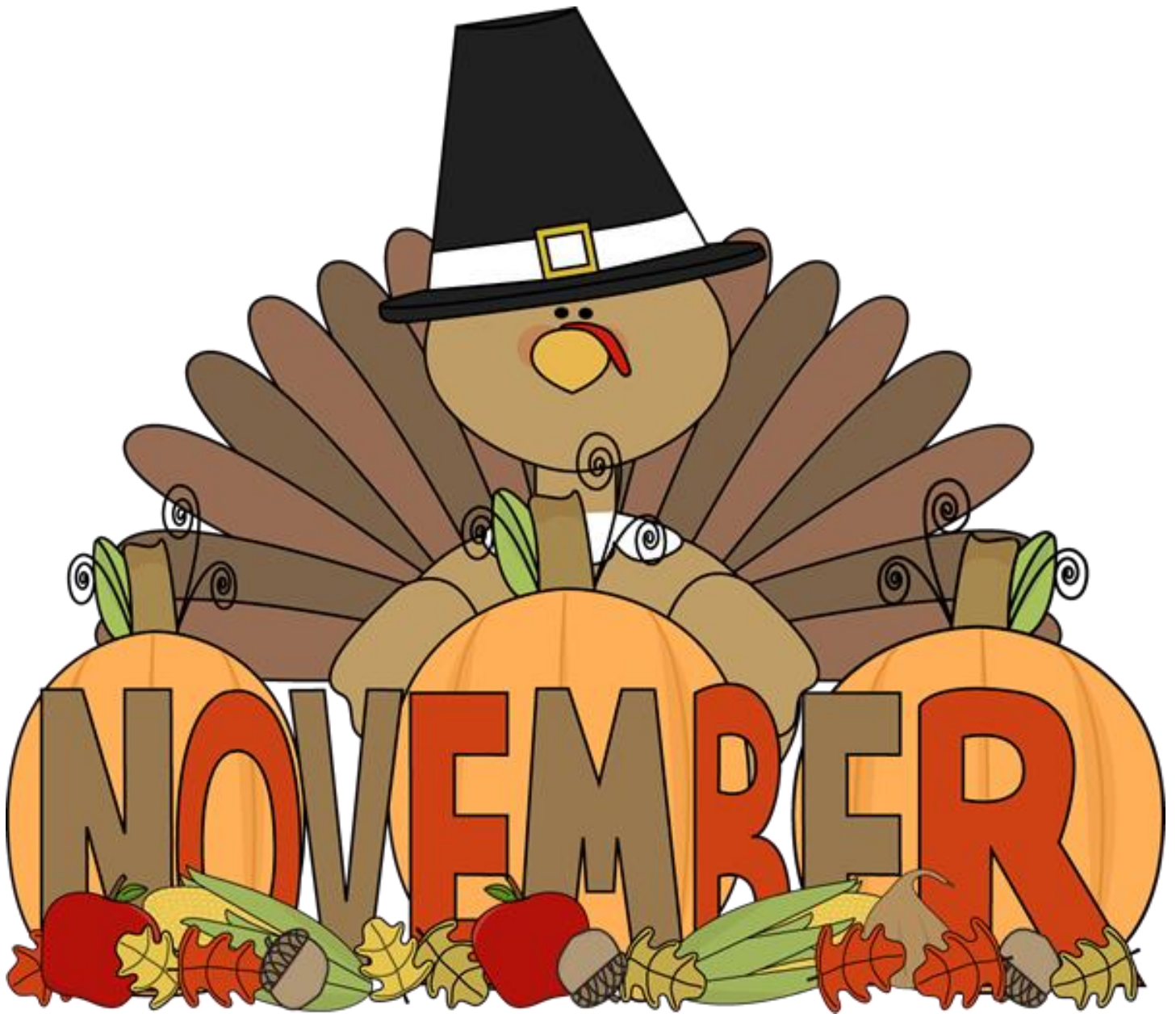




Denver's RiteWorks

November 2021 vol. 14-#11



IN THIS ISSUE

Page 3:	Planning Calendar (November 2021—January 2022)
Page 4:	56 th Reunion Announcement Flyer
Page 5:	56 th Reunion Schedule
Page 6:	Annual Children’s Holiday Party Announcement
Page 7:	December 20 th Stated Meeting Holiday Program Announcement
Pages 8-9:	Editor’s Trestleboard: The Cost of Everything
Pages 10-11:	From the Secretary’s Desk
Page 12:	SRMC Endowment Fund: Year-End Considerations for 2021
Pages 13-15:	Director of Education: Is Merely Doing the Right Thing Enough?
Pages 16-17:	Senior Warden, CLOP: Blessed and Highly Favored
Pages 18-21:	Member in the Spotlight: Brother Herbert Hoover Shull, 32°
Page 22:	Memorial Scroll
Page 23:	Prelate’s Pulpit
Page 24:	November Special Birthdays
Page 25:	KSA Burns Supper 2022 Announcement

Membership

“Membership is a CONTACT SPORT!”

Membership Report: November 2020	1668
November 2021	1566
	(-102)

It is no longer required that a candidate complete a “paper” petition. Simply give your candidate the QR Code. You will no longer need to carry “pocket petitions” with you to hand one to a brother who wants to petition to join Denver Consistory. The pocket petition is now business cards with the QR Code. (Pick up some the next time you are in the Consistory.) Give him the QR code and he can complete the petition electronically, or give him this URL to access the petition: <https://sms.scottishrite.org/DenverPetition>



PLANNING CALENDAR

November 2021

Mon, Nov 1	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room (Open to all SR Masons)
Fri, Nov 5	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunches (Fried Chicken)
Fri, Nov 12	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunches (5-way Chili)
Mon, Nov 15	Stated Meeting - Parking Garage Available 5:30 p.m. Red Room Business meeting 6:00 p.m. Dinner (Chicken Piccata) 7:00 p.m. Awards and Presentations Entertainment - Veterans Recognition Program
Thu-Sat Nov 18-20	7:30 p.m. Split Meeting - 5 min oration, Minister of State, Denver Consistory 9594458
Sat, Nov 20	7:00 a.m. Fall Reunion (56 th), -Parking Garage Available
Thu-Fri Nov 25-26	6:00 p.m. Banquet and 25 & 50 year Presentations Consistory CLOSED for Thanksgiving Holiday
Sat, Nov 27	9:00-11:00 a.m. Consistory Decorating Party— ALL ARE INVITED

December 2021

Fri, Dec 3	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Sat, Dec 4	10:00 a.m.-NOON SRF & Consistory Children's Christmas Party Parking Garage Available
Mon, Dec 6	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, Dec 10	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (Spaghetti)
Fri, Dec 17	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Mon, Dec 20	Stated Meeting - Election of Officers Parking Garage Available 6:00 p.m. Dinner (Chicken Wellington)
Fri, Dec 24	Consistory Closed for Christmas Holiday
Fri, Dec 31	Consistory Closed for New Year's Holiday

January 2022

Mon, Jan 3	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, Jan 7	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Sat, Jan 8	9:00-11:00 a.m. Consistory UN-decorating Party - ALL ARE INVITED
Fri, Jan 14	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch
Sat, Jan 15	8:00 a.m.-NOON Officers' Breakfast Meeting & Installation Practice
Mon, Jan 17	Stated Meeting - Parking Garage Available
Fri, Jan 21	Consistory Closed for Grand Lodge Communication
Sat, Jan 29	6:00 p.m. Optional Whisky College before Burns Supper 7:00 p.m. KSA Burns Supper



SCOTTISH RITE FALL REUNION 2021

Denver Consistory November 18, 19, 20, 2021

AN OPPORTUNITY TO REUNITE WITH YOUR BROTHERS
REVISIT THE TEACHINGS



Preparation



Organization



Having Fun

First Line Signer Incentive Program: THREE petitions in a calendar year will pay your membership for a year. If you are a life member it entitles you to receive stated meeting dinners for a year



Denver Consistory 1370 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203
denverconsistory@denverconsistory.org
303-861-4261

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021

7:30 AM Registration/Welcome/
Class Instruction

8:26 AM Exemplify 4°

9:09 AM Communicate 5°

9:17 AM Communicate 6°

9:25 AM Communicate 7°

9:33 AM Communicate 8°

9:47 AM Exemplify 9° & 10°

10:28 AM Break

10:43 AM Class Instruction

11:09 AM Exemplify 11°

11:32 AM Class Instruction

11:47 AM Communicate 12°

12:01 PM Exemplify 13°

12:34 PM Lunch

1:30 PM Exemplify 14°

2:28 PM 14° Ring Ceremony

2:43 PM Class Instruction

3:17 PM Exemplify 15°

4:26 PM Break

4:41 PM Class Instruction

5:00 PM Exemplify 16°

5:43 PM Adjourn

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2021

7:30 AM Class Convenes

8:00 AM Communicate 17°

8:10 AM Class Instruction

8:34 AM Exemplify 18° 1st & 2nd Sections

9:09 AM Class Instruction

9:19 AM Exemplify 18° 3rd Section

10:04 AM Class Instruction

10:14 AM Communicate 19°

10:24 AM Exemplify 20° 1st Section

10:50 AM Class Instruction

11:00 AM Break

11:17 AM Exemplify 20° 2nd Section

11:51 AM Grand Master Address

12:06 PM Lunch

1:06 PM Exemplify 21°

1:45 PM Communicate 22°

1:55 PM Class Instruction

2:05 PM Break

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19 (Continued)

2:22 PM Exemplify 23°

2:51 PM Class Instruction

3:18 PM Exemplify 24°

3:57 PM Communicate 25°

4:05 PM Communicate 26°

4:13 PM Communicate 27°

4:21 PM Communicate 28°

4:29 PM Break

4:46 PM Exemplify 29°

5:30 PM Adjourn

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2021

8:15 AM Class Convenes

8:30 AM SGIG/Deputy Address/Class Photo

9:40 AM Class Instruction

9:50 AM Exemplify 30° / 1st Apartment

10:08 AM Exemplify 30° / 2nd Apartment

10:23 AM Exemplify 30° / 3rd Apartment

10:38 AM Break

10:55 AM Class Instruction

11:10 AM Exemplify 30° / 4th Apartment

11:38 AM Lunch

12:38 PM Communicate 31°

12:53 PM Class Instruction

1:05 PM Exemplify 32° First Section

1:53 PM Class Instruction

2:03 PM Break

2:20 PM Exemplify 32° Second Section

3:12 PM Rite Care Film

3:22 PM Patriotic Poem

3:27 PM Closing Ceremony

3:42 PM Adjourn

5:30 PM BANQUET

J2SR Presentations

25 & 50 Year Membership Awards

SRF Recognition of Vern Ingraham

Dinner 11142028

Rite Care Presentation by Dr. Uhler, PhD

SRMC Endowment 11134918 Fund Cathedral

Club Presentations

8:00 PM ADJOURN

Childrens Holiday Party!
December 4th 2021 (10:00 a.m. to NOON)

We're back for the Holidays. The Denver Consistory, Scottish Rite Foundation and Children's Hospital Colorado will once again host our annual party.



Santa will be in the Cathedral room taking requests.



Elves will distribute gifts



There will be activities and snacks in the dining room.



Parking will be available in the PERA parking lot
[DO NOT PARK IN THE RESERVED CHURCH PARKING SPOTS]

Scottish Rite Masonic Center



Holiday Program December 20th, 2021



Please welcome Eric McConnell to the
Denver Consistory.

A Holiday celebration of seasonal carols &
entertainment



Eric J. McConnell is quickly garnering acclaim in the American opera community for his distinctive dramatic voice and theatrical interpretations of both comic and tragic characters.

A multifaceted performer, McConnell has made additional forays into the world of musical theater, performing as Rod in *Avenue Q*, *Headmistress/Captain Ahab* in *Moby Dick! The Musical*, *Jean Prouvaire* in *Les Misérables*, *Molokov* in *Chess*, and the title role in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.

McConnell is a two-time regional finalist in the Rocky Mountain region of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions,



Dinner @ 6pm RSVP

Program @ 7pm

Stated Communication Dinners

Join us for a fully catered sit-down meal served before each stated communication for a cost of \$20.00 per person. Advanced reservations are required and must be received by the Friday immediately preceding the stated communication. Dinner reservations can be made by calling (303) 861-4261, or by clicking on one of the following links:

[Make a Dinner Reservation via Email](#)

[Make a Dinner Reservation via Online Purchase](#)

EDITOR'S RESTLEBOARD



BY: **BILL HICKEY, 33°**
EMAIL: WA3H@HOTMAIL.COM

The Cost of Everything



When was the last time your lodge (or other club, or Masonic family body) considered raising dues? While the old mantra “the only things certain are death and taxes” is certainly valid, we also know that the COST of living—to do things—likewise is pretty certain to go up as time goes on.

I started working at 15 in 1962—a sales clerk in a department store during holidays—my salary then was minimum wage \$1.00/hour. So, 2022 will be 60 years later, and minimum wage is (or soon will be) \$12-\$15 depending on your state and locality. 12x in 60 years, so to keep it simple, that’s adding about a dollar every 5 years. In 1977, when I was Raised a Master Mason in my Scottish Mother Lodge, my dues were £3.00/year or £45 (\$90) for a life membership. My MM apron cost £35 (\$70 back then). Today, at last check, that same apron would run ~£425 or about \$530!!!! That’s a 7.5 fold increase over 45 years.

I don’t know what Colorado lodge dues would have been in the 60’s and 70’s, but I’ll wager that whatever they were, today’s dues do NOT reflect the reality of the rise in the cost of living that I am seeing in prices from the UK and US. I do recall in probably 1978 or so, I talked with my dad about whether or not he thought I should take out a “life membership” in my Scottish Lodge because I would be transferring out (Navy) and likely wouldn’t be able to return. To cut the conversation short, in that timeframe, HIS lodge dues to his Tennessee Mother Lodge were \$120/year. Now, a lodge near where my father’s lodge was located currently charges \$100/year for dues. I’ll wager that his lodge has not increased their dues structure commensurate with the rise in cost of living over these years. Best I can do is find that his lodge’s dues in 1902 were \$2.50/yr. The members of that lodge obviously raised dues between 1902 and 1970’s when we talked, substantially—especially given the Great Depression era that happened around the time he joined in the 1930’s

Why am I mentioning things like this? Well, it seems as though any time someone brings up the idea of raising dues, it’s controversial, unpopular, and many times voted down. What’s the result? Well, the funds of the lodge are stagnant, and many lodges, unable to keep up with minimal upkeep and repair expenses allow their buildings to fall into disrepair. Anyone familiar with the situation will tell you that it always costs more to repair something than it does to maintain it. Too often, our brethren (and thus our lodges) look to the CHEAP solution to a problem rather than the RIGHT solution. We think with our pocketbooks, not with our

common sense. At some point the building is in such disrepair that we can no longer afford to keep it, so we sell it. The end result in many cases is that the building is razed to make way for apartments, a strip mall, or other developments...thus losing a valuable piece of history as a result.

NO ONE likes to have to pay more for their leisure activities, but everywhere else, costs are going up—usually with inflation. Let's say dues in 1970 were \$100 and we've had a 10x rise in the cost of living since then, that would say we probably should expect to see dues be in the \$1000/year range.

But, there's another piece of the puzzle that comes into play—and that, quite frankly, is salary. During a time when costs have risen by that 10x factor, chances are your income hasn't risen by that much (unless you've been promoted with higher salary). Chances are, it's probably closer to 4-6 at best.

I remember my take home pay as an ENSIGN in the Navy in 1969 was \$211/month. By the time I retired in 1989, it was substantially higher (I was a LCDR), and I think when I retired fully in 2012 it might have been around 10x that amount when all the deductions were made. Of course, income taxes and payroll deductions have gone up as well.

Is the solution to raise dues to the point no one can afford to pay them? Obviously not. But, is the solution to keep dues the same as they've been for a long time? Probably not—that is, if you want to keep your building in good shape. We have a number of historic lodges that are currently in serious need of repairs, and if the lodge doesn't have the money to do all the repairs needed, they prioritize according to the funds available, and it takes a long time (if ever) before they can complete them. And, if it's like anything I saw in the military, when you defer maintenance, something will always go bad and prevent you from ever fully finishing up the repairs you need before something catastrophic happens and you HAVE to deal with it now, you can no longer wait. 8050858

There's no easy answer to this one Brothers. But, as we're seeing with our Scottish Rite Masonic Center, creative ways to set aside money for the future are being set up and made available to us—that don't necessarily involve increasing dues. But, rest assured, at some point in the not too distant future, your Grand Lodge, Supreme Council, or whatever upper level body there is WILL be coming to you and raising per capita, and when they do this, there WILL be a number of members who simply can no longer afford the cost and will drop out. That doesn't help your goal to GROW membership, does it?

On the other hand, if all you offer your members is a predictable, repetitive, and boring meeting in return for their dues, why should you expect them to accept even a \$1/month increase in their dues?

It's past time to start thinking out of the box about our dues structures, our costs to maintain buildings, AND the programs we offer to our members in return for their hard-earned money.

Bill



From the Secretary's Desk

[Matt Raia, 33°](#)



THE PROBABILITY OF BEING WATCHED IS DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL TO THE STUPIDITY OF THE ACT.

Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund Contributions

<https://www.denverconsistorybuildingendowmentfund.org>

The SRMC wishes to acknowledge those who donated to the Endowment Fund this past month and began a *Cathedral Club* membership.

Michael P. Rowen

All American Stair Company (Jon Sellars)

Howard Zoufaly

HELP WANTED

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN - Denver Consistory needs someone to volunteer to be our Assistant Librarian. Brother Hunter McCallum, 32°, our Librarian, has been extremely busy in his job and has not had time available to catalog several boxes of books which have been donated to the library. He also needs assistance in arranging for the sale of duplicate books during our November Reunion. If you are interested in volunteering some of your time to help with the library, please contact the office (303-861-4261).

WHO READS THE RITEWORKS CONTEST

The membership numbers published in the October Riteworks belong to the following Brothers who were eligible to receive a free dinner for the October Stated Meeting: **James T. Hinricks, Timothy N. Lambert, Michael D. Dasovich, Brian L. Corn, Thomas J. Delaney, Royal R. Maxwell, Jeffrey L. Courtney, Howard A. Walker, Fred A. Dunsing, and Robert H. Lowdermilk.** **NONE of these Brothers called the office to claim their free dinner.** Maybe this month's winners will see their membership number and call the office to claim their free dinner for the November Stated meeting.

Remembrance & Renewal Ceremony was conducted by the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix on October 18th. Thank you **Brother Scott Olson, 32° KCCH**, Wise Master and his officers of the Chapter of Rose Croix for a beautiful ceremony.

56th Reunion November 18-20, 2021. The deadline for petitions for the Fall Reunion is 12:00 NOON on Monday, November 15th. **Don't wait until the deadline. Turn in your petitions NOW!** Candidates may complete an electronic petition at <https://sms.scottishrite.org/DenverPetition> and upon completion the petition will be automatically filed with the office. Come down and watch the degrees and socialize with your Brethren. The reunion is for our

Continued on next page

existing members to revisit the teachings of the degrees, it is not JUST for the candidates. It is called a "Reunion" because it is a reuniting of all our Brethren.

2022 Membership Fee Notices have been mailed by the Supreme Council. Please do not set aside the notice to pay it later and then forget about it. Membership fees are the primary source of our income, so it is really important that you do not forget to pay them when due. We are charged Supreme Council per capita on your membership regardless of whether or not you have paid us your fee.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty and are unable to pay your membership fee, PLEASE CONTACT ME. We have programs available to assist you so that you are not suspended for nonpayment. BUT ... you MUST contact me. We can't help you if you don't ask.

AUTOMATIC MEMBERSHIP FEE RENEWAL PROGRAM

Supreme Council created and installed an auto-renewal program to pay annual membership fees. This is a completely voluntary program that gives our members the option to have their membership fee automatically deducted using a credit or debit card through the online Membership Portal.

The automatic payment will occur in August annually for those who sign up for the program, and the payment will be applied to the following year. Members who sign up for the program will receive an email reminder a few days prior to the debiting of their credit or debit card. Supreme Council staff will mail a membership card to all enrollees directly from the House of the Temple. This program will give members the option to avoid the end-of-the-year Masonic membership fee crunch as well as help ensure members are always in good standing.

Life Memberships are an ideal way to avoid paying future membership fee increases. A Life Membership guarantees that you will never be suspended for nonpayment should your future financial situation change. It also insures that should you no longer be able to take care of your finances, you will not be suspended for nonpayment because your Scottish Rite Membership is of no significance to the individual handling your finances. By purchasing a Life Membership, you leave a continuing legacy to Denver Consistory after your death.

Life Membership Fee:

75 years old and older – a single payment of \$1,000

62-74 years old – a single payment of \$1,500

Younger than 62 – a single payment of \$2,500

Extended payment terms may be arranged. Contact the office for details.

Shop AMAZON SMILE for your holiday shopping and support the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. For every purchase you make using the Amazon Smile shopping app, Amazon will make a donation to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center **at no cost to you.**

Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund

Year-End Considerations for 2021

The past year has been an unprecedented experience of conflict, confusion, and uncertainty for everyone living in the United States. Many laws and rules have dramatically changed within the year and more changes are being considered and debated. In this unstable environment, it is difficult to make informed plans and decisions.

A few principles do not change. For example, every time someone receives something, someone pays for it. Sometimes the person who receives something is the same person who pays for it, such as when a purchase is made. At other times, a person or group receives something through a change in rules or laws and different people or groups pay for it, either through taxes or inflation. Proposed legislation at both the federal and state levels are examples of the latter condition.

Regardless of your political persuasion, it is now happening that the cost of living is increasing (inflation) and it is probable that tax rates will be raised or new taxes imposed. **Corporations do not pay taxes**, they only pass them through to either their owner/shareholders (lower profits) or to their customers with increased prices (inflation). **All taxes are essentially paid by individuals**. Both inflation and taxes are expected to continue and increase in coming years.

If you own stocks, bonds, or similar investments, one of the proposed tax increases might tax you on any unrecognized appreciation, thereby increasing your basis and eliminating any capital gain tax advantage. You might want to consider either selling them to take advantage of current capital gain tax rates or consider donating them to a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation, such as the Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund. This might also provide an advantageous charitable deduction for your 2021 income tax return. Discuss this with your financial advisor as soon as possible, but before the end of 2021.

If you have a standard IRA (not ROTH) or 401(k) or similar tax-deferred account, current tax laws allow you to contribute from that account to a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation, such as the Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund and avoid paying regular income taxes on the amount transferred. This might also provide an advantageous charitable deduction for your 2021 income tax return. Discuss this with your financial advisor as soon as possible, but before the end of 2021.

With all of the existing uncertainty, now would be a good time to consider what adjustments would be advantageous to you and your family.

Claud Dutro, 33°



Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Director of Education

Is Merely “Doing the Right Thing” Enough?



In the 31st Degree we’re confronted with the very complex and even controversial issue of “judgment.” As portrayed in the work as you’ll recall, the issue arises in the context of eternal judgment. The ancient Egyptian gods, sitting in judgment of the soul of a man named Cheris, present the fundamental questions for us to consider; among them...

- On what basis should a person be judged for “deeds done in the flesh?”
- Should judgment consider an absolute standard only?
- Does human imperfection legitimately play a role in what constitutes a reasonable standard for judgment?
- Do motives matter, or are only actions or outcomes a proper subject for judgment?
- Can a “wrong action” be done for the “right (and therefore acceptable) reason,” and, if so, might a correct action also become unacceptable because of a wrong motive?

Beyond the context of the degree, of course, we turn our minds to the issue of the commonplace demand that we judge the actions of our fellow humans, and, as a result, we’re faced with a terrible dilemma. Our interactions with others are filled with the necessity that we make certain judgments as to their motives, sincerity, intentions, etc. But how may we appropriately judge?

We know, on the one hand, that we cannot see what motivates our Brothers (or anyone else) to do the things that they do: it is impossible to understand another’s motives with any degree of certainty. However, one of the Craft’s most fundamental tenets is that “It is the internal and not the external qualifications of a man that Masonry regards!”

So, what are we to do? On the one hand, we know that we can never be certain of what drives another person to act, but, on the other hand, we are taught that it is only what motivates that action (the “internal”) that should be important to us as Masons!

For myself, I have tentatively reached the conclusion that the solution to the dilemma is not in “how” to judge motives, or “why,” or even what action to take as a result. Perhaps, instead, the essential thing is to realize “for whom” the effort to judge is important.

All human actions have motives. There is no apparently virtuous act (“charity,” for example) which may not be committed for a malicious reason (personal gain or control over another, for instance). Likewise, a seemingly malicious act (consider “theft”) may be rooted in a virtuous purpose (“feeding one’s family.”)

Continued on next page

To whom does the motive for either a virtuous or a malicious action truly matter? If you are harmed by the actions of another, is it fundamentally important to you why they acted as they did? Perhaps, at some point in dealing with the occurrence, it will carry some importance to you, but is the reason basic to how your life was impacted by the action? Likewise, if you are helped by the actions of another, do you care deeply what their reason was for assisting you? Again, perhaps at some point, but not much at all initially.

To whom does motive truly matter? Moral philosophy as well as most systems of religious faith offer a clear (and similar) answer. In the Christian tradition, for example, one finds an answer in Matthew 6: 3-4: Matthew 6: 3-4: “But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” (NIV) The Great Teacher gives similar advice on how to pray (and for the same reason) in verses 5-8.

Ultimately, it matters to the Supreme Architect “why” I act as I do, and, because it matters to Him, it should be of critical importance to me: so much so that motive may become a matter for the closest examination on my part, in any decision to act. In the end, it is my duty to deal with the motives for my behavior, rather than becoming obsessed with those of others. My reason for acting may matter a great deal more than even the direct effect of my actions, since the latter’s impact is temporal, while the latter’s may be eternal.

Such is the lesson finally taught in the 31st Degree. The soul of Cheris is judged worthy of eternal life, but only when the gods sitting in judgment allow for human frailty and, thereby, consent to consider motives rather than merely outcomes: “the internal and not the “external.”

So, consider: Is not the right thing, with the wrong motive, in a significant sense the wrong thing?

Bill

wbapm32@gmail.com

Last Month’s Trivia Question: What Masonic Brother famously saved the life of the son of a U.S. President?

Answer: We all know that the life of Abraham Lincoln was taken by a “noted Shakespearean actor,” John Wilkes Booth. Ironically, the life of Lincoln’s eldest son, Robert Todd Lincoln, was saved by another “noted Shakespearean actor.”

“The happenstance...occurred in the late winter of 1864...”

Thus began Robert Todd Lincoln, in relating the frightening event to Richard Watson Gilder, editor of *The Century Magazine*. His account was published in 1909:

“The incident occurred while a group of passengers were late at night purchasing their sleeping car places from the conductor who stood on the station platform at the entrance of the car. The platform was about the height of the car floor, and there was of course a narrow space between the platform and the car body. There was some crowding, and I happened to

be pressed by it against the car body while waiting my turn. In this situation the train began to move, and by the motion I was twisted off my feet, and had dropped somewhat, with feet downward, into the open 11147578 space, and was personally helpless, when my coat collar was vigorously seized, and I was quickly pulled up and out to a secure footing on the platform.”

But, at this point, the circumstances take an even more ironic turn, as Robert Lincoln concluded his narrative...

“Upon turning to thank my rescuer I saw it was Edwin Booth, whose face was of course well known to me, and I expressed my gratitude to him, and in doing so, called him by name.”

Edwin Thomas Booth, a Northern sympathizer during the Rebellion, was a member of New York Lodge #330 (New York City). Edwin, of course, was the elder brother of the man who would take the life of our 16th President, just over a year later. Not only was Brother Edwin obviously of more admirable character, but he was, by all accounts, a more accomplished actor than his now infamous younger sibling. [ref: Champion, Peter. Masonic Trivia Amusements & Curiosities (p. 143). Kindle Edition.]

This Month’s Trivia Question (answer in next month’s *Rite Works*): Masonic legend refers to King Solomon as “...our first, most excellent Grand Master,” and there is no doubt that the First Temple, as described in scripture, must have been a wonder to behold. However, Solomon himself had a no less wonderous claim in his own personal lineage. What variation of descent and distinction of lineage occurred in the birth of Solomon, to distinguish his ancestry from that of his father, King David?



Brother Will Rogers - on “Educational Reform”

There is nothing new about the crisis in the American educational system today. In Will Rogers’ day, as today, people were very concerned about the decline in American education. Based on the national experience with Prohibition, Rogers offered this prescription for educational reform: **“Why don’t they pass a constitutional amendment prohibiting anybody from learning anything? And if it works as good as the Prohibition one did, in five years we would have the smartest people on earth.”**

“Education never helped morals. The most savage people we have are the most moral. The smarter the guy, the bigger the rascal.”

“Education is just like everything else. You got to judge it by its results. Here we are better educated (according to educators) than we ever were. And we are worse off than we ever were, so it’s not living up to its billing. It’s over-rated. It’s not worth the price.”



Blessed and Highly Favored

Brother Larry E. Tygart, Sr., 32° KCCH
Senior Warden,
Centennial Lodge of Perfection



Yes, I am blessed and highly favored. That is a gift to all of us from the Grand Architect of the Universe. As most people say, I also said it in my past, when asked how you are, the canned response is “I’m good.” As I have been exposed to more diverse cultures and references as to how I am, it has changed over the years.

I, at one time, responded: “I’m good” to a very intensely religious person, and was met with a curt response, “Only God is Good, you can only be well or some other variable to that statement, but not good.” Taking it to heart, I began to utilize other statements to avoid saying “I’m good.” “I woke up this morning,” “I am as well as can be expected,” etc. You know the routine.

It was not until I became un-retired and went to work for the Coalition that I happened upon a Vet that was housed at one of our projects. A man, by all appearances and demeanor, could have been the lead for ZZ Tops. 10118719 Slight build, with a beard and hair that extended past his waistline. Always neatly dressed and wearing a wooden cross that was hand-carved for him by a fallen brother in arms.

His affliction was the same as many of the Vets and other folks that are, or were, experiencing homelessness, trauma, and substance abuse. All things being as they were, on every occasion that we met, he continued to tell me that he was blessed and highly favored. Not because of his station in life, or the stations that he had held - that’s a story in its own - but because he was blessed with another day and that the amenities that he was currently afforded, he considered being favored.

His positive approach and happiness were only for those times that there were others to share in his life and conversations. These quickly faded away with the daylight and the presence of others to commune with. As the day got darker, he—as many did and do—slipped into the reality of loneliness, solitude, and the substances that numbed him from his past in war abroad, and the war at home on the street and forever in his mind.

I did not “know him,” but I knew him until his past and present took him. At that time, I reflected on many things as we all do, and began to utilize the phrase as it was as simple a truth that has ever been made.

When I am questioned further on my statement, it is because I have today and what I am doing today. As Reverend Jim put in one of the prayers he published from the York Rite, “What have I purchased with a day of my life?” I do not look at the times on my calendar that fill quicker than we all realize, but try to focus on the time and moment, and still I wonder about those that we swore not to lose to forgetfulness, the ones that spend and spent lifetimes in the daylight, then towards the waning days, they too slip into the forgotten darkness and eventually there is no more darkness.

Continued on next page

I will continue to respond "Blessed and Highly Favored" because I know I am, and I know that there are many more that are not.

I pray for those who struggle to find some light
That they may forget the darkness of their plight.

The darkness surrounds us, all have confessed
Those who travel in light are said to be blessed.

Put out your hand to give them a lift
To save another's life who is set adrift.

The cable tow we all had savored
Is now the symbol of the favored.

Remember we took the pledges and vows
That we would uphold always somehow.

A life is a life, none are better than others
But love is love, especially to a brother.

A smile, kind word, or an embrace
Guaranteed to show on anyone's face.

As we go through our journeys, long forgotten teaching should come to our minds. The "B" Attitudes. (Matthew 5, verses 3-10)

BLESSED

Are the poor in spirit, for there is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Are those that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Are those that are persecuted for Righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed and Highly Favored,

H.I.S.

Larry Tygart



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Herbert Hoover Shull, 32°

By: Danny Tomlinson, 32° KCCH
1st Lieutenant Commander,
Colorado Council of Kadosh



Our member spotlight this month will focus on a member of “The Greatest Generation” – our 92 year old Brother Herbert Hoover Shull. And yes, he is named for President Herbert Hoover. Brother Herbert is a veteran of the Korean War and the Vietnam War, having served in the United States Army Air Corps, later the US Air Force for 22 years before retiring as a Master Sergeant in 1968. Although Brother Herbert always has been and continues to be a staunch Democrat, his father was a staunch Republican and named his son after the Republican 31st President of the United States, Herbert Hoover. Herbert was the 10th of 14 siblings, seven boys and seven girls. His dad was running out of names for the boys and was a fan of President Hoover who began his term as President in 1929, the same year that Herbert was born.

Herbert was born and grew up in Sugar Creek County, Pennsylvania about 90 miles from Pittsburgh. The nearest town was Franklin, Pennsylvania. His dad worked for the Pennsylvania Rail Road on the track gang – laying and repairing track. He worked for the railroad from the time he was 14 years old until he died at the age of 65. Herbert’s 10001659 mother was from the small town of Sharon, Pennsylvania about 45 miles from Franklin. Herbert’s grandfather (dad’s dad) originally had immigrated to the United States from Berlin, Germany. Herbert graduated from Rocky Grove High School on May 28, 1948.

Herbert’s dad was a member of the Brotherhood of Way rail workers union. In 1929, the same year that Herbert was born, his dad took out a loan from the union to buy a Model A Ford. His payments on the loan were \$2 per month. He never did pay the loan off, however, as they continued to re-finance the car loan, using the Model A as collateral, as they bought a house or needed additional money for living expenses. When Herbert’s father passed, the loan was paid off.

Herb’s parents’ meeting sounds like a script for a movie. His mother was a young teenage girl living in Sharon, near the Allegheny River. One day she wrote a note with her name and address on it and put the note in a bottle which she then threw into the Allegheny River. Several days later, one of Herbert’s uncles found the bottle, now 45 miles downriver, and gave the note to Herbert’s dad. He called the young lady, went to visit her, began a courtship and ended up marrying her. Together they raised the family of fourteen children.

Upon graduation from high school in May, 1948 Herbert expected to be drafted as the Korean War was beginning to heat up. Five of his brothers had already been drafted into the Army, with three of them having served in World War II. He decided to instead join the Army Air Corps and went to Lackland Air Base in Texas for boot camp and training. The Army Air Corps became the United States Air Force officially in September 1949. Herbert and two of his

Continued on next page

brothers served during the Korean War and later the Vietnam War. All five brothers survived, or in his words, “came back”.

Herbert enjoyed serving in the Air Force, especially being able to live and work in Germany, France, Belgium, Tokyo, Hawaii, Alaska and Denver, Colorado at the old Lowry Air Force base. He had been stationed at Lowry for a couple of years and he and his wife Lucia had bought a house near Fitzsimons Army Hospital. Then in 1965 he received orders for Vietnam. They kept the house because they loved living in Denver and eventually were able to return to Denver upon his retirement. They still live in the same house that they bought in 1961 for \$14,400. He describes himself as very conservative and recounts that as he was growing up, his dad would give each of the siblings five pennies to drop in the offertory plate at Sunday school. Herbert would give the church two of the pennies, but keep the other three and put them in a Mason jar that he had buried under the front porch of their home in Franklin. He figured the church had enough money and his family might need those three pennies at some future time. Unfortunately, Herbert left for the military without digging up the jar and when he and Lucia returned to visit, his childhood home had been torn down and a new house built on the site. Who knows if anyone ever discovered several dollars worth of old pennies?

During his career in the Air Force, Herbert worked as a supply sergeant in the Inspector General’s Office. Think of the old television series “MASH” and Radar O’Reilly or the supply sergeant that “knew another sergeant” and could get anything the colonel or the troops needed or wanted. When Sergeant Herbert was ordered to Vietnam in 1965 he arrived and found several old-timers – WW II vets – in place and just biding their time. He was the “new guy” sent in to shake things up and get things done correctly and there was perhaps a little bit of resentment on the part of the old-timers. Herbert went to the mess hall and talked with the men in charge. They needed pots, pans, cooking utensils, plates, cups and silverware. The motor pool needed tools and vehicles. The NCO Club needed kitchen and dining supplies. In short, everyone needed the equipment to do their job and the needs had been neglected until Herbert arrived at Nha Trang, where the air base was located. Colonel Arno, Herbert’s Commanding Officer, gave him the authority to “hire” two C-130 transports, fly to the Philippines and get everything they needed. Herbert did that, arriving back at Nha Trang on a Sunday with two transport aircraft full. He went to the NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer) Club, rounded up a crew of volunteers and unloaded the planes. This was the beginning of a highly successful supply chain and network that helped greatly with American efforts in the early days of the Vietnam War. Herbert was awarded a Bronze Star for his work and the framed Bronze Star medal and ribbon hang proudly in his living room next to his 50-year award as a member of El Jebel Shrine. Illustrious Brother Jay Bobick and Brother Ron Williamson are pictured at Herbert and Lucia’s home, presenting the 50-year award to Herbert.

“Herby” (as she calls him) and Lucia met in Germany in 1951. He was stationed there and she was a young German lady. Herbert and his friend Harry were in his 1948 Chevrolet, driving back to the base from a basketball game in Munich. They saw a very attractive 18 year old lady walking her dachshund dog. Herbert stopped and began talking with her about the

dog. He asked if she would like to go with him and Harry to the Enlisted Men's' Club to play bingo. She explained that she would have to get permission from her parents so they drove her and the dog to her parents' home and went in to speak to them. Her father did not like Americans and refused to come downstairs. He had been an American POW during the war. Her mother did convince him that since there were two young men, it was ok and gave Lucia permission to go with them to the club. When they got there, Harry and Lucia played bingo, but Herbert went downstairs to shoot craps. After taking her home at the end of the evening, he asked if he could see her again and her parents reluctantly agreed that he could come to dinner.

When Herbert arrived at their home, he noticed a German Bible on a coffee table. He asked Lucia to get him a German Bible. This impressed her father greatly and he allowed the young man to continue seeing his daughter. Herbert and Lucia still have the Bible in their home (see photo). Herbert and Lucia celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary on October 10 of this year.

Lucia's father Eric had been conscripted into the Nazi army and was taken prisoner in France by the Allied Forces. He was a bricklayer by profession and did a tremendous amount of work with his Allied captors in building sturdier and more humane buildings in the POW camp. Brother Herbert and Eric became good friends as the young couple courted and in 1953 Herbert and Lucia sponsored her parents in coming to America. Herbert had to post a \$2500 bond with a bank to ensure that her parents would become productive members of society.

Herbert had been transferred back to Minnesota soon after he and Lucia married in Germany. In 1952 she came to America on the USS General Buckner, an Army transport ship. When her parents came to America, they sailed on HMS Queen Mary, arriving in 1953. On both occasions, Herbert drove from Minnesota to New York City to pick up first his wife Lucia and a year later her parents, Eric and Elizabeth.

In February, 1962 on the coldest day ever in Colorado history, Lucia and Herbert adopted their daughter Sandra Dee Shull. Yes, named after the movie star Sandra Dee. Sandy has three children and Herbert and Lucia have two great grandchildren.

Herbert's first car was a 1937 Chevrolet. On the way to Germany onboard the USS Sturgis, Herbert won the car in a poker game from a fellow soldier on his way back to Germany from leave in the United States. The car was located in Bremerhaven, Germany. This was in 1948. He hitchhiked to Bremerhaven and picked up his "new" car and that's how a young enlisted man, serving overseas was able to have a personal car for his own use.

When Brother Herbert retired from the Air Force, he and Lucia moved back to Denver, to the home they had bought several years earlier. He owned and operated a camera store at 6th Avenue and Quebec right across the street from Lowry Air Force Base. One of the camera salesmen that he did business with was a Shriner and encouraged Herbert to join El Jebel Shrine. This was Mr. Axelrod, a member of El Jebel Shrine. After nearly 18 years of operating the camera store, Herbert went to work for Navajo Trucking, primarily driving from the Eastman Kodak plant at Windsor, Colorado to the Rochester, New York headquarters of Eastman

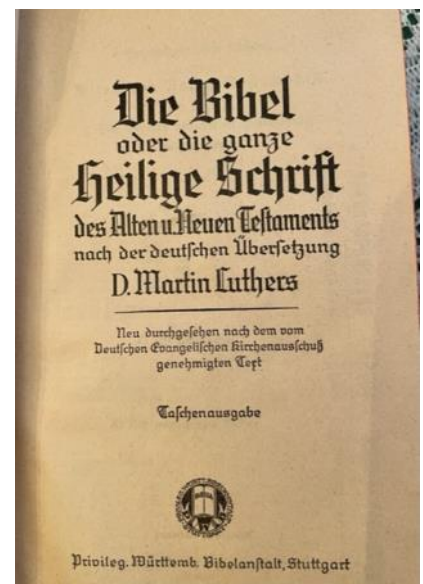
Member in the Spotlight: Brother Herbert Hoover Shull, 32° - Continued from previous page

Kodak. After a serious health issue, he decided to retire. He and Lucia had invested well, using his conservative philosophy and he didn't need to work any longer.

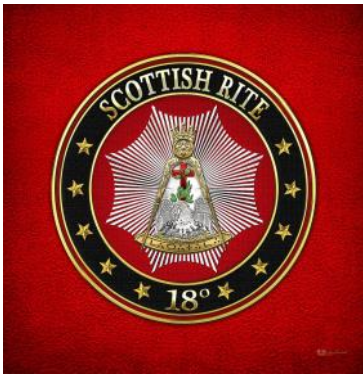
Herbert had become a Mason through a winding set of circumstances. While in the Air Force and stationed in Minnesota, Herbert worked part-time at a gas station for Mr. Hartshorn, the owner and a Mason and Shriner in Minneapolis. Mr. Hartshorn signed Herbert's petition as first-line signer but before he could be initiated, Herbert was transferred to Lowry AFB. The lodge in Minneapolis started the paperwork to have Emulation Lodge #154 do the courtesy work to initiate, pass and raise Brother Herbert. To this day, Brother Herbert has never sat in a lodge meeting in his home lodge in Minnesota. In 1962 he joined the Denver Consistory in the largest class ever – about 397 members. Although he hasn't been active with the Consistory he is a Life Member of Denver Consistory. He was active with El Jebel on several of the patrols until his health began to curtail his ability to participate. Lucia made him quit riding his motorcycle in the Daraja Patrol. He is especially proud of being able to initiate his grandson into the Shrine in Billings, Montana three years ago.

Brother Herbert shared a valuable life lesson: as you grow up and mature, meet those people that you can depend on. Decent people that are honest. This is what first attracted him to Masonry and later served him so well in the military. 7892995 Also, never put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

Think about this amazing Brother: one of 14 siblings; named after a United States President; a career military veteran; married 69 years to his wife Lucia; recipient of the Bronze star; a veteran of two wars; won his first car in a poker game on the transport ship to Germany; has never sat in his home Blue Lodge; proudly sponsored his wife's parents in their pilgrimage to America; lived in about 10 foreign countries during his lifetime, but he and Lucia have lived the house they live in today since 1968. WOW! What a great and interesting man with a thousand tales to tell. Although Brother Herbert's physical condition is a little weak, his mind is as sharp as ever. It was such an honor to be able to visit with him and Lucia for a few hours in their home in Aurora and to hear them relive so many wonderful memories. And they are a pair of 90+ year old teenagers – the love they share is evident the first minute you meet Herby and Lucia. I hope that you get a chance to spend time with Brother Herbert Hoover Shull.



Memorial Scroll



David Verner Anderson, 32°	09/23/2021
Morton Bernard Blager, 32°	09/21/2021
Jack Owen Campbell, 32°	10/08/2021
Herbert W. DeLaney, Jr., 32°	10/01/2021
Clark Harry Skinner, 32°	09/30/2021
Glenn Arlis Tripp, 32°	09/24/2021
Lloyd Franklin Woodhouse, 32°	10/15/2021
James Oliver Wright, 32°	10/12/2021

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: Scott E. Olson, 32° KCCH - Chairman; Scott A. Bates, 32° KCCH; John H. Buchanan, 33°; Jerry L. Fenimore, 33° GC; Gregory F. Harris, 32° KCCH; M. Edward Johnson, 33° (emeritus); Richard W. Mitchell, 33°; Matthew A. Raia, 33°; Thomas R. Repp, 32° KCCH; John A. Warren, 33°; Richard M. Wenzel, III, 32° KCCH; and Benjamin F. Williams, 32° KCCH.

If you are interested in joining the Rose Croix Funeral Team and helping them, contact the office or Scott Olson, 32° KCCH for more information.



The Prelate's Pulpit

Rev. James H. Harris, 33^o

Prelate for All Scottish Rite Bodies



The Renewal and Remembrance Service was moving at our October meeting, exemplified by the Rose Croix line. It was postponed from our normal April meeting due to COVID restrictions. However, it was very fitting as All Saints Day is November 1st. It is a day we remember those who have gone before us. November 25th is Thanksgiving Day, a day in which we give thanks for our blessings. It is a day which we 11139934 gather with friends and/or families to share a bountiful meal. It is also the beginning of the Holiday season. Many people get up from the dinner table and go looking for all the sales.

Thanksgiving is really "thanksgiving." It is living life in gratitude and giving thanks every day for our blessings.

A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

On this Thanksgiving Day, dear Lord,
Many thanks are most sincere
For all the blessings you bestowed
Throughout the year.

For health, for work, for special joys,
For family and friends,
And for our nation under God,
Your goodness never ends!

But help me understand dear Lord,
And may I clearly see
That one day is not enough
To thank you properly.

And that my many thanks today are small
For gifts you outpour,
Unless I have thanked you for other days
Three hundred sixty four

I invite you to make a list of all your blessings, all the reasons you have to give thanks, especially for a God who loves you. I thank all of you for all the ways in which our fraternity strives to make us better men and the world a better place. - Ill. Br. Rev. James H. Harris, 33^o



100+ Years Young

Maurice Richard Sanborn (102)
Ronald Floyd Ashlock, Sr. (101)

80 Years "OLD"

Bernhard Oswald Egel
Paul Terrance McCabe

70 Years "OLD"

Paul Vern Marshall, Sr.
John Lindsay Nicolette

40 Years "OLD"

Richard Maxton Murray
(also our "Youngster" this month)



November
10, 1775
(246 years)

Thanksgiving things you might not know:



We all know that the first Thanksgiving dinner took place when the Pilgrims celebrated a good harvest in the New World, and that the tryptophan in turkey isn't actually what makes you so sleepy.

But did you know that there was a crisis in the late 1930s called "Franksgiving?"

1. There are three small towns in the U.S. named Turkey: Turkey, TX; Turkey, NC; and Turkey Creek, LA. There are also two townships in PA - Upper Turkeyfoot and Lower Turkeyfoot.
2. The first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York took place in 1914 when Macy's employees dressed in vibrant costumes and marched to the flagship store on 34th Street. The parade used floats instead of balloons, and it featured monkeys, bears, camels, and elephants all borrowed from the Central Park Zoo. It was also originally called the Macy's 2958668 Christmas Parade, but was renamed the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 1927.
3. "Jingle Bells" was originally a Thanksgiving song.
4. The Detroit Lions ALWAYS play on Thanksgiving.
5. The night before Thanksgiving is the best day for bar sales in the U.S.
6. In 1953, the TV-dinner company Swanson overestimated the demand for turkey by over 260 tons, according to Smithsonian Magazine. The owners of the company had no idea what to do with all the leftovers, so they enlisted the help of company salesman Gerry Thomas. Taking inspiration from airplane meals, Thomas ordered 5,000 aluminum trays, and loaded them with the turkey leftovers to create the first TV dinner.
7. Ben Franklin wanted the turkey to be the official bird of the United States.
8. Thomas Jefferson cancelled Thanksgiving during his presidency.
9. Minnesota produces the most turkeys in the U.S.
10. FDR tried to change the date of Thanksgiving—it caused a LOT of problems.



K.S.A. Burns Night Supper and Whisky College

Bag pipes  Silent auction  Burns poetry

Saturday January 29th, 2022 7:00pm



Dinner: 7:00pm

Ale-braised beef pot roast with mashed potatoes,
salad and apple bramble cake with Drambuie whipped cream.

\$45 - Adult (13 and over)

\$20 - Youth (6 to 12)

Free - Child (5 and under)

Prepaid online reservations required

Whisky College: 6:00pm

\$25 - Adult (21 and over)

Prepaid online reservations required

For reservations:

Advanced prepaid reservations are available online only
(DO NOT contact the Consistory office).

<http://denverburnssupper.com/>

Scottish Rite Masonic Center
1370 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Proceeds to benefit RiteCare and Scottish Rite Masonic Center

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SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER
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Click [HERE](#) for instructions.

When paying your dues, **please consider making a tax-deductible donation to your Scottish Rite Masonic Center.** Your contributions help us maintain our historic building.

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Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center Building Endowment Fund. Go to the endowment fund web site for more information at:

<https://www.denverconsistorybuildingendowmentfund.org>



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BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2019, KING SOOPERS CHANGED THE WAY THEY DONATE TO NON-PROFITS. YOU CAN NO LONGER RELOAD YOUR GIFT CARD AND BENEFIT THE SCOTTISH RITE BY USE OF A GIFT CARD! HOWEVER, IT IS NOW EASIER THAN EVER TO CONTINUE YOUR SUPPORT OF OF THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER AT KING SOOPERS!

IF YOU HAVE A KING SOOPERS LOYALTY CARD, BUT NOT A KING SOOPERS DIGITAL ACCOUNT:

- 1) GO TO: WWW.KINGSOOPERS.COM
- 2) ON THE TOP RIGHT CORNER, CLICK ON **WELCOME SIGN IN**
- 3) ON THE LEFT SIDE, CLICK ON **CREATE AN ACCOUNT**
- 4) COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED (IF YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR LOYALTY CARD NUMBER, USE YOUR ALTERNATE ID, WHICH IS USUALLY YOUR PHONE NUMBER), THEN CLICK **CREATE ACCOUNT**
- 5) ONCE YOU HAVE CREATED YOUR ACCOUNT, FOLLOW THE STEPS 1-5 BELOW.

IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A KING SOOPERS LOYALTY CARD DIGITAL ACCOUNT:

- 1) SIGN IN TO YOUR KING SOOPERS ACCOUNT AS YOU NORMALLY DO.
- 2) SCROLL TO THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE AND CLICK ON **"KING SOOPERS COMMUNITY REWARDS"**.
- 3) CLICK ON **"ENROLL NOW"**
- 4) UNDER **"FIND AN ORGANIZATION"** ENTER OUR NON-PROFIT NUMBER: **EM386**, OR TYPE IN **"THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER AT 1370 GRANT STREET"**. CLICK **"ENROLL"**.
- 5) YOU'RE DONE! NOW, EVERY TIME YOU MAKE A PURCHASE AND SWIPE YOUR LOYALTY CARD, THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER WILL GET A PERCENTAGE OF YOUR PURCHASE!

IF YOU HAVE A LOYALTY CARD BUT DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS:

OUR FRONT DESK STAFF WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU IN GETTING YOUR DIGITAL ACCOUNT SET UP!

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A LOYALTY CARD AND WANT TO SUPPORT SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER

YOU CAN GET A LOYALTY CARD FROM KING SOOPERS ANYTIME AND THEN JUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER

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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 Denver Consistory in the Valley of Denver, Orient of Colorado. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the Denver Consistory or its officers.

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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cathy@denverconsistory.org

or

tom@denverconsistory.org

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