



Denver's RiteWorks

APRIL 2025 vol. 18 #4



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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.**

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. Parking permits for members are available in the Consistory office.

PLANNING CALENDAR

April 2025

Fri, APR 04, 11, 18, 25	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - Fried Chicken on APR 04)
Mon, APR 07	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Sun, APR 20	5:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (Knights Templar Association) Parking Garage Available
Mon, APR 21	Stated Meeting - Parking Garage Available 5:30 p.m. Red Room Business Meeting 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m. Awards and Announcements Celebration of Remembrance and Renewal
Thu-Sat, APR 24-26	Southern Colorado Consistory Spring Reunion

MAY 2025

Thu-Sat, MAY 1-3	Grand Junction Consistory Reunion
Fri, MAY 2, 16, 30	11:30 a.m. Consistory Lunch (\$13 - Fried Chicken on MAY 2)
Mon, MAY 5	5:30 p.m. Special Officers Meeting to read Petitions
Wed, MAY 7	7:00 p.m. Children's Hospital Rite Care Presentation (invitation only)
Thu-Sat, MAY 8-10	7:00 a.m. Spring Reunion (63 rd) Parking Garage Available
Sat, MAY 10	5:30 p.m. Banquet; 25 and 50 year membership presentations
Mon, MAY 19	Stated Meeting - Parking Garage Available 5:30 p.m. Red Room Business Meeting 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m. Awards and Announcements, Entertainment, Memorial Day 7:30 p.m. Split Meeting; 5 minute oration—Orator, Colorado Council of Kadosh
Fri, MAY 23	NO CONSISTORY LUNCH (Holiday Weekend) 1:00 p.m. SRMC Sporting Clays Competition (See flyer)
Sun, MAY 25	9:00 a.m. Flags for Vets - Fort Logan National Cemetery (See flyer)
Mon, MAY 26	Consistory CLOSED for Memorial Day Observance

June 2025

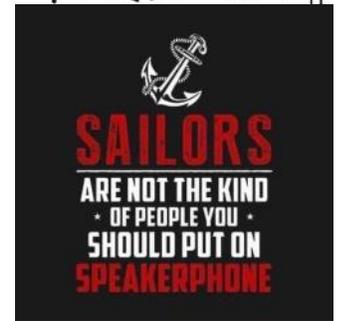
Mon, JUN 2	7:00 p.m. KSA Meeting in Lodge Room
Fri, JUN 6, 13, 20, 27	11:30 a.m. Lunch (\$13 - Fried Chicken on JUNE 6)
Mon, JUN 16	Stated Meeting - Parking Garage Available <u>Hawaiian Shirt Night</u>
Sat, JUN 21	11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon at Denver Botanic Gardens

EDITOR'S RESTLEBOARD



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

The Blue Forget-Me-Not



I'm sure most of us have seen or heard the story of the Blue Forget-Me-Not (perhaps you've seen it described as "Das Vergissmeinnicht" on a note given to you when you received the pin. Over the years, I've seen various incarnations of the story, as well as many nay-sayers claiming there is no way that the story could be true for various reasons.

As part of my recent move from Boulder to Thornton, I was clearing out a number of things and ran across my pin that was presented to me by a representative of the American Canadian Grand Lodge AF&AM within the United Grand Lodges of Germany (that's a complete story in itself) when I was stationed in Scotland. The story on their card matches probably 90-95% with that of a similar card supplied by Toye, Kenning & Spenser, Ltd, the official paraphernalia supplier for Masons in the UK. So, whether you believe it or not, pay more attention to the very last paragraph in this little "dissertation" on the beloved emblem of the craft in Germany.

As early as the year 1934, soon after Hitler's rise to power, it became apparent that Freemasonry was in danger. In the same year, the German Grand Lodge of the Sun in Bayreuth (one of the pre-war German Grand Lodges), realized the imminent problems facing them and elected to wear a little blue flower, the Forget-Me-Not, in lieu of the traditional Square and Compasses, as a mark of identity for Masons. It was felt the new symbol would not attract attention from the Nazis, who were in the process of confiscating and appropriating Masonic Lodges and property. Masonry had gone underground and it was necessary that the Brethren have some readily recognizable means of identification.

Throughout the entire Nazi era, a little blue flower in a lapel marked a Brother. In the Concentration Camps and in the cities, a little blue Forget-Me-Not distinguished the lapels of those who refused to allow the Light of Masonry to be extinguished.

In 1947, when the Grand Lodge of the Sun was reopened in Bayreuth by Past Grand Master Beyer, a little blue pin, in the shape of a Forget-Me-Not, was proposed and adopted as an OFFICIAL Masonic emblem honoring those valiant Brethren who carried their work on under adverse conditions. At the Grand Masters Conference in the United States, Dr. Theodor Vogel, the Grand Master of the newly-formed VGLvD, AF&AM, presented one of the pins to each of the representatives of the Grand Jurisdictions with which the VGLvD AF&AM enjoyed Fraternal relations.

Thus did a simple flower blossom forth into a meaningful emblem of the Fraternity and became perhaps the most widely worn pin among Freemasons in Germany. In most of our (American Canadian Grand Lodge AF&AM) lodges, the Forget-Me-Not is presented to new Master Masons, at which time its history is briefly explained.

Now, before you start claiming the story cannot possibly be true - I won't waste my time listening to you—BECAUSE this story comes from the Germans themselves as well as the Europeans who lived through those days under threat of extermination. We didn't.

I call your attention as well to two other relevant stories from WWII and the Cold War. In WWII, there is a well-documented story of a (albeit clandestine) lodge being formed and worked by prisoners in a concentration camp under the noses of their guards. This lasted for years until they were liberated by the Allies, at which time, the secretary of the lodge made sure to recover the minute book(s) which were secreted below floorboards in one of the buildings.

Liberté chérie (French for "Cherished Liberty") was a Masonic Lodge founded in 1943 by Belgian Resistance fighters and other political prisoners at Esterwegen concentration camp. It was one of the few lodges of Freemasons founded within a Nazi concentration camp during the Second World War.

In August 1945 Luc Somerhausen sent a detailed report to the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Belgium, in which he delineated the history of the lodge Liberté chérie. Luc Somerhausen died in 1982 at the age of 79. The last witness, Fernand Erauw, died at the age of 83, in 1997.

If you want to delve a little deeper into Libert chérie, you might find this article of interest: [Loge Liberté Chérie – The Square Magazine](#)

So, this is just the best known story of a lodge in a few of the Nazi camps—their stories are all similar.

Now, let's take a look at the Grand Lodge of Russia. The **Grand Lodge of Russia** (GLoR) ([Russian](#): Великая ложа России) is the [Regular Masonic jurisdiction](#) for [Russia](#). The [Grand Lodge](#) was established on 24 June 1995. It was the first national grand lodge to be created in the country after the closure of the original Russian grand lodges in 1922 by the Bolsheviks.

So, Masonry started in Russia in the 18th century and actively continued until around 1922 when the Leninist/Bolsheviks closed those lodges. BUT, isn't it peculiar that NO Masonic activity was noticed for all the years until the Soviet Union collapsed on December 25, 1991? In fact, when the collapse occurred, I distinctly remember reading about the revival of the Grand Lodge of Russia—which of course had been clandestine for so many years—and it appears it took probably 4-5 years after the collapse for the GL to negotiate with the various other Regular GL's around the world for formal recognition.

So, as you can readily see, Masonry CAN and HAS existed under tyrannical regimes, working quietly and extremely carefully, and resurfacing ONLY when the suppressing regimes have been removed and safety is assured. There's a lesson in this—if we pay attention.

Bill



From the Secretary's Desk

[Matt Raia, 33°](#)



CONSISTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

THE TROUBLE WITH SOME PEOPLE IS THAT THEY ARE EDUCATED BEYOND THEIR INTELLIGENCE.

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 Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH; Brother Jerry Edwards, 32° KCCH; Brother Mike Tims, 32° KCCH; Brother Gordon Calahan, 32°; Brother Mike McMinimee, 32°; Brother Robert Wood, 32°; Alex Spoor.

Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund - The Scottish Rite Masonic Center Endowment Fund is established to provide a permanent source of funds to support the preservation and maintenance of the historic Cathedral Building. The Scottish Rite Masonic Center is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Donations may be tax deductible as a charitable contribution. Please consult your tax advisor for specific details and advice.

Donations build the principle in the endowment. Once the Endowment Fund becomes substantially funded, the returns within the Endowment Fund; Capital Gains, Dividends, and Interest, will provide financial support into perpetuity. Thus guaranteeing building maintenance and preservation.

The Endowment Fund Trustees established the “**Cathedral Club**” to recognize those who donate to the fund. The Cathedral Club recognition levels are:

Diamond - \$100,000 and up

Platinum - \$50,000 - \$99,999

Gold - \$25,000 - \$49,999

Silver - \$10,000 - \$24,999

Bronze - \$5,000 - \$9,999

To become a member of the Cathedral Club, make a one-time donation corresponding to a particular level, or make on-going donations to the fund. To start a Cathedral Club membership at the Bronze level, make a donation in any amount and pledge to make on-going donations until \$5,000 has been donated. Movement between the levels is based upon cumulative donations.

Membership in the Cathedral Club is NOT limited to only individuals (or Masons). Businesses and organizations (Masonic and non-Masonic) are invited to join the club.

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.

2025 Membership fee was payable December 31, 2024. If you have not yet paid your 2025 membership fee, please do so and do not become delinquent. \$140 is a real bargain for membership in Denver Consistory. Just \$0.38 per day. WOW! That's less than the cost of one cup of coffee. Isn't your membership in the Scottish Rite worth more to you than a cup of coffee? Please do your part to help sustain the operation of Denver Consistory by paying your membership fee in a timely manner.

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 non-payment. 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 for all the Masonic bodies to which you belong? You may pay your Denver Consistory annual membership fee in eleven easy monthly payments rather than one lump sum, 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 MEMBERSHIP is 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 non-payment 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 that will endure after your death.

2025 Life Membership Fee Structure

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

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

Younger than 62 years old - a single payment of \$2,500

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

From the Secretary's Desk - Continued from previous page

Congratulations to Brother Joshua Dwenychuck, 32° - a member of the 2024 Fall Reunion Class for receiving the Supreme Council Master Craftsman Online College "Ivory Key" award.

Congratulations to Brother Mike Tims, 32° KCCH, on his appointment as Supreme Council Membership Chairman for the Orient of Colorado.

March 17th Stated Meeting - Our March stated meeting was our annual "*Wear Your Favorite Sports Team Shirt Night*" and many different sports teams were represented. We recognized our Past Presiding Officers by introducing them and thanking them for their service. We had a total of 34 Past Presiding Officers present with Colorado Council of Kadosh having the most Past Presiding Officers present. They beat out the perennial favorite Centennial Lodge of Perfection by ONE (it only takes "one" to win). Thus ending the long-time reign of CLOP having the most past presiding officers present at these recognition nights.

Patents and class photos were presented to members of the 2024 Fall Reunion class in attendance. Double Eagle jewels, pins, and Passport pins were also presented.

Brother Mike Foster, 32°, Orator of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix, delivered his oration.

KSA Spring Cleanup - The Knights of Saint Andrew Spring Cleanup was March 29th - Thank you to everyone who came out to help shine up the building.

Spring Reunion May 8-10, 2025 - **WE STILL NEED PETITIONS!!!** Use the electronic Petition to expedite the process. When the candidate completes the electronic petition, it is automatically sent to the Denver Consistory office. If you have a paper petition, PLEASE turn it in as soon as you receive it. Do not wait until the April 15th Stated Meeting. Petitions **MUST** be in the office by 1:00 p.m. Monday, May 5th.

**DENVER CONSISTORY
PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP**



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

Continued on next page

From the Secretary's Desk - Continued from previous page

Donate Your Car - We have a donation plan in place to give you a receipt for a tax-deductible donation to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. Donate your car, truck, RV, or boat. Go to: www.carsforcharity.net to donate for the benefit of the Denver Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

Thank you to **Alex Spoor, son of Rick Spoor, 32° KCCH**, for donating a car with the proceeds going to the SRMC Endowment Fund.



MARCH 17, 2025



Bill Achbach, 32° KCCH

Master of Kadosh
Director of Education
NINE GREAT TRUTHS



One quick piece of housekeeping:

As I've mentioned in this space over the past couple of months, I recommend that you take the time to peruse the flyers found toward the end of *RiteWorks*. You'll find promotions there for upcoming activities and events, including our June visit by Masonic author and commentator Illustrious Brother Chris Hodapp. Brother Chris will speak at our June Stated Meeting, and I would appreciate help in seeing that your Blue Lodge Brethren, Companions, Sir Knights, Nobles, etc ... etc ... are all aware and that they know they are welcome to join us, **whether they are Scottish Rite Masons or not**. Chris will speak during the open portion of our meeting, which would make this the perfect occasion to include prospects ... especially since the meeting will end with his presentation! Dinner reservations, via the Lodge of Perfection Marketplace, will be available for more than the usual early weeks of June, so please **SAVE THE DATE AND SPREAD THE WORD**. It's going to be a fun evening.

One "shout out"...

To Brother Mike Foster, 32°, Orator of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix, for his excellent oration at the March meeting. Like myself, Brother Mike is a Senior DeMolay, and we know that we owe a tremendous debt to that organization for its role in our development as young men. Brother Mike's words should inspire us all to dedicate some of our efforts, as Masons, to support DeMolay International and our local Chapters.

Especially for those who enjoy our ritual and the opportunities it gives us to express ourselves and the deep affection we have for the Fraternity, I recommend an article in Volume 27 (2019) of *Heredom* (the annual "transactions" publication of the Scottish Rite Research Society) entitled "DeMolay Ritual: Its History, Elements, Sources, & Power" by R. Stephen Doan, 33°.

...and another (with special gratitude) ...

To Illustrious Brother Keith Anderson and Brother Tony Clark, 32° KCCH, for Keith's brief remarks at our February Business Meeting and for Tony's moving Oration at the February Stated Meeting. The two of them adamantly deny coordination or collaboration on their messages relating to Masonic ethics and leadership, but they'd have been hard-pressed to link their messages more closely had they actually put their heads together! At any rate, their words "got me to thinking" (a risky venture) and put me on a path for what will appear here over the coming months.

Nine Great Truths

Illustrious Brother Keith's and Brother Tony's messages did much to raise a question in my mind. Certainly, I thought, there must be a place where the most fundamental principles guiding the Craft have been distilled into a simple and straightforward message ... and one authored by a recognized authority within the Fraternity. But where? My quest, as it turned out, was quite a short one. I will admit that *Morals and Dogma* wasn't the first place I looked, but that was because I was biased by my own criteria of "simple and straightforward" - not the first words one usually employs when thinking about that author or that work! But that's where I found it.

Over the next few months (at least that's the plan, as I begin) we're going to explore a rather condensed presentation of Albert Pike's "*Nine Great Truths of Masonry*." What is essentially an "essay" within the pages of *Morals and Dogma* could serve as a primer for a lifetime in the Craft, and I hope that my own added comments might at least serve as a springboard for further exploration. The section of M&D that encompasses this material falls amid Pike's description of the lessons of the 26th Degree. In making our way through the nine items, we'll look at what SGC Pike had to say; what our present-day Illustrious Brother Arturo de Hoyos, 33° GC, KYCH, expands upon in his annotated *Morals & Dogma*; and I'll share a few thoughts too. According to Commander Pike, these *Nine Great Truths*—which you'll find elsewhere in this issue of *Rite Works* if you want to see them all together at the start, encompass the essentials of the Craft:

So, let's begin!

Truth #1: "No man has seen God at any time; that is, God is only spiritual." This first and foundational truth seems almost self-evident, but it is loaded with powerful implications for all faiths, dogmas, and theological systems. Pike expands upon this initial thought, as de Hoyos points out, by emulating the language of Article 1 of the Augsburg Confession, proclaiming that "He is One, Eternal, All-Powerful, All-Wise, Infinitely Just, Merciful, Benevolent, and Compassionate, Creator and Preserver of all things, the Source of Light and Life, coextensive with Time and Space; *Who thought, and with the Thought created the Universe and all living things, and the souls of men* [italics mine-Bill]: That Is—the Permanent; while everything beside is a perpetual genesis."¹

This last statement is hugely significant, both as it encompasses the essence of the great theological systems but also as it is especially consistent with the idea of *Logos* in Greco-Roman Stoic thought and (even as it adopts the same term) with Christian doctrine. "In a later work² Pike clarifies this ancient dogma by explaining that the Divine Intellect creates through the Divine Word: 'The *Logos* is, according to Tatian³, the creative utterance, manifestation of that Thought, the Divine Intellect manifesting itself, was the creative agent of the Unknown Father.'" But why is this statement so important to Freemasonry?

I'll take a whack at that! I believe that there are four reasons. First, by taking a position on the nature of Deity in concert with Christianity (as well as with Judaism and Islam), Pike establishes the fact that the philosophical/doctrinal thinking of the Lodge is not in opposition to the Christian faith, or with the Western traditions generally. This is important both to establish that Freemasonry is consistent with essential Christianity and to reinforce that Masonry is not itself a religion!

Second, it is important that Pike takes pains to establish, as does the Hebrew “shema” and the Muslim “tawhid,” that there is one God, rather than many. As a student of theology, as well as of history and philosophy, SGC Pike understood that the tendency, in polytheistic systems, is to associate plural gods with certain aspects of the natural world and, thereby, to end up worshiping the creation rather than the Creator! Any tendency to even give a nod in that direction would risk giving credence to Freemasonry’s detractors.

Third, and perhaps for us most importantly, placing Masonry squarely within the boundaries of the Western spiritual tradition positioned it within those intellectual boundaries as well. As the Lodge is a product of Enlightenment thinking, this concept is important to reinforce. Our focus upon the value and improvement of the individual requires underpinning by a solid association with such progress also being the Will of God!

Fourth and finally, Commander Pike’s emphasis upon the essentially and exclusively spiritual nature of Deity effectively distances the Lodge from association with cults and false religions that proclaim their founders or leaders to be manifestations of the divine. Any philosophy—and especially one associated with religious faith—may be corrupted. But taking Freemasonry out of that realm, right at the start, at least separates the Craft in an essential way from this most abusive of cultish practice.

Brethren, I hope you’ll forgive the slow start, but the prologue necessary to kick off this study made it possible only to cover the first point of the nine. I promise to do better in the months ahead!

Bill

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Notes:

1. de Hoyos, Arturo; Hutchens, Rex R. . *Albert Pike's Morals & Dogma: Annotated Edition*, Independent Publisher. Kindle Edition, Location 23659 (p.638 in print edition).
2. de Hoyos, *Albert Pike’s Esoterika* (2005, 2008), 177.
3. an Assyrian Christian writer and theologian of the 2nd century

Last Month’s Trivia Question: What is the official name of the governing body of the Scottish Rite, SJ?

Answer: According to *Presenting the Scottish Rite, SJ, USA: A Quick Reference Guide* (Structure of the Scottish Rite, Governance. pg. 25), the official name is "The Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General Knights Commanders of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America."

Whew! Try getting all of that onto a business card!

This Month’s Trivia Question (answer in next month’s Rite Works): Each year we are presented with the annual reports of entities within the Valley of Denver whose function is to plan and oversee the Valley’s financial affairs. What are these entities, and what is the purpose of each?

Pike's Nine Great Truths of Masonry

1. No man has seen God at any time; that is, God is only spiritual.
2. The soul of man is immortal.
3. The Moral Sense of man derives from God and therefore has a divine source and is a divine imperative.
4. Moral truths are as real as physical truths. They are not created by God but are a part of His nature; therefore, morality is not an arbitrary law of God but a part of that goodness which constitutes His essence.
5. The distinction between good and evil is essential. Having the ability to make the distinction is a unique quality of man whose ability to do good is only made meaningful by his ability to do that which is not good.
6. There are no degrees in the practice of moral obligations; it is neither variable nor contingent. No excuse can justify one's failure to exercise the moral imperatives of a just life.
7. The immutable law of God requires, that besides respecting the absolute rights of others, and being just, we should do good, be charitable, and obey the dictates of the generous and noble sentiments of the soul. We are but the almoners of God's riches and thus charity can know neither rule nor limit. It is the most sacred of all Masonic obligations.
8. The laws which control and regulate the universe are those of motion and harmony. Evil is merely apparent, and all is, in reality, good and perfect. The existence of misfortune and adversity provides the opportunity for the expression of those virtues which ennoble the soul and elevate the spirit of man; thus is the evil of this world but part of the great plan of God for the betterment of man.
9. The last Great Truth of Masonry is the paradox of the equipoise of the infinite justice and infinite mercy of God; the former alone would call for man's utter destruction, the latter alone would permit the most offensive hedonism. Together they provide man with both retribution and forgiveness.



Member in the Spotlight By Jeremy DeBard, 32° KCCH

1st Lieutenant Commander
Colorado Council of Kadosh

Joshua James Ruegsegger, 32°



Joshua Ruegsegger was born in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, and spent his formative years growing up in Thornton, Colorado. Today, he resides in Denver, Colorado, a city he has called home since adulthood. His academic journey took him to the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he pursued a primary focus in physics and a secondary concentration in mathematics. Joshua's curiosity and fascination with understanding the fundamental workings of the world drew him to these subjects. Though he entered college unsure of his career path, the challenging nature of physics equipped him with robust problem-solving skills that have proven invaluable throughout his life.

Joshua is unmarried, has never been married, and has no children. His personal life reflects a deep appreciation for meaningful connections, particularly those forged through Freemasonry. His introduction to the fraternity came in his early twenties through his best friend, who joined the Masons before tragically passing away at age 21. Though initially uninterested, Joshua remained close with his friend's family, including Steve Hubbard, a significant figure in his Masonic journey. Years later, in 2015, feeling isolated while living in Denver, Joshua sought the fraternal bond he had witnessed in Steve's life. Steve enthusiastically guided him toward Masonry, leading to Joshua's initiation in 2019. Joshua credits Steve's mentorship and the brotherly love within the fraternity as transformative influences.

Currently, Joshua is an active member of Denver Lodge Number 5, the Scottish Rite, and the Knights of Saint Andrew (KSA). He has taken on leadership roles, including serving as Master of Denver Lodge Number 5 last year, and being elected Treasurer for this year. Additionally, he holds the position of Senior Warden in the KSA. None of his family members, past or present, are Masons, making his journey a personal one within his family lineage.

Joshua's favorite Masonic activity is degree work, where he excels and finds great satisfaction in collaborating with his brothers to welcome new members. Beyond Masonry, he enjoys watching soccer - a sport he played growing up - and cheering for Denver's local teams. His time working at Eldora during college also sparked a lasting love for snowboarding.

Within the Scottish Rite, Joshua cherishes the Spring and Fall reunions, particularly his role in the costume crew - a natural fit given his introduction to Masonry by Steve Hubbard and Doc Powell. He has participated in the 16th, 25th, and 29th degrees, and serves as assistant director for the 23rd degree. What he values most about the Scottish Rite is the collective dedication of its members, whose teamwork exemplifies what can be achieved through collaboration.

Continued on next page

Masonry, for Joshua, is about the bonds of brotherhood and the opportunity to grow as an individual alongside remarkable men. A surprising tidbit about him is his hobby of watchmaking - a pastime he picked up a few years ago. Though he's not currently crafting watches, he relishes disassembling them, troubleshooting issues, cleaning the components, and bringing them back to life, especially the moment the escape wheel springs into action.

Looking ahead, Joshua eagerly plans to attend the upcoming Scottish Rite reunion. Reflecting on his years in Masonry, he holds dear the lesson of collective achievement - how much can be accomplished when people unite toward a common goal. For now, Joshua has no further details to add, content with the rich experiences and relationships that define his Masonic journey to date.



PAST PRESIDING OFFICER RECOGNITION 2025



Special Birthdays

90 Years "YOUNG"

Donald Lee Carpenter
Virgil William Cheney

80 Years "YOUNG"

Richard Scott Goering
Terry Myrl Schleski
Richard Dean Silver

70 Years "YOUNG"

John Calvin Timmerman II

50 Years "OLD"

Jeffrey Louis Gowin
Mitchell Tulper

40 Years "OLD"

Jason Carl Kennedy

Our April Youngster

Graves Lachlan Broderick (23)

Interesting Facts about April

No one is SURE how the month ended up with its name, but some think it is named after the Greek Goddess of love, Aphrodite, while others think it comes from the Roman word "Aprillis".

The etymology of the word "April" comes from the verb "aperire," which means "to open" and symbolizes the arrival of Spring.

April is the best month of the year to look up to the skies and watch meteor showers.

We know it is the fourth month of the year, but that's only by the Gregorian calendar that we adhere to now. Before the introduction of the Julian calendar in 46 BC, it was the second month, and for one year in 45 BC, April was the fifth month!

April also only had 29 days, but a 30th day was added when Julius Caesar established the Julian calendar.

Diamond is the birthstone for April, and represents "innocence." Birth month flowers for April are daisies and sweet peas.

The most well-known date in April is April 1st—April Fools Day. No one is sure where this originated, but some believe it to be inspired by Geoffrey Chaucer's story in "Canterbury Tales" called "Nun's Priest's Tale."

Ford unveiled their first Mustang car on April 17, 1964, costing \$2,368.

The first battle of the Revolutionary War, Lexington and Concord, broke out on April 19, 1775.



MEMORIAL SCROLL

Bruce Elam Smith, 32°

01/27/2024

Jerold Dennis Kent, 32°

01/10/2025

Charles Rodney Smith, Sr., 32°

01/20/2025

Cecil Edward Souders, 32° KCCH

02/07/2025



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

If you are interested in joining the Rose Croix Funeral Team and helping them, contact the office or Illustrious Brother Keith Anderson, 33° for more information.



2025 Easter Sunrise Service

100th Annual and oldest in Colorado

Presented by the Knights Templar Association of the
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Colorado

Sunday April 20, 2025 at 0630

Doors open at 0530

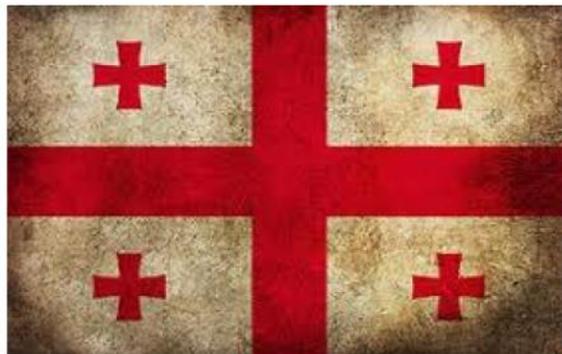
Denver Consistory – 1370 Grant Street

Rev. Dr. A.J. Bush, Pastor

Parking Garage available

Breakfast to follow service

Breakfast tickets available at www.coloradokta.org – limited and always sells out



For further information please visit www.coloradokta.org

Or Joe Magoffin joe@milehighsf.com 720.371.7224

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please DO NOT park in the PERA lot directly behind the Consistory. The church across the street has exclusive use of that lot on Easter Sunday and we could damage what relationships we have in getting occasional use of the lot if we abuse that privilege.

PAUL REVERE LODGE #130

INVITES YOU TO OUR

3rd Annual Crawfish Boil



When:

Saturday, April 26, 2025

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Where:

Highlands Masonic Center

3550 Federal Boulevard

Denver, Colorado 80211

Cost:

\$25.00 One Pound of Louisiana Crawfish with Potatoes, Corn, Andouille Sausage and a Drink

\$20.00 Two Fried Catfish Filets, French Fries, Hushpuppies, and a Drink.

\$5.00 Slice of Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza and a Drink

Purchase tickets by Wednesday April 16th

<https://www.paulreveremasons.org/category/crawfish-boil>



SCOTTISH RITE SPRING REUNION

Denver Consistory May 8, 9, 10, 2025

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

**63rd Reunion
Spring 2025
May 8 – 10, 2025**

Thursday May 8, 2025

7:30 AM Registration/Welcome
8:26 AM Exemplify 4°
9:25 AM Exemplify 5°
10:23 AM Exemplify 6°
10:43 AM Exemplify 7°
11:31 AM Exemplify 8°
11:56 AM Lunch
12:50 PM Committee Tours
1:38 PM Communicate 9° & 10°
1:45 PM Communicate 11°
1:57 PM Communicate 12°
2:04 PM Communicate 13°
2:15 PM Exemplify 14°
3:26 PM Communicate 15°
3:37 PM Exemplify 16°
4:18 PM Shrine Presentation
4:43 PM Exemplify 17°
5:28 PM Adjourn

Friday May 9, 2025

8:00 AM Class Convenes
**8:19 AM Exemplify 18° First & Second
Apartment**
**9:11 AM Exemplify 18° Third
Apartment**
10:00 AM Knights of St. Andrew
Presentation
10:26 AM Exemplify 19°
11:11 AM Communicate 20°
11:18 AM Communicate 21°
11:27 AM Exemplify 22°
12:12 PM Grand Master's Address
12:32 PM Lunch
1:24 PM Communicate 23°
1:31 PM Communicate 24°
1:45 PM Exemplify 25°

2:07 PM Exemplify 26°

3:04 PM Exemplify 27°

4:14 PM Exemplify 28°

5:04 PM Communicate 29°

5:11 PM Adjourn

Saturday May 10, 2025

8:00 AM Class Convenes
8:10 AM Class Photos
9:10 AM 30° First Apartment
9:30 AM 30° Second Apartment
9:50 AM 30° Third Apartment
10:22 AM Secretary's Presentation
**10:44 AM Exemplify 30° Fourth
Apartment**
11:20 AM Deputy Address to Class
11:40 AM Lunch
12:35 PM Exemplify 31°
1:55 PM Exemplify 32° First Section
2:49 PM Exemplify 32° Second Section
3:45 PM Closing Ceremony
4:05 PM Adjourn
5:30 PM Ring Ceremony (Dining Room)
6:00 PM Banquet
25 & 50-Year Membership Awards
8:30 PM Adjourn



Registration is now open for the 4th annual Scottish Rite Sporting Clays Classic on **May 23rd, 2025**

Join us for a fun time and a great cause in support of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center and benefiting



at **Colorado Clays**
13600 Lanewood St, Brighton, CO 80603

Door Prizes, Meal, Awards and More!!



Scan the QR code or Register online at:

www.scottishriteclays.com

Single Shooter - \$150
Team of 4 - \$600

Sponsorship opportunities include:

- Ammunition Sponsor - \$4,000
- Dinner Sponsor - \$1,500
- Station Sponsors - \$250
- Golf Cart Sponsor - \$160

Premium Sponsorship Packages

Platinum - \$10,000
includes 12 shooters

Gold - \$5,000
includes 8 shooters

Silver - \$2,500
includes 4 shooters

Trophies for

1st Place - 2nd Place - 3rd Place
Best Woman - Best Team - Worst Shot

FLAGS FOR FALLEN VETS

**SUNDAY – 25MAY2025 – 0900 HOURS (9AM)
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!**



Flags for Fallen Vets is a national program that annually takes place at a number of national, or military cemeteries across the country. The Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix of the Scottish Rite and Masons throughout Colorado have proudly supported and participated in the event for the past several years. The mission is to ensure that an American flag is placed at the grave of every veteran resting in these cemeteries.

This year's family-oriented event will take place on Sunday, May 25 at 9am at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver. We need volunteers to assist with placing the flags on May 25 and then with the retrieval of the flags on Saturday, May 31. Volunteering is very easy - just follow these steps:

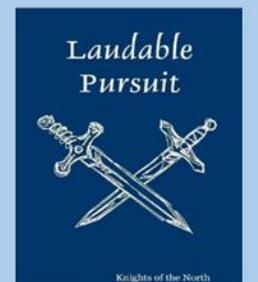
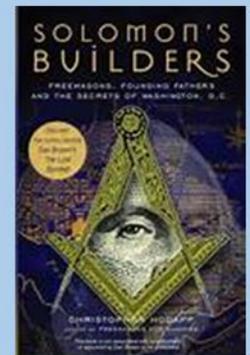
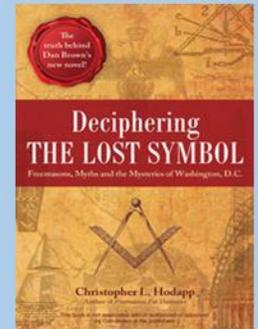
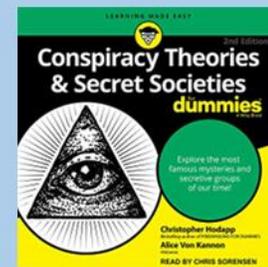
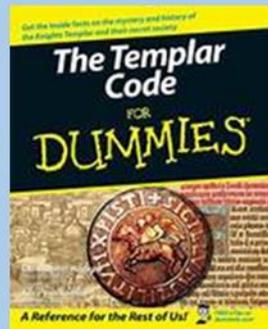
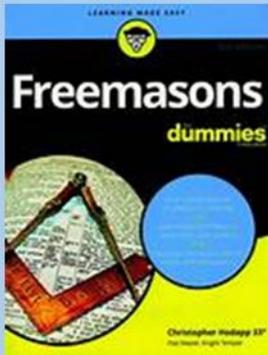
- Go to <https://flagsforfallenvets.com/> and click on 2025 Volunteer Form
- Select Fort Logan National Cemetery - Denver in the drop-down menu and then enter your email address
- In the "Group" menu, select "Mason" or "Masonic" and Section "S"
- Add the number of volunteers you will be bringing with you that day
- **Plan to arrive by 8 am on Sunday, May 25, 2025**

**June 16, 2025, 7PM
@ Denver Consistory**

Save the Date...and Spread the Word!

The Consistory Education & Entertainment Group Presents:

Christopher Hodapp, 33°



Acclaimed Masonic author, editor, blogger and commentator will speak (topic TBD) and sign books!

All Masons and Their Guests Are Welcome!

**Scottish Rite Masonic Center
1370 Grant St, Denver**

Dinner Reservations (6PM) @ <https://centennial-lodge-of-perfection.square.site/>

Save the Date

June 21, 2025

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Denver Scottish Rite

LADIES SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Denver Botanic Gardens

Woodland Mosaic Garden and Pavilion

Food, Beverage, Music, Full Access to the Gardens
Parking Provided and Rides Available Upon Request

RSVP to (303) 861-4261 by June 11, 2025

Space is limited to one lady per member and widows of members.



4th Annual Scottish Rite Golf Classic

At the exclusive Hiwan Golf Club
In Evergreen, Colorado



Monday, August 11, 2025—shotgun start at 1:30 pm

Check-in at noon

Format will be 4-golfer scramble

Golfer fees are All-inclusive –

- lunch at 12:30
- Awards Reception
- Player “goodie bag”

Proceeds will benefit the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, the Scottish Rite Foundation and RiteCare (juvenile speech and hearing therapy and treatment)

Register now at www.scottishritegolf.com





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



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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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

alex@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



Jered Minter, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master
Centennial Lodge of Perfection



Dillon Brickhouse, 32° KCCH
Wise Master
Rocky Mountain Chapter, Rose Croix



Lee Miller, 32° KCCH
Commander
Colorado Council of Kadosh



William Achbach, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh
Denver Consistory



Joe E. Kier, 33°
Almoner



Grover Sardeson, 33°
Prelate



Dan Conway, 33°
Treasurer



Matt Raia, 33°
Secretary
Recorder
Registrar