



# Quill & Scroll

## Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

May 2025

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

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

My Brothers,

Another Reunion has come and gone, and I think we owe a VERY special thanks to all of the Brothers that were so instrumental in making this Reunion be such a great success!!

- I especially was proud of the continual improvements made in our degrees, including new technology, improved degree decorations for the exemplified degrees, and improvements in the exemplification process.
- It has been a full year since we have held a Reunion, and I was impressed that all of the Brothers made it such a success.

Our class was also amazing, - with an energy level and participation level that has not been seen in some time.

Several changes in leadership came out of the Reunion, and I would like to recap just a very few of them. I know that during the coming monthly meetings, each of these individuals will elaborate on additional changes.

- Illustrious Brother Jerry Underwood, 33°, who has been our fantastic Director General for several years, has given his position to another Brother. Ill. Bro Jerry will soon be assuming even greater responsibilities in the Grand Lodge of Colorado officer line, and we look forward to supporting his efforts.
- Brother Craig Fabec, 32° KCCH is assuming responsibilities for all Reunion activities and monthly educational activities as our new Director General. Let us all give him great support, and make even greater efforts to participate in casts and in the supporting departments.
- Brother Mike Mabbitt, 32° KCCH, is assuming responsibilities as the Director of Degrees, working for Brother Craig Fabec. It's a big job, and will get even bigger as we work to expand the number of degrees that we exemplify.
- The recent class has asked to organize and present the 22nd Degree at an upcoming Reunion. With their level of energy and commitment, I suspect it will be a HUGE success.

The Fall 2025 Reunion will be held in October this year, and we will be publishing information on it in the coming newsletters. Although we are moving it only a couple of weeks earlier in the year, I am hopeful that even that small move in time will give us better weather, and avoid a weather-related cancellation like we had in 2024.

As always, the success of our Reunions depends entirely on active support and participation by our members. PLEASE give of your time and energy to support these critical events.

Congratulations to our newest Masters of the Royal Secret!!



**Blake Simmons, 32°**

Wise Master

Chapter Rose Croix

Hello Brethren, as we move forward into the future, we must consider where we are, where we want to be in the near future, and where we plan to be in the long future. Where we are, is an organization which has for some time been struggling with membership numbers. We gain some brothers each year, but we lose more to those passing on, disinterest, or other interests they are more involved in. There have been many recommendations made to deal with this issue, not only in our Scottish Rite Masonic body, but Blue lodges, and other Masonic bodies as well. As we all know, there are many reasons for this decline, but when it comes right does to it, it is a matter of priority. Is Masonry a priority in our lives? If not, why? What are men looking for that we can provide? Some of the most popular answers to this question are brotherhood, social interaction, education, knowledge, and history.

Now, I know we have all heard this before but let us really look at whether we are providing this. If these things are the reasons that attract us and brothers to the Fraternity, is there really anything more important than fulfilling them. "Fulfilling", an interesting word, but that is exactly what we should be accomplishing. Fulfilling the Masonic experience so that when we come to our respective meetings and such, we are filled with the things we need. We talk about our costs, business, declining membership issues and many other things in our meetings and often spend less time on what our real objectives should be, Fulfilling the Masonic needs of our Brethren.

Now what can we do? Scottish Rite is dedicated to the furthering of knowledge which is why we are referred to as "The University of Masonry". What type of knowledge do we need to provide? Recently, our Grand Lodge Senior Warden wrote in his newsletter that education not only means Masonic, but education about many topics that help us to improve our lives. After all, isn't improving ourselves as men what we are here to do? I personally believe that knowledge, or Enlightenment is the most important of our endeavors. In each of our three Blue Lodge degrees, we state that what we most desire, is Light, or enlightenment.

Now, rather than talking about our needs, and waiting for others to bring knowledge into our lodges, let us all take part in bringing education in many forms into our lives. We are all high thinking men in Scottish Rite, so we must take the lead in this endeavor. I have often said that each one of us is an Ambassador for Masonry and especially Scottish Rite Masonry. Be that Ambassador in your Blue lodge as well. Share education, show the Brethren what there is waiting for those who came to learn. Basically, share the wealth of knowledge that

Masonry offers and what brothers need the most in their lives. Also, contact the brothers that are not currently attending, see what they want, and let us strive to provide it. This is not the work of the few leaders of the organization, but of every Brother. We are stronger and better together than we are separately.

Finally Brothers, never forget the spiritual part of Masonry as it is the most important element of Masonry. If it were not, why do we dedicate our lodges to the Supreme Architect, why is the main requirement to be a Mason a “belief in deity” and why do we use the various Holy Books as our guides?

All these things if offered to others as our primary goal and endeavor will make Masonry strong once again. Less business of the lodge, and more business of our lives and improving them is the key. Take part, be active, talk to your brothers, spread knowledge, give education, and most important of all “Be a living example” for all to see.

As always, these are the considerations of just one Mason on his path, disagree, agree either is fine, but at least consider these thoughts and hopefully they will cause a discussion to learn from.

Thank you for your consideration and as always, thank you all for all you do for Masonry!



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

As I sit here on a balcony overlooking the Fall River in Estes Park, I’m struck by just how beautiful it is here, and how there are times when men truly live in harmony with his surroundings. It reminded me of a conversation I had with a friend very recently. We were discussing the state of the world, as folks are apt to do these days, and he recounted a story of how his father sat him down (bearing in mind my friend is in his mid-40s) and asked him why he had voted a particular way. His dad made the comment “we always raised you as a (insert political party name here).”

The response my friend gave touched me. He told his father that he had raised a son who viewed the world outside the constraints of a political party. He was raised to love his neighbor, empathize with the struggles of the people in his community, and to understand that Deity created all humans as equal.

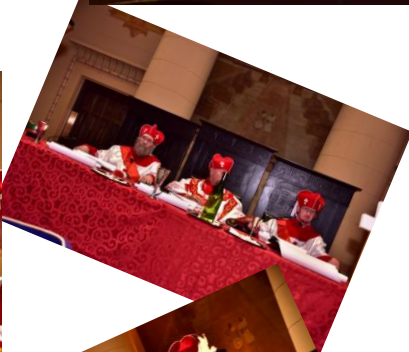
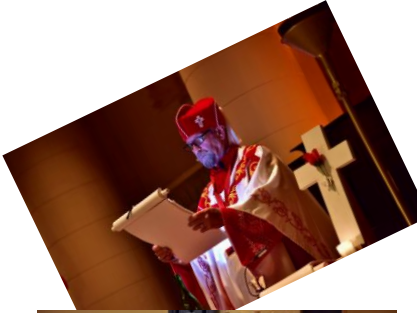
This inevitably led the conversation to Masonry. My friend isn’t a Mason yet, but he has been asking, and he’s even attended dinner at my Lodge. The ability for Masons to meet “on the level” really drew me to the Craft. I’ve been left reflecting on how lucky I have been to find a group of brothers/friends who recognize the core values in a man without getting twisted up in the meaningless details.

At the same time, I’m writing this article, I have two brothers from my Lodge going through our Scottish Rite Reunion at the Colorado Masonic Center. Part of a class of brand new, shiny Scottish Rite masons! I miss this Reunion each year due to an annual conflict, but I’m excited for the experience our new brothers are

witnessing. I messaged the instructors last night and wished them the best of luck and spoke to both brothers at our stated meeting just Tuesday evening, wishing them luck and expressing my excitement for them.

That's really it, isn't it? There is genuine joy in seeing your brothers progress on their path. We all understand we're part of the bigger picture. We're not living in competition with one another, but in harmony. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new Scottish Rite brothers. I truly consider the Scottish Rite to be the University of Masonry, and a place where every brother here is pursuing some educational path I can learn from. I'm looking forward to learning from you.

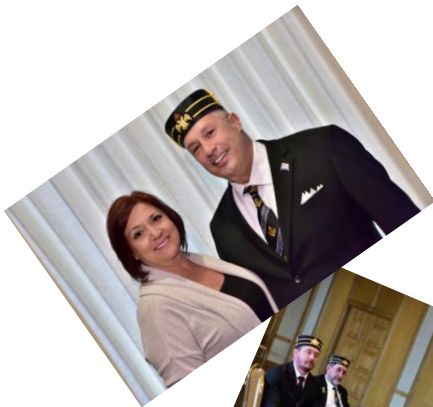
# Renewal and Remembrance April 2, 2025



# Spring Reunion April 24-26, 2025



# Spring Reunion April 24-26, 2025



Presentation of Scottish Rite JROTC Cadet Award  
Air Academy High School, Colorado Springs, CO  
USAF Junior ROTC Awards Apr 21, 2025

Air Academy High School, located on the Air Base portion of the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, held its Annual Awards Ceremony for its United States Air Force (USAF) Junior Reserve Officer Training Course (JROTC) Cadets on April 21, 2025. The Scottish Rite award was presented by Scottish Rite member Col Paul L Bailey, USAF (Ret) to Cadet Amare Trejo at the ceremony.

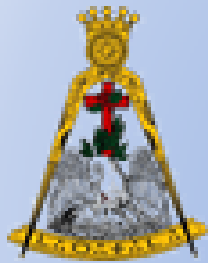


Air Academy HS, April 21st 2025, Col Paul L Bailey, USAF (Ret) presents National Sojourners award to Cadet Amare Trejo



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ALLEGORY

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APPRENTICE

BROTHER

CANDIDATE

CEREMONY

ԼՈՒՄԵՆ

CHARTER

CIRCUMAMBULATION

CLANDESTINE

CLOTHING

COLUMN

ԵՐՈՒՄ

DEDICATION

DEGREE

DOTAGE

EAVESDROPPER

ESOTERIC

FRATERNITY

ԵՐՈՒՄ

HOODWINK

INSTALLATION

LANDMARK

ԵՐՈՒՄ

MASON

MASTER



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

# CALENDAR

## **May 7, 2025**

Meeting closed

### **Details**

7:00 PM Program Summary and discussion of the 13<sup>th</sup> degree

## **June 4, 2025**

Meeting open or closed TBD

### **Details**

7:00 PM Program TBD

## **July and August 2025**

Dark – no meetings



## MAY BIRTHDAYS!

Alva B Adams

Travis D Ashley

David C Bowling

Chad E. Breiner

Gerald R Campbell

George W Estep

James W Hauck

Warren E Jones

Dexter D Koons

Robert H McCormick

Brian Neuhauser

Darrel Lee Phelan

Christopher J Rodriguez

James W Ross

Larry D Smith

Leon E Sonksen

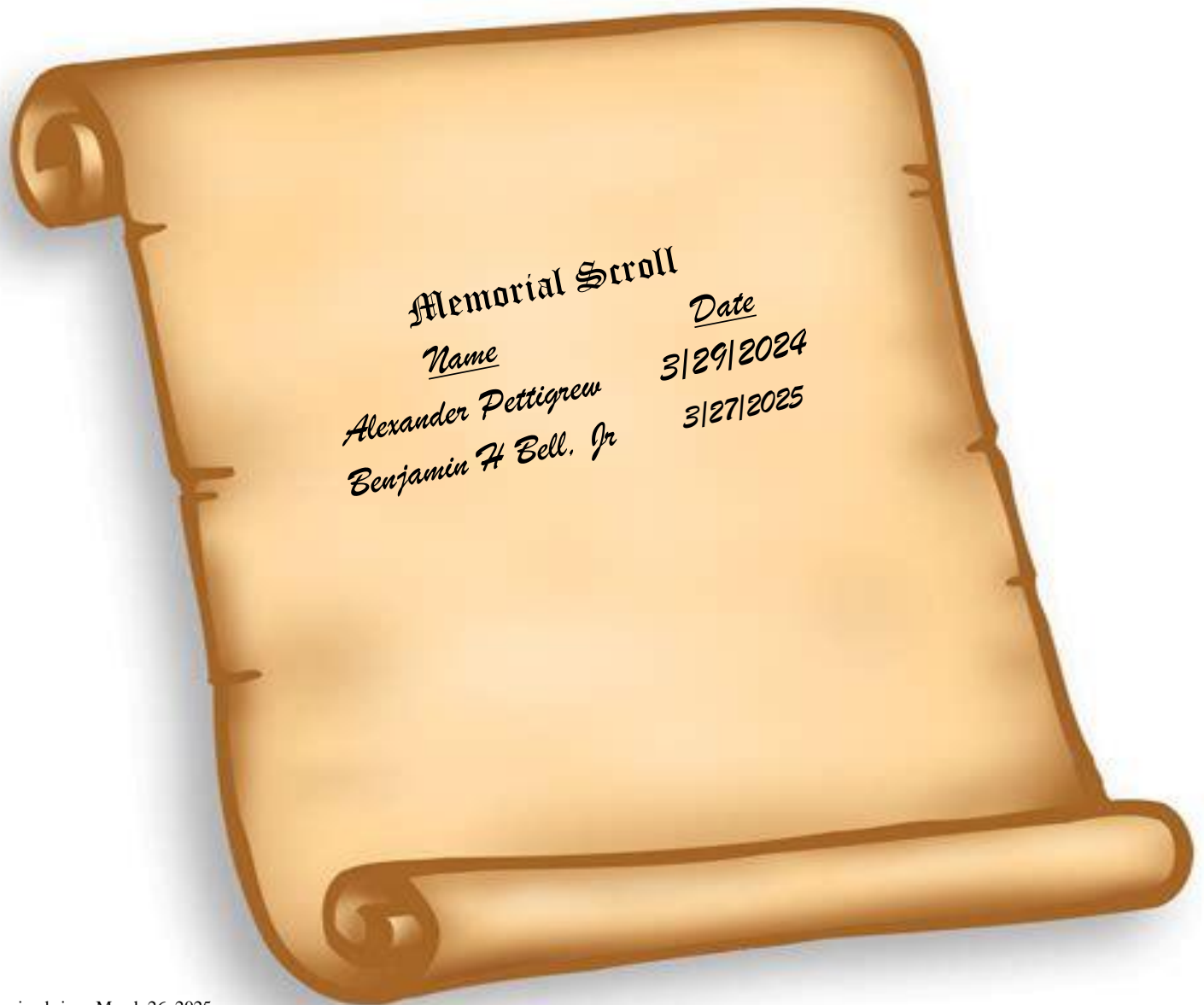
Charles E Tedrow

Roger Duane Tigner

Gerald P Underwood

Clifford R Wieger

Kurt A Zimmermann



## Memorial Scroll

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Alexander Pettigrew	3/29/2024
Benjamin H. Bell, Jr	3/27/2025

Notices received since March 26, 2025

### 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, Aaron Langevin 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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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



**James Wiley, 32°**  
Prelate



**Clifton Snow, 32° KCCH**  
Treasurer

**William Twyman, 32°**  
Secretary/Recorder/Registrar

# Support your

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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!*