown, or for distinguished personal service to the Monarch.
- E. Extinction - Still active
- F. Notes - Membership of the order is limited to the sovereign, the Prince of Wales, and no more than 24 living members, or Companions. The order also includes Supernumerary Knights and Ladies (e.g., members of the British royal family and foreign monarchs). Various legends account for the origin of the Order. The most popular involves the "Countess of Salisbury", whose garter is said to have slipped from her leg while she was dancing at a court ball at Calais. When the surrounding courtiers snickered, the king picked it up and returned it to her, exclaiming, "Honi soit qui mal y pense!" ('Shame on him who thinks ill of it!'), which phrase has become the Order's motto. According to another legend, King Richard I was inspired in the 12th century by St George the Martyr while fighting in the Crusades to tie garters around the legs of his knights, who subsequently won the battle. King Edward supposedly recalled the event in the 14th century when he founded the Order.
- G. Link - [Order of the Garter](#)

II. **Order of the Star** (Order of Knights of the Noble House of Saint Ouen)

- A. Founded - 1351
- B. Founder - John II of France
- C. Recognized by - 1352 by Pope Clement VI
- D. Purpose - Given by the King of France to recognize bravery in battle. Was only given by King John II of France and never again. The order was inspired by [Geoffroy de Charny](#), theoretician of

chivalry and elite knight who ultimately earned the apex privilege of [Oriflamme](#) bearer. In part it was intended to prevent the [disaster of Crécy](#) and to this end only success on the battlefield counted towards a member's merit, not success in tournaments. By its statutes, members also received a small payment and the order provided housing in retirement. They were sworn not to retreat or move more than four *arpents* (about six acre's breadths) from a battle. This last provision cost the lives of ninety members of the order at the [Battle of Mauron](#) in 1352, and at the [Battle of Poitiers](#) in 1356 cost the king his freedom when many, if not most, of his fellow knights of the Star lost their lives. The Order fell rapidly into disuse during John's captivity in London, but afterwards the nominal ranks swelled so enormously that by the time of [Charles V](#) its bestowal was meaningless.

- E. Extinction - still technically active, has not been bestowed since 1364
- F. Link - [Order of the Star \(France\)](#)

III. Order of the Golden Fleece

- A. Founded - 1430
- B. Founder - Philip III (Philip the Good), Duke of Burgundy
- C. Recognized by - ?
- D. Purpose - The Duke's stated reason for founding this institution had been given in a proclamation issued following his marriage, in which he wrote that he had done so "for the reverence of God and the maintenance of our Christian Faith, and to honor and exalt the noble order of knighthood, and also ... to do honor to old knights; ... so that those who are at present still capable and strong of body and do each day the deeds pertaining to chivalry shall have cause to continue from good to better; and ... so that those knights and gentlemen who shall see worn the order ... should honor those who wear it, and be encouraged to employ themselves in noble deeds ...".
- E. Extinction - Still Active but has split in to two orders, the Spanish and the Austrian
- F. Link - [Order of the Golden Fleece](#)

That is a little information on the orders mentioned, with the links available for further study.



Harry Andrews, 32°
Master of Kadosh
Consistory

There was once an old Mason who hadn't attended his lodge for some 20 years. One day he thought he'd go and attend his lodge and see what's been going on with his lodge in his absence. He got all dressed up in his old tux that he hadn't worn in quite a while, pinned his lodge pin on his lapel. He grabbed his keys and dusty

blue book that had been sitting on a shelf, got his apron out of the drawer and with a desire that he once had drove to his lodge.

When he arrived, he was shocked to see that no one was there and that the windows and doors had all been boarded up, a padlock placed on the door with a big sign attached to it that said SORRY WERE CLOSED.

As he stood there in disbelief in front of the building all dressed to attend, with his apron and book in his hand a lump in his throat, tears started forming in his eyes, a deep sadness grew within his heart, staring at this once very active lodge and now looking at a sad reminder of when he first walked through those doors to become a mason and how he was so excited to attend this lodge every other week, helped with necessary repairs and keeping up the maintenance on the weekends when he could. He remembered of all the good food and fellowship that he enjoyed as he studied and practiced his lines, as he moved up in the line to become the Master of this lodge.

He wondered what became of all the mentoring of other masons that worked so hard to be proficient in the craft, the friendships and bond that he once had with the other members and the initiations of new ones.

As he wiped the tears from his eyes and was looking at the front doorsteps of the lodge, he noticed some weeds growing out from the cracks of the steps, the steps that he had climbed up and down a thousand times and noticing the paint peeling away from the siding of the building that he once brushed on. A young man walked up and looked along with the old man and then extend his hand and with it - grip of a mason and offered him a handkerchief he pulled from his pocket.

The old man said thanks; I was member here for many years and then becoming the Worshipful Master just as my father and brother did.

The young man replied; I was the secretary here for way too long and my Father and brother were Worshipful Master here too. My father has long passed and well, my brother just..... just stop attending.

The old man said I just can't understand how this lodge could have gone dark. I bought my life membership 50 years ago.

To this the young man replied every member here were life members as well.

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

January 3, 2024

Closed Meeting at 7:00 PM and Open Meeting at 7:30 PM

Details

5:30 PM Punch Bowl

6:00 PM Dinner

Menu: Santa Maria Style Beef Tri Tips, Gouda mac and cheese, grilled vegetables and whole garlic baguettes. Dessert tray – cookies!

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, December 29, 2023.

7:00 PM Stated Mtg

7:30 PM Open Mtg -The open portion of the meeting will be open to all Master Masons and Scottish Rite Masons. Bring a Brother that is interested or just curious.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!

Larry D Allen

Charles J Buck, Jr

Robert M Burr

Richard G Calhoun

Eugene Colwell, Sr

John J. Cummings

Floyd M Davis

Eugene J Dobrzelecki

Abe M. England

Craig J Fabec

Michael William Favre

Yusuf Habib Ghodgeri

Louis M Graner

Jeffrey P Gronski

Warren W Higgins

Larry L Holland

Charles R Honaker

Vernon B Ingraham

Dale R King

Dennis Kost

Frank T Krutzke

Richard C Larke

Raymond Donald Lingley

Maurice D Masdeu

David W McKey

Davaughan T Mitchell

Lester H Nowell

L G Oxford

Earl M Phelps

Michael Richard Price

James W Rawlings

David B Reitan

Robert B Robertson

Herbert C Romero

Peter A. Sabino

Robert Francis Sobczak

Richard G Stewart

William Joseph Twyman

Warren C Weaver



Memorial Scroll

Name
Donald L Hansen

Date
12/12/2021

Notices received since November 30, 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.



Southern Colorado Consistory Quill & Scroll Guidelines and Staff

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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°
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Clifton Snow, 32° KCCH
Treasurer



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

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!