



Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

October 2024

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Email: socolorcoscott@qwestoffice.net



Ill Barry Nightingale, 33°
Valley Personal Representative

My Brothers,

As Scottish Rite Masons, we gather regularly for fellowship, education, and to sustain ourselves as leaders of our community through thought, word, and deed.

But sometimes – I wonder if we truly understand all that is being presented to us, as a learning opportunity of word and example?

For instance, during the October meeting, the Consistory will conduct a celebration of the Feast of Tishri. We will hear explanations, hold our celebratory acts, and then go our separate ways.

But why do we celebrate this day?

- What is its meaning to us?
- To our lives?
- To our roles as Freemasons??
- What lessons should we take away??

Last month we heard a great presentation on symbolism, and understanding the concepts of symbolism.

- But how much do we remember just 30 days later?
- How should we apply the lessons of that presentation?
- How can we convey those thoughts to our fellow Masons in our Blue Lodges?

I think that too often we don't really delve into the learning opportunities that are presented to us or internalize the lessons that are presented to us.

As the Lodge of Perfection prepares for the Feast of Tishri, let us prepare ourselves.

- Do some research ahead of time to familiarize yourselves with this holiday

- Open our minds to new thoughts
- Be prepared to take full advantage of this opportunity

I look forward to seeing all of you at dinner, and at this special meeting.



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

Secretary's Corner

The facts about our dues

I just checked our daily report on the status of dues for our Valley. Our current membership is tallied at 386. Of that number, 65 brothers have paid their 2025 dues – THANK YOU. Our membership has 161 members that do not pay dues – almost all are LIFETIME members. Some of these brothers also send in some donations for the Scottish Rite Foundation (tax deductible), the Almoner and some contributions for the Valley. We have 108 brothers that have not yet sent in their 2025 dues – their 2024 dues are paid. We also have 52 brothers that are 2 years (or more) in arrears.

If you have not paid your dues, please consider getting them paid soon. The dues are our only income that are regular payments to our treasurer. If you are having problems with paying this obligation, please contact me either by phone (719.339.0948) or email (bcooksc@gmail.com). Let's see if we can work out some way to get caught up on your dues.

I had planned on getting some information for the membership about the changes to the Master Craftsman courses. Supreme has worked very hard to get the courses online. This will speed up the work and new material is being added almost every month. Next month I will summarize how to access all of this Masonic Education. Some of the material is even available for Master Masons that have not joined the Scottish Rite (yet).



Blake Simmons, 32°

Wise Master

Chapter Rose Croix

Albert S. Pike

In 1732, the first “Ecosais” or **Scottish Lodge**, was organized in Bordeaux, one of the oldest and most influential Masonic centres in France. The membership included **Scottish and English Masons**. The years 1738-40 saw the formation of the first “Hauts Grades” or advanced degrees.

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"

Our first record of what is now known as the Rose Croix Degree (18th) dates from 1765. In its early years the degree had a chequered history and eventually became one of twenty five degrees in what was known as the Rite of Perfection. The Rose Croix degree was first recorded in England in about 1770 when it was worked within the evolving Knights Templar Encampments – the degree becoming the final or ‘*ne plus ultra*’ (nothing beyond) degree of the Templars.

In 1786 a group of eminent members of the Rite under the titular direction of Fredrick the Great of Prussia published the Grand Constitutions of 1786. Under these Constitutions the Rite of Perfection was renamed the “Ancient and Accepted Rite” and extended to thirty three degrees of which the Rose Croix degree became the Eighteenth

In 1797, a Chapter of Rose Croix was formed in New York City by a group of Frenchmen with J. J. J. Gourgas as Secretary. This was the first Rose Croix Chapter established in North America. In 1813 this group of Brothers was recognized as Scottish Rite Masons by Charleston Supreme Council. In the same year the Supreme Council for Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was formed from the Scottish Rite Bodies active in New York. Daniel D. Tompkins was named the First Sovereign Grand Commander and J.J.J. Gourgas was Grand Secretary. In May 1801, in Charleston, the first Supreme Council following the Grand Constitutions was opened (now known as The Southern Jurisdiction of the USA).

The Seventeenth and Eighteenth Degrees, known as the Philosophical and Doctrinal Degrees of the Scottish Rite, are conferred in a Chapter of Rose Croix. They open a new development of Masonic teaching and are a distinct departure and advance from the symbolism and teaching of the Symbolic Lodge and of the preceding Scottish Rite Degrees. These deal with the First Temple and its supporting columns and the attempt to restore and maintain the old worship in a Second Temple reared upon the ruins of the first.

The Eighteenth Degree is designated - Knight of the Rose Croix and is presented as the last degree in a Chapter of Rose Croix. Man had to have a new Temple, a new Law, a new Word. The degree sets forth a law of the heart, a law of warm and intimate human virtues, a law which the simplest and humblest may practice. It symbolizes a perfect life that every man can understand and take for the guide, inspiration, and model of his own.

The Rose Croix degrees are the spiritual center and among the most important in the whole body of Freemasonry.

THE TEACHINGS OF THE ROSE CROIX DEGREE

The Degree of Rose Croix teaches three things: the unity, immutability and goodness of God; the immortality of the soul; and the ultimate defeat and extinction of evil and wrong and sorrow, by a Redeemer or Messiah, yet to come, if he has not already appeared.

It replaces the three pillars of the old Temple, with three that have already been explained to you ;

- Faith (in God, Mankind, and man's self).
- Hope (in victory over evil, the advancement of Humanity, and a hereafter)
- Charity (relieving the wants, and tolerant of errors and faults of others).

Resources:

- <https://www.somersetrosecroix.org.uk/history/>
- <http://www.aasrny.org/bodies#chapter-of-rose-croix>
- <http://www.rosecroixwa.com/History+of+the+Rite>



Zach Smith, 32°
Commander
Council of Kadosh

My Brothers,

As our November reunion approaches, I have been informed that I will be the main educator in the classroom. As exciting as this is for me personally, I want to invite everyone to come in and contribute. Look at the schedule, pick your favorite degree, and come in and assist in the discussion about it. I am trying to provide as many points of view on the various degrees and give the class a well rounded idea of what the Scottish Rite is and what it can provide. When I went through class, I was very pleased to get all the different points of view that were in my own class and the brothers that

came in and contributed. It looks like the class will be relatively small this reunion, so I can use all the help I can get. Thank you all and may you all feel personally and cordially invited to the classroom.



Russ Rogers, 32°
Master of Ceremonies
Lodge of Perfection

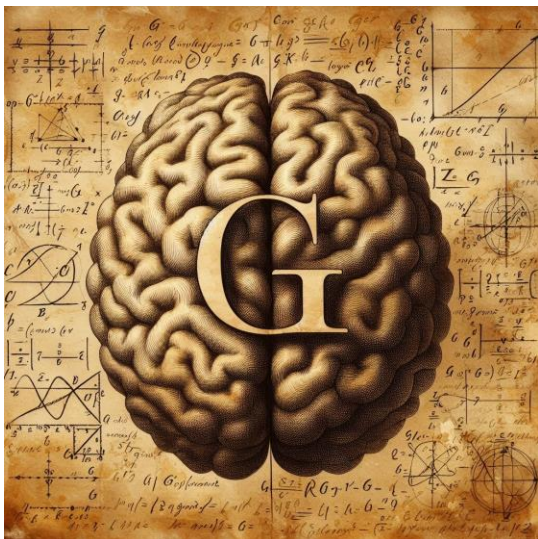
Seeking a Collective Truth

By Bro. Russ Rogers, Centurion #195
September 2024

“The distinguishing property of man is to search for and follow after truth.” – I.B. Albert Pike in the 8th Degree Lecture, Lodge of Perfection in the Scottish Rite

When I was a child growing up in small town in Oklahoma, I remember being told at church that the Great Architect was too big for one person to understand. The plans and machinations of the Great Architect would almost always be a mystery, and we should just take life on faith. For the mind of a small child, that’s a difficult concept to grasp; perhaps as difficult as understanding the Great Architect itself. In some ways it appears comments like that are intended to stop people from asking questions or searching for answers. It was frustrating for me as a child and likely for many of my instructors and mentors. That one statement created questions in my young mind which persist until today and likely contributed to my searching out Masonry later in life.

If the Great Architect is too big an idea for the human mind to comprehend then can there be a single source of truth? Can we know everything about the Creator, the Universe, and how humans should treat one another based only on one human mind, a single book, or one mentor? If that were possible why are there so many people still living in darkness? This thought process, once started, is impossible to stop. But in the decades since then, I’ve come to an important realization I wanted to share.



Have you ever watched a Biography or Documentary? Perhaps it was a science related show about the Universe? Perhaps it was a story about a particular crime that took place in the past. Ancient Aliens, anyone? Regardless of the topic, they nearly always have two things in common: the show is attempting to find the truth about a topic, and it relies on the testimony of multiple people to get to that truth. It never interviews just one person. Why is that?

As powerful and amazing as the human mind may be, it is not infallible. It has memory errors. There are built-in biases affecting how thoughts are prioritized and processed. It’s also not terribly efficient, using only a small percentage of its available resources. But most importantly when we are discussing topics as grand as the Creator and the Light, a

single human mind is just one data point on a massive web of minds, and it contains only the perspective of that one node on the web.

Let's consider an analogy to simplify the concept. Bring an image to mind of someone important in your life. It could be a parent, a sibling, a best friend, a child, or a mentor. Consider your impression of that person. What's their personality? How do they communicate with you? What are their interests in life? What is the 'truth' of that person in your eyes?

Now take a step back. Let's consider how that person might be perceived by others in their life. How would their parents view them? Their co-workers? Their children or grandchildren? The people they interact with from church. How about their closest friends? How are those perspectives different from your own? Are they still truthful and real? If so, how can you have a full understanding of this person if you don't account for these other perspectives?

You see, the point I'm trying to make is that one person's perception of another individual, problem, situation, or puzzle is just that: the perspective of a single person. It will never fully define the whole truth of the object we are seeking to understand. We must, as Masons, be willing to accept that we are only experts in a topic when viewed from our place in the Universe. The actual Truth hangs in the heavens like a jewel with trillions of facets; each human mind seeing only that facet in front of them. To achieve truth, we must consider the perspective of all the nodes on the web, not just our own.

Freemasons who lock themselves inside the comfort of their own mind will struggle to find the Light.



Therein lies the power of Freemasonry; the ability to turn our thoughts and actions outward from ourselves in a continued search for the Truth. We share what we have learned with our brothers, and they likewise share with us. We call it education because it introduces outside knowledge and perspectives into our minds for consideration. We allow ourselves to see through the eyes and minds of others. We are no longer constrained by the consideration of a single source of information. The combined reflection of thousands of minds focused on understanding to create the ultimate portrait of the Great Architect, the Truth, and our place in it all. Because the truth of a single man in isolation is, in the end, nothing more than an opinion.

[All the images in this article were created with AI using Microsoft Designer: designer.microsoft.com]



Feast of Tishri

Celebration and Banquet

All Masons and their families are welcome.

Wednesday, 2 October 2024

Colorado Springs Masonic Center

1150 Panorama Drive,

Colorado Springs, Colorado. 80904

The evening will begin with a social gathering beginning at 5:30PM followed by a delicious dinner beginning at 6PM (A separate email for dinner reservations will be sent). After dinner, there will be a "Feast of Tishri" presentation (toasts will be observed).

*Point of Contact: Michael B. Mabbitt, 3rd KCCM,
719-440-0457, mike.afam.colorado@gmail.com*

The Feast of Tishri is the title that the Scottish Rite adopted as one of the recognized formal affairs in Scottish Rite Masonry. The significance of the Feast of Tishri rests on three factors: First, the wandering of the children of Israel in the wilderness for forty years; Second, the completion and dedication of King Solomon's Temple; and Third, the Harvesting Time and Thanksgiving to God for His Blessing and Bounty.

Scottish Rite Recognition

In 1866, the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States proclaimed the Feast of Tabernacles as the Feast Day of the Lodge of Perfection, the 15th day of Tishri, (October) which we, the Valley of Mobile, celebrate on the first Monday of October. As did the Israelites of old and the New England Pilgrims, Scottish Rite Freemasons gather to acknowledge the mercies which God has poured upon them with lavish hands. It is a time of rejoicing, yet a time to pay humble adoration to the Great Architect of the Universe, without whom there would be no harvest.

Wandering Israelites

As the children of Israel were led through the wilderness, God decreed the celebration of a seven-day feast in the Jewish month of Tishri, during which they were to live in sukkah "succoth". In the Book of Leviticus, The Lord spoke unto Moses and said the 15th day of the 7th month, namely "Tishri", when the people had gathered in the fruits of the land, they should "Feast Unto The Lord", while dwelling in sukkah, booths or tents. All three words mean temporary dwellings made from branches, twigs and canvas or cloth, and garlanded with citrus fruits. This feast was to be celebrated annually to forever remind the Israelites that He had rescued them from Egypt. This "Feast of Tishri" (or "Feast of Succoth") is thus a symbol of freedom. When King Solomon completed his Temple more than four centuries later, it was dedicated during the Feast of Tishri, and this association led to its adoption by Scottish Rite Masonry to symbolize our dedication to brotherly love and human accord in a peaceful world.

Completion/Dedication of the Temple

Deut. 16:13—Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles after thou hast gathered in thy corn and wine. The Feast of Tabernacles also commemorates the ceremonies of the completion and dedication of King Solomon's Temple, which began in the year 2992 A.L.*, and finished in a little more than seven years. Six months after its completion, in the month of Tishri—the seventh month of the Jewish calendar—the temple was dedicated with reverential ceremonies to the one Living and True God. That these ceremonies would reach the highest religious significance, King Solomon postponed the dedication until the Feast of Tabernacles, the 15th day of Tishri, a day he well knew would bring every zealous Israelite to Jerusalem.

* Anno Lucius—Freemasonry adds 4,000 years to our current calendar year (example: 2011 becomes 6011 A.L.).

Harvesting Time/Thanksgiving to the Lord

When King Solomon dedicated the first Temple, he was not dedicating a mere structure, he was praying for all mankind. It is the Brotherhood of Man that is the very cornerstone of our Masonic Brotherhood and philosophy. We, therefore, can give thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe and celebrate this Feast Day as a Feast of Scottish Rite Masonic Thanksgiving. We can thank Our Creator for our many blessings: home, family, friends and for a Country where we enjoy religious and political freedoms even greater than our Forefathers ever dreamed. It is no accident we call ourselves "FREE" MASONS, for we believe in the freedoms our Founding Fathers established for our Country. We must, therefore, rededicate ourselves to maintaining those freedoms by putting into practice the virtues we have learned.

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

October 2, 2024

Meeting open

Details

5:30 PM Punch Bowl

6:00 PM Dinner

Menu: Choices: beef with Broccoli, Sesame Chicken. or Sweet & Sour Chicken with white or brown rice from P F Changs. Also including appetizers and desserts.

Dinner cost is \$25.00/person (cash or check). To reserve your dinner, call the Consistory office at 719/471-7966 or email sccdinnerreservation@gmail.com. NOTE: Reservations required before 1:00PM on Monday, September 30, 2024.

7:00 PM This open meeting will include a presentation of the Feast of Tishri presented by the Lodge of Perfection. Discussion to follow the presentation.

November 6, 2024

Meeting closed

Details

No Meal

7:00 PM TBA.

November 7-9, 2024

Fall Reunion –information will be available in future newsletters

December 4, 2024

Meeting open

Details

5:30 PM Punch Bowl

6:00 PM Dinner

Menu: TBA

Dinner cost TBA (cash or check). To reserve your dinner, call the Consistory office at 719/471-7966 or email sccdinnerreservation@gmail.com. NOTE: Reservations required.

7:00 PM Election and Installation of Officers



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

Chad Ivy Chaddick

Donald R Clowers

Eric L Ellithorpe

Jededia V Ellithorpe

D Duane Esarey

Todd E Gould

Joseph E Hadad

Arthur S Hagan, Jr

Arthur D Jones

Charlie Kendir

Otis E Littlepage

Larry J Neu

Stephen Glen Pease

Wray S Pedro

Michael T Perez

Blaine William Roeder

Nathan Stuart Rolofson

Thomas Joseph Scheulen

Christopher B Simmons

Douglas F Smith

Jack I Stivers

Harley L Thompson

James C Warren, III

Nick J. Weaver



Memorial Scroll

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Eugene R Canady, Jr</i>	<i>2/19/2024</i>
<i>Paul E Cooper</i>	<i>7/5/2024</i>

Notices received since August 27, 2024

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, Jim Wiley 32°; Senior Wardens, Aaron Langevin 32° and Blake Simmons 32°; Junior Wardens, Edwin Alas 32° and Blake Simmons 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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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

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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!