



Denver's RiteWorks

SEPTEMBER 2024 vol. 17 #7



September 11, 2001



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BUILDING SECURITY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY! We ask that you be mindful of who you let into the lobby through the glass doors and also be aware of who follows you into the building. We have many "street people" waiting for an opportunity to slip into the building. **Do not let anyone in who you do not know to be a member of Denver Consistory.**



PLANNING CALENDAR

September 2024

Mon, SEP 2		Consistory Office CLOSED for Labor Day Holiday
Fri, SEP 6	NO LUNCH	Consistory Office CLOSED for Grand York Rite Session
Sat, SEP 7		KSA Booth at Estes Park Highland Games (see flyer)
Fri, SEP 13, 20, 27	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (\$13; Fried Chicken on 9/13)
Mon, SEP 16		Stated Meeting (Parking Garage Available)
	5:30 p.m.	Red Room Business Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Dinner
	7:00 p.m.	Scottish Rite Foundation Program
	7:30 p.m.	Split Meeting

October 2024

Fri, OCT 4	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken - \$13)
Mon, OCT 7	7:00 p.m.	KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, OCT 11	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch
Fri, OCT 18	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch
Mon, OCT 21		Stated Meeting (Feast of Tishri) (Parking Garage Available)
	5:30 p.m.	Red Room Business Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Dinner
	7:00 p.m.	Awards and Patents; Entertainment
	7:30 p.m.	Split Meeting; 5 min oration– Orator, Rocky Mountain Chapter, Rose Croix
Fri, OCT 25	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch

November 2024

Fri, NOV 1	11:30 a.m.	Consistory Lunch (Fried Chicken - \$13)
Mon, NOV 4	7:00 p.m.	KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, NOV 8	11:30 p.m.	Consistory Lunch
Mon, NOV 11	5:30 p.m.	Special Officers' Meeting to read last minute Petitions
Wed, NOV 13	5:15 p.m.	Children's Hospital Rite Care Presentation
Thu-Sat, NOV 14-16	7:00 a.m.	Fall Reunion (62 nd) (Parking Garage Available)
Sat, NOV 16	5:30 p.m.	Reunion Banquet; 25 and 50 Year Presentations
Mon, NOV 18		Stated Meeting (Parking Garage Available)
	5:30 p.m.	Red Room Business Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Dinner
	7:00 p.m.	Entertainment; Veterans Recognition Program
	7:30 p.m.	Split Meeting
Thu-Fri, NOV 28-29		CONSISTORY CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Sat, NOV 30	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Consistory Decorating Party (All members & wives invited)



Illus. Bro. Steven Lee Hubbard, 33°
6/27/1953 - 7/7/2024

A Celebration of Life
Saturday, September 28, 2024
11:00 AM
Highlands Masonic Temple
3550 Federal Blvd
Denver 80211

EDITOR'S RESTLEBOARD



BY: **BILL HICKEY, 33°**

EMAIL: WA3H@HOTMAIL.COM

Do We REALLY Remember?

I grew up in the 50's and 60's - my parents were part of that "Greatest Generation" that survived WWII and the Great Depression. Even in elementary school, every day we recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag (before and after "under God" was added), sang various patriotic songs (America the Beautiful, My Country Tis of Thee, Star Spangled Banner). No one thought anything about it...it was just something we all did. Nobody complained that it OFFENDED them. We were charged by our parents to "Remember Pearl Harbor" - every year - even though I was born 6 years after the attack.

Let's fast forward a few decades. For those of us in Colorado, the mass shooting at Columbine High School on 4/20/1999 was something we remembered a while before 4/20 turned into something to "smoke out." 9/11/2001 - a day that shocked EVERYONE - we said - **WE SAID** we would **never forget**. Yet, today, we seem to have forgotten WHY we observe 9/11 as "Patriot Day." Let alone HOW and WHY it happened.

Over the years in our lives, there will be, and have been, some of those events that cause us to pause and ask others "where were you when ... ?" So, when Neal Armstrong stepped down onto the surface of the moon I had just graduated from college, was waiting for my orders to the second half of Reserve Officer Candidate School in Newport RI. I was in elementary school when Alan Shephard was launched into a sub-orbital flight in his Mercury Capsule "Freedom 7" and in junior high school when John Glenn was the first US astronaut to orbit the earth on February 20, 1962 in "Friendship 7." I remember those events vividly enough even today, as I approach that magic 80 year old status. Schools took time out during the day to observe them.

As well, I have friends who were on USS Pueblo when it was attacked and captured by North Korea and on the USS Liberty when it was attacked by "friendly" forces while in international waters. But, these two incidents are not taught in schools because they don't rise to the level of "remembrance" by the public that 9/11 and Pearl Harbor do and should. [8365967]

But, how many of us ACTUALLY pause to really "remember" and "reflect" upon those two major incidents to our country? Both of them happened because ... frankly ... we collectively failed to learn from history, and thus we were doomed to repeat history. Have we TRULY learned from 9/11? Is it even being taught in school today? Is the U.S. still being blamed by some well-intentioned but equally ill-informed teachers? Are we now doomed to repeat a similar tragic event sometime in our future?

As Masons, we all take obligations in our various degrees and ceremonies. We ostensibly use a Volume of the Sacred Law to seal our obligations and give them sanctity and validity. Yet, when it comes to remembering that we swear to ATTEND the meetings of the bodies we join, somehow I believe many of us have "forgotten" that part of the obligations to which we agreed. We didn't agree to attend UNLESS there was a football game on, hockey game on, something on TV, or whatever. We agreed that we owed a duty to our God, our Country, our profession, and our family BEFORE we owed a duty to Masonry ... but we still owe that duty to Masonry. We should be more aware of just what we're agreeing to when it is asked in a ceremony. If we do not plan to attend, then by rights, we should be honest and excuse ourselves from the ceremony...but I doubt that ever happens.

Bill



From the Secretary's Desk

[Matt Raia, 33°](#)



CONSISTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday 7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

There are so many substitutes on the market it's sometimes hard to remember what the original was.

Parking Permit Required - A Denver Consistory parking permit **MUST** be displayed on the lower left of your vehicle windshield. (Where the emission certificate is located) Do not place the permit in a location other than the lower left of the windshield. If you park in the garage without a properly displayed parking permit you will receive a ticket. Denver Consistory cannot dismiss the ticket and we will not pay it. We do not own the garage; we do not control the parking, and we do not issue the tickets. [8549339] Parking permits are available in the Consistory office.

Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund Contributions

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

Illustrious Brother Keith Anderson, 33°

Illustrious Brother Bob Gregory, 33°

Brother Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Brother Jerry Edwards, 32° KCCH

Brother David King, 32° KCCH

Brother Brian Kirby, 32°

Brother Mike McMinimee, 32°

Susan Boles, in memory of Illustrious Brothers Don Cox, 33° and Steve Hubbard, 33°

Congratulations to Illustrious Brother Bob Gregory, 33°, for achieving "Platinum Status" as a member of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center Cathedral Club, having made cumulative donations to the SRMC Endowment Fund totaling \$50,000, to help preserve our historic building.

Transportation Available – Brethren, if you need a ride to a stated meeting, the reunion, or one of our events, call the office and let us know. We will send a ride-share service (Lyft or Uber) to pick you up and bring you back home, **at no expense to you**. The Consistory will pay the bill. You do not have to miss out on participating in Denver Consistory events because you need a ride.

Who reads the RiteWorks Contest - The membership numbers published in the June RiteWorks belong to the following Brothers who were eligible to receive a free dinner for the June Stated Meeting: **Fousseni L. Banao, Gregory M. Adams; M. Orion Franklin; John M. Geiger; Mark G. Hope; Christopher W. Carroll; Keith D. Chandler; James E. Long; Jerald R. Munson, and Jack D. White.** 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 September meeting.

Receive a free Stated Meeting dinner - Prepay for an entire year's worth of Stated Meetings and **receive one free dinner.** Prepay for nine dinners and receive the tenth dinner free. To receive the free dinner, you must prepay for all nine dinners at one time. It does not matter when during the year you decide to prepay. The timeframe will run consecutively and not on a calendar-year basis. No refunds or credit will be given for prepaid dinners not utilized during the twelve-month period.

RSVP's needed! - Now that the summer break is over, it is time once again to remind you to make a reservation when requested. **PLEASE HELP US PLAN PROPERLY** for our events and dinners. We do not want to waste money by over-ordering the amount of food we will need, and we don't want to run out by not ordering enough. **The only way we will know how much to order is if you do your part and let us know if you will attend.** RSVP is NOT a Masonic term meaning "Does Not Apply To Me!" ... **YES, IT DOES APPLY TO YOU.** No RSVP, No dinner.

Knights of St. Andrew News - Monday, June 3rd the KSA Knighted nine new members. **Brothers R. Joey Helm, Joshua Zucker, Steve Stevens, Matthew Lash, Michael Nabors, Chris Wiegand, Jeff Vineyard, Austin Harris, and Andrew Blizzard.** Congratulations to the new Sir Knights and welcome to the Denver Consistory's Chapter of the Knights of Saint Andrew.

Ladies Lunch - The annual Denver Consistory Ladies Luncheon was held on June 17th. A wonderful lunch was enjoyed by the ladies who attended. Thank you to **Illustrious Brother Bart Corfee, 33°**, Venerable Master of the Centennial Lodge of Perfection, who planned the event, and to all the Brothers who helped set up, serve, and clean up after the event. A special thank you to the Brothers who provided transportation to the ladies in need of a ride to the Consistory for this very special event.

June Stated Meeting - Our June 19th Stated Meeting was "*Hawaiian Shirt Night*" and "*Blue Lodge Recognition Night*," with entertainment provided by the band "*Steely/Dead*." Thank you to all who wore a Hawaiian shirt and brightened up the room.

Cornerstone Rededication Ceremony - The 100th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of our building was held July 20, 2024. Congratulations to the members of the planning committee for an outstanding event. [11127142]

Scottish Rite Masonic Center Charity Golf Classic - The Scottish Rite Masonic Center Charity Golf Classic was held at Hiwan Golf Club on August 12th. Thank you to our sponsors for supporting the tournament. Thank you to the members of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center Committee, and **Illustrious Brother Bart Corfee, 33°**, Golf Committee Chairman, for planning the event and thank you to the members of Denver Consistory and their family members who volunteered to help on the day of the tournament. It was a wonderful day enjoyed by all who participated. The tournament is a fund-raising event for the benefit of the Scottish Rite

From the Secretary's Desk - Continued from previous page

Masonic Center and the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado. The 2025 Scottish Rite Masonic Charity Golf Classic will be held August 11, 2025, at the Hiwan Golf Club. Mark your calendar.

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 to donate for the benefit of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

Monthly membership fee payment plan is available - are you tired of paying fees at the end of the year to all the Masonic bodies of which you are a member? You may pay your annual Denver Consistory membership in eleven easy monthly payments rather than one lump sum at the end of the year, eliminating one more year-end bill to pay. By authorizing an automatic credit card payment each month, at the end of eleven months your membership fee for the ensuing year will be paid. Contact the office to set up a payment plan.

Life Memberships are an ideal way to avoid paying future membership fee increases. A Life Membership guarantees that you will never be suspended for non-payment of membership fees 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.

2024 Membership fee was payable January 1, 2024. Please do your part to help sustain the operations of Denver Consistory by paying your membership 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.

2025 MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE - The Denver Consistory membership fee will be \$140 effective January 1, 2025. Denver Consistory is not immune from the effects of inflation and increased costs of doing business. This has necessitated an increase in the membership fee. \$140 is STILL a real bargain for your membership in the Denver Consistory. This is just \$0.38 per day. WOW! That's less than the cost of one cup of coffee. Isn't your Scottish Rite membership worth more to you than a cup of coffee? 2025 membership fee notices have already been mailed by the Supreme Council. Please pay your membership fee when you receive this notice and not lay it aside and forget about it and then become delinquent. Please do your part to help sustain the operations of the Denver Consistory by paying your membership fee in a timely manner.

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Automatic Membership Fee Renewal Program

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

Life Membership Fee:

75 years old and older – a single payment of \$1,250

62-74 years old – a single payment of \$1,750

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

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

Fall Reunion - Our Fall Reunion will be held November 14-16. We need you to do your part to facilitate the Fall Reunion. **WE NEED CANDIDATES!** As of August 31st we have THREE (yes, 3) candidates for the Fall class, two of which are holdovers from the Spring Reunion. Get those petitions turned in to the office and don't wait until the last minute in November. We also need volunteers to help work on the AV, Lighting, Sound, Properties, Stage, Costumes, and Makeup committees. If you can help, even if it is only for one of the reunion days or a part of a day, please contact **Illustrious Brother Keith Anderson, 33°**, Director General, at keith.anderson166@gmail.com - We are only asking for a little bit of your time to help the existing committee members and to ease some of their work load as well.

If you are interested in being a cast member in one of the Degrees (speaking or non-speaking part), contact **Brother Jeremy DeBard, 32° KCCH**, at debard@me.com or **Brother Miguel Lazalde, 32°**, at mikealazalde@gmail.com. If you would like to be a degree director or assistant director, contact our Director General, **Illustrious Brother Keith Anderson, 33°** at keith.anderson166@gmail.com.

WHOSE JOB IS IT ANYWAY?

"Whose Job Is It?" This is a story about four people named **EVERYBODY**, **SOMEBODY**, **ANYBODY**, and **NOBODY**.

There was an important job to be done, and **EVERYBODY** was sure that **SOMEBODY** would do it.

ANYBODY could have done it, but ... **NOBODY** did it.

SOMEBODY got angry about that, because it was **EVERYBODY'S** job.

EVERYBODY thought **ANYBODY** could do it, but **NOBODY** realized that **EVERYBODY** wouldn't do it

It ended up that **EVERYBODY** blamed **SOMEBODY** when **NOBODY** did what **ANYBODY** could have done.





THANK YOU!

Larry E. Tygart, Sr., 32° KCCH

100th Cornerstone Committee Chair

Now that the dust has settled and I have a way to thank all those that made the Rededication happen, I will do so in writing. This began as what I had hoped would be a short thank you, then it turned into an article, and it could now be considered a short story. But the thank you had to happen.

First, I must state the obvious and thank the most important person to me for their support. I committed the Masonic error and did not recognize her the first thing at the Cornerstone. For 56 years and counting my wife Cathy has been my support and guiding light in all that I do. I pray that from our first Kiss to our last breath she will remain as my world.

This journey began with the Brothers of the Executive Committee, spearheaded by Ron and Karl. They gave the Cornerstone Committee full latitude to do what they wanted for the event. But as with all things, they guided and supplied suggestions that may enhance the event. All in all, they worked and supported the committee as a silent partner.

The Committee consisted of the four sitting primary officers plus the next years primary officers. The Committee then add two additional Members, the Venerable Master of the Centennial Lodge of Perfection for the event year and a recorder. [6630867]

Danny Tomlinson volunteered to be the person to take on the fundraising effort to ensure that the event was self-supporting and remain an event and not a fundraiser. As a former lobbyist (can't hold politics against him) he set his sight on the Committees goal to fund all the needs to put on the event (dinner not included). As those of you that were the eye of his affection, you understand these traits. These bodies committed to the cause were Denver Lodge #5, Black Hawk Lodge #11, Harmony Lodge #61, Denver Colorado Commandry #1, and Royal Arch Denver Chapter #2. We noted them in the Trifold as benefactors and were also recipients of a hand drafted calligraphy thank you letter penned by Al Ulibarri. Having funds secured Danny moved on and designed and ordered our Commemorative Challenge coins and the Commemorative Lapel pins.

Joe Mitchell was able to utilize his medical background during the event and was the point person to deal with any medical issues that arose. Fortunately for all of us Joe's talents were not utilized, and he was able to move more freely about the event.

Tom Repp began as the person who was going to obtain permits, security (local law enforcement), plan a public parade route, schedule road closures and the like. But as Bro. Bobby Burns wrote "the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry". Those grandiose plans quickly became a more subdued plan. Tom then re-directed his efforts to work with other Committee Members for a smaller parade, the commemorative trifold, patent invitations, and being my analytical side.

Tom Adair is the person that I relied upon the most to keep track of the myriads of things that needed scheduling, reminder, minute keeping and follow up. When we received the new time capsule, he took on the challenge to collect, seal and document all of the items (including electronic items) to be placed into the new time capsule. Tom took on the challenge to try and locate the original time capsule in the building. He contacted the Denver Bomb squad and had them use their x-ray to look behind the cornerstone and when there was nothing found, he proceeded to obtain a ground penetrating radar system to again look for the time capsule. This again came with no additional information. The space allegedly where the time capsule had resided, had a hole drilled and a camera scope ran into the space where nothing was found. The summation was that the original time capsule had been removed by person (s) unknown during one of the two events that would have given access to that space during one of those events.

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Thank You! - Continued from previous page

The Knights of St. Andrew under the leadership of Venerable Master Russ Magyar were indispensable to this function with their securing the building, leading the parade, the salute to the dignitaries and escorting guests, it could not have been better. I do want to specifically thank Russ as he showed great decorum and Brotherly Love when I was having a challenging moment and he listened and supported me as a True Mason should and worked through a difficult situation. The KSA are and always have been the greatest of supporters for the Consistory and its endeavors. Without men like Kevin, Thayne, Jeremy, David, Hoss, Spike, Tom, Vic and myriad of others this would not have been so easy.

Tom Gaffney who became the MC for the day and presented the crowd with a short history and of his remembering his first 100th Anniversary rededication at the Capitol building and how it made him feel and wished the same for the crowd. Later ensuring all were gathered up to view the presentation of the Traitor and to again thank those in attendance for their support.

Grover Sardeson for Directing and putting on a great play. The Traitor cast, Ron Birely, John Buchanan, Aaron Klostermeyer, Willam Biggs, Scott Bates, Joe Magoffin, Jerry Fenimore, Ben Williams, Al Ulibarri, John Warren, James Warner, and musically accompanied by Charlie Shaeffer, did an absolutely magnificent job of depicting the events of those days. I never grow tired of seeing Masons put on great degree work where it is meaningful. All of those in attendance that I spoke to thought it was moving and well presented.

Matt Raia really went the extra mile to handle the purchase of the new time capsule, schedule the cleaning of the Cornerstone and engaged Mike Moore to delicately color in the writings on the Cornerstone and then sealed it. For those that paid attention, you can really see the difference. Matt also oversees the donations made and pays them out to cover the expenses incurred to put on the event.

Cathy Anderson is as she always is a gift for any event planner. She worked with the Committee on the menu, the trifold, patent invitations, reservations, keeping in continued communication with the Chef, the serving staff, the printer, the responses, answering questions. Just a blessing to have her assisting the Committee.

Bart Corfee started the initial work on the patent invitations some two years ago along with some ideas for the trifold as well. With a golf tournament, chairing the Finance committee and other duties, Bart begrudgingly surrendered those tasks to others so he could concentrate on the bigger picture items for the Consistory. Continuing to attend all the in person and zoom meetings to add his voice to the process.

Gene Hardy, who takes little credit for his influence and guidance was on every zoom call, attended every meeting before the Stated meetings and gave invaluable counsel to the Committee. His easy-going approach (diametrically opposed to mine) provided a much-needed calming effect and opened lines of communication for those who may not otherwise have contributed.

Loren Kohler engaged Jered Minter to assist him in locating a vendor to supply a banner to announce the event as well as obtaining the bunting that was put up in the Cathedral room for the event. Jered solicited Brothers to come and assist in hanging and "adjusting" the bunting around the Cathedral room in preparation for the event.

Pablo Colombar as the webmaster will have an up-front effect but will have longer term effects as he works with Scott Olson, Hunter McCallum, Bill Hickey to put photos and recordings not only into the time capsule but onto the Consistory web site for current and future generations to watch. These capturing moments and recordings came from the direction of Scott Olson working with Claud Dutro and Mike Moore to begin the process by putting together a short historical video that was shown at the end of the presentation of the Traitor. I cannot wait to see additional works that will be posted.

The trifold and the patent invitation were the items that we thought would be the easiest to complete. Not such an understatement was thought. Tom Repp, Claud Dutro, Mike Moore and others began these efforts months before they came to fruition. From what goes on the trifold to how it is made to multiple changes in content, font, spacing, photos, and the list goes on. And due to the commitment of the Brothers taking on the task, we ended with a really nice hand out for the event.

I know Mike Moore as the quiet unassuming archivist for the Consistory. Similar to the way he (in my opinion) ran the MWGL when he was GM. He brought to the public many items from the vault and historical

Thank You! - Continued from previous page

records and photos. From the display and comment on the organ to other documents and photos not by but a few in our history. I thank him and Claud Dutro for their continuing the history and perpetuating the Craft. To echo the Sovereign Grand Commander Cole, it is about the quality. The quality for me started some years ago with Darrell and has continued through today and most recently Steve Hubbard, who through all his trials, committed quality to a young man that he would guide him through his journey, and as fate would have it, when this young man became Master of his Lodge, Steve laid down his working tools and rejoined those that preceded him.

In closing, it was the Committee's desire to have an event that all in attendance would enjoy and that it would be memorable. I hope that you did and that it was. I am and will always be humbled by the devotion and works of all my Brothers.

H.I.S.

Larry





Thomas L. Gaffney, 32° KCCH
Commander, Denver Council of Kadosh



CORNERSTONE CELEBRATION
July 20, 2024

Scottish Rite Freemasonry was brought to the state of Colorado in 1877 by Albert G. Mackey, Representative of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States. For almost 50 years the Scottish Rite Consistory met in the same location as the Grand Lodge until after acquiring land at our present location, near the newly completed Colorado State Capitol. Construction was authorized in 1922. The cornerstone was dedicated in 1924 and the building completed in 1925.

The prominent architect Brother William Norman Bowman designed this building. A life-long Scottish Rite member, Brother Bowman designed numerous buildings in Denver including the Mountain States Telephone building, Park Hill Methodist Church and the Colburn and Cosmopolitan hotels.

On July 20, 2024, we met, with great ceremony, to render commemorative honors to that Cornerstone dedication, to this building and to our fraternity, as we recognized and strengthened the ties that bind us to our Colorado origins of Scottish Rite Masonry.

The Cornerstone is typically the first stone placed in a building's foundation during its construction. For reasons ancient, geometric, and philosophic, it is often located in the Northeast corner. Stretching back to the days of Babylon, the laying of cornerstones has played an important role in the construction of many notable edifices and was an important and sacred feature in many cultures. The first recorded Masonic cornerstone ceremony was in 1737. In 1793, Freemason and United States President George Washington, accompanied by members of the Grand Lodge, laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol building. [1631266]

The ceremony itself "implores the divine blessing of God to protect the workmen from injury, to bless those who conceived the building of this edifice, and to bless all who shall enter through these doors."

Back in 1990, as a much younger man and Mason, I witnessed, and have never forgotten, the 100th Anniversary Commemorative laying of the cornerstone of the Colorado State Capital building. I was new to Masonry, but I still recall the majesty and ceremony on a hot July summer afternoon, one hundred years to the day; a strikingly tall man, in swallow tail mourning coat, vest, white gloves and top hat, addressing a crowd gathered around the steps of the Capitol. With all of the accompanying 19th century rhetorical flourishes he recited, from memory, the original dedication speech, delivered 100 years earlier by Governor John Routt. That brother recreating the dedication speech was MWB James C. Callahan, at the time a member of the Grand Officer Line, and seven years later, the Grand Master of Masons of Colorado. When two years ago we started preparing for this Commemoration, I always kept that memory foremost in my mind, in the hope that we might create some of that same spirit of renewal and remembrance at this years commemoration.

Special thanks and recognition should be extended to all of the Brethren without whose leadership and assistance this Cornerstone Commemoration could not have happened. Their individual contributions as Heads of Committees for the last two years are too numerous to cite, but they know who they are. They met on Zoom calls on a monthly basis, pooling their ideas

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and coordinating their actions to come up with this outstanding event. Special recognition needs to go out to Brother Larry Tygart. His was the inspiration, genius and organizing acumen that directed all of the rest of our efforts. Thank you, Brother Tygart. And of course, we need to thank the Knights of Saint Andrew who provided escort and security support.

One of the highlights of the event was the public performance in the Cathedral Room of “*The Traitor.*” *The Traitor* is a Scottish Rite play, and a “period piece” set two years after the end of the American Revolution. The play depicts a dream by Benedict Arnold, then residing in England, a former patriot and war hero, a Mason, and before his treason, one of the best field generals of the American Army. In his dream, Brother George Washington is being honored at a Masonic Lodge meeting attended by many prominent leaders in the Continental Army. By chance, a couple of former British officers, and Benedict Arnold, all Masons, arrive at the meeting. After many years of exile, Arnold is smuggled into the country for just this meeting. He yearns once again to set foot on his native soil. He comes to plead his cause to his former companions-in-arms, trying to justify, explain, perhaps exonerate and atone for his treason.

The cast did a fine job. The play was superbly presented and well received. After the play, the visiting dignitaries were introduced and asked to say a few words. The afternoon’s festivities was concluded with a fine dinner and remarks from our own Deputy of the Supreme Council, Karl J. Hinkle 33°, along with remarks from the Sovereign Grand Commander James D. Cole, 33°, who made a special trip to come visit with us and share some of his thoughts.





Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Director of Education

Saggezza! Force! Belleza!*
PART THREE



* Wisdom (Italian), Strength (French) and Beauty (Spanish)

France

Welcome to the final part of a look at Freemasonry in three great European democracies: popular destinations for American tourists and among the most popular for visitation by U.S. Masons. I have left France for the last, not only because, next to the British Isles, it is the most popular destination for American Brethren travelling in Europe, but also because the French Craft represents a particularly perplexing set of issues for the U.S. visitor. **A word of caution for the reader** as we get underway: HISTORY! You'll find a bit of familiarity with French history an advantage in making your way through this month's offering or in further study. The narrative this month is necessarily foreshortened, because it otherwise would have been long enough to fill an entire issue of *Rite Works!* So, I hope, if any of this leaves you scratching your head, that it then becomes an incentive to dig deeper. [11143744]

The argument has been made for centuries - probably without the slightest chance of resolution - that the purely speculative Craft (i.e., a Lodge made up only of speculative Brethren and therefore doing only speculative work) arose in continental Europe rather than in Britain. That purported origin is usually cited as the 1688 formation of an Irish Regimental Lodge in Saint-Germain-en-Laye (with supposed ties to the exile of James II). Some historians consider the event "probable" (there is no conclusive proof), but, with competing claims among Lodges in Britain, the French origin would be questionable even if dates could be proven. The first well-documented occurrence of a French Lodge was in 1725 in Paris. A Lodge termed "in the manner of English societies," it was made up mainly of Irish expats and Jacobite exiles. Ties with the English Craft were close in those days, with a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of London serving as GM of the Freemasons of France. After 1838 (U.G.L.E.), the Fraternity in France began to move in a more distinctly French direction.

1737 saw the formation of the Grand Loge de France, which Anderson noted in his *Constitutions* the following year, and the existence of a Grand Master and constituent Lodges gave France a standing equal to England, Ireland, and Scotland. It is notable that the "French system" of high degrees (*haut grades*) began to evolve almost immediately. Interest in and expansion of these high degrees is, of course, closely tied to the formation of the Scottish Rite. Much of the early history of our Rite had connections to the French West Indies, and events came full-circle, in 1804, when Count Alexandre de Grasse-Tilly arrived in France (from his birthplace in the French Antilles) and founded a Supreme Council of France (foreshadowing the creation of the General Scottish Grand Lodge of France) under the authority of the Mother Supreme Council in Charleston.

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By the outbreak of the French Revolution, a rival Grand Orient de France had been formed under new statutes and merged with the original Grand Loge. One legacy of this time (arising from so many of those early Lodges having military origins) was the many martial expressions used at Masonic banquets and other formal events. Referring to the glasses used in toasting as “cannon” (Fr.: *canon*) and the wine as “strong powder” (Fr.: *poudre forte*) are but two examples.

A noteworthy feature in the development of all European Masonry is its history in dealing with the challenge of autocracy, and, in the case of the Craft in France, this challenge came early. All authoritarian regimes rightly fear the focus of the Lodge upon equality and merit. The French monarchy voiced a concern over a “society admitting people of all estates, conditions, religions, and in which may be found a large number of foreigners.” As was usual at that time, the Lodge also aroused the suspicion of traditional Catholic elements, although the popularity of Freemasonry among many in the higher nobility did buffer the damage on that front. The appeal of the Craft, among more progressive elements, was strong enough that the French Parliament even refused to recognize the authority of a Papal Bull condemning the Lodge! Until after the Revolution, as French society became generally more secular, Freemasonry in France remained mainly Catholic in composition.

Following the French Revolution and not infrequently during later traditionalist upsurges, the Lodge was either blamed (by Catholic authorities and monarchists) or credited (by republicans and by Freemasons themselves) with a critical role in the overthrow of the *ancien regime*. In truth, there were many Freemasons in both the republican and in the monarchical camps in French politics, and the Lodge served as a moderating influence to blunt the extremes of both points-of-view: the excesses of the revolution and “Reign of Terror” which followed, as well as serving as a focal point for reform in the “New France.” Even before the Revolution, a key point of Masonic (albeit non-traditional) egalitarianism surfaced in the French Craft, with a mixed-sex form of Masonry, known as Masonry (or Rite) of Adoption, arising as early as the 1740s.

The Lodge enjoyed favor and considerable popularity during the “First (Napoleonic) Empire.” The Emperor’s brother, Joseph, was a Mason and became Grand Master of the Grand Oriente de France. Napoleon himself was once widely believed to have been a Mason, but, during his first exile to St. Helena, his own words seem to contradict that idea. He commented that Freemasons “... are a pile of imbeciles who assemble for good cheer and for the execution of many ridiculous follies. Nevertheless, they carried out good actions from time to time.” Barring the dual possibility that he had become disenchanted with the Fraternity **and** that records of his membership were lost or destroyed, it seems clear that he was not a Mason.

After the fall of the First Empire, France entered a period of extreme pendulum swings in its social and political order. The Bourbon Restoration (1814-30) gave way to the July Monarchy (1830-48) ... followed by the Second Republic (1848-52) ... then the Second Empire (1852-70) ... followed by unrest that gave rise to the Third Republic (1870-1940) ... including the chaos of the Paris Commune (1871). French society became highly politicized and factionalized as did, unfortunately, French Freemasonry. The Lodge was exceptionally active in even the most radical political and social movements of the 19th century, and such views impacted the organization and philosophy—as well as the reputation - of the Craft.

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In 1877 the Grand Orient abolished the requirement that its members profess belief in the existence of God. In theory, Lodges retained the right to decide whether to adopt this innovation or to respect the traditional landmark. However, in practice, thirty years of conflict between the government and the former state religion of Catholicism moved sympathies toward the innovators. By 1894, Lodges wishing to maintain the belief in Deity broke off to reestablish a Grande Loge de France. More than the belief in Deity continued to be challenged, and, by 1899, the first mixed-sex, mainstream grand jurisdiction arose: Ordre Mixte Internationale du Droit Humain.

During the Third Republic, the Lodge generally enjoyed a resurgence in public approval: the caveat “generally” a necessary one because it became almost impossible to keep straight how the various grand bodies aligned politically and socially. It is a hard lesson, learned only with the greatest difficulty, that when organizations vie for political favor, all are at the mercy of unfolding events. Unfortunately for the Lodge, “events” came in the form of Nazi occupation and persecution and Vichy suppression. It is estimated that a thousand or more French Freemasons were deported or killed during WWII, and many Brethren were heroic participants in the Resistance. By 1945 membership had fallen by two-thirds, and it took twenty years for French Freemasonry to regain its pre-war numbers. It has never reestablished its social and political influence ...perhaps not such a bad thing! [9162165]

After the war, French Freemasonry took on a role much more familiar to American Masons, as it turned more and more to philosophical reflection (increasingly spiritual in its focus) and away from political involvement or social activism. Innovation has not slowed, however, as the Lodges of Adoption formed a “Women’s Masonic Union of France” which morphed, in 1952, into the “Grand Loge Feminine de France.” The group abandoned the Rite of Adoption completely in 1959 in favor of the Scottish Rite, with which there had been an affiliation going back to the 1890s. Consequently, if you visit France seeking to sojourn mainly as a Scottish Rite Mason, be aware that you may automatically be thrown into close association with bodies considered irregular in the U.S.! There are at least a dozen major bodies “claiming to be Masonic” and many more affiliated groups including:

- Grand Orient de France
- Grande Loge de France
- [Grande Loge Nationale Française*](#)
- Grand Lodge Mondial of Misraïm
- Women's Grand Lodge Of France
- Le Droit Humain
- Universal Mixed Grand Lodge
- Mixed Grand Lodge of France
- **Grand Loge Ecosaise de France**
- Grand Loge Traditionelle et Symbolique Opera
- Loge Nationale Française
- Grande Loge Unie de France

*Recognized by the MW Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Colorado

All of which brings us to the end of what is (despite the maze you may see in this presentation) only an extremely cursory look at the Craft in France. Freemasonry in France continues to be the story of an effort by myriad grand “obediences” and quasi-Masonic bodies to find common ground. This effort at cooperation (a conclusion I reach from my own limited study) often, regrettably, comes down to collaboration based on terms dictated by the least traditional elements.

Last Month's Trivia Question: Why did the 1824-25 American tour of Br. Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette very nearly not happen?

Answer: This question represents as much a test of whether you read the *Scottish Rite Journal* as it does your knowledge of Masonic history, since it is answered in the cover story of the most recent (May/June 2024) edition! (So okay, I cheated!) Depending upon when you last studied or read 18th and 19th century American history, you may need a refresher about the Marquis de Lafayette. His story certainly justifies a quick reminder of why his tour in 1824-25 is consequential, and I offer information gleaned from a [web article](#) done by my home jurisdiction (Ohio) to provide some background...

The future Marquis was born Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert du Motier, on September 6, 1757. His family was one of the oldest, most wealthy, and illustrious in France and had a distinguished military background. Among his ancestors were Crusaders and supporters of Joan of Arc, and his father was a colonel of grenadiers, killed in battle against the English, when young Gilbert was only two. By the age of ten (No, that's not a typo!) Gilbert was in Paris and enrolled at the University in a program to become a musketeer.

He was commissioned in 1771 and, within a short time, promoted to captain's rank. By 1775, he had already found inspiration in the American cause and, of course, by the fact that opposition to English imperial interests was second nature to an aristocratic Frenchman! He managed to get himself included in a French military mission to America in 1776, with the rank of Major General ... at age 19! The French mission was not immediately successful in providing aid to the Americans, but the young Marquis linked his interests to the cause, and the Continental Congress extended a commission to him at that same rank of Major General. Within days he met with General Washington, and the two formed an immediate bond that lasted until Washington's death in 1799 ... and, for Lafayette, beyond.

In terms of his Masonic career, it is most likely (although there are contrary opinions ... and no conclusive records) that Lafayette became a Mason in an American Military Lodge: perhaps during the winter of 1777-78, while the army was encamped at Valley Forge. Lafayette's own words reinforce that probability:

“After I was made a Mason, General Washington seemed to have received a new light—I never had, from that moment, any cause to doubt his entire confidence. It was not long before I had a separate command of great importance.”

So, back to the question at hand! In March 1824, President James Monroe invited the Marquis to journey to America. Lafayette wanted to accept, both to renew acquaintances with the aging Revolutionary generation and to revisit the idealism of the American Republic, whose seed he had helped to plant and nurture. The problem was, although he had successfully recovered much of his family's estate and reputation following the turmoil of two French revolutions, that he had not been able to recover the family fortune and felt that he could not afford to come. As our *Journal* explains, “News of his predicament reached American expats, who arranged to pay debts and ensure his arrival and reception, during which 'The National Guest' would be fully funded by a grateful nation.” I leave the rest of a fascinating story to your own reading in [The Scottish Rite Journal!](#)

This Month's Trivia Question (answer in next month's *Rite Works*): November 30 marks the sesquicentennial of what 20th century statesman and Brother?



The Scottish Rite: a Genealogy of Thought

By Larry A. Bendt II, 32° KCCH

Junior Warden

Centennial Lodge of Perfection



Identity. In today's world we are an amalgam of many cultures, many faiths, and many races. We have many identities. We identify as a member of our state: each state having a different identity and its own unique culture. We identify as Americans and stand proud on the world stage. We identify with our family unit, our unique familial culture. We embrace the past of our forefathers, find the greatness of their deeds and embrace them and envelop them into our own personal identity. We align ourselves with likeminded people and now we identify as Masons, and yet again as Scottish Rite Masons. Freemasonry, and by extension the Scottish Rite, is a beautiful snapshot of this microcosm of the larger world: a symbiotic relationship as we help to shape the Craft's identity as it too reshapes ours. [7688922]

With the Blue Lodge we have the shared identity of experience and history. As Scottish Rite Masons we deepen that shared experience while branching from and adding to our Masonic familial identity. This lineage is heaped with philosophy, mysticism, history, and many deep lessons that have their own lineage, their own genealogy. As such we have many forefathers. The Rite is a "college" of deeper things from speculative to chivalric and everything in between. It is ignorant to think it all came from the brain of General Albert Pike - although, to be sure, we owe him a lot. But surprise, this article is not about him, and yet it sort of is.

What we have today is a series of degrees codified by Albert Pike, who solidified what was being done in his time and put it all into a series of degrees that we can follow. But where did it come from? Pike was a student of Albert Mackey. Did it come from him? The answer is harder to solve the further back we go. I have found minutes of higher degrees all the way back to 1730. The Scottish Rite as we know it today has been adapted, changed and edited in many ways since then. I will endeavor to not go as deep as I sometimes like, giving quick backgrounds to names and their deeds, so that I can keep this somewhat short and not a small book. I have a small hope that any interest in this subject will lead to discussion groups in our very own library!

The Rectified Scottish Rite (RER), also known as the Rectified Rite or RSR, is a Christian Masonic rite with a long and complex history. It was founded in 1778, with the Convent of Lyon in France under the leadership of Jean-Baptiste Willermoz, who served as the primary architect and driving force behind its formation.^{[1][2]} It emerged as a reform and restructuring of the earlier Templar Strict Observance system that had spread in Germany and France in the mid-18th century.

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The central teachings of the Rectified Scottish Rite focus on the loss and restoration of mankind's original innocence, integrating elements of Martinez de Pasqually's occult Cohen theology and Louis-Claude de Saint-Martin's mystical Christianity.^[4] Pasqually's name may be known for many reasons already as he is directly responsible for the twenty-eight degrees that became known as Martinism.

Louis Claude de Saint-Martin was a French philosopher, known as *le philosophe inconnu* ("the unknown philosopher"), the name under which his works were published. He was an influential Christian mystic whose legacy, (together with that of his mentor Martinez de Pasqually,) inspired the founding of the Martinist Order.

I bring him up merely to arouse understanding that this man and Mason also lived with Willermoz, in 1771 while preaching mystical Christianity and writing his first book. I can only imagine their conversations while living together and wonder how much he influenced Willermoz.

The Order of Knight-Masons Elect Priests of the Universe (French: Ordre des Chevaliers Maçons Élus Coëns de l'Univers) or simply Élus Coëns (sometimes misspelled 'Elus Cohens' or 'Kohens',^[5] Hebrew for 'Elect Priests'), was a theurgical (the definition of Theurgy is the practice of invoking the action/presence of Deity/ies) organization founded by Martinez de Pasqually. It appeared in France in the second half of the 18th century and is the first branch of Martinist tradition, otherwise known as Martinezism. Do the names of this system ring a bell? It should as we contemplate the 12th-14th degrees.

From the Supreme Council 33°: "There is evidence of "Scotch Masons' Lodges" dating back to 1733 in England; and there were also predecessors such as the "Adonhiramite Rite" (ca. 1781) which included many degrees that ultimately became part of the Scottish Rite. Yet, it was not until 1763 and the creation of the "Order of the Royal Secret" by Stephen Morin of France, that the ritual we practice today began to coalesce into a form recognizable to a modern Scottish Rite Mason. Source: Arturo de Hoyos, *The Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide, 2d ed.* (Washington, D.C.: Supreme Council, 33°, 2009), pp. 98–99. My brothers, to say Mr. Morin had a very busy and dedicated life of advancing the Scottish Right in America would be an understatement and deserving of a small book in and of itself. So, I will not get into depth on that here. There are many more men and women who deserve to be discussed in this article.

Unfortunately, I cannot add them here as I wished to merely espouse what I believe were the main thought generators that helped to create the genealogy of thought behind what we have today. Please remember that when you read these names, they were also taught and inspired by many others. Pasqually gives credit to the likes of Bludd, Bohme and Levi to name but a few in his writings. Our genealogy of thought goes much deeper than many may have surmised, and I sincerely hope that you have a broader understanding of where our college came from.

Respectfully submitted by:

Bro. Larry Bendt 32° KCCH, Junior Warden C.L.O.P.

(References follow on next page)

Continued on next page

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- [4] Joly, Alice (2011). Un mystique lyonnais et les secrets de la franc-maçonnerie, 1730-1824. Paris: Dervy. pp. 57–89.
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**Martinez de Pasqually's *Traité de la Réintégration des êtres* (Treatise on the Reintegration of Beings) is a manuscript I have used throughout so many times that to straight quote it would leave too many numbers





Member in the Spotlight

By Lee Miller, 32° KCCH

1st Lieutenant Commander
Colorado Council of Kadosh

T. Michael Tims, 32° KCCH



As Masons, we meet many men. Some of them we may shake hands with once and never see again. Others we get to know over time; we sit in Lodge with them, we break bread with them, and we see them at Masonic family picnics and parties. There are also Brothers that become close friends, and grow even closer to us as time goes by.

I've had the privilege of knowing Brother Mike Tims, 32° KCCH for several years. I first met him when I joined the cast of the 14th degree. Soon thereafter, he was invited into my AMD Council, and then joined me in the York Rite bodies in Golden. I'm blessed that he and I have become close friends.

For those of you at the Consistory who don't know Brother Mike personally, I promise that you've seen him. There are very few Brothers who take place in as many degrees. He's a director in three degrees, and has speaking roles – some of them very lengthy – in eight degrees. At the end of the reunions, Brother Mike can be found on the roof laughing and decompressing with a group of the usual suspects. [6414189]

Over deli sandwiches and iced tea in Brother Mike's kitchen recently - with his two Labs watching carefully in case we should drop any crumbs - we immediately fell into the same conversation we'd started by phone not long ago. We kept on, randomly talking about Masonry and our families, about a shared passion for shooting, and he bragged a bit that he would soon reclaim his basement workshop as his adult daughter was about to move out.

An hour later, we settled down in his living room in front of a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace that Bro. Mike laid himself. The fireplace features a massive reclaimed wood beam he took out of an abandoned factory, then mounted on the fireplace himself to serve as a mantle. With his almost fanatical attention to detail, he used the original dowel holes in mounting the beam, and found just the right stain to match the cut edge to the rest of the old beam. We finally got down to talking about his life while his dogs moved close for more attention.

Brother Mike was born and raised in Chickisha, OK. That tiny town about 40 miles southwest of Oklahoma City was known many years as the "horse trailer capitol of the world." His grandfather even has a patent on a particular hitch that was used in those trailers. Chickisha is the kind of small town where you know just about everyone. Brother Mike still has a circle of friends there. Some he's known since kindergarten, and he makes the trip home at least yearly just for their get-togethers.

Like so many young men from small towns, Brother Mike counted on football to get him

Continued on next page

out of the small town doldrums. He got a scholarship to Oklahoma State, where he played center. But he blew out both knees and ended up not graduating. He didn't give up on sports, becoming a competitive powerlifter with a new group of friends in the days when powerlifting as a competitive sport was relatively new.

In the meantime, he had been working for Borden Milk. "They were 18 hour days", he recalled, "but on my days off I was only working 8 hours." There weren't many other job options in rural Oklahoma in those days, so he stayed. One day, his sister called to tell him there were plenty of good jobs in Denver. So in 1991, he made the move to Denver.

That proved to be one of the best decisions of his life. He met his wife Mimi in August of '91 and they were married in December of '92 while she was still in law school. He began working for Mimi's father, who owned a container distribution company, and he did every job there until he worked his way up to sales. He stayed there 18 years, even after his father-in-law sold the company. He continues to be incredibly successful in sales, having worked the past 33 years selling every type of container you can think of – soft drink bottles, lotion and shampoo containers, and much more. Some years later when Brother Mike took up brewing his own beer, he had an edge on choosing exactly the type of bottles for his home brew.

Brother Mike comes from a long line of Masons. His father was a Mason, as were both of his grandfathers. "I like genealogy, and I traced both sides of my family way back," he told me. "All of the men were Masons. All of them." On his 21st birthday, his grandfather gave him a check for \$25 and told him that if ever became a Mason, he wanted to pay his dues. The dues in the local Lodge then were \$25. Brother Mike had the slightest catch in his voice when he told me he still has that uncashed check.

At age 40, Brother Mike had a long daily commute to work, and began reflecting on his life during those drives. He knew he wanted to be as good a man as his grandfather had been, and finally one day he contacted the Grand Lodge. It wasn't long before WB Dave Cooper from Golden Lodge No. 1 got in touch with him. In 2004, Brother Mike received all three of his degrees of Masonry at Golden, where he served as Worshipful Master in 2009. He is a plural member in Central No. 6, Idaho Springs No. 26, and also of Chickisha No. 94 in his hometown. He's a three-time Right Worshipful Master of the Gold Country Past Master's Association, and has served as a District Lecturer since 2020.

In 2004, he received all 29 Scottish Rite degrees at Sterling. In 2005, he was knighted into the Consistory's Knights of St. Andrew. He quickly began picking up parts in the degrees. He was invested with the Knight Commander Court of Honor in 2013. In 2021, Brother Mike began serving as the Chairman of the Denver Consistory Ambassador program; he continues in that role now. He also has been a member of the Scottish Rite Foundation appraisal committee since 2022.

Brother Mike attended all three York Rite outdoor festivals in 2005. During the current York Rite year, he is serving as Excellent High Priest at Golden No. 1, Thrice Illustrious Master at Jefferson No. 24, and Eminent Commander in Jefferson-Highland Commandery No. 30. He is also a member of El Jebel Shrine, the Royal Order of Scotland, Centennial York Rite College, Front Range Council AMD, Holy Cross Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine, and is on the Board of Trustees at the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus. He is also my first

appointee to the Grand Royal Arch officer line as the Excellent Grand Master of the Third Veil.

Even with all of those Masonic responsibilities, Brother Mike still finds plenty of time for family and friends. He and Mimi are ardent road trippers, and they have had a number of memorable journeys together. He has a nice collection of guns, and loves to reload and shoot. The fishing poles in his basement workshop aren't just for show either; he loves fishing, and was in Alaska to salmon fish the first week of September. He has a passion for brewing beer. While he and I were eating lunch, he pointed out the bags of barley and hops on a kitchen counter ready to turn into beer. He has also been known to brew up beverages with a bit more kick than beer, and frequently shares that as well with his Brothers and friends.

His status as a BBQ pitmaster is legendary in his neighborhood. There are four different smokers on his deck and he's been known to smoke so much meat at once that it could supply a BBQ joint for a day's business. The entire neighborhood turns out when he fills his smokers, and no one leaves without leftovers. Brother Mike is so fanatical about smoking that when he found out the small company that made his favorite dry rub had gone under, he threw considerable effort into replicating the rub. Once he perfected it, some of the former employees of that long-gone company hailed his rub as "the real deal." When I mix up a rub at my house, I measure in cups and tablespoons. Not at the Tims' house, where his rub has to be stored in big tubs.

You know, I can't think of a better way to spend a weekend than sitting on Brother Mike's deck drinking his homebrew, eating BBQ, and talking about fishing, shooting, family, and of course Masonry. We should all be as fortunate to have friends like Brother Mike.





Special Birthdays

90 Years "YOUNG"

James Homer Anderson
Harvey Wiley Riggs

80 Years "YOUNG"

William Franklin Chapman, Jr.
Thomas Donald Edmonds
Thomas William Henshall
Jack Robert Hoyt, Jr.
Robert Wayne Steinbach

70 Years "YOUNG"

Mark Allan Mitzman
Michael Luther Oldham
Clarence David Wilkerson

60 Years "OLD"

David William Spence
Douglas Frederick Tiller

50 Years "OLD"

Timothy Warren Hogan

Our September Youngster

Aaron Bailey Codiga (31)
Aaron David Garcia (31)



Belated Birthday Greetings to:

United States Coast Guard



04 August 1790

United States Air Force



18 September 1947

MEMORIAL SCROLL

Lance R. Barron, 32°	06/15/2024
Edward C. Bynon, 32°	06/12/2024
C. Joseph Cleary, 32°	05/10/2024
James L. Cole, 32°	05/08/2024
Donald W. Cox, 33°	07/31/2024
Joe D. Crose, 32°	07/10/2024
Gerald L. Greenwald, 32°	06/19/2024
Steven L. Hubbard, 33°	07/07/2024
James L. McMullin, 32°	05/09/2024
Duane V. Miller, 32°	05/29/2024
Donald L. Moody, 32°	07/22/2024
Kenneth W. Pearce, 32° KCCH	07/06/2024
Fredrick J. Tietbohl III, 32°	05/08/2024
Kevin T. Townley, 32° KCCH	05/25/2024
Sean V. Trusty, 32°	08/21/2024
Robert B. Turner, Jr., 32°	05/26/2024

All Scottish Rite Masons in good standing are entitled to have a Rose Croix Funeral Service at the time of their passing. [11150047] 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: Keith M. Anderson, 33° - Chairman; Thomas W. Adair, 32°; Scott A. Bates, 33°; John H. Buchanan, 33°; Pablo Columban, 32° KCCH; 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 Illustrious Brother Keith Anderson, 33° for more information.

The Volume of the Sacred Law



Many years ago now, a good friend of mine from Canada was travelling for work routinely into Malaysia. While there, he took the opportunity to visit a few lodges and took note of their “traditions” regarding the “Volume of the Sacred Law” normally found upon the altar. Here in the USA and Canada, TYPICALLY you will find only ONE volume—the King James 1611 version of the Holy Bible.

But, in Malaysia, there are MANY faiths that come together as Masonic Brothers, so they try to recognize those present in the lodge by placing a volume of that Sacred Law specific to their visitors and members. [6864482]

WB Wayne Anderson, who distributed the Sunday Masonic Papers for over 1000 editions told me that the Bearer of the VSL carried the following books on the pillow when he entered the lodge as part of their procession to stations:

1. King James Version of the Holy Bible (Christianity)
2. Qur’an - Islam - laid on the pillow by a member of the Islam faith.
3. Tripitaka—Buddhism
4. Rigveda - Hindu
5. Bhagavad Gita - Hindu
6. The Kojiki - Shinto
7. Guru Granth Sahib - Sikkism
8. Confucianism—no “Holy Book” per se, but a list of rules—represented by a roll of paper.

Brother Wayne also asked the sitting Master of Tullabardine Lodge (a Scottish GL lodge in Malaysia) Yoke Lim which Holy Book was held over the candidate’s head as he takes his obligation—and it was the Hindu Rigveda, held by another Hindu Brother as they believe the eye to the soul is in the center of the forehead.

Now, this was in 1996/97. They had Christian, Muslim, Seik, a form of Buddhist, Taoist, two more from India, and one from Thailand in the lodge at the same time.

Stranger things have happened, but this shows you the power of Freemasonry in uniting those Brothers from diverse backgrounds and faiths in a common setting without political or emotional issues clouding the purpose of the lodge.



Eternal Brotherhood

By Brother Tommy Thammavongkeo, 32°

**In halls of stone where candles glow
Where ancient symbols softly show,
A brotherhood, both strong and wise,
In Freemasonry, the spirit lies.**

**Beneath the compass and the square,
A bond unites with tender care,
No walls can hold, no seas divide,
For brothers stand here side by side.**

**From every land, from every creed,
We come here to serve, to help, to lead,
With hands outstretched in silent vow,
To build, to guide, to heal, and show.**

**The trowel spreads the mortar thick,
As hearts unite with every brick,
In charity, we find our way,
A guiding light in darkened day.**

**The apron white, the columns grand,
A sacred trust in every hand,
With secrets held, and wisdom shared,
In brotherhood, we are prepared.**

**Through trials faced and triumphs won,
Our work remains, yet never done,
For in each heart a temple grows,
Where love and truth forever flows.**

**So let the world bear witness true,
To bonds that time cannot subdue,
In Freemasonry's gentle art,
The brotherhood shall ne'er depart.**



**Robert Salazar, 32° KCCH
Past Commander, Colorado
Council of Kadosh**

**Be The Best You Can Be At All Times
You Never Know Who is Watching and
How much of an Influence You Might Be.**



Brother Bob Salazar, 32° KCCH recently penned a rather poignant commentary on Facebook. When I asked for his permission to publish in the RiteWorks, he graciously consented. His response to me was: “Thank you brother, I may or may not have written that post with tears in my eyes. You absolutely have my permission to use it. The photo was from another post, so I cannot take credit for the photo. That young man made a tremendous impression on me and made me feel like there is hope for our craft and that all that we do is worth it. I attended the DeMolay-Rainbow convention last year and it was so well attended that it was like Grand Lodge when I first started. Those kids are our future, and we as men and Masons do need to show them that God, Country, and FAMILY do matter, no matter what society or the media tells them.”

Here is Bob’s “rest of the story” as the saying goes:

“So tonight I was at a youth function and was asked to present an award. As with all these types of things all the “dignitaries” are escorted in and introduced. As I was walking in a young man maybe 10 or 11 reached around my escort and shook my hand. I thought what a nice kid and was seated on the other side of the room with all the usual suspects. One by one we spoke and when it was my turn I fumbled as I always do but gave my “ in every rodeo arena I’ve been in I have seen a sign that says ‘in this arena there’s a kid who wants to be just like you and you owe it to them to be the best you can be.’” And the arena for us is daily life. So after a long night I was leaving and this same young man saw me and his eyes lit up and he made a bee line towards me. He introduced himself, explained to me that he was a squire since he was too young to be in DeMolay. He went on about memory work and how he needed to improve and that they need to work on membership also. I told him I knew he would be great if he stuck with it and offered him this year’s pin. He thanked me and shook my hand and then reached up and hugged me. Then it hit me, this young man was exactly the “kid in the arena” I had mentioned and how maybe I needed to take my own advice. You never know who’s watching and how much of an influence you can be.”



Scottish Rite Knights of St. Andrew Tent

Estes Park Scottish Festival and Games September 6-8th

KSA tent is #39 facing out from the western side of the Big Clan tent.

Please support our Scottish Rite and Freemasonry. Come by any time you can and hang around for a bit.





judi's house JAG Institute
For Grieving Children and Families



Please drop items off in the bin located in the building.
Supplies they need will be listed on a flyer above the bin.

They need things like art supplies, toys, non-perishable snacks, and
everyday household supplies.

Any questions? Contact Pablo Colomban
pablocolomban@yahoo.com • 720-284-4304

Scan the QR code for a
complete list.



SCAN ME



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QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: [Pablo Colomban, 32° KCCH](#)



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