Quill & Scroll

Southern Colorado Consistory (SCC)

1150 Panorama Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1715

October 2026 **Web Site:** SoCoConsistory.org **Email:** sococonsistorysecretary@gmail.com



Ill Barry Nightingale, 33°
Valley Personal Representative

My Brothers,

My participation in the Scottish Rite has been one of the most meaningful parts of my Masonic Journey. I have learned so much from the many Reunions I have attended and participated in, as well as from each of you. The Scottish Rite has given me an unparalleled learning experience, touching on philosophy, history, comparative religions, and the real meaning of what it means to be a Freemason. The Scottish Rite has challenged me in so many different ways.

Each and every time that I attend a Reunion, I learn something new - from the degree work, from the classroom work, and from all of you.

But this Fall, we are faced with a previously un-imagined situation.

For the first time ever, we are faced with the possibility that we will not be able to hold a Fall Reunion. As I write this, we have no confirmed candidates for the Reunion class.

I know that time is short and I want to do my best to prevent or at least minimize, any wasted efforts on your part.

I am setting a final decision deadline for the October Stated Meeting. By the end of that meeting, if we do not have any confirmed candidates, I will cancel the Reunion.

With the wise counsel and help of our Director General, Ill Bro Craig Fabec, we will look at the possibility of conducting a one-day educational and fellowship event on what would have been the Saturday of our Fall Reunion, but I cannot at this time guarantee that we will be able to conduct such an event.

I ask each of you to think about your Masonic Brothers that are not members of the Scottish Rite. Ask yourself if they will gain from the experience, and be able to give back to the Craft part of what they receive from the Scottish Rite. If the answer is "yes" to this assessment, then approach them, and offer them the valuable opportunity to join with us in the Scottish Rite.



Russ Rogers, 32°
Venerable Master
Lodge of Perfection

As we enter the autumn season, we are reminded that renewal is one of the great rhythms of both nature and Masonry. The changing leaves and cooler air invite us to pause, reflect, and take stock of the work we've done and the work still ahead. This time of year has always carried a quiet sense of transition; a moment where we can breathe deeply and prepare ourselves for what comes next.

The month of October and specifically the Feast of Tishri embody this spirit of renewal. They call us to rededicate ourselves to the Craft, to strengthen the fraternal bonds that support us, and to reaffirm our commitment to the values that define the Scottish Rite. I ask that you consider this: Renewal is not simply a return to old habits. It is a conscious choice to grow, to refine, and to recommit. Each of us has a role in shaping the character of our Valley, and this season reminds us that our obligations are living commitments that deserve our continued attention and care.

As we move through this season together, may we find renewed purpose in our work, renewed gratitude for one another, and renewed dedication to the service we offer our community. The strength of our Valley lies in the light each Brother brings, and I am grateful for the continued labor, fellowship, and heart you share. May this time of renewal inspire us all to carry the principles of our Rite with clarity, humility, and steadfastness. I look forward to seeing you all at the Feast of Tishri!



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

The 15th degree of the Scottish Rite (15th degree Knight of the East of the Sword or of the Eagle) relates to modern life by teaching integrity, fidelity to obligations, and perseverance of purpose under difficulties and discouragement which are the lessons of this degree

Masonry carries on a war against ignorance, intolerance and error. The chief stumbling blocks on the way to success in this crusade are the indifference of its own members facing difficulties, temptation, or discouragement.

Application to Modern Daily Life

• **Holding Personal Integrity**: In a fast-paced world full of ethical compromises and shortcuts, the 15th degree reminds individuals to stand firm in their personal convictions and honesty.

• **Overcoming Apathy**: It challenges people not to give in to cynicism or indifference regarding community service, civic responsibility, and the support of truth and justice.

• **Resisting Tyranny and Intolerance**: The symbols of the degree (such as the sword and trowel) encourage modern members to defend freedom of thought and oppose oppressive or tyrannical forces through peaceful, constructive means.

The apron of this degree includes three nested gold triangles, which represent the three great virtues: liberty, fraternity, and equality. These symbols signify the ongoing struggle against tyranny, privilege, and superstition, which are viewed as adversaries to humanity.

Additionally, the sash worn by Masons in this degree is edged with gold and bears the letters L.D.P. (Liberté de Passer and Liberté de Penser), indicating both the liberty of passage and the liberty of thought. This highlights that true liberty encompasses both physical and mental freedom. Furthermore, the teachings of this degree stress that liberty is not easily attained; it is a constant struggle that requires vigilance and defense against those who would seek to limit it. The principles of honor and integrity are also paramount, reinforcing that these values must be upheld to maintain both individual and collective freedom.

In summary, the 15th Degree is deeply rooted in the concept of liberty, advocating for the defense of intellectual, spiritual, and political freedoms while emphasizing the importance of honor and integrity in this pursuit.

These are a collection of insights from various sources. The main purpose is to expose the principles relating to this, the first Rose Croix degree, and how they directly relate to our lives, and how they can improve us in our quest to be better and more enlightened men.

As always, keep traveling.....



Michael B. Mabbitt, 32°, KCCH
Director of Degrees
Director of Properties

Scottish Rite Freemasonry is more than a collection of degrees, ceremonies, and historical traditions. At its heart is a continuing invitation to examine ourselves, strengthen our character, and put timeless principles into action. The lessons presented throughout the Scottish Rite encourage each Mason to become a better

man—not simply for his own benefit, but for the benefit of his family, his community, and the world around him.

The teachings of the Rite remind us that character is revealed through daily actions. Integrity means doing what is right even when no one is watching. Justice calls us to treat others with fairness and dignity. Charity teaches that compassion is not merely something we feel, but something we practice. Tolerance encourages us to listen before judging and to recognize the dignity shared by every human being. Faith, hope, and perseverance remind us that even in difficult circumstances, our actions can help bring light into the lives of others.

These principles become meaningful when they leave the Lodge room and enter our everyday lives. A kind word to someone who is struggling, an honest decision when dishonesty would be easier, a helping hand offered without expectation of recognition, or the courage to stand for what is right are all expressions of Masonic teaching. The true measure of the lessons we receive is not how well we can repeat them, but how faithfully we live them.

The Scottish Rite also teaches that hope is something we can help create. The world can sometimes appear divided by conflict, distrust, hardship, and uncertainty. A Mason cannot solve every problem, but he can influence the small part of the world entrusted to him. When one person chooses understanding instead of anger, service instead of selfishness, and reconciliation instead of division, a small light is kindled. When others follow that example, the light grows.

This is perhaps one of the greatest responsibilities of Freemasonry: to transform knowledge into action and ideals into conduct. The lessons of the Scottish Rite call upon us to continually improve ourselves while extending that improvement outward. We are reminded that the world is changed not only by great events, but also by countless individual choices made each day.

To live the Scottish Rite is therefore to carry its lessons beyond the Temple. It is to become a source of encouragement when others are discouraged, a voice of reason when emotions run high, and a helping hand when someone needs assistance. It is to leave every place, person, and situation a little better because we were there.

The work is never finished. Each day provides another opportunity to practice the virtues we have been taught, to learn from our shortcomings, and to build something better. Through these daily acts of character, service, compassion, and brotherhood, the lessons of Scottish Rite Freemasonry become more than words—they become a living force for good.

When we live what we have learned, we become bearers of light. And wherever that light is carried, there is the possibility of hope

Feast of Tishri

Presented by the Colorado Springs / Pueblo Valley







A Celebration of Thanksgiving and Unity

Wednesday, October 7th, 2025

All masons and their families are welcome!

Colorado Springs Masonic Center

1150 Panorama Dr., COS, CO 80904

Guests will enjoy a quick social at 6:30pm followed by dinner ($25 per person) at 7:00pm. Our "Feast of Tishri" presentation will follow dinner, where traditional toasts will be observed.

Menu: Smoked brisket, roasted vegetables, a starch, bread, dessert

Please RSVP by the following link before midnight on Sep 30th, 2026: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/a7xkJFYz0g



Point of Contact: Russ Rogers, 32°

719-659-7111, russ.rogers@centurionlodge.com



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APPRENTICE
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CANDIDATE
CEREMONY
CHARITY
CHARTER
CIRCUMAMBULATION
CLANDESTINE
CLOTHING
COLUMN
DEACON
DEDICATION
DEGREE
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EAVESDROPPER
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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 7, 2026

Feast of Tishri
Meeting open

Details
Social at 6:30 PM
Dinner at 7:00 PM $25 per person. See flyer above for more information

November 4, 2026

Meeting closed

Details
7:00 PM

November 5-7, 2026

Fall Reunion

Details later in October

December 2, 2026

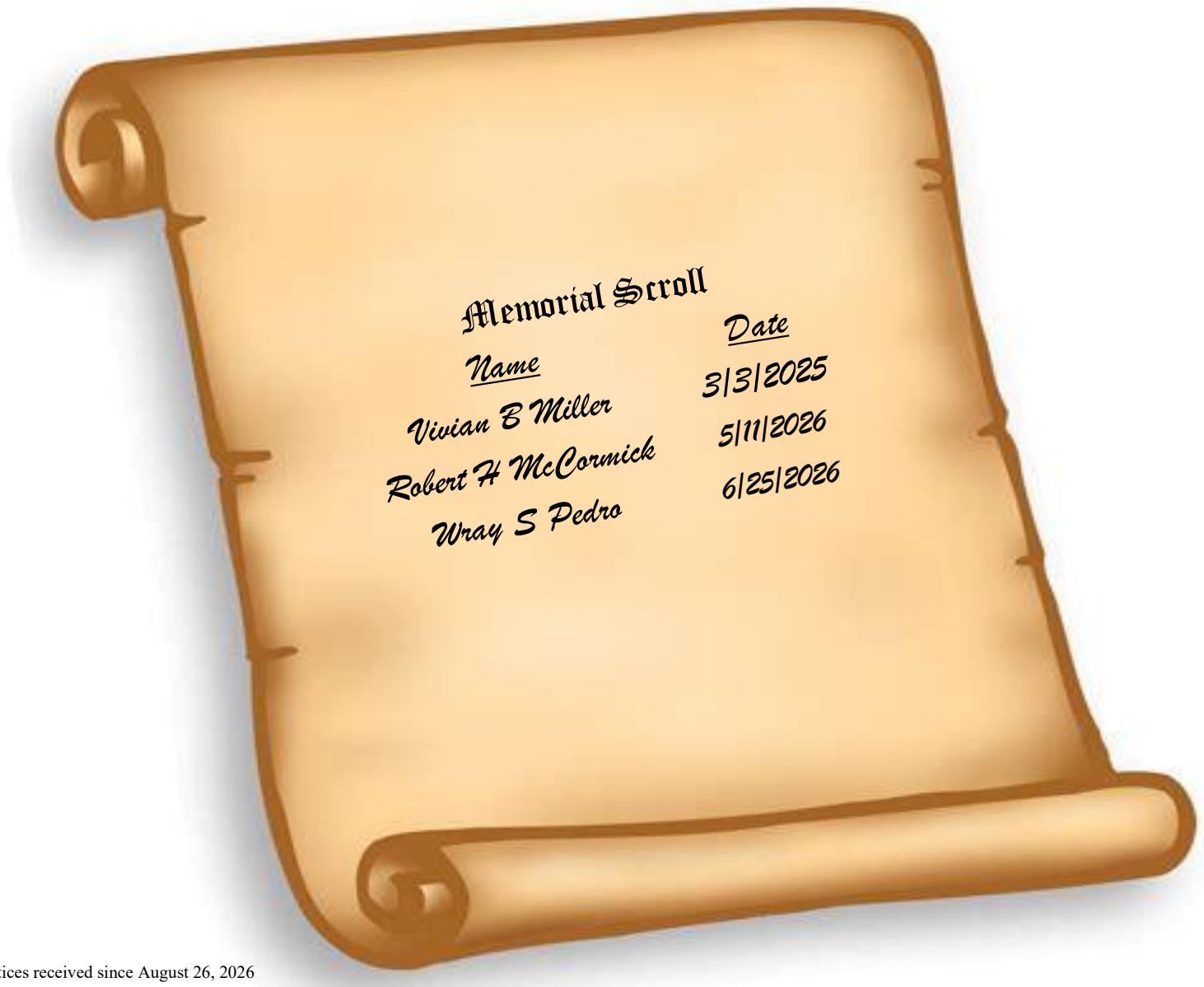
Meeting closed

Details
7:00 PM
Officer Election and Installation



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

James V. Barager
Chad Ivy Chaddick
Donald R Clowers
Eric L Ellithorpe
Jededia V Ellithorpe
Todd E Gould
Joseph E Hadad
Arthur S Hagan, Jr
Jonathan T. Hyacinthe
Arthur D Jones
Charlie Kendir
Otis E Littlepage
Larry J Neu
Stephen Glen Pease
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



Notices received since August 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!