



Denver's RiteWorks

February 2024 vol. 17 #2



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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Do NOT park in the Credit Union of Colorado Parking Lot !!!

Credit Union of Colorado, previously located at 1390 Logan Street, Denver, has MOVED. Their parking lot located on the northeast corner of 14th and Logan Street is **NO LONGER AVAILABLE** for Denver Consistory's use. [11151960]
A word to the wise is sufficient.

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.

Next meeting: 05 FEB 2024. Zoom credentials:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83601760716?pwd=M1Q4R2s1S2MrVTd3UGtuMUUYwajNEdz09>

PLANNING CALENDAR

February 2024

Fri, FEB 2	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - Fried Chicken)
Mon, FEB 5	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, FEB 9	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - 5-Way Chili)
Fri, FEB 16	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - French Dip Sandwiches)
Mon, FEB 19	Stated Meeting - Feast of Kadosh - Parking Garage Available 5:30 p.m. Red Room Business Meeting 6:00 p.m. Dinner (\$25 - Smothered Pork Chop with Mashed Potatoes) 7:00 p.m. Entertainment (President's Day; Valentine's Day) 7:30 p.m. Split Meeting—Almoner & Life Member Annual Reports 5 min. oration - Orator, Centennial Lodge of Perfection
Fri, FEB 23	11:30 p.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - Pulled Pork Sandwiches)
Sat, FEB 24	Dinner at Downtown Aquarium. Contact Brother Connor Riddle to RSVP riddlecd@msn.com

March 2024

Fri, MAR 1	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - Fried Chicken)
Mon, MAR 4	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, MAR 8, 15, 22, 29	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13)
Fri, MAR 15	Afternoon at Denver Dave & Busters. Contact Brother Matthew Madrid to RSVP matt.madridx@gmail.com
Mon, MAR 18	Stated Meeting Parking Garage Available <u>Sports Team Shirt Night</u> 5:30 p.m. Red Room Business Meeting 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m. Awards & Announcements; Past Presiding Officer Recognition 7:30 p.m. Split Meeting 5 min oration - Minister of State, Denver Consistory
Sun, MAR 31	6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (Knights Templar Association) Parking Garage Available

April 2024

Mon, APR 1	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Thu - Sat APR 4-6	Supreme Council Leadership Conference (Salt Lake City, UT)
Fri, APR 5, 12, 19, 26	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - Fried Chicken on APR 5)
Sat, APR 13	Afternoon at Denver Museum of Nature and History RSVP to Brother Mike Lazalde mikealazalde@gmail.com
Mon, APR 15	Stated Meeting - Parking Garage Available Celebration of Remembrance and Renewal

EDITOR'S RESTLEBOARD



BY: **BILL HICKEY, 33°**

EMAIL: WA3H@HOTMAIL.COM

WHAT IS LOVE, ANYWAY?

February is celebrated as the “month of love” (Valentine’s Day). Here’s a little bit of philosophy to reflect upon during this month when we focus on LOVE.

We celebrate the great truth, that no matter where we find ourselves, when two or more are gathered together in the name of all that is sacred and Holy, **THERE IS LOVE!**

And, love is a profound mystery. That two souls can reach across the great river that separates one solitary heart from another, and set out on a dangerous and thrilling journey, when in an instant, in a miracle, **TWO BECOME ONE!**

Love is the ship we build with compassion, forgiveness, and faith to travel the river together. It is the dance of life. It is the greatest of contracts. It is the sweetest of promises to keep each other afloat amid the storms; to keep each other laughing [11150342] amid the sorrow; and faithful amid the darkness. Rejoicing with each other in the morning and honoring each other in the evening.

It is a gift from God, the source of this love and of the river itself. The one who will carry and guide us from this shore to the next.

Bill

OXYGEN: An intensely habit-forming accumulative toxic substance. As little as one breath is known to produce a life-long addiction to the gas, which addiction invariably ends in death. In high concentrations, it causes death quickly, but even in 20 percent dilution, few survive more than 0.8 century.

Excerpt from an editorial by John Campbell, Analog Magazine, October 1963



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.

BEHIND EVERY SUCCESSFUL MAN STANDS A SURPRISED MOTHER-IN-LAW

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.

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° Brother Jerry Edwards, 32° KCCH
Brother Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Who reads the RiteWorks Contest – WE HAVE A WINNER! Brother Greg Koenig, 32° KCCH found his membership number and notified the office. The membership numbers published in the January RiteWorks belong to the following Brothers who were eligible to receive a free dinner for the January Stated Meeting: **Stephen Sommerschild, C. Vincent Anderson, Lewis Wagner, Gregory Koenig, Douglas Peterson, Nicholas Newby, Stephen Parce, Bruce Swedal, Matthew Madrid, Richard Silver**. None of the Brothers, other than Greg Koenig, called the office to claim their free dinner. Maybe this month's winners will see their membership number and call the office to claim their free dinner for the February Stated Meeting.

January 15th Stated Meeting - Our January Stated Meeting consisted of Annual Reports of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, Scottish Rite Properties, The Scottish Rite Cathedral Association, and the Centennial Lodge of Perfection, followed by the public installation of officers conducted by **Illustrious Brother Ron Birely, 33°**, Personal Representative [3334554] to the Valley of Denver for the Illustrious and Most Worshipful Karl Hinkle, 33°, Deputy of the Supreme Council. Congratulations to the newly installed officers.

Our ladies enjoyed a tour of the Properties Department conducted by Illustrious Brother Bart Wegner, 33°.

Continued on next page

From the Secretary's Desk - Continued from previous page

Annual Burns Supper - The Annual KSA Burns Supper was held January 20th. It was a fun evening of entertainment, good food, and fellowship enjoyed by the 121 in attendance.

Stated Meeting February 19th - During the business portion of the meeting we will have the annual reports of the Life Membership Fund, Almoner, and SRMC Endowment Fund. Brother Todd Warburton, 32°, Orator of the Centennial Lodge of Perfection, will give an oration.

Scottish Rite Nights Out - The Denver Consistory Officers line will be hosting various social events to facilitate the coming together of members, as well as prospects, and our neighbors and friends. These are open to anyone who would like to get together and enjoy good company. The schedule of events is posted in this edition of the RiteWorks. (Page 3)

Spring Reunion May 16-18, 2024 - We need petitions! Brothers, turn in the petitions as soon as you receive them. Do NOT wait until the April 15th Stated Meeting or the last minute Monday Officers' meeting before the reunion.

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

**DENVER CONSISTORY
PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP**



Automatic Membership Renewal Program

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

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

Life Memberships are an ideal way to avoid paying future membership fee increases. A Life Membership guarantees that you will never be suspended for nonpayment should your future financial situation change. It also 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.

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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.

Membership Statistics

February 2023: 1,463

February 2024: 1,386

Net: **-77**

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. [9592148] 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.**

The eMason's Charge

Brethren, the duties and charges [10369268] of a Freemason are well-suited to the Internet and should be practiced to their fullest extent.

- HONESTY:** to show the Craft as it is, and how we wish it were.
- CHARITY:** to forgive those who speak out of malice or ignorance.
- STRENGTH:** to refrain from being drawn into irrelevant arguments.
- TEMPERANCE:** to moderate the passions, and not rise to taunts.
- FIDELITY:** to ever be mindful of our obligations.
- RECTITUDE:** to correct in ourselves what we see wrong in others.
- PIETY:** to understand that our opinions are just that, opinions.
- TOLERANCE:** to know that others' opinions are also just opinions.
- COURTESY:** to observe the rules of etiquette.
- EQUALITY:** to appear neither condescending nor unduly humble.
- JOY:** to be happy, and communicate happiness.



Let all our transactions via the Internet **demonstrate by example** what we, as Freemasons, aspire to in our daily lives. With our zeal and fidelity let us promulgate the genuine principles of the Craft, and diffuse the light of Wisdom rather than fan the flames of ignorance.



Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Director of Education

A Point of Pride Revisited



A personal note...

By the time you read this, I should be about two weeks post-op from the first of (eventually) two knee replacements, and I want to express my appreciation for all the prayers and good wishes already received. I've been the grateful recipient of much advice and of more than a few warnings and admonitions - mostly in the vein of "do what they tell you to do" (I will, I promise!). I'll miss seeing you for a while, at meetings and Friday lunches, but all of that is the greatest possible incentive to get mended and back in the swing. See you soon!

A Point of Pride Revisited (Part 1)

One of our most frequent "bragging points," as a Fraternity (right up there with the Craft's charitable pursuits and community involvement), is the number of Brothers who have served in positions of power, influence, and public trust over our nation's history. Beginning literally "at the beginning," we can recite a seemingly endless roster of great Americans, who served in positions great and small - political, military, social, and commercial - and who helped shape a nation and society we believe is the greatest on earth.

We especially like to mention that fourteen of the forty-five men who have held the office of President of the United States were Freemasons. That's just a smidge over 31%, since Brother George took that first oath, in New York City, in 1789 ... on a Bible borrowed from St. John's Lodge No. 1, Ancient York Masons. The most recent "Brother President," Gerald Ford, had the distinction - one not even possible in 1789 - of being the only person to serve both as President and Vice-President having been elected to neither office!

In his great dystopian novel, *Animal Farm*, George Orwell has one character comment that "All animals are created equal ... but some are 'more equal' than others." So it is also with U.S. Presidents! Do all fourteen of "our guys" equally deserve to be bragged upon by the Fraternity? How has the Fraternity done, overall, in terms of providing quality leadership? Were they good Presidents ... good men ... good Masons? Have our Brothers been good stewards of the people's trust and "faithfully executed the office," as the oath calls on them to do? This month and next, I'll share a bit of what I discovered.

Looking at presidential (or any sort of) "greatness" can be a tricky matter. However, in the case of past Chief Executives there has been an effort (flawed, IMHO, but usable) at objectively measuring presidential greatness. It began, back in 1948, as a project undertaken by presidential historian Arthur Schlesinger, and it has been continued by contemporary academics. The survey attempts to quantify various aspects of performance by past Presidents and then use those measurements to rank them by their accomplishments.

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In 2022, C-Span published results of the most recent of these surveys, and you can view them [here](#). You'll note that each of the listed Presidents is also a link, which you can follow to see how their various qualities contributed to their ranking.

For the most part, I find the survey one that largely avoids partisan bias, although, personally, I would not attempt to rank the performance of a President until at least 25 years after the end of his term. Since the last Masonic President left office in 1977, however, that isn't a factor here. The 2022 version does at least omit the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue! So, if you look at the overall rankings, judge for yourself how accurate the assessments are. My sole commentary on the survey would be to say that known socio-political "leanings" in academia are more apparent in the more recent rankings. Professor Schlesinger, in his time, was not without his political sympathies, but his successors have been, perhaps, less adept at veiling them!

So, that said, here are the rankings of our Masonic Fourteen:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2. George Washington | 3. Franklin D. Roosevelt | 4. Theodore Roosevelt |
| 6. Harry S Truman ¹ | 12. James Monroe | 14. William McKinley |
| 18. James K. Polk | 22. Andrew Jackson | 23. William Howard Taft |
| 27. James A. Garfield | 28. Gerald R. Ford | 37. Warren G. Harding |
| 43. Andrew Johnson | 44. James Buchanan | |

¹Harry Truman's middle "name" was only the letter "S" ... it didn't stand for anything ...so it's properly written as "S" not "S."

If you're at all a U.S. history buff, both the "top three" and the "bottom three" are pretty predictable rankings. Who had a harder job handed to him on Inauguration Day than Washington or FDR? Lincoln (a non-Mason, darn it!) would be about the only other candidate, and he and GW have been #1 or #2 in these assessments since their inception. [7892821]

At the opposite end of the ranking are Brothers James Buchanan and Andrew Johnson: Ol' Abe's historical "bookends." Buchanan spent his four years in the White House (1857-61) never quite understanding that legal limitations didn't mean that he was powerless to try to avoid civil war! He believed that the national government didn't have the power to compel resolution of either the slavery or the secession issues. "Doing nothing," in the context of those times, was the one thing that the country couldn't abide, and, by the time he left office, seven southern states had seceded and were preparing for war. Buchanan retired to his farm in Pennsylvania proclaiming, "History will vindicate my memory from every unjust aspersion." It has not!

In the aftermath of the tragedy of the Civil War, it fell to Andrew Johnson (1865-69) to be the completely unfit and overmatched heir to Lincoln's legacy. Johnson became Vice President mostly on the strength of his having remained loyal to the Union, when his native Tennessee seceded. He was the only U.S. Senator from a secessionist state to remain in his position throughout the war (so, high marks at least for loyalty). Johnson, a Democrat, was nominated as Republican Lincoln's 1864 running mate, and the party chose to call itself The "Constitutional Union Party" on the ballot that year, in part to reflect their "strange bedfellows" electoral ticket.

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Johnson's ardent loyalty to the Union was, unfortunately, not sufficient to prove the master of his less admirable traits. His violent temper, pettiness and strident racism made him, possibly, the worst choice to lead the nation on a path to reconciliation. We all know him as the only President, until recent times, to be impeached. He was saved from conviction and removal from office by a single vote.

To complete Part 1 of this look at Masonic Presidents, we'll look at one more highly ranked individual and one ... well ... not so much. Theodore Roosevelt and Warren Harding are also the "bookends" of a defining political era.

TR's assumption of the presidency, upon the death of Brother William McKinley, marks the beginning (at least of the presidential phase) of the Progressive Era in American politics. Teddy came by his reputation as an energetic, no-nonsense administrator, having been NYC police commissioner and, as we all know, organizer of the 1st Volunteer Cavalry regiment ("Rough Riders") in the Spanish-American War. Many of the recruits were cowboys, miners, law-enforcement officials, and college athletes, and they were known for their adventurous style and unorthodox tactics.

When the Republicans nominated TR as their Vice-Presidential candidate in 1900, it was mainly as a concession to the growing "Progressive" wing of the party, and neither the party bosses nor the re-election-bound McKinley were enthusiastic about the pick. He was on the ticket as a vote-getter ... and get them he did! The party stalwarts disparaged his assumption of the office when McKinley was assassinated in 1901. "Now look," one of them grouched, "that d**ned cowboy is President!"

Teddy as President was a genuine force of nature, increasing the power and the influence of the office as few have done: using the office as what he referred to as his "bully (excellent) pulpit." Conservation (including the expansion of the National Parks and other public land holdings), health and safety legislation, financial regulation, and combating corruption were all on the Progressive agenda ... and Roosevelt championed them all. TR's presidency set the stage for America's assumption of a larger role on the world stage.

America came out of World War I disillusioned and exhausted with the idealism of the Progressive Era. By 1920, what was wanted was a return to something less energetic ... less demanding ... and less expensive! The fires of Progressivism burned low and Warren G. Harding, a U.S. Senator and Ohio newspaperman, emerged from a deadlocked Republican convention as the compromise nominee. "He looks like a President!" ran the popular chatter, in what became known as "the front-porch campaign" ... with Harding doing substantially just that: staying home, doing informal interviews from the porch swing of his home in Marion, Ohio, and opining that what the country needed was "a return to normalcy" (which, FYI, isn't - or at least wasn't then - a word).

Unfortunately, what Harding "looked like" and what he was competent to do, as the country's Chief Executive, were two very different things. He rode a wave of indifferent popularity, though becoming increasingly disappointed and discouraged with the actions of people he placed in trusted positions ... right up to his heart attack and death in 1923! Scandals, involving massive graft and corruption, broke only after he was gone. What he knew of events and how he had been betrayed, by men he trusted, undoubtedly hastened his death.

More next month, Brethren, as well as a look at a bit of these Brothers' personal lives and Masonic careers.

Bill

wbapm32@gmail.com

303-775-5727

Last Month's Trivia Question: Who are the two Sovereign Grand Commanders interred at the House of the Temple in Washington, DC?

Answer: Ill. Albert Pike and Ill. John Henry Cowles, S.G.Cs. from 1859-1891 and 1921-1952 respectively, are interred in the Supreme Council's headquarters. They are the two longest serving S.G.Cs. in our history. Ill. Brother Pike is, naturally, a safe guess as an answer to just about any Scottish Rite trivia question ... "When in doubt, guess Pike!" He was - and it's almost too modest a term, even at that - a giant in the development and expansion of the Rite. His tenure, of course, predated the current House of the Temple building, but, if anyone's name is synonymous with the first hundred years of Scottish Rite Masonry, it is undoubtedly Albert Pike's!

Ill. Brother John Henry Cowles guided the Southern Jurisdiction during an important time in its modern development and growth. He actually lived in an apartment within the House of the Temple during his tenure. If you've been to that beautiful building, imagine for a moment living there ... and having free run of the place when everyone else was gone for the day! SGC Cowles traveled extensively, during his time in office, and was presented with many gavels in commemoration of his visits to jurisdictions all over the world. You can see a small part of that collection [here](#).

This month's Trivia Question (answer in next month's *Rite Works*): What is the difference between a Masonic Festive Board and a Table Lodge?

Ball Discovers Non-Reactive Element - Associated Press (parody)

BOULDER - The heaviest element known to science was recently discovered by Ball Aerospace Corporation physicists. The element, tentatively named Administratium, has no protons or electrons and thus has an atomic number of zero. However, it does have one neutron, 125 assistant neutrons, 75 vice neutrons, and 111 assistant vice neutrons. This gives it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together in a nucleus, by a force that involves the continuous exchange of meson-like particles called morons.

Since it has no electrons, Administratium is inert. However, it can be detected chemically as it impedes every reaction it comes into contact with. According to the discoverers (now employed by Rockwell), a minute amount of Administratium caused one reaction to take over four days to complete, when it would normally occur in less than one second. [9594425]

Research at other laboratories indicates that Administratium occurs naturally in the atmosphere. It tends to concentrate at certain points such as government agencies, large aerospace corporations, and universities, and can actually be found in the newest, best-maintained buildings.

Scientists point out that Administratium is known to be toxic at any level of concentration and can easily destroy any productive reactions where it is allowed to accumulate. Attempts are being made to determine how Administratium can be controlled to prevent irreversible damage, but results to date are not promising.

HOW DO WE KEEP YOUR INTEREST?

Originally written by Illustrious Brother Bill Klatil

While Bill wrote this for a long ago issue of Rite Works, in going through my various reference materials, I came upon this, and it is just as valid today (post-pandemic) as it was back when Bill wrote it.

The life of an active Mason can be demanding and attempting to balance your family life, your work life (if this applies), and activities with your Brothers is not an easy task. Usually one element of your life suffers when you try to pay attention to the others.

Getting your attention is a goal sought by many trying to intersect with your life on a daily basis. When you think about it, the different aspects of your daily routine are being affected by advertising, participation in projects and happenings, family events, and your own preferences for things of interest to you that you would rather be doing. It is a REAL tug of war!

HOW MANY THINGS CAN YOU THINK OF THAT ARE VYING FOR YOUR TIME RIGHT NOW?

A MEMBER'S MONEY AND VALUABLE TIME ARE CONSTANTLY BEING PURSUED. Your Consistory diligently searches for events and activities of value to you while keeping your interest in your membership at the forefront of our thinking. While our philosophy and morals might have had their initial impact, the reinforcement of these principles and being around like-minded men hopefully continues to be the primary draw.

Member participation is a measure of success and is also a measurement of meeting your expectations. When we have a full room, we know the plan has worked.

We often survey our members to see what would be of interest to them. But, this is a question without a good single answer. Perhaps we have developed an activity of interest to you, but it does not meet your schedule. Is there a possibility that not enough promotion materials and information appeared on your radar? What can we do to fix that?

Sometimes it is easier to come home, relax, and recover from the day rather than prepare for yet another activity. Countless reasons exist why you may or may not participate.

We want you to know that we would like to engage you. Our two Reunions every year may be enough. Many events and activities are created during the year that provide opportunities to interact with your Brothers. [11152415] It is up to you to choose those opportunities that best meet your needs.

Even if you are unable to participate in many of these events, we are still here to support you in any way that we can.

Our first exposure to you was probably the Reunion where you became a Scottish Rite Mason. We hope that you found it rewarding. We also hope that you have found the resources to integrate yourself to the Scottish Rite. If you have not yet found that level of comfort, please sample us again.

If we have missed the mark in any way, please reach out to [Brother Matt Raia] personally so we might have a conversation about your feelings.



Member in the Spotlight
By Tom Gaffney, 32° KCCH
Commander, Colorado Council of Kadosh

Michael Foster, 32°
Master of Ceremonies
Rocky Mountain Rose Croix



This month we are “Spotlighting” Mike Foster - also known as “Dad Mike” among the DeMolay community where he is currently serving as the Executive Officer of Colorado DeMolay. Mike was born at Warner Robins Air Force Base, Georgia and currently resides in Highlands Ranch. Mike grew up in Aurora, CO and lived in Aurora until he started college and moved “way” over to Littleton. He attended Aurora Schools growing up and graduated from W. C. Hinkley High School. Mike says that he never served in the Armed Forces but was a military brat growing up, as his father is retired Air Force. What he liked about being part of the military community was being on base or post because it was a city within the city, and a community that looked out and took care of each other.

Mike is not married and has no children. He does have a younger sister living in Colorado who has two teenage kids. When asked about his Masonic journey Mike says that “... In many ways it started when I was thirteen and joined Aurora DeMolay. At that time (like now) the Lodge and Chapter activities were intertwined. I was initiated into Aurora Lodge #156 in 1994”. Many members of his family, both here and in Missouri, are members of DeMolay, Blue Lodges, Eastern Star and other Masonic organizations. His father is a Past Master of Aurora Lodge #156, and his grandfather is a Past Master of South Gate #138. The Masonic bodies he currently belongs to are Blue Lodge Aurora #156, York Rite, Scottish Rite, the appendant youth organizations. He is currently serving as the Eminent Commander (presiding officer) of Denver-Colorado Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, and is “in line” as the Master of Ceremonies in the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix.

When asked about his favorite masonic activities, he says “Anything involving food ... just kidding. I like the degree work especially the lecture of the fellow craft degree, and any work in the third degree.” Mike’s favorite pastimes include watching and playing sports and exploring Colorado both in Winter and Summer.

Mike’s primary career choice has been as a longtime Information Technology Analyst. He says that he just started a new adventure with Colorado Access as a Business Analyst. When asked what he likes about the Spring and Fall Scottish Rite reunions he says “... It’s like a homecoming twice a year! I like the small moments and conversations that happen, like before getting fitted with your sound pack while sitting on the third floor. About the Scottish Rite in general, he likes the culture and the openness of the Consistory, and the events throughout the year where we can share our love of the Scottish Rite with friends and

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family.

About Masonry in general, Mike says that "... Its always been as second home for me, that includes not only friends, but personal and professional mentors. People that always remind me that I could do and be more, and that the only real fight is with me trying to better myself. An interesting fact that folks don't know but might find surprising is that Mike spent much of his formative years in bowling alleys across the nation. He grew up bowling with his parents, and that led to bowling with teams, which then led to bowling in tournaments all over the place. His average bowling score as a youth was in the 160s with his highest game being somewhere in the 220's

The Scottish Rite degrees that Mike has been involved in are mostly ones in the teens like 14th through 17th, (where I recently "drafted" him as Captain of the Guard) and sneaking into an apartment in the 30th. [11110976] Mike says that he does plan on attending the upcoming reunion for at least one day, he says with starting a new job it might be tricky.

When asked for additional remarks he says "... That as Executive Officer of Colorado DeMolay I would be remiss if I didn't say Thank You to the Consistory for their continued support, and ask that you please seek out our youth groups, they need your presence."



Dr. Maya Angelou said:

"I have learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life goes on, and it will be better tomorrow. I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way s/he handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights. I've learned that regardless of your relationships with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life. I've learned that making "a living" is not the same as making a life. I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance. I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back. I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision. I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one. I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back. I've learned that I still have a lot to learn. I've learned that people will forget what you said, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Now, WB Don MacLeod (Fairview Lodge, #126 AF&AM in Canada) added:

"I believe her final "I've learned" might also read - 'I've learned to forgive what you said to me, but I may never forget how you made me feel.'"

"When we speak to a Brother, or to any other person, we should choose our words with greater care. What we say will have a lasting effect on our future relationship with them. There is that old adage 'put your brain in gear before you open your mouth.' In other words, pause and consider your words before you respond. The words you utter might come back to haunt you."



2024 Officer Installation



2024 Whisky College & Burns Supper





Special Birthdays

90 Years “YOUNG”

John Samuel Leiby
Patrick Ray Mahan
Harold Ordean Potter

80 Years “YOUNG”

Michael Edward Loehrig
Robert Glenn Omer
Charles D. Petersen

70 Years “YOUNG”

Robert Kevin Eurich
Thomas Lee Gaffney

50 Years “YOUNG?”

Brian Clark Kirby

Our February Youngster

Brian Douglas Rohde (35)

YOU KNOW YOU WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT WHEN ...

The process becomes more important than the product. [7063019]

You don't see anything wrong with attending a meeting on a subject you know nothing about.

You feel you contributed to the meeting just by being there.

You stop raising issues/problems because you know you will be the one answering them.

You fly across the country to attend a conference with 100+ people to discuss the fact that the project does not have enough money.

You understand the rationalization of an acronym comprised of acronyms.

You can name the project leader of more than 10 projects including your own, but still can't explain in the simplest terms what they do.

You've sat at the same desk for 3 years, done the same thing for 3 years, but have had 3 different business cards.



... a school system that “rewards” the more-competent student with more work, harder tasks, and no increased privilege, no increased status or desirable reward is, in fact, effectively punishing his/her display of ability. Suppose the reward for superior achievement in the classroom - finishing the assigned tasks more quickly - was being given the “privilege” of scrubbing the floors, polishing the windows, and tending the school grounds. Or running errands for the students who were slower and hadn't finished their assignments yet.

Who would, obviously, be the “second-class citizens” of that school? The students who were so stupid they acted bright, of course!

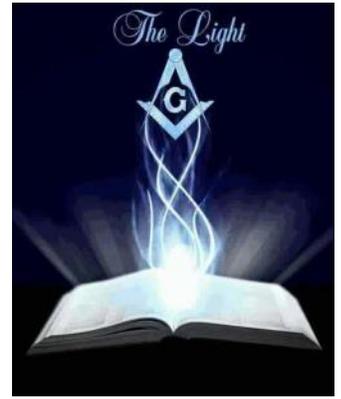




The Prelate's Pulpit

Rev. James H. Harris, 33°

Prelate for All Scottish Rite Bodies



Due to severe weather conditions, I was unable to attend the January Stated Meeting. I congratulate all the newly installed officers and look forward to a great year with their leadership. I cannot believe I have been prelate for about ten years now. I have enjoyed every minute of it. [345371] Thank you for all the ways you have supported me. I leave you with this prayer.

Another year is dawning
With the chance to start anew.
May I be kinder, wiser in all I say and do.

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

I know not what might lie ahead,
Of laughter or of tears.
I only need to know each day
That you are walking near.

I am thankful for this brand new year
As now I pray God my hand is secure
In yours each step along the way.

Blessings for a New Year and may the peace of God be with you.

Rev. Brother James H. Harris, 33°

Memorial Scroll

Dee Earnest Clift, 32°	11/21/2023
Jerry Armon Cronk, 32°	06/03/2023
Donald Robert Douglass, 33°	12/28/2023
Phillip Nelson Larsen, 32°	09/30/2023
Glenn Lasater, 32°	12/30/2023
Roger Rockley Stene, 32° KCCH	12/28/2023



All Scottish Rite Masons in good standing are entitled to have a Rose Croix Funeral Service at the time of their passing. Members should advise their families of their wishes to have this beautiful service. It is a very dignified service intended to help bring comfort to the family.

The current members of the Denver Consistory Rose Croix Funeral Team are: 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.

HOT Pipe Organ Capital Campaign

Since 1916 the Temple Room at the House of the Temple has had an Organ to make our events even more special with music. The Shantz organ console located behind Lieutenant Grand Commander's Chair controls the sound from the 1,417 pipes located high above floor level. The acoustics perfectly allow the room to be flooded with sound. Typically, the organ is played by the Grand Organist for various Masonic events and ceremonies. On occasion, guest organists hold concerts in the Temple Room. The public also visits the Temple Room every week during tours at the HOT.

The current Shantz Organ needs rebuilding and improvement. Currently, only about 50% of the keys will produce correct sounds. This is why the Scottish Rite has opened the HOT Pipe Organ Capital Campaign to save our treasured Organ. We formed a committee of members with vast knowledge and experience in Organs to plan this work. We need to keep music as an important part of the ceremonies and rituals of our fraternity.

Our goal is to raise \$400,000 to pay for restoration, improvements to the instrument, and provide an endowment to pay for its maintenance and repairs in the future. Members all around the Southern Jurisdiction are giving, and we are making progress, but we are counting on every member's help – and your help – to reach the goal.

Gifts to this Capital Campaign are tax deductible as allowed by law. Your gift made payable to the **HOT Historic Preservation Foundation** can be mailed to:

Supreme Council - Development Office
Attn: Caitlyn Kent
1733 16th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20009-3103

Or you can simply call Caitlyn Kent at (202) 777-3111, tell her your gift is for the "Pipe Organ Campaign" and give her your card payment information to complete your gift. All information will be kept confidential.

You can also make your gift directly online by going to: www.ScottishRite.org. Hover over "How to Give", then "Giving Types" and left click on "Cash Gifts". You will gain access to a secure jotform with blanks in which to type your information.

Select House of the Temple Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc.,

Select "House of the Temple Pipe Organ Capital Campaign"

And continue completing the questionnaire/form.

If you would like more information about this work or the campaign, please reach out to Donor Officer Phil Shortt at (240) 608-7425 or PShortt@ScottishRite.org.

Help keep our rich music culture alive in the Scottish Rite by helping with this earnest effort.

The January/February edition of the Scottish Rite Journal has greater detail about saving the House of the Temple's Musical Treasure. Go to <https://scottishrite.org/media-publications/scottish-rite-journal/the-scottish-rite-journal/> for even more.



SCOTTISH RITE SPRING REUNION

Denver Consistory May 16 - 18, 2024

AN OPPORTUNITY TO REUNITE WITH YOUR BROTHERS
REVISIT THE TEACHINGS



Preparation



Organization



Having Fun

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



Denver Consistory 1370 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203

denverconsistory@denverconsistory.org

303-861-4261

100TH ANNIVERSARY CORNERSTONE

Location: 1370 Grant St
Date: July 20, 2024
Time: 1:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Host: Thomas Gaffney 32° KCCH

1:30PM – 2:30PM	Grand Lodge Cornerstone Ceremony,	NE Corner Consistory
2:00PM – 3:00 PM	Consistory doors open for attendees to tour <u>building</u> and to see displays.	Foyer/Cathedral
3:00PM – 4:00PM	Presentation of The Traitor	Cathedral Room
4:00PM – 4:30PM	Comments from Dignitaries	Cathedral Room
4:30PM – 7:00PM	Transition to Social/Dinner	Doc's/Dining Hall

Additional information

The event is open to all that want to attend. Dinner will be restricted to the first 220 paid reservations. All attendees will receive a commemorative pin and those RSVPs to the dinner will receive a commemorative collector's challenge coin.



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



Mount Zion #133 Pancake Breakfast

4th Sunday, every Month, 8am – 11am



all the Pancakes you can eat!

With potatoes, eggs, sausage, coffee, tea, cocoa, milk & orange juice

Donations:

Adults & Children over 12yrs - \$7.00 ea.

Children 8-12yrs - \$5.00 ea.

Children 5yrs & under – Free!

And check out the “Make – an – Offer” Table!!!



Golden Masonic Center

400 10th Street

Golden, Colorado, 80401



Order of the Eastern Star



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

OUR MEDIA PRESENCE



Consistory Building Endowment Fund

<https://www.denverconsistorybuildingendowmentfund.org>

QUESTIONS: [Matt Raia, 33°](#)



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](#)

DENVER CONSISTORY RITEWORKS STAFF

Matt Raia, 33° - Bulletin Advisor
303-861-4261 / matt@denverconsistory.org

Cathy Anderson - Technical Advisor/Correspondent
303-861-4261 / cathy@denverconsistory.org

Sons of Light (Photography Committee)

John Moreno, 33° - Staff Photographer
Scott Olson, 32° KCCH - Staff Photographer
Danny Will, 32° KCCH - Staff Photographer
John A. Klein, 32° - Staff Photographer

Bill Hickey, 33° - Editor-in-Chief
wa3h@hotmail.com

Pablo Colomban, 32° KCCH - Webmaster
webmaster@denverconsistory.org

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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DENVER CONSISTORY PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Bill Hickey, 33° - Chairman

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

or

tom@denverconsistory.org

ALLEGIANCE

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



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
Deputy of the Supreme Council in Colorado



Bartley A. Corfee, 33°
Venerable Master
Centennial Lodge of Perfection



Gregory F. Harris, 32° KCCH
Wise Master
Rocky Mountain Chapter, Rose Croix



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



Michael W. Rudloff, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh
Denver Consistory



Joe E. Kier, 33°
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James H. Harris, 33°
Prelate



Dan Conway, 33°
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Matt Raia, 33°
Secretary
Recorder
Registrar