



# Denver's RiteWorks

January-February 2022 vol. 15-#1



**Boulder County Marshall Fire— 30 DEC 2021**



# Of all crafts, to be an honest man is the Master Craft.

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# IMPORTANT !!

**While you may NORMALLY skim over RiteWorks, PLEASE, for your own SAFETY, do NOT overlook the special article on Emergency Planning. This issue is unique in that while preparing the January issue, I was part of the mandatory evacuation order in Boulder County due to the Marshall fire that destroyed over 1000 homes, damaged more than 200 more homes, and displaced THOUSANDS of our neighbors and friends.**

**This is NO TRIVIAL MATTER.**

# PLANNING CALENDAR

## February 2022

Fri, Feb 4	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Mon, Feb 7	7:00 p.m.	KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, Feb 11	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch
Fri, Feb 18	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Mon, Feb 21		Stated Meeting - <b>Feast of Kadosh - Parking Garage Available</b>
	7:00 p.m.	Entertainment (President's Day, Valentine's Day)
	7:30 p.m.	Split Meeting ( <b>Colo. Council of Kadosh Ritual Open/Close</b> )
		Almoner & Life Member Annual Reports to CLOP
		5 min Oration by CLOP Orator
Wed, Feb 23	6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.	J2SR Orientation with lite supper
Fri, Feb 25	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch

## March 2022

Fri, Mar 4	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Mon, Mar 7	7:00 p.m.	KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Wed, Mar 9	7:00 p.m.	Degree Council Meeting
Fri, Mar 11, 18, 25	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunches (Fried Chicken on 18 <sup>th</sup> )
Wed, Mar 16	6:30—8:00 p.m.	Friends of the Scottish Rite (Prospect Night)
Mon, Mar 21		Stated Meeting - <b>Parking Garage Available</b>
	5:30 p.m.	Red Room Business Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Dinner
	7:00 p.m.	Awards and announcements; Past Presiding Officers Recognition, <b>Sports Team Shirt Night</b>
	7:30 p.m.	Split Meeting: 5 min Oration: Rky Mtn Chapter Rose Croix
Sat, Mar 26	9:00-11:00 a.m.	KSA Spring Cleanup

## April 2022

Fri, Apr 1	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Mon, Apr 4	7:00 p.m.	KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, Apr 8	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch
Fri-Sun, Apr 8-10		Supreme Council Leadership Program (San Diego)
Fri, Apr 15	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken)
Sun, Apr 17	<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Easter Sunrise Service</b> (Knights Templar Association)
Mon, Apr 18		Stated Meeting - <b>Parking Garage Available</b>
		Celebration of Remembrance and Renewal
Fri, Apr 22	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch
Sat, Apr 23	7:00 a.m.—noon	<b>9 HEALTH 365</b>
Fri, Apr 29	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch

## EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN—DO YOU HAVE ONE?

Brothers:

Many of us have served in the military. In my 20 years in the Navy, EVERY COMMAND (afloat and ashore) had what was called an “Emergency Action Plan” or “EAP” on the books as part of Command Instructions. This was to outline what every person was expected to do in the event of any kind of emergency - fire, flood, earthquake, insurrection, attack on the base or ship, etc. Failure to know what to do and where to be can literally kill people.

I want you to go back to the COVER of this issue and look very closely. That photo is of my neighbor’s driveway about 20-30 yards from my home in Boulder. I came THAT CLOSE to losing my home and everything in it on 30DEC in the Marshall Fire. I was LUCKY! My home was completely undamaged, but that was LUCK rather than anything else. My neighbor literally lost EVERYTHING in his home. Winds were 100+ mph and whipping around causing the fire to jump around seemingly at random. There are literally homes and new construction standing in the middle of rubble all around them—strangely enough. But, more than 1000 homes in Louisville, Superior, and nearby unincorporated Boulder County were completely leveled by that fire. It reminded me of the pictures we saw of Sarajevo after it had been bombed into oblivion with the fall of Communism in the 90’s. 11118929

I had LITERALLY 10 minutes to gather whatever I could and get the heck “out of Dodge” to safety. It took me 3 hours to drive 18 miles to my daughter’s home in Thornton—after all, thousands of other people in Boulder were all trying to evacuate as well. Good news? EVERYONE was courteous and allowed people to merge in. Traffic was slow, but it was moving.

As part of this article, I’m including an Emergency Evacuation Checklist that my daughter found AFTER THE FACT. It’s not perfect, and everyone will have unique situations. For example, I don’t have a hearing aid or a safety deposit box, so I didn’t need any of those on the 15 minute notice section. In my 10 minutes, BY SHEER ACCIDENT I managed to get everything I needed from the 15 minute list, and one item each from the 30 minute and 1 hour lists. But, that was an ACCIDENT. I hadn’t given a moment’s thought to the “WHAT IF” I have to suddenly evacuate? After all, I survived the 2013 thousand year flood with no water in my basement after both neighbors had floods in theirs. What did I have to worry about? Well, maybe I didn’t have to worry, but I assure you MY DAUGHTERS (in Thornton and Great Falls MT) BOTH were scared to death and worried. They grew up in that house, and they wanted to make SURE that I was safe.

So, please, do yourself and your family and loved ones a tremendous favor and THINK ABOUT what you would do in an emergency. Use this checklist as a GUIDE—make it your own. Then start thinking about where everything you will need is located and how you might make it quicker and easier to gather in an emergency when you don’t have time to think—you just have to react.

TRUST ME ... I’ve done a LOT of reflecting on my lack of an Emergency Action Plan, and I’m fixing that problem now. YOU should be doing the same thing.

*Bill*

# EMERGENCY EVACUATION – ITEMS TO GATHER

# of Vehicles \_\_\_\_ Drivers \_\_\_\_ Trailers \_\_\_\_ Motorcycles \_\_\_\_

## 15-minute warning:

1. Wallet, purse, keys, glasses
2. Cell phone(s), charger(s)
3. Emergency Cash, credit cards
4. Pets, carriers, leashes, meds
5. Clothes, shoes, hats for season
6. Hearing aids, medications
7. Flashlights, extra batteries
8. Safety Deposit box key(s)
9. Checkbooks, bills to pay
10. Computer account passwords
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_

## 30-minute warning:

(The above, PLUS ... )

1. Pillows, Sleeping Bags, blankets
2. Address book, phone list
3. Jewelry & most valuable personal possessions
4. Personal hygiene items
5. Other meds, supplements
6. First aid kit, medical items
7. Pet food, dishes, bedding, litter
8. Children's items, toys, books
9. Battery radio, extra batteries
10. Toilet paper, hand wipes, soap
11. Clothing for 3 days, shoes
12. Computer, monitor, laptop
13. Gal jugs of drinking water
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_

## 1-hour warning:

1. Take or safeguard guns, ammo
2. Ice cooler, ice, food, drinks
3. Genealogy records, files
4. 3 days food, special diet items
5. Gloves, dust mask for smoke
6. Paper plates, cups, utensils
7. School items, homework, pen, pencils, books, calculator, paper
8. Licenses, vehicle titles, deeds
9. Insurance, financial, medical data; Wills, Powers of Attorney
10. Personal property lists, photos, & appraisals, documentation
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_

## 2-hour+ warning:

1. Albums, photos, home videos
2. Family photos on display
3. Military decorations, records, mementoes, plaques
4. Luggage (packed)
5. Valuable items, cameras
6. Heirlooms, art, collections
7. Primary cosmetics
8. Secondary vehicles, RV
9. Camping equipment, tent
10. Journals, diaries, letters
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_

# EDITOR'S RESTLEBOARD



BY: **BILL HICKEY, 33°**

EMAIL: [WA3H@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:WA3H@HOTMAIL.COM)

## Rights, Responsibilities, Privileges, Authority

### Oaths, Obligations, and Charges

At the December 2021 Red Room Business meeting, Illustrious Brother Ron Birely, 33°, Personal Representative of the Deputy of the Supreme Council for Colorado made a few salient points to the officers (and members) attending that meeting. Two of those were:

1. **NO ONE, repeat NO ONE, likes wearing a mask.** (Unless, of course, you're trying to hide your identity while committing a crime.)
2. All of us, on multiple occasions, have taken Masonic obligations—and while the exact wording may differ slightly from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and family body to family body, basically we have all agreed to follow the edicts of the Grand Master, the laws of the city of Denver (or whatever city we may meet in), the laws of Colorado, and the laws of the United States. We have also been “charged” to be a “quiet and peaceable citizen, ... conform with cheerfulness to the government of the country in which you live” and “in your outward demeanor be particularly careful to avoid censure or reproach.” 5896998

Until such a time as the Grand Master lifts or modifies his edict(s), the governments of Denver (city and county) and Colorado lift or modify their restrictions on gatherings inside buildings, **WE WILL PROPERLY wear a mask inside our building.** Arguing about it serves no useful purpose. Intentionally disobeying the orders violates your obligations and charges as a Mason. So, the least we can all do is demonstrate that Masons are a “cut above” the riff-raff and rabble in public that seem to cry foul at every opportunity. Remember, we avoid politics, religion, and other divisive topics while in “lodge” (and here, we can substitute any Masonic body in question as well) - this is to preserve the peace and harmony of the meeting. Let's all agree to disagree about a lot of things, but do so in a positive, courteous, and brotherly manner.



This was displayed in my urologist's office back when the pandemic first began.

**WEAR YOUR MASK PROPERLY AND CORRECTLY!!!**  
**Cover your nose AND your mouth!**

Continued on next page

In the Navy, (and I'm pretty sure all services had similar training) we had to take periodic training on certain topics mandated from CNO and others in the chain of command. One of the most significant in my years on active duty was "RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES."

The first thing they did was define a "RIGHT" as something that was God-given to all men (and women). This meant the CONSTITUTION did not give us those rights, it merely AFFIRMED that those rights were given to us by our CREATOR. No MAN or government can take those "rights" away because they didn't give them to us. At the same time, they brought up the concept of PRIVILEGES. These are things that a person (your boss at work, for example) or an organization (your employer, our government, etc.) have or give to us by virtue of our respective positions to do (e.g., drive a car). At any time, should we be found wanting in our ability to handle that privilege, it can be withdrawn by the person/organization granting it.

But, here's the thing ... there are RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES, PRIVILEGES, and AUTHORITIES. These are distinctly different concepts and many people confuse "rights" with "privileges" (e.g., they think driving a car is a "right" - when it is actually a "privilege.")

YOUR RIGHTS and MY RIGHTS are equal—your rights end where my rights begin, and my rights end where your rights begin. My privileges, on the other hand, are not likely the same as yours. Rights cannot be "absolute" in the strictest sense of the word because YOU have a RESPONSIBILITY to ensure that MY rights are not infringed by the exercise of yours, and vice versa. This is a tough line to follow. And, in fact, you also have the RESPONSIBILITY for the proper and legal exercise of your rights—in other words, while you can (are able to) yell "FIRE" in a building, causing pandemonium as people push and shove to get out of the building, you are also accountable for a FALSE ALARM which may involve a legal sanction or penalty. The right to peaceably assemble does not include rioting, violence, and mayhem.

Violating laws eventually will result in you being legally sanctioned (cited, fined, and perhaps incarcerated) for those violations. At some point, the entity that issued your driver's license may well decide to revoke or suspend it for a time because you demonstrated a lack of RESPONSIBILITY for your actions. You are ACCOUNTABLE for your actions. 9161704

Another concept is "RHIP—Rank Has It's Privileges" - but it also stands for "Rank Has It's Responsibilities." You can say it either of two ways: responsibilities carry with them privileges, or privileges carry with them responsibilities. They are intertwined, not separate.

General Colin Powell once said "A LEADER is someone you CHOOSE to follow to a place you will not go by yourself." Think about that short and sweet definition for a moment. Would you want to follow anyone that openly violated their oaths/obligations as a Mason? Of course not.

Another concept: LEGAL ORDERS. You are not obliged to follow an ILLEGAL order. But, you can only question it so far. In other words, if you believe an order to be illegal, you have an obligation to report that appropriately to your chain of command (or your government, through the legal system). BUT, once the command or legal system has made a decision, you are obliged to follow that decision (that the order was lawful) even if you disagree with it. You are not obliged to LIKE the decision, but you are expected to obey the law and decision.

When you decide to stand on PRINCIPLE, make sure your principles are on solid, but not emotional ground and are not being strictly motivated by personal political views.

*Bill*



# From the Secretary's Desk

[Matt Raia, 33°](#)



## **AGE DOES NOT DIMINISH THE EXTREME DISAPPOINTMENT OF HAVING A SCOOP OF ICE CREAM FALL FROM THE CONE.**

### **Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund Contributions**

<https://www.denverconsistorybuildingendowmentfund.org>

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

Paul Revere Lodge #130, A.F.&A.M.	Denver Lodge #5, A.F.&A.M.
Illustrious Brother Charlie Shaeffer, 33°	Brother Ronald Ashlock, 32°
Brother Howard Zoufaly, 32°	Brother Danny Tomlinson, 32° KCCH
Brother Michael Zeff, 32° KCCH	

### **Meal Price Increase Effective January 1, 2022**

Inflation has impacted everything we as individuals purchase and Denver Consistory is not immune to the impact of inflation. As a result of food cost increases by suppliers, government mandated wage increases, and the overall cost of conducting business, our caterer has increased the price charged for our lunches and stated meeting dinners. It is understood that no one likes a price increase, but you receive a great value for what you pay for our lunches and dinners. It is not food at a fast food restaurant served on paper with plastic eating utensils and paper plates.

**Friday Lunch will be \$13** for the three course all-you-can-eat buffet, with beverage.

**Stated Meeting dinner will be \$25** for a three course plated, served dinner, with beverage.

Those who have prepaid for stated meeting dinners will not be required to pay the price increase until you renew your prepayment option.

### **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 Reunions. If you are interested in volunteering some of your time to help with the library, please contact the office (303-861-4261).





**Brother Vic Adelgren, 32°** - Stopped by the office to receive his 50 year membership certificate. Congratulations and thank you Brother Vic for 50 years' service to the Scottish Rite.



Remember Brother Herbert Hoover Shull, 32° who was our "Member in the Spotlight" for November 2021? Well, Illustrious Brother Walt Martin, 33° and Brother Danny Tomlinson, 32° KCCH stopped by Brother Shull's home to present him with his 50 year membership and Blue cap. Congratulations and thank you Brother Shull for your service to Masonry and the Scottish Rite. 11156163



SGIG (Emeritus) Steve Munsinger, 33°; Illustrious Brother Bill Hickey, 33°; and Brother Danny Tomlinson, 32° KCCH presented a metallic flag with military service logos to Brother John Davis, VM of the KSA from the Denver-Fitzsimons Chapter of National Sojourners for display in Doc's Pub.

**Rocky Mountain Chapter Rose Croix Sock Drive**— The Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix has been conducting a sock drive during January and February to benefit the homeless. Bring new socks to the Consistory and place them in the collection bin. They are planning to present the collected socks to Ms. Amber Dinh of the "**Facing Homelessness-Denver**" organization. See the flyer elsewhere in this issue for more information about the project.

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## Who reads the RiteWorks Contest

The membership numbers published in the December RiteWorks belong to the following Brothers who were eligible to receive a free dinner for the December Stated Meeting. **Michael E. Clark, Robert H. Keel, David Hinson, Warren D. Paul, Robert G. Weiss, Mark J. Alumbauch, Ernest T. Soper III, James R. Shoemaker, Donald T. Marshall, Duane S. Thompson.** 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 February Stated Meeting (there were no numbers published in January due to the abbreviated RiteWorks because of Brother Hickey's evacuation during the Marshall Fire).

**December 20<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting** - Our December Stated Meeting was member Appreciation Night. Those attending dinner received a discount on the cost of their meal equal to the number of years they have been a member. The number of combined years of service of those attending was 1,157—VERY IMPRESSIVE!

The entertainment provided by Eric McConnell (son of Brother Dean McConnell, 32° KCCH) was wonderful. Those who missed his performance missed a really fun and enjoyable evening.

**Brother Jonathan Herrmann, 32°**, Class President of the 56<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class, gave **Illustrious and Most Worshipful Brother Steve Munsinger, 33°**, **SGIG Emeritus**, President of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado, a donation on behalf of the Reunion Class.

**ELECTION of 2022 Officers** - was conducted by **Illustrious Brother Ron Birely, 33°**, Personal Representative. Congratulations to our officers elected and appointed for 2022.°



L-R: Thomas R. Repp, 32° KCCH - Wise Master, Rocky Mountain Chapter Rose Croix.  
Larry E. Tygart, Sr., 32° KCCH - Venerable Master, Centennial Lodge of Perfection.  
Danny L. Tomlinson, 32° KCCH - Commander of Colorado Council of Kadosh.  
Joseph L. Mitchell, 32° KCCH - Master of Kadosh for Denver Consistory.

Welcome to the newly appointed officers: Brother S. Todd Warburton, 32°, Captain of the Host, Centennial Lodge of Perfection; Brother Tom Adair, 32°, Expert, Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix; Brother Levi Darrell, 32°, Guardian of the Temple, Rocky Mountain Chapter Rose Croix; Brother Jeffrey Gowin, 32°, Master of Ceremonies, Colorado Council of Kadosh; Brother John Davis, 32°, Lt. of the Guard, Colorado Council of Kadosh; and Brother Heath Firestone, 32° KCCH, Captain of the Guard, Denver Consistory.

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**Stated Meeting February 21<sup>st</sup>** - Patents and class photographs will be presented to the members of the Fall Reunion Class, and Double Eagle Jewels and pins as needed. **Tabor Hanjl** will present the DeMolay Flower Talk. The Colorado Council of Kadosh will do the Ritual Opening and Closing ceremony, we will have an oration by Illustrious Brother Bart Corfee, 33°, Orator of the Centennial Lodge of Perfection, and we will hear the annual reports of the Life Membership Fund and the Almoner.

**Spring Reunion May 12-14, 2022 - WE NEED PETITIONS!** We have only ONE candidate for the Spring Reunion, and he is a holdover from the Fall Reunion. So, in essence, we have no new petitions. Brothers turn in the petitions as soon as you receive them. Do not wait until the April 18<sup>th</sup> Stated meeting. The J2SR educational program for candidates begins eleven weeks prior to the Reunion.

Use the Electronic Petition to expedite the process. When the candidate completes the electronic petition, it is automatically sent to the Denver Consistory office.



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>

# Membership

**“Membership is a CONTACT SPORT!”**

Membership Reports: January 2021	1798	February 2021	1627	(-171)
January 2022	1576	February 2022	1556	(-20)
	(-222)		(-71)	

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### **Automatic Membership Renewal Program**

Supreme Council has implemented 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 membership 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. This program will give members the option to avoid the end of the year Masonic membership crunch as well as help ensure members are always in good standing.

**Donate Your Car** – Do you have a car you no longer need? You are not required to be a member of Denver Consistory to participate. Anyone can participate. Tell your family, friends and neighbors to donate their car for the benefit of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and be eligible to receive a tax deduction for the donation.

It is easy to donate your vehicle to charity for the benefit of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. Go to [www.carsforcharity.net](http://www.carsforcharity.net) click on **Donate My Car**. Scroll down the list of charities and **click on Scottish Rite Masonic Center**. After you have completed the form you will be contacted with information about picking up the car. When the car has been sold by Cars for Charity the Scottish Rite Masonic Center will receive payment. This is a great way to support the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in obtaining funds for the ongoing operation and maintenance of our building.

Thank you to the following Brothers who have recently taken advantage of this opportunity: **Illustrious Brother Dan Conway, 33°; Illustrious Brother Gene Hardy, 33°; Illustrious Brother Grover Sardeson, 33°; Brother Scott Olson 32°, KCCH**

**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 ensures 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. 11113936

#### **Life Membership Fee:**

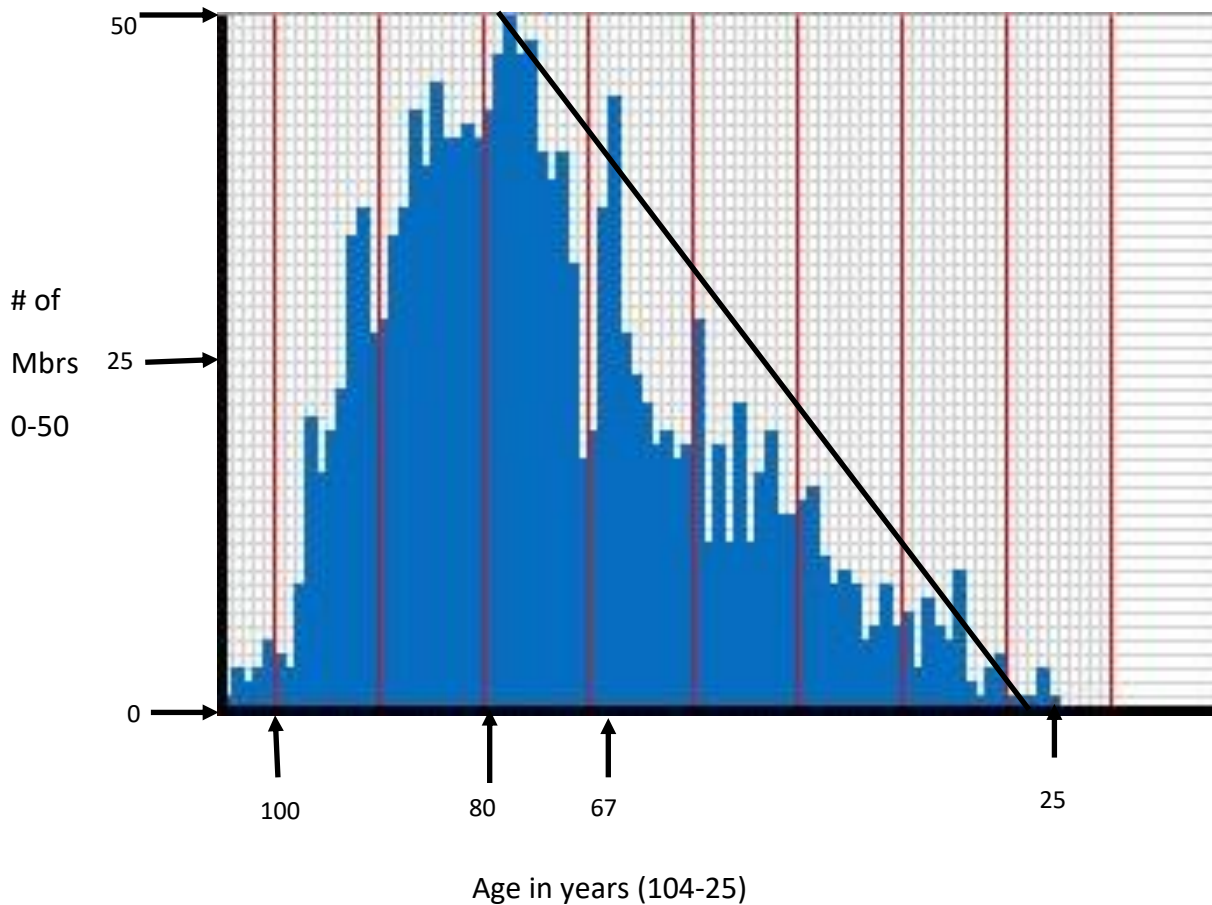
75 years old and older – a single payment of \$1,000

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.

## Denver-Consistory Membership as of 12/31/21



### IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTICE

1. Maximum # of members (50) is at age 77 years.
2. A sub-spike # of members (44) is at age 67 years.
3. The SLOPE of the line from age 77 to 25 is STEEP!
4. We currently have NO members younger than 25.
5. The real drop off occurs at age 50 and below, but 50-60 is not all that great either.

This is not meant to cry “the sky is falling, the sky is falling” BUT it is meant to grab your attention and have you focus on the fact that members above age 80 attending meetings and activities WILL be in the minority, and most will simply stay home. So, your active membership is predominantly under 80, with 60-70 outnumbering 50-60 significantly, and 50-60 outnumbering 40-50 significantly as well.

Questions you need to ask yourself and answer. There is no “right” answer.

1. WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR DOER’S and SHAKERS for reunions and meetings?
2. WHY is there such a significant drop off in age and numbers?
3. WHAT, if anything, can be done to correct that slope.

LOOK AT THE NUMBERS year to year that Matt presents. We have lost EVERY YEAR! Not all losses are deaths. Some are simple NPD’s and resignations/demits. How do you fix that?

# THE GIFT YOU GET TO KEEP

**L. William Schmidt, Jr.**

**Advisor, Denver Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund**

It may seem illogical that you can make a gift and still have it. However, the government has provided unusual opportunities to do just that if it eventually results in a charitable benefit. The gift you get to keep is a legal life estate that works for your personal residence or a farm or a vacation home. It is simple and inexpensive to implement.

You or your financial advisor prepare a deed transferring the property to the Denver Scottish Rite Masonic Center, but the deed reserves the right for you to remain in possession of the property for your lifetime or until you vacate the property. During the time you are in possession of the property, you are responsible for maintaining the property and paying expenses such as insurance and real estate taxes. At the time of your death or vacating the property, title passes immediately to the Center without any legal action.

The charitable income tax deduction is based on the present value of the future right of the Center in receiving the property at your death. Your life expectancy and the IRS interest rates at the time of the gift determine the value of the charitable deduction. 11157695

For example, assume you are 75 years of age, and you deed your residence valued at \$750,000 to the Center. The IRS calculation of the value of the future right of the Center to receive the property at your death, based on recent monthly IRS published interest rates would be \$569,018. This is the value of your charitable deduction. Not a bad deal to have that large an income tax deduction for gifting a property you get to continue using for your lifetime.

Here is an example. I was assisting a widow with her husband's estate. Her main assets consisted in her husband's retirement plan and her personal residence. She could take the retirement plan in installments over her lifetime and pay tax on the installments as received, or she could take a lump sum distribution and pay all the taxes at once.

Her husband had received great hospice care during his last years, and his widow wanted to show her appreciation but could not afford to use the retirement plan or her home. She decided to make a legacy gift honoring her husband by deeding the residence to the hospital while retaining a life estate. The value of the resulting charitable income tax deduction allowed her to take an immediate tax-free lump sum distribution from the retirement plan.



**Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH**

**Director of Education**

**The Dignity of Our Profession**



**First, a shameless pitch as we enter the new year...**

We're off and running in 2022! I've never been much for New Year's Resolutions. Over the decades I've frankly experienced more latent guilt, through failing in my efforts, than pride, through success in fulfilling them!

Be that as it may, the advent of a new year is a good time to consider commitments (whether making a formal resolution or not) to "better actions and nobler purposes:" volunteer work, charitable giving, Lodge and Consistory attendance and labor, enrollment in the Master Craftsman Program.

Wait...What...?!? I stoop to mention Master Craftsman in the same breath as acts of charity and commitment? Well, of course!

The better educated we are as Masons, the better equipped we are to serve the Fraternity and to promote it—both by word and by example—in our communities. It was, in fact, my theme in the article that follows this little promo which put me in mind of plugging the courses this month! Master Craftsman isn't, by any stretch, the only way to further a Masonic education. It is, however, an excellent way to either lay a credible foundation or to embellish work otherwise undertaken. 9593351

So, if you haven't before, please consider Master Craftsman. Journey [here](#), to see the courses and enroll, and, of course, you can always [contact me](#) with questions or for assistance.

**The Dignity of Our Profession...**

Recently I've had the honor of mentoring one of our Lodge's newest Entered Apprentices, as he prepared for his degree proficiency. As we moved through the catechism, we came to where he was asked about the duties inculcated in the charge. "To God...?" No problem. "To your neighbor...?" Of course! "To yourself...?" He seemed a little perplexed!

There was no difficulty with the words themselves nor with the call to avoid behaviors which might be detrimental to the Craft. The doubt seemed to come in seeing the admonition as a "duty to oneself." As we discussed the wording of the charge, what became clear was that my new Brother saw obligations to others in a much more positive light than he did that sense of responsibility to "self" ...indeed seeing that idea as a call to be, in some sense, self-ISH.

I suppose that we do put a premium on our expectation of self-LESS service to others. A lot of emphasis is placed there, as we try to explain to candidates and new Brothers what we're all about as a Fraternity. Perhaps the justifiable pride we feel, in the good we attempt to do,

so overshadows the benefit we ourselves receive, that it can seem odd to speak of it in those terms.

Nor is this an altogether inappropriate concern, since, as I suggested in a previous article, motives do matter! We do need to be aware of why we do what we do and be as certain as possible that we act for the right reasons. Hence, we may well ask (when we commit to “avoiding irregularity and intemperance”), “In what way is this a commitment to myself, as well as to the Craft?”

### **What exactly is our “profession?”**

The simple and obvious answer is that we are Masons: the speculative descendants of ancient operative Brethren, who labored to build great and beautiful edifices of the past. In that context, “profession” refers to our “work” or our “career.” Our hope, if we are true to our art, is that we may build our lives as moral structures, enduring as certainly as have the marvelous castles and cathedrals erected in centuries past.

But there is another connotation to that word “profession,” and it is this second meaning which may speak most eloquently to the charge we’re given as EAs. When we enter the Lodge for the first time, a “profession of faith” is required of every candidate. In this context, “profession” means “statement,” “certification,” “claim,” or if you will, “commitment.” It is a statement of “where we stand” on an important subject: in that instance, a belief in Deity.

As we receive additional light, we come to profess a belief in many other Masonic attributes: all those things which set “good men” apart from “profane.” We all, in this process, become “professors” ...men called upon to articulate and then act upon what we believe.

So, when we’re charged, as EAs, never to act in a manner which would “debase the dignity of [our] profession,” we’re committing ourselves to guard our reputations from the damage which might be done by our own careless actions! It is in undertaking that obligation that we equally take on a responsibility for the reputation of the Fraternity.

Brethren, the fact is that our reputations are what make us either fit or unfit living stones, to either be added to the Masonic edifice...or to be of little use in its advancement. What each of us offers to the project is what makes it possible for Freemasonry to credibly work in the community and to bring about what we envision as Masons. Our most effective tool for that labor is always a reputation for acting in accordance with what we profess to be.

*Bill*

**Last Month’s Trivia Question:** What U.S. Masonic jurisdiction recently became the 46<sup>th</sup> (out of 51) U.S. Grand Lodges to officially recognize a Prince Hall Grand Lodge sharing its jurisdictional territory?

(Answer is on next page)



**Answer:** The MW Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Georgia, at its 2021 Annual Communication, voted to officially extend recognition to the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge - Jurisdiction of Georgia (PHA).

As has been the case generally, the move came in response to a request by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge for recognition (someone, after all, has to make that first move when the time seems right) and constitutes only a recognition of “regularity” (i.e. the legitimacy of a second Grand Jurisdiction within the state) by the GL of Georgia. So, while achieving a degree of “amity,” neither visitation (unless authorized by both GMs) nor demitting from one to the other jurisdiction is part of the current action.

Following the GL of Georgia’s move, five Grand Lodges have yet to recognize the regularity of Prince Hall Masonry within their states: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and West Virginia.

**This Month’s Trivia Question (Answer in next month’s *RiteWorks*):** Who was Joseph Brant and what is his significance in the Masonic history of America?



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX**

IS COLLECTING SOCKS FOR FACING HOMELESSNESS DENVER A NONPROFIT WHO HAS A MISSION TO INVITE THE COMMUNITY TO BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS

**BRING NEW SOCKS FOR DONATION  
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FROM JANUARY 3, 2022 TO FEBRUARY 21, 2022 6:45 PM**

A DONATION TOTE WILL BE PLACED IN THE

**LOBBY PRIOR TO THE MEETINGS,  
BUY ON AMAZON AND SEND TO  
1370 GRANT, DENVER, CO 80203  
(303) 861-4261**

**OR DROP BY THE OFFICE (STANDARD OFFICE HOURS)**

Guest speaker at February 21<sup>st</sup> Stated Meeting is the founder of FACING HOMELESSNESS DENVER  
Amber Dinh





## From the Lodge of Perfection East

**Brother Larry E. Tygart, Sr., 32° KCCH**  
**Venerable Master,**  
**Centennial Lodge of Perfection**



Well, another year has come and gone, and the new officer line has been elected and appointed and installed. This is what we hope will be the first full year of the “new normal.” The year finished up with a fantastic 56<sup>th</sup> Reunion and the addition of 33 new Masters of the Royal Secret.

With the addition of these new Brothers, we move forward with hopes and aspirations of being able to do more. The return of the Remembrance and Renewal to its normal time, the return of the 9 Health Fair, the 57<sup>th</sup> Reunion, the Ladies Luncheon, and the list goes on.

One long-term project will be to prepare for the rededication of the Cornerstone of our building in March, 2024. Yes, we have already begun the building of a punch list for the many items that need to be done as well as enlisting support/participation in getting things prepared and done. Illustrious Brother Bill Skewes, 33°, will be in the East and is already in the process to pursue this celebration event. For all our new Masters of the Royal Secret, here is an opportunity to get in on the planning and participation for this event. 3512787

Two years sounds like a long time, but those that have been in an officer line know that the time goes by quickly. All the officer lines, as well as the KSA, need to come together as a cohesive unit to accomplish all that will need to be done.

All of our Brothers now have an opportunity to prepare to leave a new Legacy for the 100-year Celebration in 2124. We see the photographs around the Consistory from the early years. We too will be in one of those for our descendants in the 22<sup>nd</sup> century to see and know the dedication of the Brothers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century as we have seen of the Brothers in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Please contact any of the officers, give them your contact information, and let them know how you would like to contribute and what talent you have that we can bring to bear on the celebration.

H.I.S.

Larry Tygart, Sr., 32° KCCH

# Memorial Scroll



Joseph Allan Arthur, 32°	07/26/2021
George William Barnes, 32°	11/02/2014
Roy Merrill Booth, 32°	02/15/2021
Ronald Lee Bush, 32° KCCH	12/06/2021
Martin L. Church, Sr., 32°	07/25/2021
Norman Stuart Condrey, 32°	11/16/2021
Gabriel Robert Dinkel, 32° KCCH	01/01/2022
Donald Vernon Edwards, 32°	11/05/2021
Mark Alan Ellsworth, 32°	12/19/2021
John Charles Hammon, 32°	10/12/2021
Otis Estus Hilbun, 32°	12/19/2021
John Lawrence McCaffery, Jr., 32°	12/02/2021
Glenn James Moore, 32°	09/13/2021
Mark G. Mueller, 32° KCCH	01/22/2022
Gerald Burton Olde, 32°	12/12/2021
Marvin Leroy Schroder, 32°	11/16/2020
James Wesley Skaggs, 32°	10/26/2021
Michael Duane Smith, 33° - DGC	11/14/2021
Richard Louis Stevens, 32°	12/19/2021
John Price Sturgeon, 32°	07/17/2019
Charles Robert Travis, 32° KCCH	12/26/2021

**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: Thomas R. Repp, 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°; Scott E. Olson, 32° KCCH, Matthew A. Raia, 33°; 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 Tom Repp, 32° KCCH for more information.**



# The Prelate's Pulpit

Rev. James H. Harris, 33°

Prelate for All Scottish Rite Bodies



If you decide to stop by Wal-Mart or Target, you will find that Christmas is LONG over, and in point of fact, you will see Easter preparations in full swing. You may also find the holiday lights still up in some neighborhoods (where the HOA doesn't demand you remove them promptly). The Christmas "Season" actually ended on Epiphany, January 6, to commemorate when the Wise Men arrived to give gifts to the Christ child. The word Epiphany means "showing" and it was a star that led the Wise Men to the Christ child. January, usually the coldest month of the year, is named after the Roman God Janus. Janus had two faces—one looking forward to a new year, and one looking backward to the old year. The door to 2021 is now firmly closed, but a new door has opened to this new year of 2022. So, here we are in February. Did you ever wonder where the name "February" came from? It can be traced to Middle English *feverer*, and before that from Old French *feverierm* which, in turn, is based on the Latin *februarius*, from *februa*, the name of a purification feast held in this month. The spelling change in the 15<sup>th</sup> century was due to the association with the Latin Word. Still doesn't explain why we typically pronounce it "Feb-U-arie" instead of "Feb-Ru-ary." 4308219

A new year presents us with the opportunity to begin again, make some changes, set some goals, and yes—to put some old habits behind us. I leave you with this New Year's prayer.

Another year is dawning with the chance to start anew  
May I be kinder and wiser God in all I see and do.

Not so much caught up in selfish pain that I would fail to see  
The things in life that mean the most, cost not a fancy fee.

The warm, kind word that I can give, the outstretched hand to help,  
The prayers I pray for those in need - more precious than wealth.

I know not what may lie ahead— of laughter or of tears;  
I only need to know each day that you are walking near.

I'm thankful for this new year and now I humbly pray,  
My hand secure in Yours, dear Lord, each step along the way.

May all of you find happiness and joy in 2022. I pray you will keep me in your prayers.

Ill. Br. Rev. James H. Harris, 33°

**JANUARY 2022**  
**SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS**

**266 Years**

Brother Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**100+ Years Young**

Dan Duffer (101)

**90 Years "OLD"**

Edward William Richards

Stanley Eugene Shafer

Harold Edward Van Hooser

**80 Years "OLD"**

Ira Charles Brenner

Dean Stewart Ehn

Gary Richard Frieauf

Clyde Robert Keagy

Lewis Clay Wagner

**50 Years "OLD"**

Duane James Schleen

**40 Years "OLD"**

Levi Stratton Darrell

**30 Years "OLD"**

Dillon Ray Brickhouse

(Also our Youngster of the Month)



**90 Years "OLD"**

Harold Kenneth Snyder

Ronald Kieffer Graham

**80 Years "OLD"**

Ronald Harvey Porritt

Donald Ralph Sichterman

**70 Years "OLD"**

William Robert Eckler

John Paul Trainor

**60 Years "OLD"**

David Alan Ringler

**50 Years "OLD"**

Kevin James Masar

**27 Years "OLD" Young'un**

Corey David-Thomas Clerkin





THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO

PRESENTS

THE OLDEST CONSECUTIVE PRESENTATION OF  
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE IN COLORADO

SUNDAY, APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

AT 6:30 A.M.

DENVER CONSISTORY

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

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DENVER, COLORADO

Free Parking available

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Breakfast will be available for purchase online at [www.coloradokta.org](http://www.coloradokta.org)

Any questions may be directed to 303-748-4547 or ronbir@msn.com

# ANNOUNCEMENT

## Grand Junction Scottish Rite Bodies Spring Reunion 29-30 April 2022

Brethren:

The Grand Junction Consistory is looking for players in their degrees. In particular, the Master of Kadosh, Wise Master, Commander of Kadosh, Minister of State, and Modes of Recognition for the 32°. The would also welcome a degree team from ANY of the other degrees that aren't mandatory. Typically, the 4<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> Degrees are on Day ONE and the 30<sup>th</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> Degrees are presented on Day TWO.

I can attest that these Brothers have a great time doing their degrees, and this is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the bonds of Fellowship. Illustrious Brothers Joe Keir and John Warren have been very active in Grand Junction Reunions and I'm sure they can fill you in on what a fun opportunity it is to see degree work by another Consistory.

Please contact Joe Wells, 32° KCCH, Director General, [hollyhjill-joe@gmail.com](mailto:hollyhjill-joe@gmail.com) for more information. 7582604

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

L. Bryant Harris, 32° KCCH

# CLAYS FOR A CAUSE

2022 Scottish Rite Sporting Clay Classic



SCAN ME



Join us for a fun time and a great cause!  
Registration is now open for the first annual  
Scottish Rite Sporting Clays Classic on  
**May 27th, 2022**

The event is to support the  
Scottish Rite Foundation,  
and the Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

## Colorado Clays

13600 Lanewood St, Brighton, CO 80603

## Single Shooter Registration - \$150

### Sponsorship opportunities include:

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- Station Sponsors
- Golf Cart Sponsor

### Premium Sponsorship Packages

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- Gold
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Register online at:  
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3. Follow the In-App instructions to complete the process.

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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.

**Donate your car** - We have a donation plan in place to give you a receipt for a tax-deductible donation to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. Donate your car, truck, RV, or boat. Go to [www.carsforcharity.net](https://www.carsforcharity.net) to donate for the benefit of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

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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QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: [Dan Conway, 33°](#)



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(Yes, the spelling is correct above)

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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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Contact:

[cathy@denverconsistory.org](mailto:cathy@denverconsistory.org)

or

[tom@denverconsistory.org](mailto:tom@denverconsistory.org)

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Sovereign Grand Commander



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Centennial Lodge of Perfection



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