



Independence

Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed else like a flower out from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.

DENVER 32 32 CONSISTORY

Scottish Rite Creed

~Dwight D. Eisenhower

"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."



PLANNING CALENDAR

JULY 2016

Monday, JULY 04		Consistory CLOSED for observance of Independence Day
Saturday, JULY 16	6:30 pm	Shrimp Boil - PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE - Ladies & Guests Invited
		RESERVATIONS REQUIRED! Bluegrass Band Entertainment @ 5:00 pm
		RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Didegrass band Entertainment @ 5.00 pm
AUGUST 2016		
Weds., AUGUST 17	6:00 pm	Officer's Mid-Year Planning Dinner Meeting
Saturday, AUGUST 20	·	All Masonic Picnic at Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Community in
		Cooperation with Grand Lodge, Shrine, and ESMRC
		SEPTEMBER 2016
Monday, SEPTEMBER 5		Consistory CLOSED for Labor Day Holiday
Thursday, SEPTEMBER 8		Consistory CLOSED for Grand York Rite
Friday, SEPTEMBER 9		Consistory CLOSED for Grand York Rite
Monday, SEPTEMBER 19		Stated Meeting - PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE
	5:30 pm	Red Room Business Meeting
	6:00 pm	Dinner (Menu TBA)
	6:30 pm	All the Wrong Answers to the Master Craftsman Programs - RED ROOM
	7:00 pm	Awards & Patents; Scottish Rite Foundation Program

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EDITOR'S CORNER

BY: BILL HICKEY, 33° EMAIL: <u>WA3H@HOTMAIL.COM</u>



As we enter the "dark" period of the summer, perhaps it's time to reflect on progress so far - what we've done, and where we're heading toward the end of another year. As Master of Kadosh for the Consistory, one of my responsibilities is to plan the "entertainment" programs. Like my predecessor, Brother Tim Hogan, 32° KCCH, I believe that "education" is not only just as important, but quite possibly "entertaining" as well. Our programs by Illustrious Brother Brent Morris, 33° GC, was an example of how you can take something that has Masonic implications, and make it into something that can be of interest to just about anyone. It helped that Brent is also an amateur magician to mystify everyone on where all those cards came from. Then, we had Cary Johnson talking about identity theft and personal information protection - a topic that is timely for just about everyone. Cary gave us a lot of hints and ideas about how to limit your exposure to the dangers online. If you missed either of these presentations, you really missed a great opportunity to learn something of value.

With the beginning of summer, we start a more relaxed schedule at the consistory, but the Shrimp Boil is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy fellowship, and a great meal - this is not JUST shrimp, you know. It's what is commonly called a "Low Country Boil" which has smoked sausage, corn, boiled potatoes, and even some chicken tenders. Pricing has been held to basic cost, and it's family friendly - kids under 6 eat free, and under 12 for half price. So, make your reservations with the office now—don't wait until the last minute. And, we do have parking addressed for the Shrimp Boil, so there's really no good excuse for missing out on a great family event.

As a "tidy-up" matter, I'd like to let you know how our Spring 9HealthFair turned out. We served 150 participants this year - down from last year's 192, but still within our "normal" range that we've seen over the years. A few sites in our district saw very modest gains, but half of them were like us, seeing a downturn. There are all sorts of reasons for this, but we should look toward next year and try to "get the word out" sooner and more often and that might improve the numbers we see. However, most people at our fair over the years have commented how nice it was not to have to stand in line for a long time ... so there are always two-sides to every coin.

Everyone enjoy the summer - travel safely and return in the fall rested and energized to finish up an eventful year.

Remember, if you have an article you'd like to submit, just send it to me and I'll work with you to get it into the RiteWorks if possible. This especially goes for some of our learned authors out there.



From the Secretary's Desk

Matt Raia, 33°



Highlights of the June 20 Stated Meeting



Certificate of completion of the Master Craftsman Program to Brother Gene Hardey, 32°



25-year membership certificates and pins to Brothers Theodis Webster Brown, Jr., 32°, Kenneth Edward Bruso, 32°, Michael Stephen Guerra, 32°



50-year membership certificates, pins, and hats to the following brothers: Edward William Richards, 32° and Richard E. Williams, 32°



60-year membership certificate and pin to Brother Carl William Johnston, 32°

From the Secretary's Desk - Continued from previous page



Prior to the stated meeting, Cary Johnson, Director of the Jefferson County District Attorney's Program on Power Against Fraud, gave a presentation on identity theft and how to avoid becoming a victim. He also provided a booklet handout to the audience.



CONSISTORY INFORMATION

Saturday July 16, Shrimp Boil. Entertainment by Blue Grass Band at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:30pm, **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. PARKING GARAGE AVAILABLE**

Saturday, August 20. All-Masonic picnic at the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Community.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

<u>We will have regularly scheduled lunches on Fridays</u>. The office will close at 1:00pm on Fridays, immediately following lunch. Regular Friday hours will resume the week of Monday, September 12.

Colorado Rockies Retail Sales Update

To date, \$1250 has been received. Thank you to those who worked the games and the donation you made to the SRMC. This money was used to help pay for the camp logo repair, and caulking around the front steps.

King Soopers Loyalty Card Update

Total to date: \$279.50 has been received. The amount received will increase as more cards are now in circulation and the members use their cards. Money from the Loyalty Cards is used to help pay for maintenance and repairs to our building. Thank you to those who are using the cards.

Denver Consistory received a plaque from the Supreme Council in recognition of successful completion of the requirements of the 2015 VMAP program. Each year, upon successful completion of the requirements for that year, a year validation sticker will be presented to place upon the plaque. With the work of the Kadosh Line and the Membership Committee, Denver Consistory should be able to successfully complete the requirements of the 2016 VMAP.

Whither Are We Travelling?

by MWB Dwight L. Smith, PGM of the MWGL of Indiana, F&AM, 1945-1946 The article below was written in February of 1963, and is an excerpt from the entire work.

The Level of Leadership

Question 1: Can we expect Freemasonry to retain its past glory and prestige unless the level of leadership is raised above its present position?

A teacher in the public schools of a neighboring State cherished a long-standing desire to become a Master Mason. His petition to the Lodge in which he resided was accepted. He presented himself for the Entered Apprentice degree, but never returned. The Brethren of the Lodge concluded, I am sure, that they had made a mistake in electing that Entered Apprentice because of his apparent lack of interest.

But it was not lack of interest that caused him to go out of the door, never to return. It was disappointment and disillusionment. The performance of the Master of that Lodge was such that it constituted an insult to the candidate's intelligence. Because the head of the Masonic Fraternity in that community was careless and sloppy and crude, because he was attempting to do something for which he was not prepared, because he was trying to give "good and wholesome instruction" on subjects he knew nothing about, a good man was lost to Freemasonry.

On first hearing, that story made a profound impression upon me. The more I have thought about it, and the more I have seen it duplicated, the more I am convinced that the Number One responsibility for any tapering off of membership, any lack of interest and attendance, rests squarely upon the shoulders of our Lodge leadership.

Yes, I know the subject is a touchy one. But in introducing it, I am only putting into print what has been whispered in the corridors these last ten years.

Take a long and thoughtful look at the names of the men who served our Lodges as Master 100 years ago - or even 50 years ago. Consider the positions of importance those men occupied in their respective communities. Then let us ask ourselves whether our present-day leadership is in the same league.

One unforgettable Lodge meeting stands out in my mind. The Lodge was having trouble maintaining interest, membership was dropping; it had called for help. When the hour came for the meeting to begin, there had been no preparation. I sat around waiting for Lodge to be opened; sat around waiting for dinner to be served; sat around while the candidates were being prepared; sat around while the Junior Warden tried to enlist a craft, actually calling for volunteers, wheedling, cajoling; sat around while the Master, reluctant to close, literally begged those on the sidelines to say a few words. In short, *I sat around*! What was there in that meeting that would make ANYONE want to come again?

Nor do I exempt myself. Looking back on some of the meetings the year I was Master, it is a wonder to me the Lodge held together. Many of my meetings were such a first class bore that I would do almost anything to avoid getting trapped in such gatherings today.

If we want our Lodges to regain the position they once occupied in the interest and loyalties of men, we had better gain a proper perspective; we had better sort things out in the order of their importance. To open the discussion, permit me to make three pertinent observations:

1. We must pay more attention to proficiency in the East.

We make a great to-do over proficiency of candidates. We want to devise some method whereby new Master Masons may be forced to memorize a set of questions and answers. But we do little or nothing to insure proficiency where it really counts.

A Master is expected to be Master of his Lodge - not a weakling to be pushed around. Theoretically, he "sets the Craft to work and gives them good and wholesome instruction." Yet what do we require for election as Master? Simply that a Brother serve as a Warden. That is all. There are no minimum requirements as to ritualistic proficiency; nothing regarding history, symbolism, philosophy, ethics, law, tradition. Only a so-called degree for Past Masters which, in far too many instances, is a farce. We elect a Master and expect him somehow to become a leader. It never occurs to us to require evidence of leadership first.

2. There is far more to being Master of a Lodge than the mere recitation of a ritual.

We are paying the penalty of years of "mass production" practices, and a bitter penalty it is. When Masters of Lodges are so lacking in imagination and vision that they cannot conceive of a Masonic meeting unless a degree is conferred, then we need not expect a revival of interest and attendance and we need not look for an upswing of membership short of war.

I would a thousand times rather see as Master of a Lodge a man who can provide real leadership, a man who can give "good and wholesome instruction," a man who comprehends what Freemasonry is all about, even if he cannot confer a single degree. Suppose he can not recite the ritual. So what? There always are those who are eager and willing to do ritualistic work, but there are precious few who can provide inspired leadership.

It is high time we start looking about for the best possible leadership and enlisting the support of men who can lead. But instead, we consider only those who come to Lodge, those who stick it out in the endurance contest. We "start in line" the man who is on hand whenever the door is opened regardless of whether he has even the most elementary qualities of leadership.

If the practice of automatic ladder promotion of officers must be discarded in order to obtain the kind of leadership we should have, then by all means let us discard the foolish custom. There is nothing in the winning of an endurance contest, in itself, that qualifies a man to be Master of his Lodge.

If the so-called "line" of officers must be shortened to enable men of ability to serve their Lodges without devoting six or seven years to minor offices, then what are we waiting for? Why not shorten the line? Is not good leadership for one year more important than keeping a seat warm for six?

Whither Are We Travelling? - Continued from previous page

3. If Freemasonry is to command respect in the community, then the man who wears the Master's hat must be one who can command respect.

The young teacher who did not return for advancement because his entire conception of Freemasonry was colored by what he saw and heard in the East. The Master of a Lodge is the symbol of Freemasonry in his community. If he is not a man upon whom intelligent people may look with admiration, then we need not expect to reap a harvest of petitions from intelligent men.

Make no mistake. Men judge Freemasonry by what they see wearing Masonic emblems. They judge a Lodge by the caliber of its leadership. If we persist, year after year, in putting our worst foot forward, then we can expect to continue getting just what we are getting now.

EDITOR's COMMENTS

I am **ABSOLUTELY SURE** that many of you reading the above will have the knee-jerk reaction that SURELY things have changed since the 1960's when this article was penned. Certainly SOME of them have changed. BUT, are we not still seeing similar results (exits) not just from men failing to finish all three degrees, but from our Proficient Master Masons who no longer return to their Lodge - **FOR WHATEVER REASON(s)**?

MWB Brother Smith had a long and illustrious career in Freemasonry and was recognized for his research and authorship as well as his activity in the craft. I never cease to be amazed at how things written by our brothers of the past - even those around the turn of the 20th century - still ring true today. It's like the old adages: "the more things change, the more they stay the same" and "those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

So, read the article again - CAREFULLY - all the way through. See what MWB Brother Smith is actually saying and then look to see whether or not at least SOME of it might be true in our lodges and organizations. Then ask yourself HOW we can CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.

In dealing with our affiliated youth groups, it has often been said that if our kids aren't having fun, they won't come back. And, if they can't talk about what they did with their group over the weekend in school on Monday with their friends, they won't get any new members either.

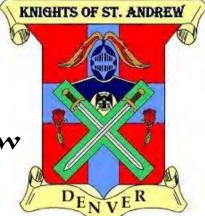
Well, let's translate that to ADULT organizations. If our new members aren't getting SOME-THING productive out of their time at our meetings (whatever that might be for them), then we can well expect them to "vote with their feet" and not return. And, if they can't talk about what they do in our organizations with their brothers in their Lodges, then we'll be hard-pressed to gain new members as well. And remember, if they aren't returning to Lodge, then where will they get the friends to petition for OUR degrees? Hmmm. Catch-22?

All this is "food for thought" - and certainly not a criticism on any lodge or person in specific. It's something that people OUTSIDE our organizations see, and it's not unique to Colorado or any particular lodge or the various appendant/concordant bodies - it's a pretty universal phenomenon.

Living in the past is no guarantee that there will be a future to enjoy.



Larry Tygart, Sr., 32° Venerable Master Denver Knights of St. Andrew



Summer is upon us and darkness is upon (most) of the lodges. This should not let us forget about the abundant opportunities to participate in activities for the craft. Our June meeting was quite productive, covering formalities, protocols, and bylaws as well as remembering our service men and women - especially on the anniversary of D-Day. Our wishes for a speedy recovery to Bro. Tom Shotts, 32° KCCH and Illustrious Bro. Burney Brandell, 33° from his recent surgery. This event took him away from the educational series scheduled for June.

The Knights of St. Andrew were asked if they would put together a cast to perform the 4th Degree in the Spring 2017 reunion. We had an overwhelming response to the request, and the Knights have a cast to be approved by Illustrious Bro. Jay Bobick, 33°. As in all of the degree work, participation—whether watching, on a crew, or in a cast - is a significant experience.

The summer will still bring events for the Knights and for the craft as a whole. We remind all that the Shrimp Boil is on the 16th of July at the Consistory, the All-Masonic Picnic at the Eastern Star Retirement Community is on the 20th of August, and the Knights of St. Andrew and all Masons have been invited to join Estes Park Lodge in marching in the Highlands Games parade on September 10th.

The next stated meeting of the Knights of St. Andrew will be October 3rd at which time we will be knighting eight new Knights. All are invited to attend to support our new Knights and Scottish Rite members in this event. Illustrious Bro. John Moreno, 33° will be providing the educational program that night.

It is never too soon to start reminding everyone and inviting everyone to the next Burns Dinner and the 5th Whisky College at the Consistory on January 21, 2017.









THE PRELATE'S PULPIT

Rev. Jim Harris, 33°



The week of June 19th, I went on a mission trip to the Bahamas with a church group. There was a lot of damage on the islands last year due to the hurricane. We taught Vacation Bible School for over a hundred children, we painted a church, built two picnic tables for the church, and did a lot of clean up. Another group will follow us to do more projects on the islands. On the return trip, I thought of what Paul wrote, "I planted the seed, Appol watered it, but God gave it growth. We were doing God's work and those who followed us build upon what we had done.

I believe the same is true in the Scottish Rite. We build upon and continue the work of the Craft done by those who have gone before us. The Supreme Architect gives growth to our work and helps us to stay on the right path in our journey toward the Great Light. Have a great summer. This time of the year, the Consistory goes dark, but our work continues and the Light still shines. Is there something you can do to help a fellow brother?

Peace and Joy.

<u>JULY</u>

Ever wonder where the names of our months came from? This is the seventh in a series that delves into the origins of the words we use for our months of the year.

The month of JULY was named by the Roman Senate in honor of the Roman General Julius Caesar, it being his birth month. Prior to that, it was called "Quintilis."

July's birthstone is the Ruby—symbolizing "contentment"

The July birth flowers are the Larkspur and Water Lily

The zodiac signs for the month of July are CANCER (until July 21) and LEO (July 22 onwards).









MEMORIAL SCROLL

Glenn Edward Barta, 32° C. E. Carpenter, 32° Harry John Carroll, 32° Dan Frederick Christensen, 32° Henry Ahlberg Edler, 32° Richard Rice Gardner, 32° Ralph Edward Garner, 32° Larry Lew Laune, 32° William Henry Smith, 32° Richard Clive Tucker, 32° 03/02/2016 01/27/2016 02/14/2016 03/15/2016 01/28/2015 04/16/2016 04/20/2016 05/09/2016 04/24/2015 05/10/2016

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 Denver Consistory Rose Croix Funeral Team are: John Buchanan, 33° - Chairman, Scott A. Bates, 32° KCCH, Jerry Fenimore, 33°, Jack Harlan, 33°, M. Edward Johnson, 33°, Richard Mitchell, 33°, Matthew Raia, 33°, Roy Snyder, 32° KCCH, John Warren, 33°, Richard Wenzel, 32°

If you are interested in joining the Rose Croix Funeral Team and helping them, contact the office or John Buchanan, 33° for more information.

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JULY Special Birthdays

100 Years Young

James J. Cram

90 Years Young

Charles P. Dunning Kenneth W. Sharpe Walter W. Rencehausen

80 Years Young

Byron L. Monroe Edward R. Shockley Coley G. Webb

70 Years Young

Stephen J. Altman Douglas W. Nutt Richard L. Wingate

60 Years Young

Curtis W. Kiesling Keith H. Huhn Gerry L. Blevins Louis B. Kasunic Alex G. Ragulsky, Jr.

40 Years "Old"

Jacob R. MacGregor

30 Years "Old"

Jayson C. Leyh



United States of America July 4, 1776 (240 years old)



To ALL our Brothers

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Deadline for article submission is two (2) days after the monthly stated meeting (third Monday). Articles should be approximately 250-1000 words long. Where appropriate, relevant high-resolution images with proper credits may be included with your submission. Articles may be submitted in hard copy to the office or by electronic format 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.

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If you have comments, constructive criticisms, recommendations, or <u>articles for submission</u>, please send them to the EDITOR, RiteWorks.

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audrey@denverconsistory.org

Or tom@denverconsistory.org

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 Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon.



Ronald A. Seale, 33° Sovereign Grand Commander



Stephen M. Munsinger, 33° Sovereign Grand Inspector General **Orient of Colorado**



Richard D. Silver, 32° KCCH Venerable Master **Centennial Lodge of Perfection**



Joe E. Kier, 33° Almoner



Scott A. Bates, 32° KCCH Wise Master Rocky Mountain Chapter, Rose Croix

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Wayne Arner, 33° Treasurer



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William A. Hickey, 33° Master of Kadosh **Denver Consistory**



Matt Raia, 33° Secretary Recorder Registrar

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE



Denver Consistory Web Page (New and Revised) http://www.denverconsistory.org

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: Dan Conway, 32° KCCH

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Look for (search): Denver Scottish Rite Consistory <u>http://www.facebook.com</u> QUESTIONS: <u>Mike Brewer, 32° KCCH</u>

Look for us (follow): @DenvrConsistory (Yes, the spelling is correct above) QUESTIONS: Bryant Harris, 32° KCCH

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Scottish Rite Freemasons (SGC)



FAMILY AND FRIENDS WELCOME!

\$20 All you can eat; Kids 6 and under free; 7 to 12 \$10. Caesar Salad, peel-and-eat Shrimp, Chicken Fingers, Smoked Sausage, Cornbread, Corn-on-the-cob, Boiled New Potatoes, Dessert.

RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST !!!

Call the office: 303-861-4261 OR Email us at:

denverconsistory@denverconsistory.org

Saturday, July 16, 2016

5pm - Entertainment by J. Walker and the Pedestrians

Dinner at 6:30pm

Denver Consistory

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Visit our Web Page at: http://denverconsistory.org

