



Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive
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June 2026

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Brothers, note the new email address for the secretary in the header on this page. The previous address was not being monitored, and we did not have ready credentials to access it. – Ralph Newby, editor



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

My Brothers,

Our upcoming meeting in June will be our last until September. I think most of us are looking for opportunities to spend some time with our families, friends, and just generally have some "vacation" time.

As we come out of last month's Reunion, I would ask all of you, as Masters of the Royal Secret, new and old, what lessons from our degrees give us guidance on how we should deal with all people of this nation?

- Yes, we are called upon to be soldiers in the pursuit of noble social virtues
- Yes, we are pledged to fight for the rights of all, including non-Masons.

But what about our families? What about our friends? How about all the strangers we will undoubtedly meet while on any vacation?

We attend a degree, listen to its lessons, and nod our heads in agreement. That's the easy part. The hard part is applying those same lessons in everyday life, EVERY DAY of our lives.

I challenge each of you to think about these questions:

- Has Scottish Rite Masonry changed your life? Has it changed the way you deal with your fellow man? With your community? With your nation?
- If not, why not? Are any of us so perfect that we don't need to improve how we interact with society?

I look forward to seeing all of you at the June meeting.



Russ Rogers, 32°
Venerable Master
Lodge of Perfection

In the Scottish Rite, the Light a man carries is not metaphorical. It is the very Name of Deity we seek in the degrees of the Lodge of Perfection; the sacred Word lost, sought, and finally found within the depths of the individual soul. The Lodge of Perfection teaches that the true Temple of Solomon is not built of stone, but of character, discipline, and devotion. It is within that inner Temple that the Light is discovered, protected, and allowed to grow.

When a man's earthly journey ends, the world does not remember the orders he gave or the authority he wielded. Those things fade quickly, like chalk marks washed from stone. What endures are the impressions he leaves on the hearts of the men around him; the quiet influence of his character, the steadiness of his example, the way he made others feel seen, valued, and capable of more.

Authoritarians leave behind a checklist of actions accomplished under pressure. Their legacy is measured in tasks completed under command; more of a ledger of compliance, not admiration. When such a man is gone, the work continues without him, and the world quietly exhales. There is a sense of relief.

Real leaders leave behind changed men. Their legacy is written not in minutes or mandates, but in the growth they inspired, the hope they carried, the work they did with their own hands, and the love they invested in the Craft. A true leader's influence continues long after his voice is silent because it was never rooted in authority; it was rooted in who he was and the Light he carried within himself. Long after his footsteps fade, his example still walks beside the Brothers he shaped.

When a man has found that Light and secured it within himself, he does not need to force influence or demand authority. The Scottish Rite teaches that the Light within him is the only Light that can illuminate others. It continues to shine because it was first lit in the heart by the spark of Deity. His character, which is genuine, hard-won, and quietly radiant, becomes immortal in the lives he touched. When he passes, there is a sense of loss.

In the end, a man's lasting contribution is not the authority he exercised, but the character he embodied. Titles fall away. Power passes to another. But the heart of a good man leaves an imprint that time cannot erase.

There is nothing more Masonic than this.





Blake Simmons, 32° KCCH

Wise Master

Chapter of Rose Croix

Thank you for letting me attend.....a personal dialogue

Recently I told a Brother “thank you for letting me attend” when he welcomed me to a meeting like he always does. He responded, “let you”? I could see that he was surprised by what I said and most likely wanted to say, we do not let you, you are our Brother and always welcome and I do not let you. So, here is the meaning of my statement. In life, we are not guaranteed anything, entitled to anything, promised anything, nor should we have expectations to have anything given to us. We all make our way. This is what I have learned most of my life. In the past many years, as a Brother Mason, I have learned that there are some things we can expect. We can expect to be welcomed by our brothers, we can expect to be needed by our brothers, we can expect to learn to be better with and from our brothers, and we can expect to be part of this so very special brotherhood which has existed for centuries and will continue to exist long after I travel on to the Celestial Lodge.

I am so fortunate to be a part of this fine institution that I am always grateful for the fact that the Brethren ‘Let me’ be a part. From the beginning as an Entered Apprentice, I felt I was within the bonds of Brotherhood. As time progressed, and life’s challenges occurred, Masonry has been the guiding light for me. It has, and continues to provide guidance, support, strength, and most of all, enlightenment.

Some brothers no longer attend for many reasons, but when you talk with them, it is obvious that the main thing they are missing is fulfillment. Masonry does not provide fulfillment. It provides a place where you can find fulfillment if you choose to. Often there are issues which can distract you, not enough time, too much business and not enough education in the meetings, apathy, and of course personal dynamics. If you feel that there needs to be a change, it begins with each one of us. Make the effort to create that change. Most lodges meet once a month. If you are in other bodies, that means only a couple more meetings a month. If you spend three evenings a month on Masonry for a few hours each that is about the time you spend on one day of work. You have enough time. If you are looking for more education and enlightenment, bring some to your lodge and be a source of light to enrich the lodge and yourself. If you encounter difficult personal dynamics with others, use the teachings of Masonry and be a Brother. Also, reach out to those brothers in your lodges who are not attending, and let them know that they are your Brother and you care about them not to question why they do not attend, but to truly and simply be a caring Brother.

Remember, Time Patience, and Perseverance accomplishes all things. Mostly, Patience! This is how we create a more fulfilling experience for ourselves and for all our Brothers in Masonry, and thereby, for all the other people in the world we are an example to.

The lessons in Masonry teach us how to navigate these challenges if we choose to, but it is up to us to make the choice. So, I choose to be a part. Remember, our objective is not to be better than others, but better than ourselves.

Thank you my Brethren for letting me be part of this fine institution and your Brother. I dearly care for each and every one of you, and am so blessed to travel with you in the wonderful journey we share, called life.

As always, just the consideration of one Mason.



Craig Fabec, 33°
Director General

Brothers,

Our upcoming November reunion presents an opportunity for more engagement and participation. In order to start presenting more degrees and to break up a large chunk of communicated degrees during Friday we will be working on getting a team ready for the 22nd degree titled “Knight of the Royal Axe or Prince Libanus.” It is a fairly straight forward degree with parts that are not lengthy. The opportunity to present more degrees will enhance our reunions and cultivate a deeper understanding of the Scottish Rite.

The 22nd Degree, often called “Knight of the Royal Axe” or “Prince of Libanus,” centers on the dignity of labor, personal responsibility, and the importance of honest work in building both character and community.

The effort to put on a new degree will require dedicated volunteers and help within the properties department. I am asking for some volunteers who are interested to reach out to me during our meetings. I want to make sure the degree is well put together and prepared prior to our next reunion.

I also want to thank everyone for the work that they do for the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and Masonry as a whole!





Michael B. Mabbitt, 32°, KCCH

Director of Degrees

Director of Properties

The Journey of the Scottish Rite Mason: Enrichment and Daily Practice

Scottish Rite expands upon the fundamental ethical and moral teachings of the Blue Lodge. By progressing through the 4th to the 32nd, we were exposed to different philosophies, history, and ethics. The benefits of our journey extend far beyond the walls of our Valley, deeply influencing our daily life, personal growth, and community engagement.

Membership in the Scottish Rite offers us a structured path for intellectual and moral advancement. It provides us with an environment where men of diverse backgrounds can unite under shared values.

During the recent reunion, our new members learned that the degrees present allegorical lessons that challenged them to reflect on complex moral issues, historical philosophies, and the nature of human existence, and hopefully fostering lifelong intellectual curiosity.

The true measure of a Scottish Rite Mason is not found in the titles he holds or the regalia he wears, but in how he applies the lessons of the degrees to his daily interactions, career, and family life. It identifies several core values that guide us and serves as a daily compass that guides us in our actions.

So how do we apply the lesson of the Rite in our daily lives? To put it simply, we apply it through our core values of integrity, justice, toleration, service to humanity, reverence for God, and devotion to country. Acting with honesty and moral courage in the workplace and at home, even when it is difficult or unpopular, keeping one's word and maintaining a strong moral character are some of the ways we can set an example to others of our integrity.

Being a Scottish Rite Mason is a commitment to continuous self-improvement. The benefits of philosophical enlightenment, deep fraternal bonds, and impactful philanthropy coalesce to create a framework for a meaningful life. In his daily routine, the Scottish Rite Mason strives to be a better husband, father, friend, and citizen by actively practicing the virtues of integrity, justice, and toleration. Ultimately, the Scottish Rite provides not just an education in ancient philosophies, but a practical, living guide for navigating the complexities of the modern world with honor and purpose.

In the 30th Degree, we learned that as a Scottish Rite Mason, respecting the opinions, beliefs, and backgrounds of others is applied through toleration. As a Scottish Rite Mason, we strive to listen actively and engage constructively with those who hold differing viewpoints, fostering peace in our community.

As Scottish Rite Masons, we recognize that the world can be dark, chaotic, and confusing. However, rather than stepping away from manipulative situations or toxic environments, as a Master of the Royal Secret, our answer is active participation. It is the lifelong commitment to serving humanity, seeking truth, and illuminating the darkness, one degree at a time. We do not shrink from the fire; we forge ourselves within it!

So stand up, step directly into the fray, and let your unwavering moral compass be the beacon this broken world is so desperate to see!

Spring 2026 Reunion Candidates



Stafon Stevens



Daniel Clay



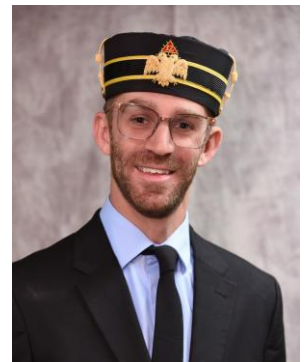
Emory Cowan



Ryan Powers

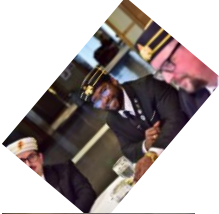
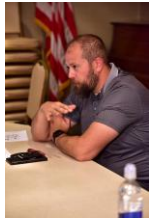


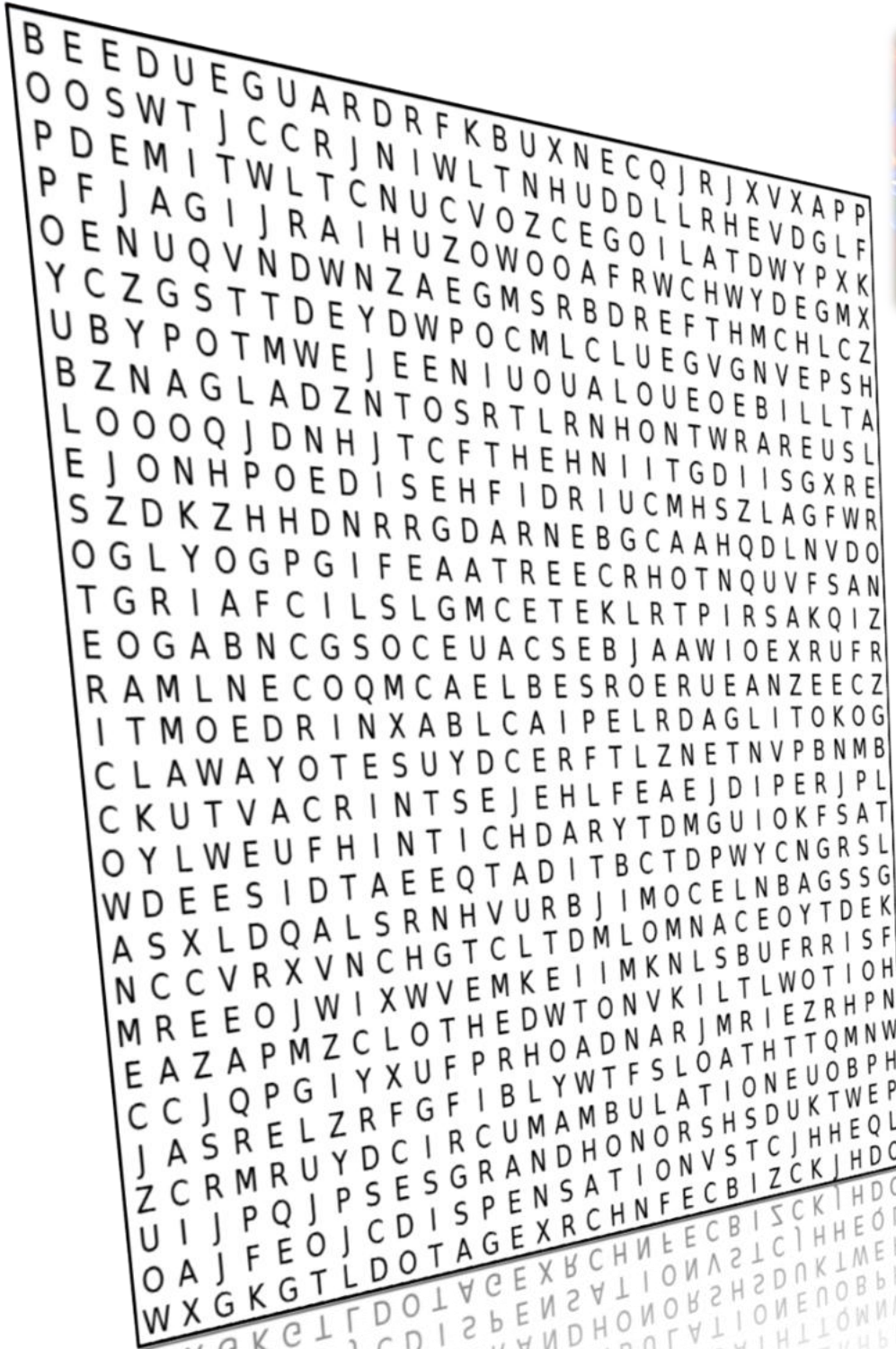
Jonathan Hyacinthe



Ian Kayler

Spring 2026 Reunion Candid Shots





Perfection is achieved through uniting human knowledge with divine truth, deep reverence for God, and unwavering devotion to virtue and self-reflection

- ACACIA
- ACCEPTED
- AHIMAN REZON
- AMPLE FORM
- ANCIENT
- BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS

- CABLE TOW
- CARDINAL
- CARPET
- CHAPTER
- CHARGE
- CHARTER

- CIRCUMAMBULATION
- CLANDESTINE
- CLOTHED
- COMMUNICATION
- COMPASSES
- CORNUCOPIA

- COWAN
- DECLARATION
- DEDICATION
- DEMIT
- DISCALCEATION
- DISPENSATION

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| JEWELS | GREGORIANS | FREE-BORN | DOTAGE |
| JUST AND REGULARLY CONSTITUTED | HELE | FREE WILL | DUE GUARD |
| LIBERTINE | HIGH TWELVE | GOAT | EAVESDROPPER |
| LOW TWELVE | HIRAM | GOLDEN FLEECE | EDICT |
| MAUL | HIRAM ABIFF | GRAND HONORS | ESOTERIC |
| NORTH | INDENTED TESSEL | GRAND ORIENT | FLOOR-CLOTH |



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www.sococonsistory.org

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

CALENDAR

June 3, 2026

Meeting closed

Details

7:00 PM

July and August 2026

No meetings – dark

September 2, 2026

Meeting closed

Hawaiian Shirt Night

Details

7:00 PM



JUNE BIRTHDAYS!

Ibrahim G. Abdallah

Charles R Armour

Robert T Cleek

Gerald W Comstock

Bolivar Anthony De La Cruz

Sean P Dirks

Steven B. Dustrude

David E Eckman, Jr

Richard A Hanson

John J Harrington, III

Jimmy R. Hunter

Robert W Kohn

Thomas H Leucht

William G Mahar

Robert Alan McCandless

Kevin J McGuire

Shane B Meredith

John D Potter

Steven M. Prichard

Antonio J Quintana

Edward J Roberts

Lionel G Robertson

Frank E Ruybalid

Gary V Sears

William Paul Seifert

Samuel L Sharp

Joseph B Surek

Mervin E Terrill



JULY BIRTHDAYS!

Leland R Barden

Franklin D Baxley

Dylan W. Becker

Daniel L Brooks

Harvey W Bucholtz

James Gene Burger

Jerry L Cowden

Edward D Crum

William Davidson

Darrell T Davis

Ernest A Dierk

Robert W Dixon

Eugene L Farish

John B Fink, III

Rodger D Fuller

Frederick W Glauner

Barton R Guthrie

John A Indermuehle

Lyle T Japhet

Charles F Jones

William L Michael

Timothy Wayne Mills

Ralph E Newby

Eric E Peterson

Harrison A. Richardson

Robert A Shepherd

John Skoglund, III

Keith B Stockman

Alexander Aloyious Van Arsdale

George Walk, Jr

Thomas Gordon Wilf



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

James Oladimeji Adeyelu

Jerry L Allin

James S Archuleta

Raymond L Barbour

Shawn D Beyer

James D Brehm

John P Brown

Robert H Buxmann

Aaron Wayne Celaya

Roger E Chilcoat

G L Cook, Sr

Robert G Dwyer

Norman A Farrington

Thomas A Fortner

David E Linebaugh

Michael B Mabbitt

Michael L McMillan

Bill McMurdo

William R Pedley

John M Potter

David L Reynolds

Henry Saldana

Wayne Richard Sauer

Timothy Alexander Shrodes

Wayne E Smisek

Billy R Swartz

Timothy Eugene Watts



Notices received since April 26, 2026

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 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°
Sovereign Grand Inspector General
Orient of Colorado



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Personal Representative
Valley of Colorado Springs - Pueblo



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Lodge of Perfection



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



Charlie Kendir 32°
Commander
Council of Kadosh



Edwin Alas 32°
Master of Kadosh
Consistory



Zach Smith, 32°
Almoner



James Wiley, 32°
Prelate



Treasurer



William Twyman, 32° KCCH
Secretary/Recorder/Registrar

Support your

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877-471-7966

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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!