



# Denver's RiteWorks

JUNE 2024 vol. 17 #6

## D-DAY

### June 6, 1944 (80 years ago)

4,414 Allied deaths (2,501 American, 1,913 Allies)

Omaha Beach: 2,000 U.S. Troops killed, wounded, missing

Sword Beach & Gold Beach: 2,000 British Troops killed, wounded, missing

Juno Beach: 340 Canadian Soldiers killed, 574 wounded

The majority of casualties occurred in the first waves, under heavy artillery fire and machine gun fire from protected German pillboxes.



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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.**

### **CORNERSTONE COMMITTEE** **MONTHLY COORDINATION ZOOM MEETINGS**

ZOOM Meetings of the Cornerstone Planning Committee are held MONTHLY on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

LAST meeting: **Tuesday, JUNE 4, 2024. 7 PM** Zoom credentials:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84526264708?pwd=tpITPBc6WRHMbQDv9kb2Fn7PtioBn.1>

# PLANNING CALENDAR

## June 2024

Mon, JUN 3	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, JUN 7, 14, 21, 28	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13—Fried Chicken on JUNE 7)
Sat, JUN 8	Morning 4 Wheeling at Rainbow Falls. Contact Brother Dave Spence to RSVP <a href="mailto:papaspence@gmail.com">papaspence@gmail.com</a>
Sat, JUN 15	11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon <b>Parking Garage Available</b>
Mon, JUN 17	Stated Meeting <b>Parking Garage Available</b> <i>Hawaiian Shirt Night</i>
	5:30 p.m. Red Room Business Meeting
	6:00 p.m. Dinner
	7:00 p.m. Entertainment; Blue Lodge Recognition Night
Sun, JUN 30	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Retirement Party—Illustrious Brother Tommy Thompson, 33°

## July 2024

Thu, JUL 4	<b>Consistory CLOSED for Independence Day observance</b>
Fri, JUL 5	<b>NO LUNCH</b>
Fri, JUL 12, 19, 26	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13—Fried Chicken on JULY 12)
Sat, JUL 20	2:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Cornerstone Rededication Ceremony and Banquet

## August 2024

Fri, AUG 2, 9, 16, 23	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch ( <b>No Lunch August 30</b> )
Fri/Sat AUG 2/4	Camping Weekend—Contact Dave Spence to RSVP (see flyer)
Mon, AUG 12	<b>Consistory Office CLOSED—Golf Tourney (see flyer)</b>
Wed, AUG 14	6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Officers Midyear Planning Dinner Meeting - Dining Room
Wed, AUG 21	7:00 p.m. Degree Council Meeting (Classroom)

## September 2024

Mon, SEP 2	<b>Consistory Office CLOSED for Labor Day Holiday</b>
Fri, SEP 6	<b>NO LUNCH</b> <b>Consistory Office CLOSED for Grand York Rite Session</b>
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 <b>Parking Garage Available</b>
	5:30 p.m. Red Room Business Meeting
	6:00 p.m. Dinner
	7:00 p.m. <b>Scottish Rite Foundation Program</b>
	7:30 p.m. Split Meeting



**BY: BILL HICKEY, 33°**

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

## **LEADERSHIP—Part 1**

# **The Beacon of a Prestigious Organization**

In 2004, our late Brother Randy Trullinger, 32° KCCH, and I developed a Leadership presentation for a gathering of Job's Daughters adults from around the country. We used materials from many sources, including a Leadership presentation by Coley Dize, a nationally known lecturer, on "Coyote Thinking—Surviving in a Hostile Environment." The principles we presented then are just as valid today and apply to ANY organization whether it be Masonic or otherwise.

**FACT:** Less than 50% of all "followers" TRUST their leaders. Lack of trust in leaders is across ALL sectors—religious, political, business, etc. The 50% figure is from David Cottrell—Cornerstone Leadership Institute from a presentation to Titan Corporation (one of my former employers, by the way) on Leadership and Employee Coaching in 2004. 20 years hasn't change the numbers all that much. If anything, it may well have gotten worse.

**FACT:** People quit people before they quit organizations.

**FACT:** Reasons for decisions are rarely understood (lack of true communications) Not understanding the reasons behind decisions is a SYMPTOM of the "Mahogany Row" mentality—they vs. us. "Management" needs to get in touch with the rest of the world.

**WHAT WE HAVE IS A FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE...**

1. They don't know **WHAT** they are supposed to do. We don't tell them what they are expected to do. We **ASSUME** (which makes an "ASS out of U and ME") that they already know what to do.
2. They don't know **HOW** to do it. [3643160] Sometimes they do it the way they **THINK** it should be done, not knowing there may be a better or perhaps easier way.
3. They don't know **WHY** they should do it. Sometimes it's tradition, sometimes it's legal bookkeeping to stay out of trouble, and sometimes it's just the right thing to do.
4. They **BELIEVE** they are doing it. Unless they are shown what they are doing wrong or what they are not doing, how can we expect them to know they aren't doing the job?

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In a truly Prestigious Organization there are Managers AND Leaders. They are rarely the same person. So, why do you need both in an organization? People and Things. These require different skill sets—similar, but markedly different in how to implement and the results you can expect. Managers deal with things. Leaders deal with people.

You may be good ... but you're not THAT good. Sometimes you just HAVE to be both kinds of person—but never at the same time (virtually impossible anyway). Usually you will be better (more effective) at one role or the other. Knowing the strengths of each person and using them in the best way FOR THE ORGANIZATION, not the individual, is what will make or break a prestigious organization. Example: Not everyone is intended to be or should be a Worshipful Master.

### **So ... WHO ARE YOUR REAL LEADERS?**

To “lead” effectively, you must CLEARLY AND CONCISELY COMMUNICATE your objective to others and then influence them to attain that objective. When you apply “influence” in a friendly way, we call that “leadership” - or, the art of getting others to do what you want them to do, when you want it done, and to your standards.

Like ANY subject, leadership can be TAUGHT. Most people have different levels of innate (natural) abilities as a leader.

Dr. Henry Kissinger once defined a leader as “An individual who created an alchemy of vision that moved people from where they were to places that they have never been before.” Does that definition leave you a little cold?

Coley Dize (a Nationally known leadership speaker) simplified it a little more: **“A leader is someone you choose to follow to a place you will not go by yourself.”**

Now, what is the difference between a manager and a leader? After all, if you can't be effective as both and you can't be both at the same time, there MUST be something different.

Have you ever noticed that people TEND to use the words “leader” and “manager” interchangeably? You saw what a “leader” is above.

Managers—like leaders—are NOT born. They are TRAINED to do what they do. And, like leaders, most people have different innate abilities as managers.

A manager runs a business, institution, or organization. To be effective, they must focus their attention on the problem at hand and be able to change quickly to address the next problem. Management of CHAOS [11142030] has become an accepted way of doing business today—to the point of establishing rewards for those who thrive on chaos. To be an EFFECTIVE manager requires TRAINING—the kind needed to control and calm the mind to think clearly in chaotic situations.

“Dumping” is delegating unpleasant tasks that YOU DON'T WANT TO DO. Usually, this involves an abuse of power—because the person receiving the dump doesn't want to do it either.

“Delegation” is giving away something you don't mind doing yourself, giving them the AUTHORITY to get it done, and HOLDING THEM ACCOUNTABLE.

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Why is "influence" so important? Because both managers and leaders bring about changes in relationships with members of their group. You're "up there" - they're "below you"; they "report to you" - you're "in charge"; that's why you get paid the "Big Bucks."

Most group members AT FIRST view leaders as probably controllers and dominators (managers) and that's the way they'll respond even though the leader may have no intention of using power and authority in that way.

How do you know when this is happening? Resistance. Defiance. Rebellion. Negativism. Resentment. Anger. Hostility. Ridiculing authority figures. Blaming others. Forming alliances against authority. Fear of trying something new. [9859950] All these are primary indicators of misuse of power and position over others, and possibly misunderstanding a leader's motives.

According to a study of 1300 executives, out of 16 traits, INTEGRITY was considered the ESSENTIAL leadership trait (Do the Right THING).

### The Manager vs. the Leader

#### A MANAGER

- Administers
- Is a Copy
- Maintains
- Focuses on THINGS
- Dumps
- Controls
- Has a short range view (bottom line)
- Asks HOW & WHEN
- Eye on the detail
- Accepts the Status Quo
- DOES THINGS RIGHT

#### A LEADER

- \* Innovates
- \* Is unique
- \* Develops
- \* Focuses on PEOPLE
- \* Delegates
- \* Inspires trust
- \* Has a long range view (big picture)
- \* Asks WHAT and WHY
- \* Eye on the bigger picture
- \* Challenges the Status Quo
- \* DOES THE RIGHT THING

Think about the difference between "doing things right" (by the book) and "doing the right thing" (by the mind and heart).

It is NOT that "managers" aren't important, it's just that we tend to have a LOT of them compared to relatively few real "leaders."

So, we need to find meaningful roles in the organization that reflect our desire to actually be a prestigious organization while not threatening the current occupants of those jobs. When you've been at the TOP of an organization, anything else is a "step down" which is why you see so many disengaged PWM's. Once you've been there, your choice is only between doing it again or not doing it at all.

BUT ... this is a LEADERSHIP LESSON - all organizations NEED experienced leaders to mentor and teach the next generation, which means letting that generation take the wheel and drive the car for a while. Mistakes WILL be made—but usually nothing that can't be fixed.

*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.

*The closest most people ever come to reaching their ideal is when they write their resumes.*

**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. [4300091] 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.

Brother Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Brother Jerry Edwards, 32° KCCH

Brother S. Logan Mathews, 32°

Denver Chapter #2 R.A.M.

Illustrious Brother Keith Anderson, 33°

Illustrious Brother Darren Klinefelter, 33°

Brother Mike McMinimee, 32°

2024 Consistory Spring Reunion Class

**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.

**RETIREMENT PARTY - For Illustrious Brother Tommy Thompson, 33° -June 30, 2024 at 2 PM** in the Denver Consistory dining room. Refreshments will be served. **RSVP by contacting the office NO LATER THAN June 26, 2024.**

**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](http://www.carsforcharity.net) to donate for the benefit of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

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**Who reads the RiteWorks Contest** - The membership numbers published in the May RiteWorks belong to the following Brothers who were eligible to receive a free dinner for the May Stated Meeting. **Charles R. Shiverdecker, Harold O. Potter, Cristian R. G. Martins, Gregory J. Rindone, Robert J. Ceriale, Jaime F. Gatseos, Carl W. Johnston, Greg S. Tabberer, Robert F. Heikens, Donald W. Myers.** 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 June meeting.

**Spring Reunion May 16-18, 2024** - Thank you to all the degree directors and cast members, and all the committee members who made the Reunion a success. Welcome to the following new Masters of the Royal Secret: **Nicolas Arvay, Christian Delarosa, Aaron Garcia, Baltazar Garcia, Austin (Ashley) Harris, Ronald Helm Jr., Matthew Lash, Michael Martinez, Samuel Mathews, Ricardo Mazzeo, Michael Nabors, Sean Nelson, Gary Reed, Brock Sowa, Milton Stevens, M. Jeffery Vineyard, Christopher Wiegand, Alfonso Carnero-Zubia, and Joshua Zucker.** The members of the Spring Reunion Class made a donation of \$273 to the S.R.M.C. Endowment Fund.

**Fifty-Year Members** - Three fifty-year members were honored during the Reunion Banquet.: Illustrious Brother Jay Bobick, 33°, Brother Joe Cominiello, and Brother James Vastardis.

**Twenty-Five Year Members** - One twenty-five year member was honored [10346989] during the Reunion Banquet: Brother Tony Dattilo, 32°.

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting** - We had a Mother's Day presentation by the Rainbow Girls, a presentation by Brother Richard S. Nowacki, 32° KCCH, Western Region Donor Officer, Supreme Council, who spoke about planned giving, and showed a video tour of the House of the Temple. Brother John Davis, 32° KCCH, Orator of the Colorado Council of Kadosh, delivered an oration. Seven members of the Spring Reunion class were in attendance.

**SRMC Sporting Clays Tournament was held May 24<sup>th</sup>** - This tournament was a fund-raising event for the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and Judi's House. Thank you, **Brother Pablo Colomban, 32° KCCH,** and **Brother Michael Rotert, 32 KCCH,** for planning and organizing this event. We look forward to next year's tournament.

**Flags for Fallen Vets May 26<sup>th</sup>** - Denver Consistory members participated at Ft. Logan National Cemetery by placing American Flags on the graves. This community outreach is sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix. Thank you to all those who participated.

**Your 2024 Membership fee was payable January 1, 2024.** We still have 87 members who have not yet paid their 2024 membership fee which has caused a loss of income of \$11,310. 56 members did not pay their 2023 membership fee which caused a loss of income of \$7,280. The combined loss for 2023 and 2024 is \$18,590. Please do your part to help sustain the operations of Denver Consistory by paying your membership fee. This loss of income, combined with the increase in costs due to inflation makes it more than challenging to maintain normal operations. 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.

**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.

**Automatic Membership Fee Renewal Program**

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

**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 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.

The Supreme Council will mail the 2025 membership fee notices in August of 2024. Please pay your membership fee promptly when you receive your notice, and do not lay it aside and forget about it and then become delinquent.

**DENVER CONSISTORY  
PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP**



## SPECIAL EVENTS

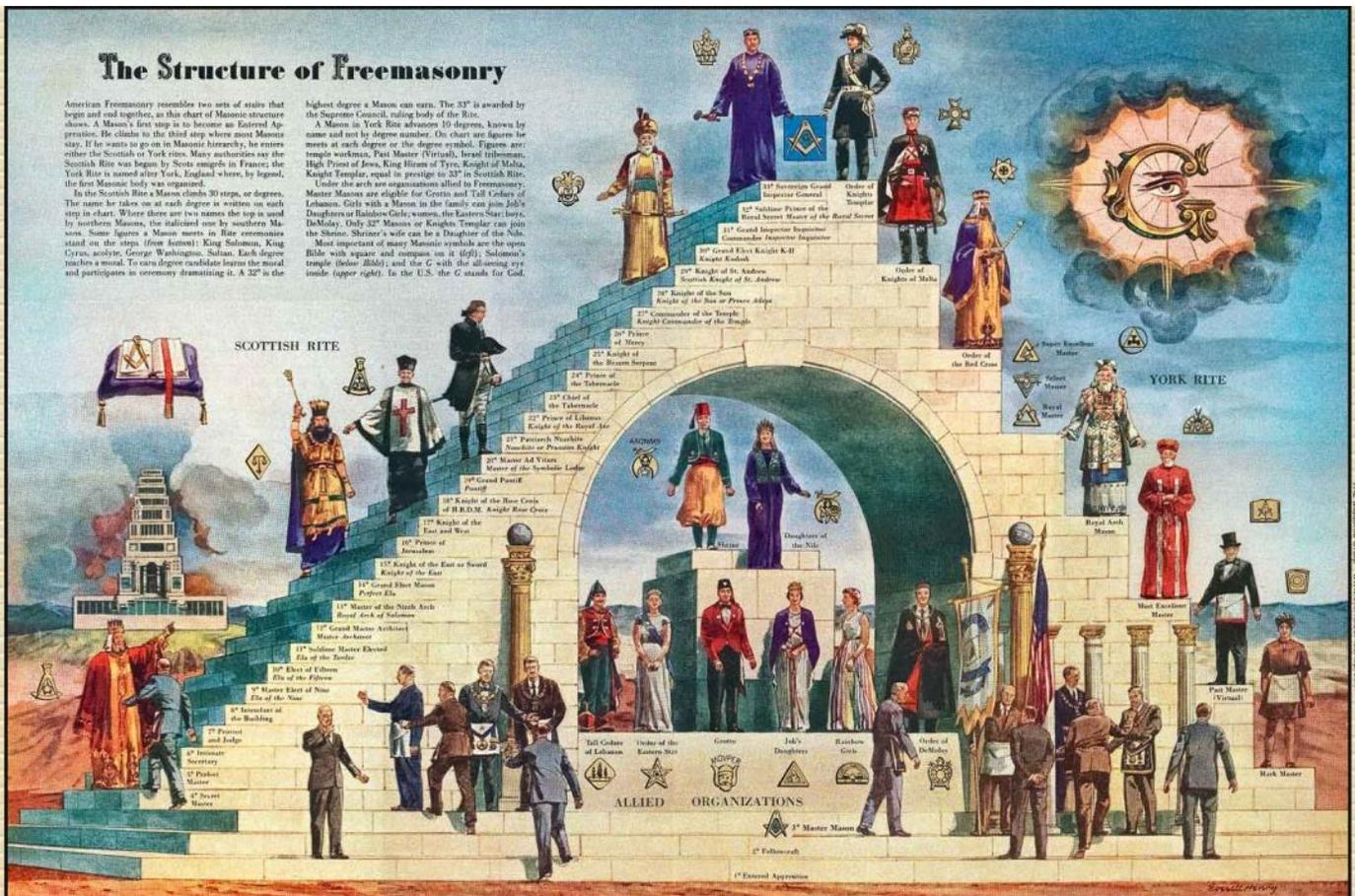
**Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 7:00 p.m. - KSA Meeting** - All Scottish Rite members are invited to attend. KSA will conduct a Knighting Ceremony for the new members from the Spring Reunion Class.

**Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. - Ladies Luncheon**

**Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.** - This is ***Wear Your Hawaiian Shirt Night*** and ***Blue Lodge Recognition Night***, with special entertainment by the band "Steely Dead".

**Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Scottish Rite Golf Classic** - The Scottish Rite Masonic Center golf tournament will be held at **Hiwan Golf Club (Evergreen, CO)**. The tournament is a benefit for the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and the Scottish Rite Foundation. Go to the tournament website [www.scottishritegolf.org](http://www.scottishritegolf.org) to sign up. Volunteers are needed! Contact Brother J. Randy Penn, 32° KCCH, at [pennjr@comcast.net](mailto:pennjr@comcast.net) to volunteer.

**Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.** - Will be our annual presentation of the Scottish Rite Foundation's Dwight Hamilton scholarships.





## Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Director of Education

**Saggezza! Force! Belleza!\***  
**PART TWO**



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

### Spain

The earliest Masonic presence in Spain was in the form of English expatriate bodies warranted by the Grand Lodge of England: one styled La Matritense or Las Tres Flores de Lys, in February 1728 in Madrid, and another slightly later the same year, Lodge St. John of Jerusalem, in Gibraltar. Gibraltar was already under British colonial control and the latter Lodge was a military Lodge. A Provisional Grand Lodge of Andalusia (Gibraltar and adjacent area) formed Lodges throughout southern Spain.

The Spanish monarchy cooperated closely with the Spanish Inquisition in discouraging membership by Spanish nationals, so the Fraternity consisted for many years of mostly these English (and some French) expats. A few Spanish Lodges were formed, but members were both persecuted and prosecuted under the authority of both Papal bulls and the decree of Fernando VI banning Freemasonry entirely. One Lodge in Barcelona was denounced not once but twice to the Inquisition. Founded in 1748, it was closed in 1750, reorganized in 1776, and then stamped out again (and all its leaders arrested).

Spanish Freemasonry declared itself independent of England, with the 1767 formation of the Gran Logia Española (renamed the Gran Oriente Española in 1780). "What a difference a few years makes" was an apt description at this point in the life of the Spanish Craft. The first GM of the Spanish Grand Lodge was the Prime Minister of King Charles III, and many of the King's ministers were known to have been Freemasons! By 1800, the Gran Oriente had 400 constituent Lodges. [10583665]

Success always breeds suspicion, especially in a society predisposed to distrust, and by 1738 another Papal bull and royal edict brought on denunciations, trials, excommunication, and fines. It was perilous to be a member of the Craft in Spain, with one's prosperity, reputation, and liberty at stake, depending upon shifting political, religious, and cultural breezes. The 19<sup>th</sup> century brought cycles of repression, tacit acceptance, persecution, and amnesty.

As one might expect, as Spanish rule over its empire became increasingly precarious, the Lodge became a popular voice and outlet for frustrated colonial populations. That was especially true in Cuba, as a movement for independence grew there: much as had been the case in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century when so many of the Latin American revolutionary leaders were Freemasons. Spain itself enjoyed a brief respite from monarchical and authoritarian rule, during "six years of democracy" (1868-74), and the Lodge briefly flourished in that environment. This period offers fascinating possibilities for Masonic research and writing: especially for one fluent enough in the language to use primary sources.

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It should come as no surprise that an organization suppressed by political forces, in its early history, should, when the suppression is relaxed, be tempted to become increasingly political in the effort to protect itself. This was certainly the case for Freemasonry during a period of more liberal treatment. Naturally, this effort also spawned further suspicion (Sometimes you “just can’t win for losing,” right?). While the Gran Oriente, during this time, found it possible to publish and to promote the Fraternity, it also found itself faced, on the one hand, with an increasing membership bent on using the Lodge to foster political and commercial influence and, on the other, with a rising tide of anti-Masonic sentiment.

The “six years” and the quarter-century Bourbon Restoration that followed represented a sort of “Golden Age” of Spanish Freemasonry ... though not without signs of the continuous tension that always lurks in the shadows of the Spanish Masonic experience. As the 19<sup>th</sup> century ended, heightened opposition from the church (Leo XIII’s *Humanum Genus* encyclical in 1884) and reaction to a secular movement supported by the Lodge again painted the Fraternity as a threat to traditional culture. By 1899, one fundamentalist cleric opined that ...

*Masonry is a monster who conspires in the Caverns of Adoniram to commit all kinds of felonys [sic] and crimes; is the Deus ex Machina of all murders, poisonings, regicides, persecutions against the Altar, the Throne and Fatherland, wars, political crises, slander, revenge, sacrileges, mysteries of iniquity, worship of Lucifer and Palladio, and also of the more horrible mysterious, diabolical, criminal and nefarious occurrences which have happened and are happening in the world...*

The Lodge did itself no favors, during this time, by collaborating with independence elements in the Spanish colonies. As the “golden age” ended, the headquarters of both the Gran Oriente and the rival National Grand Orient of Spain were closed by police edict, their document archives confiscated, and some leaders arrested.

Continued accusations of conspiracy and political disloyalty—as well as the actual efforts to suppress the Craft’s activities—resulted in real extremists being attracted to the Lodge. The Fraternity was, after all, a voice for less authoritarian rule and for political and social reform. [11157089] In the wave of radical activity sweeping Europe in the decade-plus before WWI (and then in the interwar period), Spanish Freemasonry hosted its share of socialist, anarchist, and nihilist elements. The Lodge enjoyed a brief surge in popularity during the short-lived Second Republic (1931-36), but this only provided a brief respite before the brutal suppression of the Fascist Era.

Following the Spanish Civil War and until Francisco Franco’s death in 1975, Freemasonry was brutally suppressed—mirroring the experience of the Lodge in Fascist Italy, Nazi Germany, and in areas dominated by fascism. In 1940, the dictator enacted the *Law for the Suppression of Freemasonry and Communism*, with a “Special Tribunal” acting as its judicial arm until 1963. Just in the immediate post-Civil War period, an estimated 10,000 Spaniards were shot ... simply for the “crime” of being Freemasons! Official Spanish Freemasonry totally became an entity in exile, with the Grand Orient of France (which itself was the object of Nazi-occupied and influenced oppression) playing fraternal host to the Spanish Lodge. For four decades—until a decision of Spain’s Court of Administrative Decision of the High Court (May 1979)—the Lodge was a totally illegal organization. Its Lodge buildings and charitable institutions were confiscated and often destroyed.

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Today the Fraternity in Spain is “a plurality of different interpretations of Masonic regularity, with the result that one may find there many different types of lodges: liberal, conservative, traditional, secular, deistic, esoteric, regional, national, international, as well as male, female and mixed.” [WHEW! Remember what I said last month about being careful when visiting Lodges outside the U.S.?] The Grand Lodge of Spain (founded in 1982) is recognized by U.G.L.E. and by most U.S. GLs, with the greatest number of constituent Lodges under its jurisdiction.

Next month: France!

**Bill**

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303-775-5727

**Last Month’s Trivia Question:** Unfortunately, the P2 scandal in Italy was not the first time that the Lodge was implicated in criminal collaboration in that country. Can you discover when that earlier scandal occurred and describe the details?

**Answer:** In the early 1950s, it seems that several Italian Masonic Lodges decided to take a tip from La Cosa Nostra and enhance their authority, if not their fraternal credibility, by engaging in a variety of shady and even outright criminal enterprises. In Sicily, in 1953, a Mafia boss pressured local Lodges (In all fairness, it isn’t clear—or, at least, I was unable to discover—how willingly they cooperated.) to expel regular Masons and admit Sicilian members of local crime families, as a way of converting legitimate Lodges into criminal entities. The Lodges then used their influence in the community to assist Mafia criminal enterprises. For a time, Sicilian Lodges collaborated in a “code of silence” to stymie police or judicial investigations, except in cases where evidence against Lodge members and Lodge organizations was overwhelming.

**This Month’s Trivia Question (Answer in next *Rite Works*):** Why did the 1824-25 American tour of Brother Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette very nearly not happen?

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**The Lodge of Promulgation** - The Moderns’ negotiating committee had been formed in 1809 as the Lodge of Promulgation, which lasted until 1811. Its original object was to report on the differences of ritual as practiced by Antients and Moderns. Ceremonies were rehearsed in front of the Duke of Sussex (not Harry!), Master of the Lodge of Antiquity (who was to succeed the Prince of Wales as Grand Master in 1813 and was easily the most cultured of the sons of King George III), and the Masters of eight other London lodges.

In the result the working adopted was mainly that of the Antients, notably in the use of Deacons, which had hitherto been confined to Antient lodges, and in the Installation ceremony for Masters of lodges; it is considered that the expression “Board of Installed Masters” dates from that time.

Among other recommendations of the lodge to the Earl of Moira was one for appointing a ‘Professor of the Art and Mystery of Speculative Freemasonry,’ to settle all doubtful points. Such an officer never materialized.



## Member in the Spotlight

By Lee Miller, 32° KCCH

1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander  
Colorado Council of Kadosh

**Thomas M. Thompson, 33°**

**Past Wise Master  
Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix**



The only constant in life is change. Well, the Consistory office is undergoing a major change on June 28<sup>th</sup> – that’s the day one of the familiar faces of the Consistory office, Illustrious Brother Tommy Thompson, 33°, retires from the Consistory after 17 years of service.

Illustrious Brother Tommy grew up in Oklahoma, where his father worked for Chevron. He told me he comes from a Masonic family; his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather were all Masons, and he joined DeMolay at age 17. During his senior year of high school, Chevron closed the Oklahoma office and his father moved the family to Denver. He finished high school while living with his grandmother then moved to Denver to be close to his family.

He enrolled in CU in the electrical engineering program, but says he ran out of money after two years. It was an easy decision to join the Air Force, where he spent six years on active duty with an end goal of going back to college using his GI Bill benefits. He returned home to Denver in 1980 only to find that CU’s engineering program now had a multi-year wait. So he signed up for the Air Force reserves, re-enrolled in CU with his major changed to Computer Science, and finished his degree. He hadn’t forgotten about Masonry, and was raised in Weston Lodge No. 22 in December of 1983. In 1987, he joined the Scottish Rite, then became a Royal Arch Mason in 1998 and both a Cryptic Mason and Knight Templar in 2000.

Everything came together when Illustrious Brother Tommy landed a job with contractor TRW in their Space and Defense Center, working at Buckley ANG Base (now Buckley Space Force Base). He transferred from the Air Force reserve to the Colorado Air National Guard, ultimately serving a total of 21 years between active duty, reserve, and National Guard doing wideband communications.

The military, however, has a funny way of showing its appreciation for those with special skills. In 2003, he was recalled by the Air National Guard and sent to what he wryly referred to as “sensitive places,” not elaborating further. [11158629] I seem to recall that in March of 2003 the United States led the invasion of the Republic of Iraq, and can only infer that at least one of those “sensitive places” was very likely hot and sandy.

A year and a half later, Illustrious Brother Tommy returned home. Shortly after that, TRW was acquired by Northrop-Grumman who laid off all Denver-based employees. That gave him the time to pursue Masonry. He began attending and affiliated with Jacques DeMolay Lodge No. 171, eventually going through the chairs and serving as Worshipful Master. He remains a member of Weston Lodge, and has also affiliated with Black Hawk Lodge No. 11.

In 2004, Illustrious Brother Tommy began volunteering in the Consistory office, which led

Continued on next page

him to begin a full-time job in the office in 2007. Two years later, he received his red hat, and then his white hat in 2013. He told me a story about himself about being a newer Scottish Rite Mason. Denver was hosting a regional event to confer all the degrees with degree teams visiting from a number of states, and Illustrious Brother Tommy was tiling. A visitor wearing a purple hat walked in, and true to his job, Tommy asked the visitor for his dues card. The stranger, who was the Supreme Grand Commander, asked “Do you know who I am?” He was told “Yes, you’re the guy in the picture hanging on the wall, but I still need to see your dues card.” Illustrious Brother Tommy laughed and told me he was sure that was the end of his Scottish Rite career. But a few weeks later a letter arrived from the Supreme Council praising him for doing his duty.

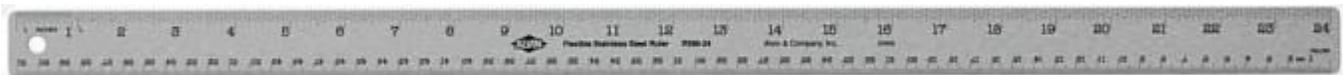
In 2014 he was Wise Master of the Rose Croix line, and has been in numerous degrees over the years. He was no less busy in the York Rite, serving as Excellent High Priest and as Eminent Commander in 2011, then as Thrice Illustrious Master in 2012. That same year, MIGM Jerry Dodd appointed him to the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons and he served Colorado as Most Illustrious Grand Master in 2018. In 2021, he was elected as the Grand Treasurer for all three York Rite bodies, and has agreed to continue to serve the York Rite in that role again for 2024-2025.

He's also President of the Aurora Shrine Club, is on the Ceremonial Divan at El Jebel Shrine, and is active in a number of other bodies including the York Rite College, National Sojourners, the Knight Masons, the Red Cross of Constantine, KYCH, and AMD.

Despite all of his Masonic obligations, Illustrious Brother Tommy actually has a full life. He has been married since 2012, and his wife has three adult children. [10214013] They bought a travel trailer a few years later, and have enjoyed traveling around the country when he can break free from the constant pull of Masonry. He is a target shooter but said with a bit of regret that his wife doesn't share his enthusiasm for firearms and shooting. He's also an avid coin collector.

I asked our Illustrious Brother what he's going to do once he's retired (again). The Thomp-sons are going to travel “a lot more.” He did make a point to assure me that he'll still be around the Consistory and will stay involved and continue to help. I'll be sure to remind him of that next time I need to fill a role in a degree!

[Editor Note: I've already warned Illustrious Brother Tommy about the 4 essential rules of re-tirees—with the fourth being the “Grand Word” (NO) because everyone will look at him and say “ask him to do it, he's retired now and has all the time in the world...NO.]



**For Those Who Know, No Explanation Is Necessary.**



**SPRING  
2024**



**REUNION**





**Spring 2024  
Reunion  
Banquet**



**William F. Skewes  
Memorial  
Reunion**





## 20 MAY 2024 Stated Meeting



# CLAYS FOR A CAUSE

## SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT



**MAY 24, 2024**  
**JOIN US NEXT YEAR FOR**  
**OUR THIRD ANNUAL**  
**TOURNAMENT**



## Special Birthdays

### 90 Years "YOUNG"

Jan Fredrik Cederberg  
Patrick Lee Thompson

### 80 Years "YOUNG"

Alvin James Campbell

### 70 Years "YOUNG"

Ricky Lynn Benish  
John Henry Mai

### 50 Years "OLD"

James Christopher Boyd  
Michael Brent Rotert

### 40 Years "OLD"

Andrew Joseph Schnackenberg

### Our June Youngster

Samuel Logan Mathews (23)

## EXTRA SPECIAL

Horace Michael Moore (105)

## Special Birthdays

### 90 Years "YOUNG"

Gordon William Bates  
Donnie Dean Duff

### 80 Years "YOUNG"

Steven David Christensen

Richard Garry Jones  
Walter Richard Peyton

### 70 Years "YOUNG"

Scott Alan Anderson  
Marcel Norman Doyon

Melvin Lee Kemp  
Paul Brent Michel

Gary Ray Sunshine  
Michael Jay Zeff

### 60 Years "OLD"

Robert Howard Arnett, Jr.

Sterling Todd Warburton

### 50 Years "OLD"

Alfonso Carnero-Zubia  
Christopher John Plucinski

### Our July Youngster

Nicholaus Elio Sprovieri (28)





## **Special Birthdays**

### **90 Years "YOUNG"**

Cecil Edward Norrid

### **80 Years "YOUNG"**

Roger Philip Barnes

Perry Lester Carter, Jr.

Rolland Dean Comeau

Gary Ralph Disinger

Enrique Garcia

Merlin Eugene Wright

### **70 Years "YOUNG"**

Ronald DeWayne Birely

### **60 Years "OLD"**

Phillip R. Steel

## **Our August Youngster**

Connor Davis Riddle (28)

## **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 Youngsters**

Aaron Bailey Codiga (31)

Aaron David Garcia (31)



# MEMORIAL SCROLL

Larry Eugene Erickson, 32°  
Robert G. Geissberger, 32°  
Willis Gary Grundvig, 32°  
John Hohnstein, Jr., 32°  
James Clarence Krohn, 32°

04/15/2024  
04/21/2024  
02/03/2024  
04/20/2024  
05/02/2024



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.

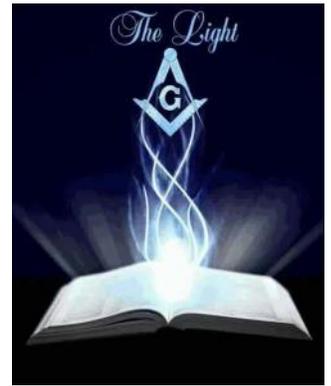
The current members of the Denver Consistory Rose Croix Funeral Team are: Gregory F. Harris, 32° KCCH - Chairman; Thomas W. Adair, 32°; Scott A. Bates, 33°; John H. Buchanan, 33°; Pablo Columban, 32° KCCH; Jerry L. Fenimore, 33° GC; M. Edward Johnson, 33° (emeritus); Richard W. Mitchell, 33°; Scott E. Olson, 32° KCCH; Matthew A. Raia, 33°; Thomas R. Repp, 32° KCCH; John A. Warren, 33°; Richard M. Wenzel III, 32° KCCH; and Benjamin F. Williams, 32° KCCH.

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



## The Prelate's Pulpit

By: Rev. James Harris, 33°



I attended the Spring Reunion banquet as we received new members. It was a great banquet. The new members will bring new energy to the Consistory. I hope they will get involved quickly. I feel I am a better man because of Masonry. It means so much to me. Masons are not told to believe in one specific God, but rather to believe in the Grand Architect of the Universe, by whatever name you choose to call him. Masons support their government. Masons believe always do no harm to anyone. He is at peace with his God. He believes in living by faith. He believes in giving a helping hand to anyone that needs it. He believes in giving to the poor. He supports loving one another (the "new law of love"). He believes in doing good. He believes in living a good life. Masons love each other. Masons work together for the benefit of all. Masons do good and strive to be a better man. Masons are asked what they want before they progress in the craft—and it is always "light, more light." We need light to live. When the blindfold is removed, he sees himself surrounded by his Brothers and is told he is never alone in Masonry.

Masons meet in Lodges. Masons only accept good men, and give them lessons to become better men.

Enjoy the summer as the new life from Spring grows and becomes plentiful around us. I pray it will lift our spirit. Find something new to challenge yourself. [11118914]

Blessings,  
Rev. James Harris.



# Scottish Rite 4X4 trail riding

## June 8th 2024 at Rainbow Falls

4X4 short wheelbase with good clearance and tow points recommended.,  
50 inches, or less, in overall width.

Safety brief at 9:30AM start trail at 10:00AM bring a sack lunch.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/TNxn98Z7VhMepuU9>



Coordinates: 39.135991 N 105.106544 W

At the trail: CB radio channel 32 or Licensed HAM operators NØDWS on 446.025

If you are looking to attend as a ride along, let me know, and we can find a ride.

Contact Br. David Spence [papaspenca@gmail.com](mailto:papaspenca@gmail.com) 720-585-8844

My wife and I will be camping at the Garden of the Gods Campground June 7-9 if  
you would like to join too.

<https://rvcoutdoors.com/garden-of-the-gods-rv-resort/>

**LADIES LUNCHEON**  
**JUNE 15, 2024 - 11:30AM**  
**TASTE OF PROVENCE at DENVER CONSISTORY**  
**1370 GRANT STREET, DENVER, CO 80203**  
**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY JUNE 7**  
**CALL (303) 861-4261**

**MENU**

**STARTERS**

*French Brie-Baguette-Mixed Olives*

*Bistro Salad*

**MAIN**

*Provencal Stuffed Tomatoes*

*Ratatouille with Chicken*

**DESSERT**

*French Macarons & Chouquette*

**BEVERAGES**

*Tea, Coffee, Spirits*



**Blue Lodge Recognition Night  
@ the Denver Consistory  
Monday—June 17th, 2024**



**TELL YOUR LODGE!!**

Join us at the Denver Consistory for a special evening of fraternity and entertainment. **All Colorado Lodges are welcome to attend the evening.** Dinner **by reservation @ 6:00pm.** Followed by open meeting **@ 7:00pm.**

**Lodge Banners are welcome.**

**Let's fill the Consistory with Joy and Music**

After we recognize Blue Lodges, sit back for an evening of Great Acoustic music by a nationally known band:

**Steely Dead** a fusion of Steely Dan and the Grateful Dead

**Parking Garage is Open...Live entertainment is free.**

Steely Dead is a national touring band that has satisfied the curiosity of music lovers with their unique blend of Grateful Dead and Steely Dan.

**Steely Dead has gained a dedicated following with their electrifying performances and soulful interpretations of classic tunes.**

**PLEASE TELL YOUR  
LODGE!**

**Open to all Brothers, Families and Friends. Guests are encouraged!!**

HARMONY Lodge N°. 61 A.F. & A.M. Honoring St.  
John the Baptist with a Table Lodge

To all Masons,  
Greetings:

Harmony Lodge N°. 61 cordially invites you to a Table Lodge honoring  
**Saint John the Baptist.**

Come join us for some education and enjoyment, celebrating Saint John the Baptist at a Table Lodge Meeting. This is a great way to start the summer season and meet new Masons, make new friends, and enjoy the evening with great food and drink.

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, beginning at the hour of 6:00 p.m.**  
**350 S. Broadway, Denver Colorado**  
**South Denver Masonic Temple**

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED - AT: 303-733-6036**

Reservations accepted until 8:00 p.m. on June 1<sup>st</sup>. No further reservations will be accepted after the above deadline.

The Members and Officers of Harmony Lodge N°. 61 hope to see you  
then.



**Illustrious Brother  
Tommy Thompson, 33<sup>o</sup>**



**June 30, 2024**

**2:00 PM**

**Denver Consistory Dining Room**

**RSVP to the Consistory Office**

**by June 26**

**303.861.4261**

# 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CORNERSTONE

Location: 1370 Grant St  
Date: July 20, 2024  
Time: 2:30 PM – 7:00 PM  
Host: Thomas Gaffney 32° KCCH

2:30PM – 3:30PM	Grand Lodge Cornerstone Ceremony, <b>FREE TO ALL</b>	NE Corner Consistory
3:00PM – 4:00 PM	Consistory doors open for attendees to tour building and to see displays. <b>FREE TO ALL</b>	Foyer/Cathedral
4:00PM – 5:00PM	Presentation of The Traitor <b>FREE TO ALL</b>	Cathedral Room
5:00PM – 5:30PM	Comments from Dignitaries <b>FREE TO ALL</b>	Cathedral Room
5:30PM – 7:00PM	Transition to Social/Dinner <b>RSVP</b>	Doc's/Dining Hall

**Additional information the day is close upon us, please make your reservations.**

The event is open to all that want to attend. Dinner will be restricted to the first 200 paid reservations. All attendees will receive a commemorative pin and those RSVPs to the dinner will receive a commemorative collector's challenge coin. Web link to payment will open in March.



### Three great reasons to Support the Scottish Rite Golf Classic

**One!** Sponsor and Play for the kids! Proceeds will benefit the Scottish Rite Foundation and RiteCare. RiteCare provides:

- Juvenile Speech Therapy
- Treatment for Child Language Disorders
- Literacy Training for Pre-School Age Children
- Graduate-level scholarships in speech-language-pathology



**Two:** We will be playing at Hiwan Golf Club! This is a rare opportunity to play a truly exclusive area private club.

**Three:** This truly unique event features exciting hole in one contests and a post-event Shootout for \$1,000,000. Hole in One contests include a trip to the 2025 Ryder Cup, Broncos-Raiders Away Game package in Las Vegas, Pebble Beach golf trip for two and a Family Ski Vacation.

In addition to exciting contests, the days will includes box lunch, awards luncheon and player gift package..

**We expect a full field so register now.**

**Special sponsorship packages with recognition prior to the event and throughout the event.**

[www.scottishritegolf.com](http://www.scottishritegolf.com)



# Scottish Rite meet up for the CAF Air Power History Tour

## Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport

Meet up at the East Gate at 8:45 AM August 24<sup>th</sup>

Get your entrance tickets on site \$20 adults/\$10 children

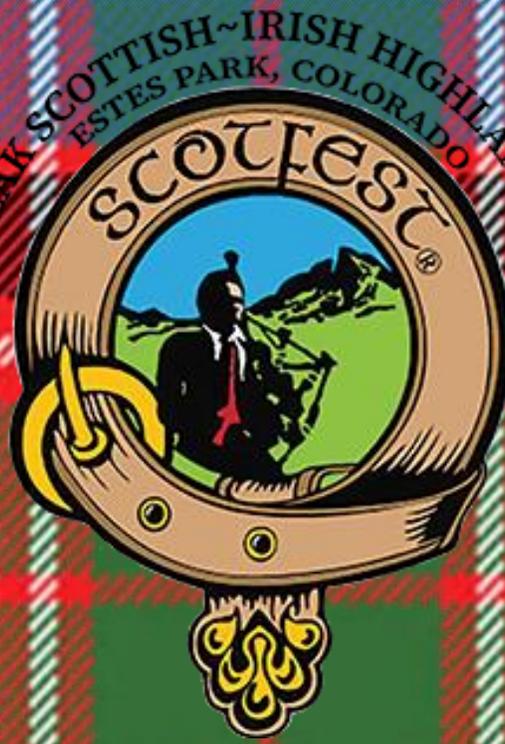
<https://www.airpowersquadron.org/denver-colorado>



For those interested, we can go to the Burn's Pub next to the Airport for a Lunch as well. <https://theburnspub.com/>

Contact either: Greg Koenig gregk78910@gmail.com 720-252-9300

David Spence: papaspence@gmail.com 720-585-8844



## 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](mailto:pablocolomban@yahoo.com) • 720-284-4304

Scan the QR code for a  
complete list.



SCAN ME



**Denver's Scottish Rite Masonic Center** earns funds through King Soopers charitable Community giving program. Depending on how much you shop at King Soopers and get gas at King Soopers or Loaf 'n Jug, you can earn a little or a lot for the Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

### **Create a digital account**

A digital account is needed to participate in King Soopers Community Rewards. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose.

**Search for your organization** [here](#).

**Link your Card** to Scottish Rite Masonic Center (of Denver) and click "Save".

Scottish Rite Masonic Center (of Denver) will also display in the King Soopers Community Rewards section of your account. If you need to review or revisit your organization, you can always do so under your Account.

If you do not have a King Soopers Loyalty Card, you can get one at your local store. Then just follow the instructions above.

**Thank you for supporting the Scottish Rite Center**

# *MEDIA PRESENCE*



Denver Consistory Web Page

<http://www.denverconsistory.org>

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



find us on

**Facebook**

Look for (search):

Denver Scottish Rite Consistory

<http://www.facebook.com>

You need to “LIKE” us to see what is going on.

**QUESTIONS:** [Randy Penn, 32° KCCH](#)



THE  
**SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY**  
SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°  SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, USA

<https://scottishrite.org>

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This publication is produced monthly by and for the benefit of members, staff, and interested parties associated with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, and more particularly the Denver Consistory in the Valley of Denver, Orient of Colorado. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the Denver Consistory or its officers.

Deadline for article submission is two (2) days after the monthly stated meeting (third Monday). Articles should be approximately 250-1000 words long. Where appropriate, relevant high-resolution images with proper credits may be included with your submission. Articles may be submitted in hard copy to the office or by electronic format via email to the editor. All articles are subject to editing and are published without restrictions unless clearly marked as copyrighted. No compensation is given for any articles, photographs, or other materials submitted or published.

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Questions pertaining to this publication should be forwarded to the Editor or the Consistory Office.

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

**THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER !!!** Let us know how we're doing. We need to know if you want to see something in particular that we haven't published previously. If you are receiving this e-newsletter, it is because we have a valid email address for you. If you know of a Brother who has email but is not receiving these notices, PLEASE have him contact the Consistory Office and get his email updated or added to our database.

Contact:

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

or

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

**ALLEGIANCE**

*The bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Denver, Orient of Colorado, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the **Supreme Council** (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon.*



**James D. Cole, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Commander



**Karl J. Hinkle, 33°**  
Deputy of the Supreme Council  
in Colorado



**Ronald D. Birely, 33°**  
Personal Representative of the  
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Centennial Lodge of Perfection



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