



# Quill & Scroll

## Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

February 2024

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

**Email:** [socolorcoscott@qwestoffice.net](mailto:socolorcoscott@qwestoffice.net)



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

My Brothers,

As we begin the New Year, we will of course think about the Reunion that is coming in April. In addition to memorizing parts, rehearsing floorwork, and preparing all of the artifacts that we need for each degree, we all will be thinking of which Brother Master Masons should be invited to become Scottish Rite Masons.

One of the most common points of discussion is always “How do we balance our Craft Lodge requirements with the desire to bring in new members to the Scottish Rite?”

First and foremost, let us be perfectly clear with one another: the first priority of a Brother is to support and participate in the activities, planning, and work of his Craft Lodge. There should never be a question about that!!

Most of our newly Raised Brothers will benefit from the knowledge and light presented in the Scottish Rite. The second question then is usually: “When do we bring them to the Rite ?”

We have to be careful in bringing new Master Masons to the Scottish Rite. Many of them will be able to handle the additional knowledge and mysteries of the Rite, but some will not. Some will be ready to expand their horizons, and some will not. It is incumbent on each of us to carefully consider each prospective member as an individual – evaluate their readiness, their role in the Craft Lodge, and their ability to balance the requirements of both the Lodge and the Rite. It may be that in some instances, we should not rush a new Master Mason to take on additional requirements, and should instead let him “grow” for a while in his Craft Lodge.

The third most common question is: “Why do they want to join?”

Be sure that a new Master Mason wants to join for the right reasons.

- If they simply want to be able to say that they are a “32nd Degree Mason”, and not be committed to learning, then they are probably not yet ready for the Rite.
- If they are only joining because members of the Rite are constantly pressuring the Brother to join, then they are probably not yet ready for the Rite.

I know that I personally benefit from sharing and learning from my Brothers of the Rite, and that the larger our Consistory, the more that I will benefit, learn, and grow within Freemasonry. But – let’s make sure of three things:

- that the prospective member will still support his Lodge
- that the prospective member is ready to take on additional learning and requirements
- that the prospective member wants to join the Rite to learn and grow from our work and from our Brothers



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

## Secretary’s Corner

### A New Year

Here we are ready to start another year. Some changes are affecting the startup. First, we were unable to hold our January stated meeting. The meeting date was on January 1<sup>st</sup>. We looked to see if we could find a date during January to hold our meeting at the Masonic Center. That did not work so we are starting the new year with our first meeting in 2025 on February 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will begin at 7:00PM. We are unable to continue our dinners before the meeting. The catering costs have continued to increase and our attendance just does not allow us to conduct the dinner without having a larger attendance. We will continue to look for options to hold a dinner, but for now we are not able to hold the dinner before the stated meeting.

Dues – dues are our only source of income and we are still not able to get all of the dues for 2024 paid. If you have not paid your 2024 dues (we are still missing 25 brothers). We are also getting a little behind on 2025 dues. If you have not paid your 2025 dues, please see if you can get them paid early this year. Please contact me ([bcookscc@gmail.com](mailto:bcookscc@gmail.com)) if you have any questions. I will be sending out notices for dues that are delinquent. If you get a notice and believe you have paid your dues, please contact me so we can get our records corrected.

We will hold our Spring 2025 Reunion on April 24 – 26, 2025. We have 2 candidates and are expecting a few more in the next month or two. In case you need information for your candidates on the online petition please see below.



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



**Blake Simmons, 32°**

Wise Master

Chapter Rose Croix

## Resolution

Each year, many people decide to make a New Year's resolutions. People often make these to change and improve something about themselves only to find that they are often unsuccessful. As Masons, we learn in our degrees how to improve ourselves. This is our Resolution of change.

Resolution is defined in different ways. It can be

- **a firm decision to do or not to do something**
- **the action of solving a problem, dispute, or contentious matter**
- or in Chemistry, **the process of reducing or separating something into its components**

These are good to consider as we strive to remove the imperfect edges of that rough ashlar of ourselves to better fit us as building stones for the great temple eternal. What is important is that we use the lessons taught us. First, the three tenants of Masonry, Faith, Hope, and Charity. Have Faith in yourself that you can improve to a better state of yourself, have Hope that you can and will improve and thereby become a living example for others, as others have been for you. Most importantly, be Charitable to yourself. None of us are perfect, quite the opposite, so be kind with yourself and understand that change requires Time, Patience, and Perseverance, but with these, all things are accomplished. Easy to say, and hard to do, but that is the journey we travel.

It is often said that it is not the destination, which is most important, but to enjoy and appreciate the journey. Imagine if tomorrow is your last day on Earth. Would you be glad that you have reached the place which we are all destined to go, or would you wish that you took more time to truly embrace the journey along the way? I as one, am learning to live for the journey and hopefully prepare myself more fully for the next existence we are all destined to travel to.

So, back to resolution, you made a **firm decision** when you joined Masonry, you have received teachings of how to **solve problems, disputes, or contentious** matters with Love, kindness, and consideration, and by **reducing and separating them into their components** so that you can effectively deal with them.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> degree, we make a journey through the darkness, to despair and even evil forces to finally regain that which is lost to mankind and once again fill the world with light. Then a New Law of Love rules the Earth. Take this symbolic journey in your life, leave the darkness, treat yourself with love and kindness, and gain the light we all seek and as always, be the living example for others in their journey

Finally,

**Embrace the New Year, and travel well my Brothers, travel well.**

*As always, these are just the considerations of one Mason*



**Russ Rogers, 32°**  
Venerable Master  
Lodge of Perfection

Welcome to 2025 and another great year in the Scottish Rite! I'm excited to be sitting as the Venerable Master this year and I appreciate your trust in me. Like most folks I tend to reflect on the past year and identify areas I'm hoping to improve myself. In what areas can I have a positive impact on those around me in 2025? There are a few areas I can contribute to and make a difference, such as leadership, education, and charity.

For leadership, I accepted the daunting task of stepping up as Venerable Master. For me it means prioritizing communication among the rest of my line and the consistory. It means diligent planning ahead of time to create valuable and meaningful experiences for every brother. I'd like to prioritize planning, communication, contribution, and patience.

Education has always been important to me. It is one of the things that attracted me to the Scottish Rite. My big project is a research library for brethren. I've collected nearly a terabyte of electronic Masonic documents; some useful, some garbage.

But data itself is useless if it's not usable. I've made around 1800 of these documents "search ready" and created a program to search across all those documents for a keyword or phrase. My hope is to make this accessible to brethren across our state to enable Masonic research for everyone, whether it's history, ritual, or esoteric in nature. I've provided an example output below. The search term was "esoteric" and the number at the end of each line tells you how many times the word appears in that document.

./Acacian\_Lyrics\_-\_L\_A\_H\_Munday.pdf:1  
 ./AcceptedCeremoniesOfTheThreeDegrees.pdf\_ocr.pdf:16  
 ./Adams\_J\_Q\_-\_Letters\_and\_addresses\_on\_freemasonry\_1875.pdf:114  
 ./Adams\_J\_Q\_-\_Letters\_on\_the\_Masonic\_Institution\_1847.pdf:0  
 ./Adams\_R\_-\_Edinburgh\_Burgh\_Accounts\_Vol\_II\_1552\_to\_1567\_-\_1899.pdf:0  
 ./Address\_To\_The\_Veterans\_of\_Pennsylvania\_-\_I\_Register.pdf:0  
 ./Agrippa\_Of\_Occult\_Philosophy\_Book\_I.pdf:8  
 ./Agrippa\_Of\_Occult\_Philosophy\_Book\_II.pdf:3  
 ./Agrippa\_Of\_Occult\_Philosophy\_Book\_III.pdf:26  
 ./Agrippa\_Of\_Occult\_Philosophy\_Book\_IV.pdf:0  
 ./Agrippa\_Geomancy.pdf:0  
 ./Akerman\_W\_-\_The\_Bible\_&\_the\_Square\_1875.pdf:4  
 ./Akins-Lodge-Manual-J-W-Akin.pdf:0  
 ./Akins\_Lodge\_Manual\_-\_J\_W\_Akin.pdf:0  
 ./Albert\_Churchward\_-\_The\_Arcana\_of\_Freemasonry.pdf:52  
 ./Albert\_G.\_Mackey\_-\_The\_Symbolism\_of\_Freemasonry.pdf:4  
 ./Albert\_Pike\_-\_The\_Book\_Of\_The\_Words\_raw.pdf:4  
 ./Albert\_Pike\_-\_The\_Book\_of\_The\_Words.pdf:4  
 ./Albert\_Pike\_-\_The\_Spurious\_Rites\_of\_Memphis\_and\_Misraim.pdf:0  
 ./Albury\_Ms\_-\_1875.pdf:1  
 ./Alexander\_Lawrie\_-\_The\_History\_of\_Freemasonry,\_Drawn\_from\_Authentic\_Sources\_of\_Information\_1804.pdf:0  
 ./Alford\_A\_L\_-\_Masonic\_Gem,\_Consisting\_of\_Odes,\_Poem,\_&\_Dirge\_1868.pdf:0

Charity might be the most important aspect of what we as Masons should focus on in a given year. Oddly, it's also one of the most challenging because it's so easy to de-prioritize due to work, family, or other "life things". I want to set a goal for myself of at least 2-3 charitable contributions of my time this year. What work have I contributed to in the past that had value and where else do I have interest in doing charitable work? Albert Pike said it best when he said *"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal."*

As you look to the year now unfolding in front of us, how will you ensure it has value for you and the community around you? What contributions can you make and what talents are you able to apply? I urge you to take just a few minutes to set some goals for 2025. A little advance planning, patience, and effort can pay huge dividends throughout the year.

# 2025 Officers



# The Many Creative and Beautiful Centerpieces Provided by Bob Cook's Wife



# The Many Creative and Beautiful Centerpieces Provided by Bob Cook's Wife





A D Y C M A C C O R D D F B B D N R F K  
 S A A L I K B R O U G H T T O L I G H T  
 H P D E G R E E S O F M A S O N R Y G B  
 L R N G Y E N L I G H T E N M E N T A U  
 A O E Q U I V O C A T I O N M M X H O I  
 R N C P F K T I A D V A N C E M E N T L  
 L H R T F B B O U R N E B T V K B N U D  
 J B A L L O T G R A N D L O D G E C U E  
 V K F R E E M A S O N N W A D E M I T R  
 F E T C A O Y N K A H G J Q B E V Y J Y

Grand Master  
 Guttural  
 In Good Standing  
 Light  
 Lodge      Celestial Temple  
 Mason      Circumscribe  
             Clandestine  
             Cleft  
             Constituent Lodge  
             Contention  
             Cowan

Accord  
 Advancement  
 Apron  
 Ashlar  
 Ballot  
 Brought to Light  
 Bourne  
 Builder

P Z B Z S B D D X R F V G P D W P T X V  
 M G R A N D M A S T E R D I J R T X L S  
 A M M J B L O D G E B U T X Q N I I L U  
 S V S T A T E D M E E T I N G D R A M M  
 O L M O T M X Q S I W O R E G A L I A M  
 N I L W D H G U T T E R A L U K R Q S O  
 R G Z H N J G G W R B V D B W W F G O N  
 Y H W D I F P R O F A N E B G O Z D N S  
 F T I N G O O D S T A N D I N G L V S B  
 Q P U D J O W S A D F Y K A J N N G H G

C O N S T I T U E N T L O D G E J B C E  
 M W C L A N D E S T I N E O C V S J A I  
 C I R C U M S C R I B E B O O Z F B O D  
 G J V D W D K O F D E Q Y A N I X O X O  
 V W Z L A Y C G N J G P I G I B Z D P W  
 W Q L N L E E B V R V C O W A N E X H J  
 P P P D N U A C O N T E N T I O N Z S R  
 A Z V Y H A V Q E N A A O Q L I B Z P G  
 C L E F T Y O S M P J H K Q E M B C X C  
 B C E L E S T U A L T E M P L E U O E W

Mason  
 Regalia  
 Masonry  
 Profane  
 Stated Meeting  
 Summons  
 Temple



Craft  
 Degrees of Masonry  
 Demit  
 Enlightenment  
 Equivocation  
 Freemason  
 GAOTU  
 Grand Lodge



Send us your content & visit your website for the latest updates!  
[www.sococonsistory.org](http://www.sococonsistory.org)

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

# CALENDAR

## February 5, 2025

Meeting closed

### Details

7:00 PM TBD

## March 5, 2025

Meeting open or closed TBD

### Details

7:00 PM TBD

## April 2, 2025

Meeting open or closed TBD

### Details

7:00 PM TBD



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!

Larry D Allen

Charles J Buck, Jr

Richard G Calhoun

Eugene Colwell, Sr

John J. Cummings

Eugene J Dobrzelecki

Abe M. England

Craig J Fabec

Michael William Favre

Yusuf Habib Ghodgeri

Louis M Graner

Jeffrey P Gronski

Warren W Higgins

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

Lester H Nowell

Earl M Phelps

Michael Richard Price

James W Rawlings

David B Reitan

Robert B Robertson

Herbert C Romero

Richard G Stewart

William Joseph Twyman

Warren C Weaver

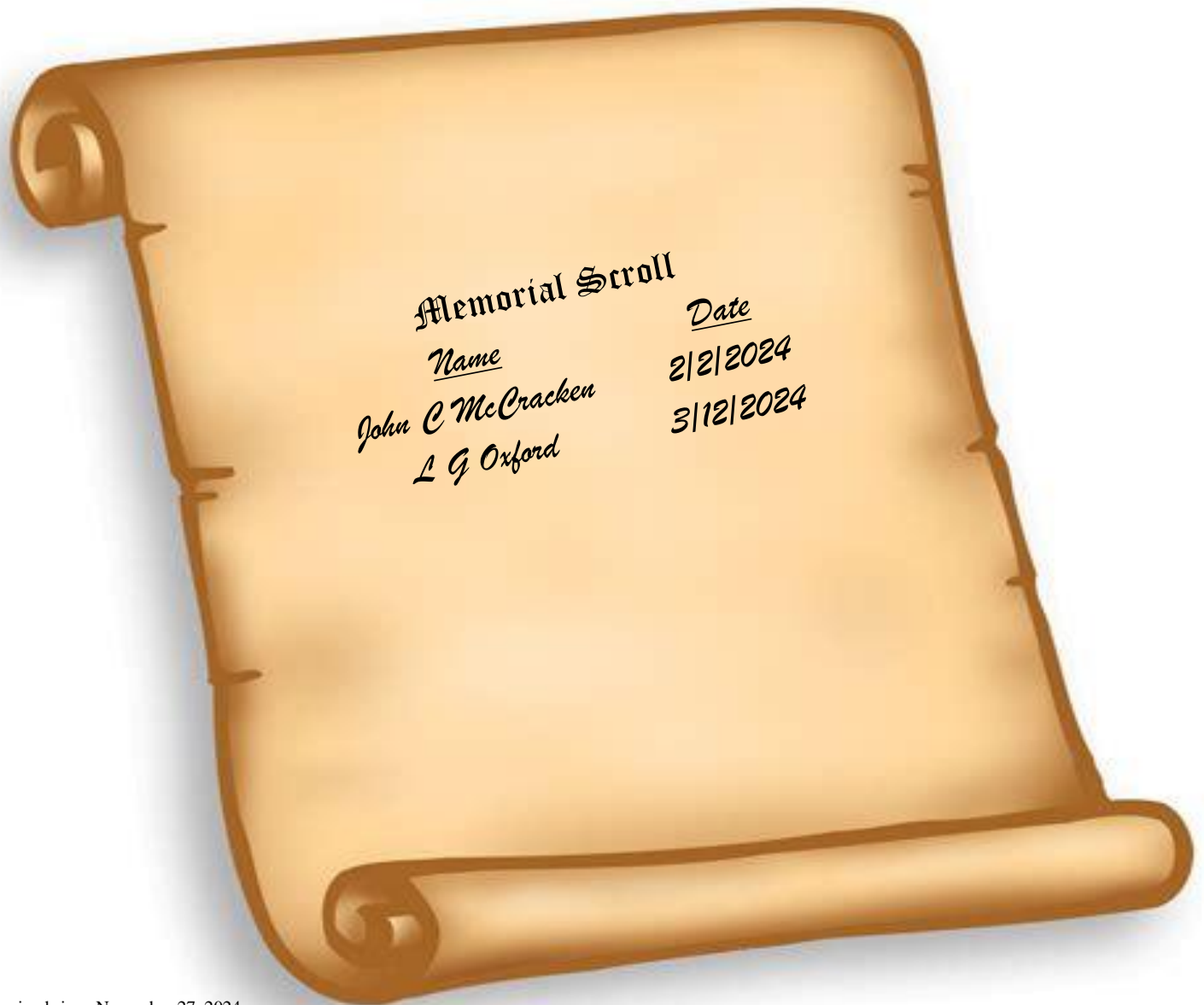


## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

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

William Arthur Haaren  
William R Heath  
Terry K Lingle  
Chad M Merfeld  
Paul Richard Nigro  
Mark Stephen Pesut  
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



*Memorial Scroll*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>John C McCracken</i>	<i>2/2/2024</i>
<i>L G Oxford</i>	<i>3/12/2024</i>

Notices received since November 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

Barry Nightingale, 33° - Personal Representative & Bulletin Advisor / 719-599-8320 barry.d.nightingale@gmail.com

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 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 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 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



**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



**Russ Rogers, 32°**  
Venerable Master  
Lodge of Perfection



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



**Zach Smith, 32°**  
Commander  
Council of Kadosh



**Jerry Byassee, 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

Southern Colorado Consistory Scottish Rite  
1150 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715



Email: [socolorcoscott@qwestoffice.net](mailto:socolorcoscott@qwestoffice.net)  
Office hours 9am-1pm Tuesday-Thursday  
Telephone numbers:  
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!*