



Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)



1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

May 2026

Web Site: SoCoConsistory.org

Email: sococonsistorysecretary@gmail.com

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,

Wow!! What a great Reunion!! What a great class!! And what a great team of Brothers supporting all the many parts of the Reunion.

Six more Masters of the Royal Secret. The class was a very exciting one because of the energy and involvement of all of the class members.

And my special thanks to those of you that joined in the classroom discussions and contributed ideas and opinions for discussion.

The degree casts did very well, even with a couple of last-minute changes in cast members.

And the Supporting Departments were amazing in their timeliness and responsiveness. Their very hard work began on Wednesday, long before the rest of us were fully engaged.

Changing subjects for just a second, I want to solicit the inputs of all of the Brothers to help us with an ongoing challenge.

- I would like to see us re-start the dinners before our Stated Meetings, AND I would like to improve attendance at the banquets at the end of each Reunion. More important than the actual meal, is the opportunity to meet and speak with members, and share the fellowship that we so richly enjoy in the Scottish Rite.

- I would ask each of you to think about why you do or don't attend these function, and send me some feedback. You can send it to the Secretary, or to me personally at barry.d.nightingale@gmail.com.

As always, I thank each and every one of you for your efforts to enrich the experience of our new Masters of the Royal Secret, during the Reunion, and in the coming months.



Russ Rogers, 32°
 Venerable Master
 Lodge of Perfection

The month of May marks a special occasion for our appendant body because it's the anniversary of when Colonel John Mitchell and Rev. Dr. Frederick Dalcho met in Charleston, South Carolina and formally opened the first Supreme Council 33° of Freemasonry. This established the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite as an organized system in the United States. That day was May 31st, 1801.

That single act brought order, structure, and unity to a collection of degrees that had existed in scattered forms across the Western Hemisphere. From that moment forward, the Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, and Consistory were woven into a coherent system dedicated to moral refinement, intellectual illumination, and the pursuit of Light. May, therefore, is not only a season of natural renewal, but also the anniversary of the Rite's own emergence into clarity and purpose.

As this is likely the very first newsletter our 6 new Scottish Rite brethren will receive from us, I want to formally welcome them into the fold and remind them that the fraternity was born from Brothers who believed that Light should be organized, cultivated, and shared; not just admired from afar.

With that in mind, I want to wish each of you a joyful and meaningful Spring, and challenge every Brother to renew his commitment, strengthen his bonds, and take a more active part in the life of our Valley. We are blessed with an extraordinary group of men, and I remain deeply proud of the dedication and craftsmanship shown in every Reunion. My hope is that we carry the optimism and energy of our new Brothers into the months ahead; learning more, seeking more Light, and creating an even greater positive impact on the communities we serve.



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

Balance and Equilibrium

As a Brother of the Royal Secret, Balance and Equilibrium is very important in my life. Certainly, I am not a fully balanced person, but I am better as time moves on. We are all confronted with changes in our lives and obstacles which can knock us out of balance. The true goal is navigating these with time, patience, and perseverance, a lesson learned in our Master Mason degree. Balance is not a new concept, and not restricted to only some, but to all humans regardless of your station, location, creed, race, or gender. Balance has been and continues to be a central concept, and value promoted by many of the great faiths and teachings in our world, below are a few;

- *Christian balance is the intentional integration of faith into all life areas—work, family, rest, and service—centered on glorifying God rather than achieving secular "work-life" balance. It involves prioritizing spiritual growth (prayer, Scripture) while fulfilling daily responsibilities, recognizing that true harmony comes from Christ-centered priorities rather than merely reducing workload
- *Moderation in the Jewish faith, known as *Sh'vil HaZahav* (the Golden Path or Mean), emphasizes finding balance, avoiding extremes in life, and cultivating emotional, spiritual, and physical health. Rooted in teachings from Maimonides and the Talmud, this approach encourages enjoying life's pleasures without becoming controlled by them, aiming for a middle path between indulgence and asceticism
- *Buddhism promotes balance through the "*Middle Way*," a path of moderation avoiding extremes of indulgence and asceticism. It emphasizes cultivating inner equanimity—a stable, calm mind unaffected by external ups and downs—and balancing opposing qualities, such as pairing faith with wisdom and effort with concentration
- *Moderation in Islam (Wasatiyyah) is a core principle advocating a balanced approach in all aspects of life, avoiding extremes, excess, and negligence. Based on Quranic teachings, it emphasizes justice, tolerance, and stability, acting as a middle path to foster harmony and righteousness
- *Moderation in Hinduism, rooted in Vedic philosophy (*Parisankhya Vidhi*), advocates a balanced life avoiding extremes in diet, sleep, work, and desires to achieve spiritual progress, health, and mental peace

By Balance, we moderate our lives and selves to be more in harmony with ourselves, those around us, and humanity in general. This is the goal of each Mason, to Serve Humanity and improve this world. We each do this by being a 'Living Example' of those most valuable principles taught to us in Masonry, and especially in the 29 degrees of Scottish Rite, finally becoming Masters of the Royal Secret. Keep Compassion, Balance, and Harmony in your lives and they will enrich you along your journey.

As always, these are the considerations of this Mason.

**Balance descriptions borrowed from various sources*



Charlie Kendir 32°

**Commander
Council of Kadosh**

Brethren,

I shared this story with our most recent reunion class, and I felt it was worth sharing with all of you as well.

With the popularity of Nuremberg on Netflix, I've found myself going down a rabbit hole of World War II documentaries. These series often follow a familiar arc. The final episode highlights the triumph of good over evil, while the one before it almost always confronts the Holocaust.

The images presented are horrific, the kind that seem as though they should exist only in nightmares. They linger long after the screen goes dark. I've found myself unable to sleep for nights after watching them. Even now, writing this is unsettling, because it forces me to confront the reality that human beings were capable of inflicting such suffering upon one another.

It raises a difficult question: how can a just, loving, and merciful God allow such things to happen?

I was wrestling with that very question while watching one documentary in particular. In it, William Shirer, a CBS reporter during World War II, spoke about those who were liberated from the camps and went on to rebuild their lives. He remarked that he was struck by their enduring "faith in themselves, their fellow man, and in their God."

Those words immediately resonated with me, almost verbatim from our 18th Degree lecture.

I've found no record that Shirer was a Mason, yet in that moment it felt as though a Brother was speaking across time. It led me to a deeper realization that our fraternity, and the AASR in particular, is designed to help us make sense of the world. Its ritual offers ideas and philosophies that allow us to confront life's hardest questions, not in isolation, but in fellowship.

Only after attending the reunion and engaging in those discussions did I recognize that I had been wrestling with the very same themes presented in the first apartment of the 18th Degree.

I will continue to wrestle with these ideas, and many more. I am grateful to have such a strong group of men with whom I can continue these open discussions and seek further light.



Craig Fabec, 33°
Director General

Brothers All,

We have had another successful reunion; a heartfelt and sincere thank you to all who volunteered their time, efforts, and talents. I cannot express my thanks enough for the countless hours spent studying, setting up props and apartments, reviewing and perfecting audio, and all the efforts behind the scenes to ensure every aspect of our reunion came together seamlessly. Your efforts reflect the true spirit in masonry and made the experience memorable and meaningful for the class and everyone who attended.

The reunions build fellowship, foster mentorship in the different departments, and create a shared goal that helps our traditions continue to thrive and brings us all closer together. The fellowship that resulted was a direct result of everyone's selfless efforts. Please accept my sincere gratitude for the work you put in for this reunion that was not only a success but a memorable experience for all.

Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony

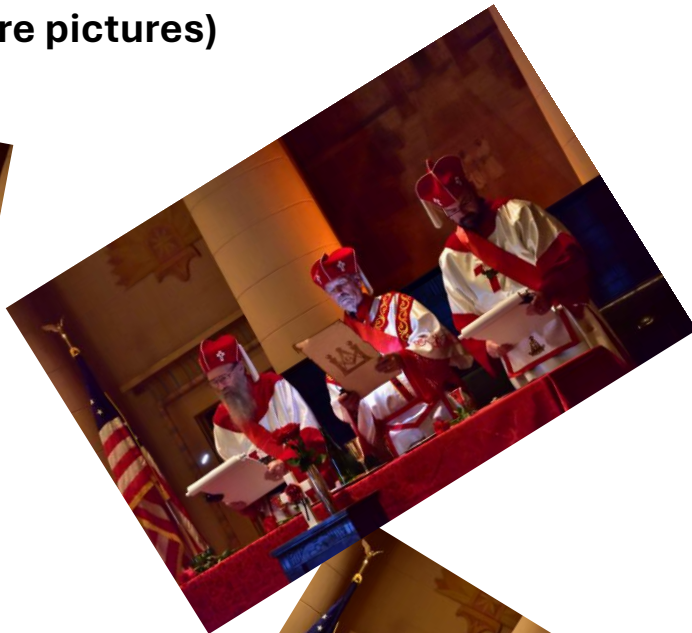
April 1, 2026



Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony

April 1, 2026

(more pictures)



Rose Croix Service for Timothy Sigler

Thanks for the support from Brother Tom Adair, III Brother John Buchanan, and III Brother Scott Bates from Denver

If you are interested in learning the Rose Croix service and serving on the team, contact our Wise Master Blake Simmons (blakester1008@gmail.com)



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

May 6, 2026

Meeting closed

Details

7:00 PM

June 3, 2026

Meeting closed

Details

7:00 PM

July and August 2026

No meetings - dark



MAY BIRTHDAYS!

Alva B Adams

Travis D Ashley

David C Bowling

Chad E. Breiner

Gerald R Campbell

George W Estep

Mark S. Garcia

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

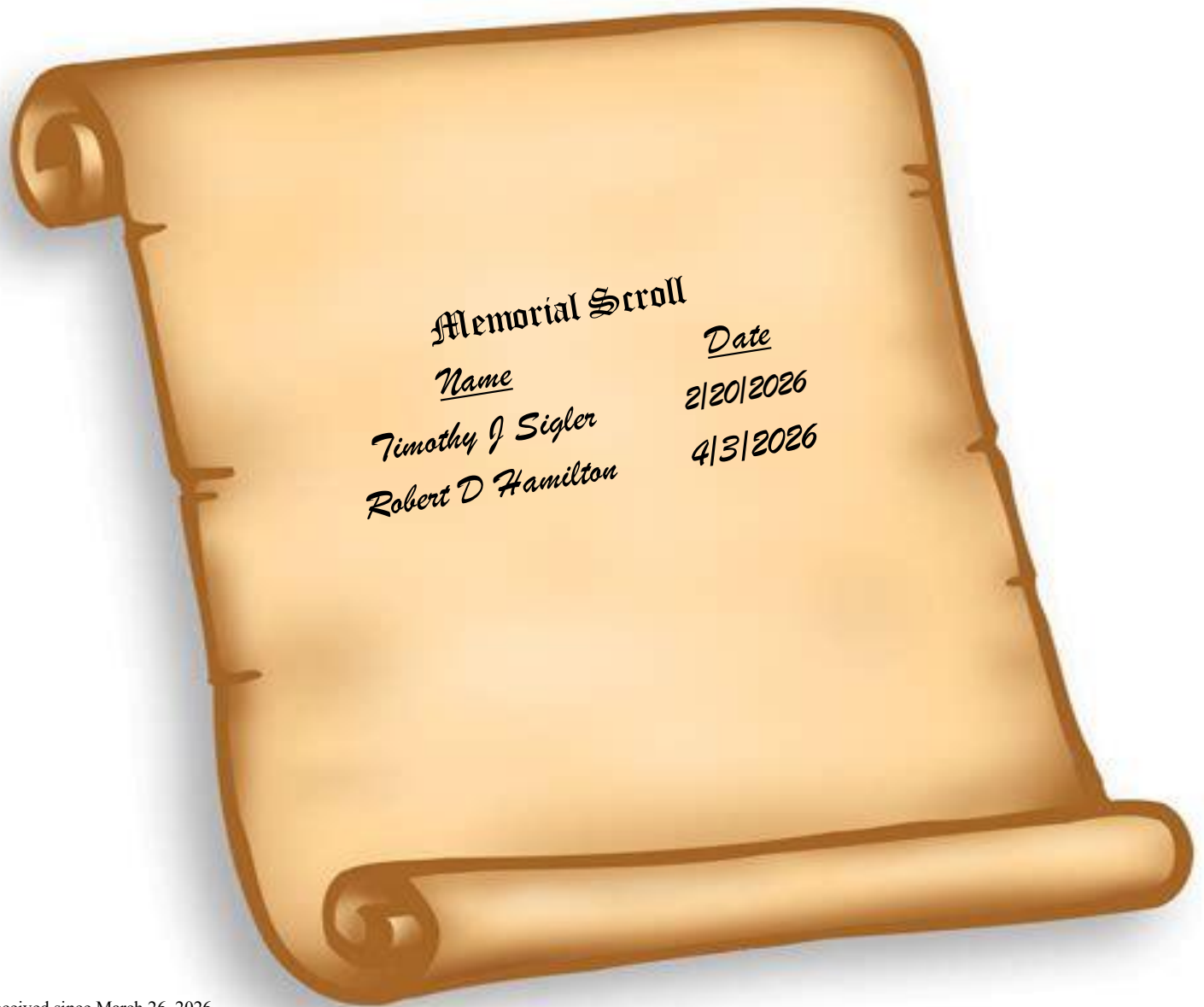
Charles E Tedrow

Roger D Tigner

Gerald P Underwood

Clifford R Wieger

Kurt A Zimmermann



Memorial Scroll

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Timothy J Sigler	2/20/2026
Robert D Hamilton	4/3/2026

Notices received since March 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



Barry Nightingale, 33°
Personal Representative
Valley of Colorado Springs - Pueblo



Russ Rogers, 32°
Venerable Master
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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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!