

Rite Works



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AMERICA



Rite Works

Newsletter

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
D. J. COX, 33°, CHAIRMAN
BILL HICKEY, 32° KCCH
RICH SILVER, 32°
JACK D. WHITE, 32° KCCH**

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 articles is two (2) days after the monthly stated meeting. Submitted articles should be 250 to 1,000 words. Where appropriate, relevant high-resolution images with proper credits may be included with your submission. Images will normally be restricted to a maximum 3.5" by 3.5" size, but may be larger in special circumstances. Articles may be submitted in hard copy to the office or electronic form via email. They are subject to editing and are printed with no restrictions unless clearly marked as copyrighted. No compensation is given for any articles, photographs or other materials submitted or published.

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DENVER CONSISTORY NEWS STAFF

- DENVER CONSISTORY OFFICE
 - Claud E. Dutro, 33°
Bulletin Advisory
(303) 861-4261
FAX (303) 861-4269
 - Audrey Ford
Technical Advisor & Correspondent
(303) 861-4261
FAX (303) 861-4269
- John A. Moreno, 33°
Staff Photographer
(303) 238-3635
- Charles Roessler, 32° KCCH
Staff Photographer
- D. J. Cox, 33°
Editor
(970) 980-4340
- Ashley S. Buss, 32° KCCH
Webmaster

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REMEMBRANCE

The heart hath its own memory, like the mind. And in it are enshrined the precious keepsakes, into which is wrought the giver's loving thought. ~ H.W. Longfellow

~In Memoriam~

<u>BROTHER</u>	<u>CALLED HOME</u>
Irvin Lynn Crews, 32°	2/21/2012
Dean Lyle De Witt, 32°	1/2/2011
James Albert Dishroon, 32°	6/7/2012
William Harold Frank, 32°	11/18/1995
Greg Richard Hale, 32°	3/16/2011
Cecil Junior Hoffman, 32°	3/3/2012
Richard Lehman Holmes, 32°	6/8/2012
James Edward Hooper, 32°	6/6/2012
James Robert Litton, 32°	9/22/2006
Thomas Elven Manuel, 32°	7/11/2009
Grant Marvin Maples, 32°	7/22/2009
Stanley Keith Mc Comas, 32°	6/18/2009
Paul Monroe Mc Pherron, 32°	5/8/2012
Donald Lee Miller, 32°	5/24/2012
Marshall Robert Pack, 32°	3/30/2012
Glenn Dean Palmer, 32°	5/20/2012
Herman Earl Ruck, 32°	5/3/2012
Hoke Edward Trout, 32°	3/4/2008
James Arthur Weaver, 32°	4/25/2012
Walter John Wenger, 32°	2/8/2012
John Robert Williams, 32°	5/13/2011
Gene Stanley Wilson, 32°	5/29/2012





The Origins of Masonic Government

J Randy Penn 32° KCCH
Wise Master, Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix

American Freemasonry is uniquely organized and managed. It is not organized and lead as a business as is government or a nongovernmental/nonprofit organization. We don't seek profit, societal growth and management or the typical public good of these other organizations. We manage our affairs in a unique way. I believe we are living the legacy of the American Revolution. We have not substantially modernized since then. While I don't have access to and therefore have not used historical minutes for lodges or Grand Lodges, I believe there is a lot we can learn from examining the historical context of our separation from England and from the Masonic Brothers and their contemporaries who accomplished it.

The American experiment came at a unique time and place according to Pulitzer Prize winning historian Joseph J. Ellis. The story of the American Revolution is a story of the creation of a nation founded on principles that no one at the time regarded as viable. Since that time they became recognized as the most successful recipe for political success in the modern world. The central theme of this story is the creation of this nation of laws was only made possible by a small group of men he calls "the Brotherhood of the Revolution". They are the men who made the Revolution and then secured an improbable victory by a provincial collection of loosely knit colonies over the dominant military and political power in the world. Many were Masonic Brothers and leaders or their close friends, collaborators and confidantes.

The American Revolution was the first successful war for colonial independence. Second, it established the first enduring large-scale republic, and third, it invented a liberal recipe for its political and economic character (popular sovereignty and the idea that the energy of individual citizens needs to be released onto the world).

Two corollaries make the American Revolution distinctive in a larger context are, unlike subsequent revolutions in France, Russia, and China, there were no guillotines or firing squads. Unlike the major European revolutions, the American Revolution did not "devour its children." I believe this is a direct consequence of the high degree of effective, Masonic leadership applied. A greater proportion of Masonic leaders were present and effective than in other conflicts. Second, the American Revolution was a collective achievement rather than one led by a single, non-Masonic individual, such as Napoleon, Stalin or Mao. Washington held a different moral compass.

What factors could have produced the kind of leadership provided by the Brotherhood from such a small colonial population? First, being away from Europe they had a certain freedom of movement for conducting their affairs. Second, the Revolution occurred at a moment in time when ideas for organizing government were available, ideas that wouldn't have been available one-hundred years before. Third, the Generation was post-aristocratic (there was not a titled aristocracy in North America), so persons could rise from low rank, and the Generation was pre-democratic (the American "elite" did not have to campaign or run for office). Let's examine the second and third more closely.

The Founding Fathers, Masonic and not, were familiar with the philosophical works of Organ Adam Smith, John Locke, Charles de Montesquieu and Jean-Jacques Rousseau. The radical, liberal ideas for organizing and governing society were new. All the knowledgeable experts predicted any large society organized on them would quickly fold. Instead the nation built on them destroyed or outlasted Napoleon, Stalin, Hitler, the Japanese Empire, Saddam Hussein and others. It is a happy accident of timing that our leaders came to prominence when they did. That defines the second factor.

The third factor recognizes talent over birthright but not in a complete environment. If Washington had remained English, he might have made Major, Franklin would have always been a printer,

Hamilton the bastard would have lived and died poor. John Adams graduated at in the lower half of the middle third of his class based on his social standing instead of grades. They were able to rise because the collapse of the aristocratic order. Their talent was recognized and utilized.

However, they could not put themselves forward. To run for office was to admit one was not qualified for the role. Adams and Jefferson in essence created the two-party system where argument was the rule. This system is better than the murder and sedition practiced by most other revolutions. Jefferson said if he had to go to heaven in Party, he'd rather not go! This means that talent had to be recognized from above not pushed by those with new ideas, selected by merit in a fair competition for the strongest and brightest. Therefore, only those known to the leadership could advance. The government they created only lasted 8 years as the Congress of the Confederation. The federal republic we enjoy today succeeded it. Government had to go through a change become effective and efficient, at least in comparison to the Confederation.

In many ways, Masonic government has not changed from those post-Revolutionary roots. On the positive side, high birth or even a Masonic legacy is not required to join or advance in the fraternity. We accept good men from many backgrounds. Talent may be and frequently is recognized and utilized. Many members are outstanding professionals and leaders. Our leadership recognizes and engages talent. Self-promotion is proscribed and unacceptable. This means we fill few roles in an open, competitive process, as is done in business, government or professional organizations.

We have chosen to remain under a historic model of governance. It has been our way for more than 300 years. This is the unique organization and management model of American Freemasonry. It is not organized and lead in the same way as a business, as is government or a nongovernmental/nonprofit organization. We seek to learn, act within due bounds and improve ourselves in Masonry. We manage our affairs in a

unique way. I believe we are the living legacy of the American Revolution.

Footnote: Joseph J. Ellis PhD., *Brotherhood of the Revolution: How America's Founders Forged a New Nation*, 2003 and *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation*. New York: Knopf Publishing Group, 2000.

Online references include:

- <http://bessel.org/declmas.htm>
- <http://bessel.org/gwgenmas.htm>
- <http://bessel.org/constmas.htm>

A Special Moment



For many years, John Moreno 33° has taken photographs of Denver Consistory and masonic events. He does so with little, if any, recognition and very little notice. He is important to masonry for pictorially recording our history for the future. He makes a difference!

The Supreme Council is running its third annual Photo contest this year. Some of John's pictures were submitted for consideration. One of these pictures is shown here:



Attitude of Prayer

Bro. John was rewarded with the following from the Supreme Council --- *For the 2012 Scottish Rite Photo Contest, your photo "Attitude of Prayer" was chosen as second place in the spontaneous category. Congratulations!* This photo will be displayed on the Supreme Council's website as a contest winner. John reacted by sharing his honor thus: *"I received this email from the Supreme Council regarding the attached photo. This is quite an honor for myself and the Denver Consistory."* Please join us in congratulating Bro. John Moreno for this distinct and well deserved honor.



A Stressful Time

John W. Gay II, 32° KCCH

John Gay 32° KCCH provided insights into the problems and issues surrounding the loss of a loved one at the last Stated meeting. Admittedly, he didn't cover every issue one faces during this stressful time, but the main points and preparatory actions were addressed. A sample document is included at the end of this article.

Are we ever ready to say goodbye to a loved one? After the death of a loved one, you may find yourself overwhelmed with the tasks that need to be done. Several things need to be done and grief makes it difficult to focus on priorities and take action. The reality is that without careful planning, death can become complicated and eclipse the mourning period. Grief turns to anxiety when the person that can answer simple questions - the where, why, how and what - are no longer around to help. Don't let this happen to you or your family.

While death is inevitable for all of us, there are ways to plan your departure and still keep people you've left behind happy in the afterlife. Death is a touchy topic for many, but it's also a very natural part of being human. Before the time comes when you meet your maker, however, do your homework and have a departure plan in place for your loved ones. Having the right plan in place for the "*ultimate retirement*" will help friends and family spend more time toasting you rather than cursing you when you're gone.

To assist individuals during the emotional and stressful time, Bro. Gay prepared the following information:

Death and Finances

What You Need to Know When a Loved One Passes On A Survivor's Guide - Nine Essential Steps to Ensure Proper Estate Management

Dealing with the death of a loved one is stressful enough; but not knowing what needs to be done

regarding their finances after they have passed on poses an additional burden on a grieving family, especially when you become responsible for the handling of their estate.

The following guide should help make the process a little easier; it is a list of the nine most important money matters you must deal with and mistakes to avoid after someone you care about passes on.

This guide is not all-inclusive but includes critical information that can save you precious time, money and energy - and help to avoid squabbles over assets or financial exploitation by taking the steps to ensure proper security of their personal information.

Note: regarding contacting the funeral home - although this is not a financial matter and seems to be very obvious, it is one of the first things that will need to be done. If your loved one passes on while in a hospital or assisted living arrangement, the facility will probably make that call for you once they are made aware of your wishes; if it happens in the home, someone will need to make the call. Hopefully, this has been pre-determined and pre-arranged; if not, obviously the arrangements will need to be made expeditiously.

1. Get Multiple Copies of the Death Certificate

If you are the spouse or executor/executrix of the deceased person, the first order of business is to go to the City Clerk's office or your local Vital Statistics office to obtain certified copies of the Death Certificate; be sure to be prepared, get at least 10 - 20 copies. All financial institutions, government agencies, creditors, unions, membership groups, etc. won't even talk to you about a loved one's financial affairs until you produce a certified Death Certificate. A copy of this valuable document will be required for every contact you make or action you take on behalf of the deceased.

Beneficiaries of insurance policies maintained by the deceased will be required to present a copy when filing any policy claim(s) with the insurance company(ies) and before any payouts can be received.

The cost of each certified Death Certificate will vary from state to state, ranging anywhere between \$5 and \$20. Discounts may be given with your initial order saving you dollars on each additional copy. Depending on where you live, you may want to consider how much time will be needed if additional copies are needed. When making your initial order, make an estimate of how many will be needed and then order a few more to be prepared. It will save you time, trouble and money in the long run. The funeral home will often provide one or two certified Death Certificates free of charge and often will offer to take care of ordering additional copies that you request, at your own expense, of course.

2. Obtain Letters Testamentary or Letters of Administration

When contacting any institutions on behalf of the deceased you will also be required to present proof that you are authorized to conduct business on their behalf. In addition to the certified Death Certificate, you will also be required to produce Letters Testamentary or Letters of Administration. If you have retained the assistance of an attorney, they will obtain the document for you.

If you are going it alone and the deceased person had a Will naming you executor/executrix of the estate, you can obtain the Letters through the local Courthouse or City Hall in the county where the deceased was living when he or she died. The official Will and a certified Death Certificate must be presented to file a Probate Petition; the Court will open a Probate file and validate the Will before issuing you the Letters of Administration. As with the Death Certificates, be sure to get multiple copies.

If no Will was left, the Court can issue the Letters of Administration to the surviving spouse or next of kin after the certified Death Certificate has been presented. In this case, the person to whom the Letters of Administration are issued to will be deemed the administrator of the estate.

A security bond for the administrator of the estate may be required; the amount of the bond is typically determined by the estimated value of the estate.

It is very important for the person who is in charge of the estate to encourage open communication among the beneficiaries; lack of communication is often the reason for estate disputes. An atmosphere of secrecy in the handling of the estate can cause the beneficiaries to have doubts and trust issues, sometimes disputes or fights will result.

3. Consult an Attorney – Before You Decide Not to Hire One

Cost is often the reason for not contacting an attorney; however, this decision can end up being a very expensive mistake. Advice from a qualified professional could save an estate a substantial amount of money, make the process of settling the estate much easier and help the family avoid potential liabilities.

There is fiduciary liability and some personal exposure to the executor if you do not follow the terms of the Will exactly. Improper distribution of funds can result in surcharges or fines to the executor, a good attorney can help you avoid this type of pitfall.

This is a very emotional time for almost everyone; an attorney can help keep emotions in check. Seeking professional help is always a good idea, even if only for a free consultation about the family situation.

If you do decide to hire an attorney, be sure to hire one that deals exclusively with Wills, Trusts and Estates, check to be certain they are Board Certified and seek an attorney or firm who holds an AV Rating which indicates they have received the highest possible professional standards and ethics rankings.

4. Collect and Secure Pertinent Documents

One of the most time consuming aspects of tending to the financial affairs of a deceased loved one is the gathering of the litany of documents that need to be assembled. For many families, this can be a nightmare due to haphazard record-keeping, poor planning and lack of knowledge about the location of these critical documents. Estate Planning is not limited to the old and/or wealthy; everyone should take the time to put their affairs in order while they are able. Create a list of your assets, accounts and

property; put that list in a safe place and confide in someone you trust as to where you have placed it.

The following is a list of the most important documents that will need to be collected:

- The Death Certificate(s)
- The Will or Trust
- Insurance Policies (life, homeowners, health, disability, auto, etc.)
- Medicare enrollment information, including any Gap and Co Insurance
- Last credit card statements
- Investment account information for IRA's, 401(k) plans, mutual funds, pensions, etc.
- Last checking and savings account statements (including CD's and Money Market accounts)
- Last mortgage statement
- Last two years tax returns
- Marriage and birth certificates (of the deceased's spouse and children)
- An up-to-date credit report of the deceased
- Any current bills (utility, medical, etc.)

These documents will help you identify accounts and assets, assess outstanding debts and provide the information needed to submit the claims for benefits and cash payments that may be due to the beneficiaries and heirs.

5. Notify Financial Institutions, Government Agencies and Others

Contact and notify the following of the date of death:

- Social Security Administration
- The deceased's employer
- All applicable insurance companies
- Credit Reporting Agencies
- Credit card companies
- Post office
- Utility companies
- Creditors
- Department of Motor Vehicles, if applicable

The Social Security Administration will put the deceased on the Social Security Master Death Index to prevent scammers from collecting payments and to help stop identity thieves from opening fraudulent accounts using the decedent's

information. They also offer a small one-time death benefit; but more importantly, the spouse or children may be eligible for monthly survivor benefits. Call the Social Security Administration at 800.772.1213 or check online to see if they qualify.

You will need to contact all creditors so they can stop billing; prompt notification of the death to all applicable creditors saves the estate money and protects the estate of the deceased. You may want to contact the Direct Marketing Association to opt the deceased out of receiving any credit solicitations, many of which are pre-approved and do not receive the same level of screening as a non-solicited application.

The deceased's mail should be re-routed to the executor of the estate, fill out a change of address form through the U.S. Postal Service.

6. Cancel or Transfer Accounts, Memberships and Subscriptions

Immediately cancel all credit card, insurance and financial accounts as well as memberships and subscriptions that are no longer needed, they will continue to bill until you do. If the deceased was married, transfer applicable utilities over to the surviving spouse's name.

Some states, such as Florida, also require home ownership to be transferred into the surviving spouse's name to keep title insurance, etc. in force. Since every state has different mandates, you will need to know what type, if any, of legal filings are necessary in the state of residency and any state in which property is owned.

7. Apply for Benefits Due to Survivors

Find out if any cash benefits are due to the heirs; check out insurance policies, financial contracts including car loans, mortgages and credit card agreements. Speak with the employer to see if any employee benefits including pensions, 401(k) funds, unused vacation/holiday time or bonuses are owed.

In a lot of cases, the largest payout comes from the insurance proceeds; the process is fairly straightforward. Contact each applicable insurance company to file a claim and be prepared to present a

certified Death Certificate; the sooner you file, the sooner the claim will be processed and paid. In most cases, the beneficiary will receive the check in 4 – 5 weeks. There can be pitfalls in receiving huge insurance payouts while the beneficiaries are still grieving. To help avoid the possibility of making bad decisions when receiving large payouts (such as with lottery winners), depending on the situation, it may be smartest to do nothing for 6 months. It does not hurt at all to wait until emotions are less volatile - the money will continue to collect interest.

8. Pay Final Bills and Guard Against Financial Fraud

Don't forget about things like property insurance, property tax or income taxes that may be due.

An executor has a responsibility to protect the deceased person and his or her heirs against financial fraud and exploitation. There are several things that will help do this:

- Keep the obituary short and sweet, share as little information about the person as possible. Obituaries are common and easy places for scammers to find a lot of information – age, date of birth, address, sometimes even their mother's maiden name. The reality is there are people who case obituaries like burglars case houses, quite frankly.
- Use caution with social media; avoid posting tributes, online memorials or offering personal reflections about your loved one who has passed on. Scammers will cruise these sites looking for any information they can use - so the less information they have access to, the better. It is best not to notify of someone's death via these sites. If the deceased has one of these accounts, it should be closed as well.
- Shred all papers containing personal information when you are going through any personal effects, do not throw them away. Dumpster divers and people who steal other people's mail are always a concern.
- Limit access to sensitive personal data. Secure all copies of the Death Certificate and any personal records of the deceased. If

the deceased had been living in a nursing home or assisted-living facility, take extra care in obtaining and securing any financial documents. In the event the deceased had been in a sedated or chronically ill state, sufficient opportunity for others to go through their belongings could easily occur; this could lead to tragic financial events.

9. A Professional Accountant Will Be Required

Engage a professional accountant to help minimize total tax liability and prepare necessary tax filings within the restricted Federal and State timetables - the final 1040 for the deceased person, submitting the final tax return for the estate, Form 1041 (estate income tax return) if required. Note: All required and necessary taxes that are due, both Federal and State, will need to be paid from the estate.

The responsibility of going through the personal items and financial affairs of a loved one who has passed on can be stressful on anyone. If you are feeling overwhelmed, don't be afraid to get any type of emotional or professional support as needed. This task can be a gut-wrenching process, at least let it be a learning experience for you – and a wake-up call to get your own financial house in order.

Proper planning before you die will help your heirs avoid many headaches and possible misery regarding the probate and estate tax problems and process; it will also help to ensure that your wishes are carried out as you desire, as you have specified.

Each person has a unique way of coping with loss. The important thing to remember is to grieve in the way that honors who you are. Sound preparation allows you to do this with dignity.

This form was designed to simplify estate planning and execution. It provides a concise means for recording all property and valuable papers, copies of which can be distributed to your spouse, executor, lawyer, CPA and other pertinent individuals. The information herein should be updated periodically.

Special information:

IMPORTANT NAMES, ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS.

Lawyer _____
CPA _____
Stockbroker _____
Insurance Agent _____
Date prepared _____
Copies given to _____

Record of Location
of Valuable Papers
and Assets
Belonging To
Name _____
Social Security No. _____
Place of Employment _____

Courtesy of :

John W. Gay II, LLD, CIS, MCEP, RFC, RFP
P.O. Box24585
Denver, Colorado 80224
303.692.8001



Just My Opinion ...

by D. J. Cox, 33°

Ok. It's summertime and the heat has been a little intense for June.

Howsoever, unless your brain is fried, a little humor and simple logic should provide an interlude from thinking about the heat. I have ...

Only 4 questions



It's that time of year for us to take our Annual Seniors' Memory Test. Exercises for the brain are as important as exercises for the body. As we grow older, it's

important to keep mentally alert. If you don't use it, you lose it! Below is a little test to gauge how your memory is working. Some may think it is too easy, but the ones with memory problems may have difficulty. Do not scroll down to each answer until you've made your answer.

OK, relax, clear your mind and begin. . .

1. What do you put in a toaster?

Answer: BREAD. If you said, toast, stop here and go do something else.

If you said, bread, go to Question 2. . .

2. Say SILK five times.
Now spell SILK.
What do cows drink?

Answer: WATER. Are you serious? Cows drink water! If you said, milk, don't attempt the next question. Your brain is over-worked. However, if you said, water, proceed to Question 3. . .

3. If a red house is made from red bricks, and a blue house is made from blue bricks, and a pink house is made from pink bricks, and a black house is made from black bricks, What is a green house made from?

Answer: GLASS. Greenhouses are made from glass! If you said, green bricks, this test is over for you! You are pretty bad off! However, if you said, glass, go on to Question 4. . .

4. Without using a **calculator** -- You are driving a bus from London to Milford Haven in Wales. In London, **17** people get on the bus. In Reading, **6** people get off the bus and **9** people get on. In Swindon, **2** people get off and **4** people get on. In Cardiff, **11** people get off and **16** people get on. In Swansea, **3** people get off and **5** people get on. You then arrive at Milford Haven...

Without scrolling back to review the numbers, How old is the bus driver?

Answer: Oh, for crying out loud! Don't you remember your own age? It was YOU driving the bus!



If you pass this along to your friends, pray they do better than you.



Knights Of Saint Andrew

by Eric W. McBride
Venerable Master
Knights of St. Andrew

I wish to thank all the knights and our seven (7) new Knights for their help at the last Consistory meeting. Our work for the Scottish Rite is highly visible and our efforts appreciated. It has been my goal this year to expand upon the work laid down by the previous Venerable Masters and to create an enthusiasm that is infectious. Our debate on the 4th was a great success. So much so that the SGIG has singled us out among the consistory for all the work we are doing now and have done for years. At the request of the Venerable Master of Centennial Lodge and from the SGIG, we will be conducting another debate in November.

In fact, as we are going dark for the months of July and August, I wish to inform our members of our upcoming events for the remainder of our year.

September 10th: As our normal meeting night will this year be on Labor Day, we will postpone the meeting until the following week but with a big exception. We will be meeting at 4pm on September 10th at the Albertson's parking lot on 120th and Washington, about 1 1/2 blocks east of I-25. We will consolidate cars there and then drive up to Cheyenne to do a visitation of the Cheyenne Valley Consistory and take part in the Feast of Tishri. Dinner tickets are \$15 and I will need a complete list of names of who are going by September 5th. Please note if you make a reservation to go and then cannot make it, you will be responsible for the price of the ticket. We do not wish to be a burden to our northern brothers to which we will be visitors.

October 27th: As the knights had voted on a year ago, we will be hosting the 3rd annual Great Masonic Cook off. The Knights took top honors in 2010. This event is a charity fund raiser to which any masonic body can compete. Each group shall compete in six (6) categories, creating a unique dish for competition against all other groups. Each group shall create one classically designed aspect of

their dish and also supply enough of the same dish to feed 20-25 people. The Judging will begin at 2pm and be open to the public at 5:30. Then, for a \$10 ticket, each person can have a taste of all the various epicurean delights. The categories this year will be best Soup, Appetizers, vegetable side dish, bread, entree and dessert. The last time Liberty Lodge was able to raise over \$1,000 from the event.

November 5th: At the request of the SGIG and the Venerable Master of Centennial lodge of Perfection we will be hosting a second debate, this time along the line of the origin of the Grand Lodge of England versus Mother Lodge Kilwinning No 0. Details about the event will be posted later.

December 1st: As of a tentative date we will be hosting the first ever St. Andrews day Table Lodge at the Consistory. This Agape style dinner will be open to all Master Masons. Dinner tickets will be \$36.00 each. We will be knighting our newly recruited knights from the Fall reunion as well as honoring Masons who are emblematic of the virtues of the 29th degree. This event has met with enthusiasm from the Denver Centennial Lodge of Perfection and several members of the Grand Lodge line of Masons in Colorado. Our only obstacle will be that we will be responsible for the clean up of the dining room and restrooms prior to the event. All officers will be requested to participate in the clean up along with any others.

February 2nd, 2013: At the request of several members of the Grand Lodge of Colorado we will be postponing Burns night so that it does not conflict with the Grand Lodge session in Colorado Springs the week before. The event will be \$36.00 per person and be held at the Consistory. Details of the event will be posted later.

February 25th, 2013: As a final event the members of the Denver KSA and their spouses will be invited to a night out at one of Denver's top restaurants during the 5280 dine out. If you have not taken part in this before, at participating fine dining establishments you and your date may dine from a selected menu of 3 course meal for \$52.80 or \$26.40 each. It will be a fun time for all to wind up the year.

As you can see, we have a lot to do this year and also to help plan for the 700th anniversary events of the Battle of Bannock Burn in 2014. So, we look forward to seeing all members and officers who can make it. We will meet during our black out time to discuss the planning of these events. We shall meet informally at the Irish Snug Pub on Colfax, in the basement bar, on Monday July 2nd at 6:30 pm. This would have been our normal meeting night if we were not going dark. Please let me know if you can make it.

So we have a truly packed year of events. I look forward to all of your insights and views of our schedule and I hope you all have a great summer.



From the Secretary's Desk

by Claud E. Dutro, 33°, Secretary

Our Prelate, Reverend Jim Harris retired as a United Methodist minister on Sunday afternoon, June 24 at an Ice Cream Social hosted by Northglenn UM Church. Reverend Jim served the ministry for thirty-six years and has been a Consistory member for over ten years. Several of our members attended his final sermon earlier that morning and several others attended the retirement celebration.

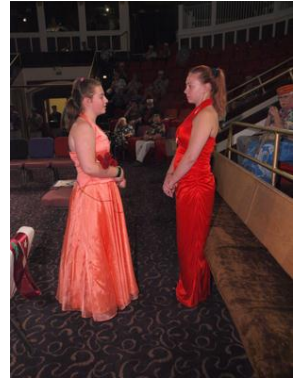
A 25 Year

Patent was presented to Gerald R. Dodd, 32°, at the June stated meeting. His wife, Sue, helped by attaching the twenty-five year pin to Gerry's collar. Both have been active in the National Sojourners patriotic programs for several years.



Also at the stated meeting,

Debby Kier, Supreme Inspector in Colorado of the International Order of Rainbow For Girls, presented an overview of their organization and introduced Jasmine Carr, who delivered the flower presentation portion of their initiation ceremony at the June stated meeting. Jasmine was assisted in the presentation by her sister Nikki. Each of the Masonic youth groups held their annual meeting and installed new officers during June.



Shrimp Boil is Coming on August 11. This will be an event for the entire family with chicken strips available for those who prefer them. During the hour before the dinner some members will share stories in the auditorium about Colorado Consistory, Rocky Mountain Consistory and their merger. Dress is casual. Details are in the flyer on another page of this issue.

Calendar of Summer Events

- July 3 – 7:00 pm - Colorado Masonic Band Camp
Concert at UNC in Greeley
- July 4 – 9:00 am - Greeley Stampede Parade,
Greeley
- July 8 – 8:00 am – Nevada Lodge #4 Pancake
Breakfast, Nevadaville
- August 4 – 7:00 am – Grand Lodge Anniversary
(Budget) Communication,
Colorado Springs
- August 10 – 6:30 pm – Commandery #1 Corn
Roast, 1614 Welton, Denver
- August 11 – 10:00 am – All Masonic Picnic,
ESMRC, 2445 S. Quebec,
Denver
- August 11 – 5:00 pm – Consistory Shrimp Boil,
1370 Grant, Denver
- August 19 – 11:00 am – Shrine Masonic Picnic,
Tony Grampsas Park,
Golden
- August 22 – 6:00 pm – Officers Mid-Year Planning
Dinner, 1370 Grant, Denver



Between the Columns

by Michael D. Moore, 32°



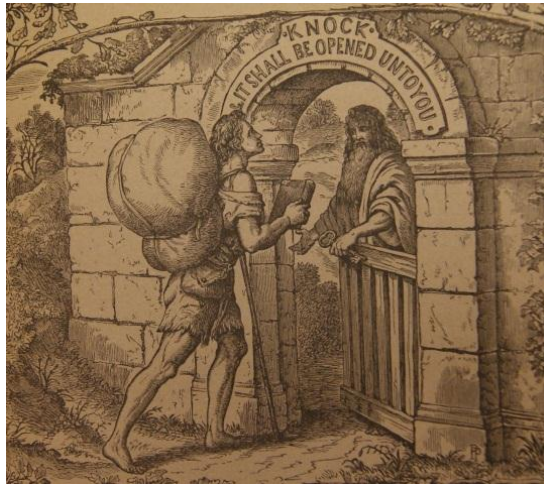
Byers Lodge's Western columns

The Individual Path

It is an eye-raising moment when you realize that all that is taught you within the Scottish Rite degrees is for a solo journey. Yes, they are taught many times in group settings. New members are brought in groups too, called classes. We have monthly business meetings that have a number of men in attendance. But these times do not reflect what goes on in the day-to-day life of the average member.

For we live most of our lives outside of these meetings and the Reunions. So what do we do with the rest of our time? We work on individual we see in the mirror every morning and the path that he is on.

It is not too often we hear this message, but it is time to make it clear; if you are a Scottish Rite Mason, all your days are to be profitable, advancing and worthwhile. Not only to you; but to the world.



The pilgrim's progress

This individual path is found in each degree. We hardly ever think of it that way and it is probably the most important part of all that you see and hear in the degrees, dramas and times of instruction. You are to continue on with what you have heard and partially understood when in a group setting and let it work in your thoughts and heart and speak from your life and your actions.

It is a continuation of what the three Blue degrees has started in your Blue Lodge, where everyone was an individual candidate there also but with more progressive and advanced tools. No longer do we need the coarse and rough stone tools; we use those that affect the intellect; those that work much deeper than just on the surface.

This should not surprise you; each degree has only one true candidate, all the rest of us are proxies. Only one is given the key in the fourth degree to carry and ponder its meaning. The rest of the candidates have to put themselves in the candidate's place. And for us to get the most out of what is taught us; it will take much more time than what is allotted in the business meetings or in the class room setting to learn. So, it has to come to you on your own. I know; it is easier to learn in a group setting. Others can help you piece together the scattered bits of information and put them into a logical argument.

But we have to make decisions on our own many times. Only you can choose which path to go on and your path which will eventually be rewarded for those actions. All this is not to scare you, but to make you realize that the Scottish Rite method of changing men is a individual one. It has been that way for many years and will continue to be that way far into the future. Only by individual growth can one advance after all the books are closed, the hat is put on and the certificate is given. This path can be hard and slow, but profitable.

Maybe it is time to stop and think of next degree, whichever one it might be for you; as a solo endeavor. It will take prayer, time to think, probably quiet places and an open mind.

We are united in our goals, our labors and our purpose. But what works the best is for the individual to come prepared ready for all this. And that can only happen when time is spent outside the Consistory's walls learning and applying what is learned.

All ceremonies are for the individual; none truly receives or finds truth within group. Enlightenment comes individually to all. More than one may acknowledge a veil being lifted, but it has to come and be received and accepted individually.

Freemasonry does offer a lot of choices on paths to take. Too many say yes to whatever path is put before them without ever thinking if it is what they really want to do, have time for or is the best fit for them. We can glean good and truth from many paths, but one or two may be seen as the best choices for each individual Mason. Maybe it is time to stop before taking on more degrees, rites and courses and analyze what fit you the best and be willing to say no to the rest (at least for now). Do the small amount of choices you have chosen well and put off the rest until a later date. A river that flows into many streams is smaller, less powerful and eventually it loses all of its water.

We will be judged individually for our actions and rewarded now and in the future by the same standard. So, always think of yourself as a small part of a much larger group of enlightened men who strive for the best world they can have (within yourself and outside in the physical world). But know it all starts not with edicts and proclamations. It comes from that somewhat scary, sometimes lonely, most profitable aspect of all this – the individual's path.

Americans in Strength

by Roger Robicheau

*Americans in strength unite
This union born in freedom's light*

*United States, how sure we are
We'll pull together, near and far*

*The world can see of what we're made
Each state is of the highest grade*

*Determination, filled with pride
Our people's will won't be denied*

*Our founding fathers set to stay
The road we've traveled to this day*

*A quest for right cannot be wrong
With help from God, we will stay strong*

*Support our troops ranks number one
For the job they do is never done*

*When forced they put it on the line
True patriots, when called they shine*

*Let's raise Old Glory with a cheer
And thank all soldiers, past and here*

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 of the Thirty-third degree of the Ancient Scottish Rite of Freemasonry For the Southern Jurisdiction of The United States of America.

LEADERSHIP



Ronald A. Seale, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council, 33°, Washington, D.C.

Stephen M. Munsinger, 33°
Sovereign Grand Inspector General
of The Supreme Council

David W. Powell, 33°
Personal Representative of the SGIG in Colorado
for Denver Consistory



Trey Perrin, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master
Centennial Lodge of Perfection
treythree@juno.com



Randy Penn, 32° KCCH
Wise Master
Rocky Mountain Chapter of Rose Croix
pennjr@comcast.net

Scottish Rite Creed
"Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal."



John Warren, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh
Denver Consistory



Scott Webster, 32° KCCH
Commander
Colorado Council of Kadosh
iscootmon@aol.com



M. Edward Johnson, 33°
Almoner



Wayne Arner, 33°
Treasurer



Claud E. Dutro, 33°
Secretary-Recorder-Registrar

CALENDAR

2012 Denver Consistory Schedule

July

Wed July 4 Consistory closed for Independence Day holiday

August

Sat Aug 11 5:00 PM Educational Program - **Parking garage available**
Ladies and Guests invited
6:00 PM Shrimp Boil - **Parking garage available**
Ladies and Guests invited
Sun Aug 19 All Masonic Picnic (Plans are not final at this time)
Wed Aug 22 6:00 PM Officers' Midyear Planning Dinner Meeting

September

Mon Sep 3 Consistory closed for Labor Day holiday
Thurs Sept 6 Consistory closed for Grand York Rite
Fri Sept 7 Consistory closed for Grand York Rite
Mon Sept 17 Stated Meeting - **Parking garage available** - *Sports Team Shirt Night*
5:30 PM Red Room Business Meeting
6:00 PM Dinner
7:00 PM Awards and Patents - Scottish Rite Foundation Program

Note: all menus are listed on our web page at www.denverconsistory.org

DENVER CONSISTORY

Story Hour and Shrimp Boil

Saturday, August 11, 2012

5:00 pm - Shared Stories from memories and archives about
Scottish Rite Freemasonry in Colorado



6:00 pm - Dinner

Buffet Style Menu Includes:

Boiled Shrimp and/or Chicken Strips

Corn on the cob

Cole Slaw

Potato Salad

Dessert

Coffee, Iced Tea and Water

Casual fun for the whole family

Denver Consistory, 1370 Grant Street, Denver

\$25 per adult, \$10 under 12, Free under 6

Reservations required

Phone 303-861-4261 for reservations not later than Wednesday, August 8.



Community Shred-a thon

**You could be a victim of identity theft
and not even know it!**

Jobs Daughters Bethel 40 and the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Community is trying to prevent you from becoming a victim through a Document-Shredding Event.

Saturday, September 15
From 10am until noon
at the Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Community:
2445 South Quebec St. Denver

BRING - Old checks, bills, bank statements, credit card offers, medical records, tax forms, pay stubs, etc.

DO NOT BRING - Newspapers, phone books, magazines, plastic, cardboard or catalogues.

3 COPY BOXES OR BAGS PER SMALL BUSINESS OR HOUSEHOLD

**Donations accepted for the Jobs Daughters Bethel 40.
Questions Call Pati Sawyer Boex Fraternal Relations Director:
303-753-2160.**

Colorado Masonic Family Picnic



Sunday, August 19
11:00 – 3:00

Tony Grampsas Memorial Park

44th Avenue & Salvia Street

Golden

Lunch Served at 11:30

UNTIL FOOD RUNS OUT

Menu: hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, corn on the cob, dessert, beer, pop, water and more!

Games and Prizes for Kids of All Ages!

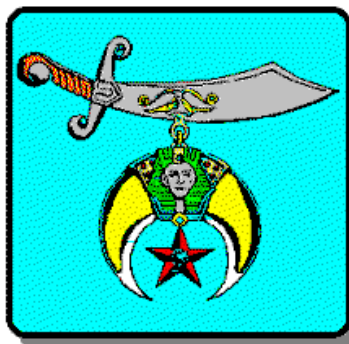
Bring your own lawn chairs

TICKETS: Advanced Reservations: \$5.00 At the Picnic: \$7.00 (Children under 6 are free!)

- ~ Includes food and drink ~ ~ No tickets will be issued ~ ~ Check-in at the gate ~
 - ~ Ticket holders will receive a hand stamp at the ticket table upon arrival at the Park ~
- There will be no comps for this event; all are expected to purchase tickets**

Colorado Masonic Family Picnic Reservations

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE AND
MAIL TO:
El Jebel Shrine
4625 West 50th Avenue



Name _____ Phone _____

Number of Tickets: _____ @ \$5.00 # of children under 6 _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____