

Rite Works

SCOTTISH RITE
MASONIC CENTER

HISTORY · NUMBER · ONE · A & A · S · R ·

ONE WAY



welcome to

Spring

Spring has Sprung!

**Volume II • Issue II
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LEADERSHIP

ALLEGIANCE

*The bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Denver, Orient of Colorado, acknowledge and Yield allegiance to the **Supreme Council** (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspector General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third degree of the Ancient Scottish Rite of Freemasonry For the Southern Jurisdiction of The United States of America.*



Ronald A. Seale, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council, 33°, Washington, D.C.

Scottish Rite Creed

"Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal."



Stephen M. Munsinger, 33°
Sovereign Grand Inspector General
of The Supreme Council



David W. Powell, 33°
Personal Representative of the SGIG in Colorado
for Denver Consistory

THE DENVER



CONSISTORY



James H. Harris, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master
Centennial Lodge of Perfection



Fred Runyan III, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh
Denver Consistory



Wesley L. Campbell, 32° KCCH
Wise Master
Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix



H. Gordon Beville, 32° KCCH,
Commander
Colorado Council of Kadosh



M. Edward Johnson, 33°
Almoner



Donald L. Emarine, 33°
Treasurer



Claud E. Dutro, 33°
Secretary-Recorder-Registrar



CALENDAR

2009 Denver Consistory Schedule

April

Sat – April 18 Ladies Lunch 11:30
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Mon – April 20 **Stated Meeting**
5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner
Lasagna
Green salad w/Italian dressing
Green beans almondine
Garlic bread
Banana Cream Pie
7:00 PM – Entertainment
Celebration of Remembrance and
Renewal
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Sat - April 25 9 Health Fair 7 AM – Noon

May

Wed –Thu-Fri – Sat Spring Reunion – 34th consecutive
May 13 - 16 **PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE**

Mon – May 18 **Stated Meeting**
5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Entertainment
5 minute oration by Rocky Mountain
Chapter of Rose Croix Orator
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Mon – May 25 Consistory closed for Memorial Day

June

Thurs – Sun
June 11 – 14

Scottish Rite Regional Reunion IV
Long Beach, California

Mon – June 15

Stated Meeting

5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting

6:00 PM – Dinner

7:00 PM – Entertainment – *Hawaiian Shirt Night*
5 minute oration by Colorado Council of
Kadosh Orator

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

July

Fri – July 3
Sat – July 11

Consistory closed for observance of Independence Day
Committee Chairmen, Officers and Wives Picnic

August

Wed – Aug 19
Fri – Aug 21

Officers Meeting 6:00 PM
Shrimp Boil 6:00 PM -

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

September

Mon – Sept 7

Consistory closed for Labor Day

Mon – Sept 21

Stated Meeting

5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting

6:00 PM – Dinner

7:00 PM – Entertainment – \

Scottish Rite Foundation Program
5 minute oration by Denver Consistory
Minister of State
Sports Team Shirt Night

PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

October

Sat – Tues
Oct 3 – 6 Supreme Council
Washington DC

Sat – Oct 3 Oktoberfest at El Jebel Shrine Center 5:00 PM

Mon – Oct 19 **Stated Meeting**
5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Entertainment – Feast of Tishri Observance
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Sat – Oct 31 Honors Conferral

November

Thurs - Fri- Sat
Nov 12 - 14 Fall Reunion - 35th consecutive
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Mon – Nov 16 **Stated Meeting**
5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Entertainment – Veterans Recognition Program
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Sat – Nov 21 Consistory Decorating Party 9:00 AM
All members, officers and wives are invited

Thurs – Fri
Nov 26 & 27 Consistory closed for Thanksgiving Day

December

Sat – Dec 5 Scottish Rite Foundation & Consistory Children’s Christmas Party 10:00 AM
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Mon – Dec 21 **Stated Meeting**
5:30 PM – Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM – Dinner
7:00 PM – Entertainment
Annual Election of Officers
PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE

Fri - Dec 25 Consistory closed for Christmas observance
Fri - Jan 1 Consistory closed for New Year’s observance



REMEMBRANCE

**Remembrance is a golden chain
Death tries to break,
but all in vain.
To have, to love, and then to part
Is the greatest sorrow of one's heart.
The years may wipe out many things
But some they wipe out never.
Like memories of those happy times
When we were all together.**

~ Author Unknown

~ In Memoriam ~

<u>BROTHER</u>	<u>CALLED HOME</u>
Dennis Ora Arney, 32°	3/20/2009
Willis Robert Bealmear, 32°	3/16/2009
Cecil Byron Halstead, 32°	2/20/2009
Raymond J. Kelley, 32°	3/6/2009
John Robert Miller, 32°	3/18/2009
Kenneth William Minock, 32°	3/17/2009
Odin Thor Nielsen, 32°	3/16/2009
Tom Stephen Passe, 32°	2/24/2009
John Peter Ricker, 32°	3/1/2009
Jerry Jerome Sullivan, 32°	3/2/2009
William Garrott Van Bebber, 32°	2/27/2009
Boris S. Voukovitch, 32°	3/4/2009
Wayne Daniel Wills, 32°	3/2/2009



FEATURE ARTICLE

Living a Role

(Written by Wayne Anderson and provided by Bill Hickey, 32°)

Wayne Anderson is a Canadian Mason who publishes a "Sunday Masonic Paper" most weeks. This one was #495 in the series. Most of the papers are things he dredges up from the past, although frequently he'll get a contribution from one of the subscribers on a current topic. This topic is pertinent, even though the reader will notice that it was originally delivered as a talk in 1984. As everyone can see... the more things change, the more they stay the same. The comments provided are germane today, whether they address the relationship with our appendant/concordant bodies, our youth groups, or the community in general.

Our Fraternity reflects our society in general - in that what society is, we are also. If society suffers a failure of conscience, morality, responsibility, dedication, effort; then it is not surprising that we, as members of society, bring those failures to our fraternity. And, it should not be unexpected that as society succumbs to those weaknesses, we too succumb. AND WE HAVE !

Our membership is diminishing, aging, and overall, less involved. To be sure, there are a few bright spots where Masonry is healthy at Lodge, Valley and Shrine levels. But, for the most part, it is a struggle at all levels to acquire new members, and for that matter, simply keep what we've got. With dues most assuredly on the increase, and other costs going up, things will not - by themselves - get better. NOT BY THEMSELVES!

Ours is a society that has spent the last 15 years tearing itself apart. We have seen our traditions, morality, spirituality, patriotism, and fabric of life questioned, trampled and shattered - our pride of self and country all but destroyed. But one bulwark remains. One thing has managed to come through intact. Bruised somewhat, but unsullied.

Where prayers or pledges of allegiance have been changed, or eliminated totally, what words are the same now as they were 20, 50, 100 years ago? In an ocean of so-called free expressions, immorality, filth, pornography, lewdness, and bad taste, what island of discipline remains, if not to inhabit, then at least to admire?

Masonry. It may be all we have, and if so, then the time has come to merchandise it that way. To sell the patriotism, the religious faith, the belief in self that Masonry offers. And sell it not as just another club membership, but as we know it - A WAY OF LIFE. Given the

society of today, a way of life just might be a most saleable item.

How best to accomplish this? That's the overriding question, and prompts the following considerations.

It should be remembered that Masonry is a family - a family of building blocks, each aligned by degree, each a step to "more light in Masonry," each a

greater understanding of a way of life.

It should be remembered that you don't "lose" a Mason to another body. Contrary to a widely-held but parochial view, Masons remain Masons no matter how or where they choose to participate and contribute.

Easter Sunrise Service

The 84th consecutive Easter Sunrise Service will be conducted on April 12th at 6:25 a.m. at the El Jebel Shrine. The Knights Templar Association is working hard to have a special service. Please place this event on your calendars.

It should be remembered that Masonry is not "just another club" in which a man holds membership and pays dues. It is vastly more rewarding than that, for it does indeed guide a man's life.

It should be remembered that Blue Lodges across the state and nation are going out of business, that demits are increasing in all bodies, and that we are at fault. Our action, or inaction, is the cause. The effect is widely published. The resolution rests with us.

We can no longer afford the luxury of separatism. We must stop telling each other what we cannot do, and concentrate instead on areas of acceptable cooperation. We must not adopt, as some have already, a policy of protectionism, i.e., one full year's membership before being allowed to petition the next body. In an attempt to protect our few real secrets, we have become over-zealous and created an identity crisis. Brethren, we do not deserve that anonymity! Especially given our charities, our history, the role our members have played in the development of the nation, every state, city and hamlet.

We have plenty to talk about. And we're only starting to do it! There is no reason large segments of the population should be ignorant of what Freemasonry is, what it stands for and what it does. To many, only Shrine Masonry is recognized. You know why! EXPOSURE! Because of its colorful parades, fezzes and philanthropies for crippled and burned children, the Shrine is known! And publicly accepted!

But what about the stabilizing influence of the Blue Lodges to our communities throughout the land? Our dedication to youth groups? The loyalty and contributions of Masonically-oriented women's groups? The patriotic dedication of so many more Masonic organizations?

It is time for our candles to be brought out from beneath the blankets. It is time for our

lodges and appendant bodies to emerge from the role of mutual admiration societies and begin communicating to the press - and to the public. We spend a lot of time talking to ourselves. Let's talk to the world. With all of it's troubles, it could use a little help. Let's make ourselves known. Let's tell others what we believe in. Let's show ourselves for what we are - upright Freemasons. And, let's be outwardly proud of the fact. Let's stop being hypocrites - about what we say and what we really do in the recruitment of new members. Masonry is a family. We are all brothers, and as such owe ourselves allegiance to one another. To that end, may I recommend a joint meeting with the presiding officers of all other Masonic bodies in the State - to openly

discuss areas of fragmentations, a method to restore the familial relationship of one body to another, a return to basics, and a rededication to principles. Not singly as Lodge Brothers or York Rite companions or Scottish Rite Brothers or Shriners--but as good and upright Masons.

And let's look ... really look ... at Blue Lodge Masonry. What is supposed to happen after the conferral of that magnificent Third Degree? We are admonished to return, to learn, to seek more light.

But frankly, how many times can you learn the same lesson--the same lesson

you've already learned a hundred times--before it becomes, pardon the blasphemy, A BORE. Yes, you heard me, A BORE.

We are admonished to return, to learn, to take part ... IN THE RITUAL. And that's great. But - and somebody has to say this - ritual is not for everybody. We have 150,000 Masons in Illinois and only 300 grand lecturers. That should tell you something. AND BEING A MASON IS NOT ONLY BEING A RITUALIST .

Being a Mason has to do with LIVING a role - not ACTING a role once a month in lodge. We can't all be ritualists or floor men. I'm lousy at acting, and totally clumsy with a pole in my hand. A lot of us are. Is there NOTHING at

9HEALTHFAIR

We are entering the final weeks before the Consistory's 9HealthFair.

Please, take the opportunity to avail yourselves (and your family members) of these free and low cost screenings that will save lives and certainly help people manage their health. If you cannot attend the Consistory's fair (Saturday, April 25, 7am to noon), then by all means find a fair near you and go there.

Meanwhile, thanks to everyone who has answered the call to volunteer and assist. Your response has been

Lodge for US? Except hearing the same words and watching the same floor work month after month, year after year. Is THAT what Blue Lodge offers? In the words of the song: "Is that all there is?"

It would be like renting "Rocky III" and playing it over and over on your VCR the third Wednesday of every month for the rest of your life. Sooner or later, you'd get bored with it. Is THAT why Masons don't come back often? They've become BORED with it all? Might be. Even the preacher doesn't give us the same sermon every Sunday. Maybe we can learn from him. I appreciate the purists among us who say Masonry survives because it is unchanged down through the centuries. But understand, I'm not suggesting we change anything about Masonry - it's ritual, it's floorwork. I am suggesting we supplement it to appeal to those who are not actors, scriptlearners, potential officers of the Lodge. Something for those who petitioned and were raised because they -believed in the life teachings of Masonry - not necessarily the roles to be played in those teachings.

Walk into any Blue Lodge anywhere and watch, as the degrees are underway. Watch not the candidate, but the brothers on the sidelines. You'll see many silently forming the words of the ritual as it plays out. They know the ritual. But many others have not memorized, for all eternity, the sacred words. Are they, therefore, lesser Masons? I think not. For them, Masonry is not the WORDS, but the TRUTHS. Not the PHRASES, but the MEANINGS. Not the ACTING, but the LIVING of the lessons. Are they, as a Past Grand Master of Indiana describes some of us, "unable to comprehend the message?" I don't believe that. I do believe that Masonry can and should be the ultimate source of review, renewal, revival. But it can be more, too, for those who find it the SAME OLD STUFF - the rut of ritual.

There are so many demands on our time. Know now, there's a whole world out there pledged to take time from you. Cable TV, computers, colleges, universities, libraries - all hustling for your spare time. Books, magazines, articles, cassettes, all vie for your time.

And you are forced, yes, forced, to set priorities. Do the same old boring thing? Or

experience something new? You know the answer to that, don't you?

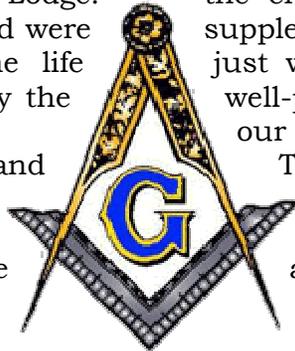
Look, ritual doesn't make a man a Mason. Living the Masonic way makes a man a Mason. And to that end, may I suggest the Blue Lodge consider the living Mason, not just the ritualistic Mason.

Why can't the Blue Lodge develop supplemental programs of teaching? Review the test oath, study Masonic history, Masonic paraphernalia. We have a wealth of learned men who can talk on those points alone. MSA has a library of films that I'd bet most of us haven't seen. Why not utilize, instead of simply talking about, our youth groups. Bring a DeMolay team in to present one of their degrees. Bring in the Job's Daughters, Rainbows--let them show their stuff. Masons can learn from them. Review the George Washington Museum, the tools and jewels of the craft. Let your minds run. A wealth of supplemental Masonic material is out there, just waiting to be tapped. Let's get off our well-padded couches and use it - before even our well-padded couches are gone, too.

The perfect opportunity is present. The precepts of Masonry can answer the doomsayers of our time. Our positive action now can result in a stronger fraternity - more attractive to our brothers within, as well as the general society without.

Modern Masonry presents a source of integrity and moral courage where little exists elsewhere in the world. It's traditional influence, properly tailored to today's society, can serve well. And in that service, rededicate our own to the principles in which we believe - the Brotherhood of Man, under the Fatherhood of God.

It is too precious to let slip by with the rest of our traditions. It may be our last, best hope. It deserves our best efforts, this Masonic family. For it has survived, where some among us have not.



Bro. Hardy is a popular newscaster, President of the St. Louis Press Club, and Director for Special Events for Radio Station KMOX of St. Louis. He is a member of Marine Lodge #355 of Marine, Illinois These are Bro. Hardy's remarks at the Grand Master's Breakfast in Belleville, 111. On May 20, 1984.



The English Language Ain't Easy!

By D.J. Cox, 32° KCCH

I am consistently amazed by the amount of discussion, both pro and con, on the impacts of language in our daily dealings. It makes no difference whether the discussion is about communication or immigration, intelligence or ignorance, politics or economics, we handle the topic poorly.

But who is at fault for this dilemma. It is just too easy to blame basic intelligence or education for that matter. Where is the personal responsibility in the proper use of language? Are we just too lazy? Perhaps part of the answer lies in the language itself. Please consider the following which was provided in an email to the Consistory office:

“You think English is easy???”

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its

paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

PS. - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'?

You lovers of the English language might enjoy this.

There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is 'UP.'

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP? At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends. And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car. At other times the little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses. To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special.

And this UP is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP. We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP! To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more. When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP...

When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP.

When it doesn't rain for awhile, things dry UP.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now my time is UP, so.....it is time to shut UP! "

Now that everything is perfectly clear, may I presume that discussions of language are now a thing of the past? And what about spelling? Do we now understand the problem? What problem? Do we have a problem? Does anyone have an answer? And, do we agree? (Now *that* would really be progress, don't *you* agree?) By the way, just who started this crazy conversation in the first place?



KNIGHTS Of ST. ANDREW

by Bill Hickey, 32°

The Knights of St. Andrew met on Friday, 27 March to:

- elect officers for the coming year,
- plan for the upcoming reunion, and
- conduct an initiation ceremony for those able to come (given the lousy weather on Thursday).

Our new officers are:

Venerable Master - Greg Dominguez
Senior Warden - Mark Ralston
Junior Warden - Robert Salazar
Secretary - Richard Silver
Chaplain - Bill Hickey
Sentinel - Eric McBride
Treasurer - Lue Martell



Membership is a contact sport

by Claud E. Dutro, 33°, Secretary



Membership is a contact sport. You've heard that expression for a few years if you attend the stated meetings on a regular basis. While that is both true and a catchy phrase, it is also true that acquiring a new member requires a personal commitment from the petition

sponsor. If you are a person that is willing to devote some time and effort toward helping educate your Lodge brethren in Masonic philosophy, we have an opportunity for you.

The backbone of our Membership Council is the Lodge Ambassador Committee. The goal of this committee is to have a Scottish Rite Mason from each Lodge in the jurisdiction (There are 65 of them.) appointed as a Lodge Ambassador to serve the Consistory and his Lodge as the principal communication link between these Masonic groups. Each Lodge Ambassador will provide a short monthly summary report to the Committee by mail, phone or email.

From the Consistory to the Lodge. The Ambassador will provide information to the Lodge about timely, local Masonic events; about Masonic educational opportunities; about Consistory programs to assist the Lodge in degree work; and about support for the Lodge's own efforts to obtain new members. From the Lodge to the Consistory. He will provide names and contact information for Lodge members that are not yet Consistory members; will recommend Lodge members to serve as a mentor for each Lodge member that petitions the Consistory; and will provide information on Lodge events that Consistory members might like to attend. The Consistory office will follow up with the Lodge members whose names and addresses we receive with a personal letter and an invitation to find out more about the Consistory.

With sixty-five Lodges to serve, there are opportunities in this program for everyone that is willing to spend a few minutes at each Lodge meeting where they get to know new Lodge members, offer Consistory assistance to the Lodge and announce upcoming events. If you would like to help both your Lodge and Denver Consistory grow and prosper, then phone the Secretary at 303-861-4261 to volunteer for this program. Please call if you only want to get more information or discuss the plan. If you are currently an Ambassador, please phone to discuss the new requirements.



From the Secretary's Desk

by Claud E. Dutro, 33°, Secretary

We celebrated our Irish heritage and St. Patrick's Day with Shepherd's pie and German chocolate cake. Next meeting will be our Italian heritage. There continue to be nice crowds for one of the best value meals in the city. Be sure to make your reservations. Following the meal, Master Craftsman completion certificates were presented to Brent W. Claypool, 32°, Douglas E. Peterson, 32° KCCH, Robert D. Schimpf, 32°, James H. Stewart, 32° KCCH and Barry A. Watson, 32°. Class President Richard M. Murray responded as patents and class pictures were presented to several brothers from the 33rd reunion class. Forty-nine past presiding officers were introduced by the Secretary and were welcomed by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Stephen M. Munsinger, 33° Active.

The ladies and visitors then adjourned to the activities room, where Kathy Boada presented a Powerpoint report on the Scottish Rite Foundation's activities and accomplishments during 2008. While I was busy in the Consistory meeting, I didn't see this presentation, but I did see the Powerpoint report at a meeting at Children's Hospital earlier this year. We can all be very proud of this important benevolent work that makes a difference in the world, one life at a time.



The Consistory building is busy practically every night. You can imagine the number of rehearsals that are necessary to exemplify each of the twenty-nine degrees. The spring reunion is less than two months away. We only have two more meetings to accept petitions for the class. Have you turned in the petitions that you have been working on yet?

Easter sunrise services at the El Jebel Shrine Center begin at 6:20 am on Sunday, April 12. The El Jebel Shrine Circus will have performances Friday (April 17), Saturday (April 18) and Sunday (April 19). Have you purchased your tickets to this show for children of all ages? Saturday evening, April 18, Columbine Lodge #147 will host Colorado night at the Denver Consistory with a delicious meal and an interesting speaker, all for a nominal charge. That same busy weekend the City of Denver's Cultural Affairs

Department will present Doors Open Denver, a walking tour of 80 historic buildings. We hope to have the Denver Consistory participate in that tour in 2010 when the restoration of our historic organ has been completed. Don't forget the 9 Health Fair at Denver Consistory during the morning of April 25th. It's going to be a busy month again, but aren't they all?



Doug Peterson, 32° KCCH, Barry Watson, 32°, Jim Stewart, 32° KCCH, Brent Claypool, 32° and Bob Schimpf, 32°, receiving their Master Craftsman Completion Certificates



President Richard M. Murray, 32°

LADIES LUNCHEON

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 18th for the Ladies Luncheon. We are always looking for volunteers for this significant event. Brothers, please call the office to volunteer your assistance.



“From the East”

by Wesley L. Campbell, 32° KCCH
Wise Master, Rocky Mountain
Chapter of Rose Croix

In my conversations with my Brothers in Lodge and all the other Masonic Bodies, which includes the Denver Consistory, it was noted that the members do not show up for Stated Meetings and/or for the Reunions. There are as many reasons as there are members. Quoted “television, sports events, time with family, work extra hours, etc. Are these related to what we are COMMITTED to do in the Lodges. NO.

As Paul Harvey would say, “NOW FOR THE REST OF THE STORY”. We, that is all of us, that is all the ones who do show up are committed and feel that they have a responsibility to show up because we took on an obligation. That obligation did not say that the meetings and/or other Masonic work would be scheduled around the outside interests. It said that we would find good men and make them better. To do that, it is important that we look among our acquaintances in the outside world to find good men to become good Masons. It is our duty as Scottish Rite Masons to find good Masons (if we do the investigations correct, all Masons should be good men) and provide a reason and an opportunity for these good Masons to become Scottish Rite Masons. We MUST provide a reason for these Masons to want to join the Scottish Rite. We MUST follow through with the training. We MUST give value for the time that these good men (Masons all) spend away from their family and give them a reason to be at our sessions rather than sitting and watching TV.

First it is extremely important that we have the ability to communicate to these prospects the reasons that we joined, and what we personally get out of our Masonic work. It is necessary that we show up and do our best to be a good teacher, if only in our attitude and appearance. We need to be ready to step forward to do the things that we are able to do without question if they are within the length of our cable-tow. There are many ways that we can help. We can be cast members in the many Masonic/Scottish Rite degrees. We can be drivers for the needy. We can be in one of the committee’s to do our charity work. HOWEVER, the one thing

we all can do without a lot of effort, is to SHOW UP.

It is very discouraging for the Officers, degree Directors and cast members:

- 1) to spend hours on end to learn their parts and the floor work
- 2) to have a very small number of candidates or Brothers in attendance.
- 3) (but worst of all) to look out into the bleachers and see less audience in the vacant seats than there are cast and candidates in attendance or Officers in chairs.

There has to be a reason to attend. That may mean something that will draw the members away from home. That means that there should be an agenda for each meeting, and it should be followed. Are we the officers familiar with the plan and agenda? If not, why not? When we accept the officer position, we are making a commitment to do the job assigned. This should be explained well in advance of putting that officer in line. Not all officers will do flawless work in their position, however it should be apparent to all that he has done the best that is within his ability to do so.

The members will know if the officer has at least made an attempt to know the work. If he has not, they are not going to sit there very many meetings while he struggles through reading the work. He will find other opportunities to fulfill his time. Why should he spend his time at a function of the Lodges, if the officer in charge does not spend enough time to learn I realize that some of the official work is complicated and will demand time and effort to learn. This only means that the effort must be increased. Some of the members are good at administrative functions, some are good at memory work. Not all are good at all the required facets of the Lodges. But it is necessary to try to do the best that is within our ability. If an officer’s or a brother’s interest in the fraternity is strong enough, he will make an effort to learn what is needed or at least give it the old college try. This may mean that some of the outside attractions must be given up.

Between the Columns



by Michael D. Moore, 32°

It was nice to see that a few of you knew the answer to last month's quiz. It was *lustration* – a small event we do in our ritual, which has much more to it than the time we give in thought or action. Lustration is a topic we normally shy away from since it is so close to a tradition in many churches and may have been observed in some of our lives. Masonic topics like these always seem to encroach on religion, but are actually much older than what is done in a modern church and needs to be discussed, thought upon and a proper view developed on this.

I think we learn our deepest thoughts and considerations not sitting in our regularly stated meetings, but from our own searching, thinking and meditating on Masonic topics and then applying what we learn to our lives. For that is in reality how we become better men. When we change the internal, the external actions will follow. A few basic books, our ritual and common sense can get a candidate a long way in progressing in the search for Knowledge, Truth and Light.

Education does nothing but teach the mind what the body and heart (or soul) should do. And if all a candidate learns is just knowledge, then the

initiate has the look and ideas, but not the internal. He is apt to miss the deeper aspects of Masonry.

It should not be chairs, pins, certificates, praise from fellow brothers or honors of any kind that we get from learning, but what we make of ourselves and find deep within our beings that really places us in our Masonic life.

To help you along in this endeavor, here are some good links and websites to check out:

<http://freemasoninformation.com>
<http://bessel.org/webindex.htm>
<http://burningtaper.blogspot.com>
<http://www.freemasonry.fm/Research-Education.html>

This month's quiz:

What fragrant Masonic hardwood that grows in the desert is somewhat like a mulberry tree and attains a great height? Its bark was used in embalming and was held in high esteem with both Egyptians and Jews. We see it in many different sections of our ritual and in Blue Lodges too. It is known for tenacity of life and has been recorded to have been planted as a door post only to take root, grow and put out budding boughs.

For Scottish Rite Masons, it symbolizes immortality of the soul. Ancient candidates were given *Mimosa Nilotica*, its scientific name, to hold in their hands while doing rituals since the color – green – has the symbolism connected to it of never fading through the ages.



Denver Consistory's library



Michael Moore writes this monthly column.



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