

# EL PASO SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN



NO. 664

<http://www.elpasoscottishrite.org>

1ST QUARTER 2024

## Message from the Venerable Master



Greet the day my Brethren.

I write to you today with hope and enthusiasm.

I write with hope because there is always hope in the future and the future has seemed so bleak for our Valley the last few months. If you have been able to visit the building, the cleaning process of ceilings, walls and floors of the smoke and soot damage is now complete. Our Lady no longer wears the black of the widow but the upcoming and ongoing brightness of a new life. Restoration and repair continues on other issues and items as well.

A very small yet extremely diligent team of your brothers has begun the work of priming and painting the areas affected as well as continuing the myriad small fixes and repairs that our Lady has had to deal with throughout her long life.

I write with enthusiasm because of the continuing work on our grand Lady. Life has a way of throwing everyone curves now and then; family life and all that goes with the health and welfare of the family is of course paramount, work may be overwhelming at the time, free time may be at a severe premium, and of course finding time for the care and feeding of the self still needs to take place. And please my brothers, DO take care of yourselves since you are the cornerstone of your own life and family.

It goes without saying that our most able Illustrious General Secretary and most important and truly irreplaceable Jill-of-all-trades Nicole Moran are still keeping the Valley moving forward throughout these trying times. If you do not believe me, then make a visit to the Rite in the next few days and see how all the trappings of the office have been moved to the main foyer and they continue to work and keep the wheels of our institution turning smoothly and without issue.

As we will be dark the month of April so I will remind one and all of you that I hope to lead a contingent of our brothers to the Scottish Rite in Santa Fe New Mexico on 3 – 5 May to attend their Spring Reunion. Yes, it IS a three day Reunion beginning in the morning on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup>, continuing all day Saturday well into the evening and ending Sunday by noon, if last year is the norm there. Last year, two other brothers and I were able to witness 24 of the 29 degrees presented at a Reunion. This year the Valley will present 26 of the 29 degrees. Whether you wish to shadow the class, sit and watch all of the presented degrees or do a little of both and some visiting with our New Mexico brothers in between, I highly encourage you to attend.

The Barracks in the Cathedral has 20 rooms which sleep 2 – 3 brothers. A desk is provided for each room along with linens and blankets for the beds. There are bathrooms located throughout the building with a large set in the Barracks including a few private shower stalls. The meals for the Reunion last year, (Friday B, L, D, Saturday B, L banquet and Sunday B & L), cost \$60 for all listed. Meal plan tickets are purchased on site and are by the meal. The banquet is open to guests for an additional charge. I do not have this year's cost but I would expect it to be a bit higher due to cost of materials. The food was good and filling and all made on site. As guests, we did not have to leave the building for any reason unless one wanted to. Santa Fe's Old Town Plaza is just a few blocks away and there is plenty to see and do there should you wish.

The theatre is set differently than ours utilizing the floor space of the audience section with no raised theatre stage and their 100+ year old drops have been reconditioned in the last 20 years using the original pigments used by the original artist.

As is the tradition in the Valley of Santa Fe, even if there are no candidates, the Reunion will be put on. Last year there were 4 candidates and this year I believe the number is doubled.

Please join me and continue your masonic journey to enlighten and expand yourselves. Making good men better involves work on each man's part and the degrees at a Reunion are a fine way to continue your masonic education. Travel enlightens, staying home all the time can lead to isolationism and an "ours vs theirs" way of thought. Explore your masonic world whenever possible!

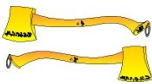
**Contact me by April 15<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in attending. After that, room at the Cathedral cannot be guaranteed.**

Be well one and all and Long Live the Valley of El Paso!

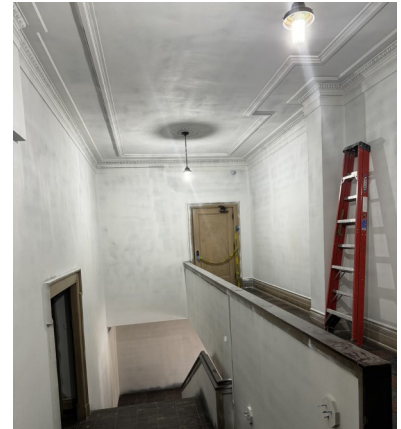
May our Grand Lady continue to heal and allow us all to grow and prosper!

Hon. Bro. Barry Boetto, 32° KCCH

Venerable Master



# Building remediation and restoration update pictures





*Our most sincere sympathies and condolences to all the families of our members who have passed on to a better life*



Robert "Robo" Espy, 32°  
Carl E. French, 32°  
Glenn K. Golmon, 32°  
Caroll A. Jones, 32°  
Raymond R. Luna, 32°  
Julio F. Morales, 32°  
Dexter Sheppard, 32°  
Howard W. Sloan, 32°

12/27/1940-01/30/2024  
03/18/1934-01/06/2024  
02/21/1934-04/16/2023  
12/2/1940-07/17/2023  
01/26/1935-11/17/2023  
05/30/1950-01/18/2024  
10/13/1938-02/08/2024  
02/06/1941-07/05/2023



**The Two Hundred-Sixty-Fifth El Paso Scottish Rite Fall One-Day Reunion**

Honoring  
**Ill. Fred E. Haller, 33°**  
October 19, 2024



**VALLEY NEWS**  
From the Secretary's Office

Brethren:

**Update on our Temple Remediation and Restoration Projects:**

Under the direction of our Building Manager, Ill. Nicholas Quarm, 33°, the remediation of the arson smoke and soot damage has been completed on the walls and ceilings. Plaster and stucco repair work is still in progress and our local work crew has started to spray primer on repaired areas. We have put in several hundred manhours and much work remains, but we are steadily making progress.

I want to thank the members who volunteer their time with our in-house work crew, as well as the members who have generously donated to the building repair fund. If you are interested and able to donate, please mail your donations to:

**El Paso Scottish Rite Foundation**  
**301 W. Missouri Ave**  
**El Paso, TX 79901**

We also have a link on our website - [www.elpasoscottishrite.org](http://www.elpasoscottishrite.org) for those of you that wish to donate by credit card - this will be routed through PayPal.

We will eventually be addressing the damaged floors and innumerable other tasks as we proceed. We currently have an art expert cleaning our fine art paintings. We were very fortunate in that our Class Pictures and Photos suffered no damage. We did lose some of our library books, but the vast majority were retrieved and suffered minor soot damage which we will also address. Bro. Steven Gragg, 32° has been attending and updating the membership on the Federal Court hearings for the alleged arsonist. The alleged arsonist was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury and remains in jail without bond pending future proceedings.

We will continue to update our membership as we proceed.

Fraternally,  
Larry V. Kane, 33°  
General Secretary

The El Paso Lodge of Perfection  
El Paso Scottish Rite Bulletin  
Editor- Nicole Moran  
[nicole@elpasoscottishrite.org](mailto:nicole@elpasoscottishrite.org)  
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**ALLEGIANCE**

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry sitting in the Valley of El Paso, Orient of Texas, 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 and last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose See is at the Grand Orient of South Carolina, now sitting at Washington, D.C. of which

ILL. James D. Cole, 33°  
is Sovereign Grand Commander  
and  
ILL. Michael L. Wiggins, 33°  
is Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas,  
and  
Hon. Juan M. Navarro, 32° KCCH  
is Personal Representative of SGIG  
And Chairman of the Executive Committee  
Valley of El Paso

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**A kind request to the family or friend  
of the addressed Member:**

Please notify us at the above address or  
Phone number if our member  
is in the hospital or Nursing home,  
or is incapacitated in any way.

<b>August 12, 2024</b>	
<b>July 08, 2024</b>	
<b>June 10, 2024</b>	
<b>May 13, 2024</b>	
<b>NO Stated Meeting in April</b>	
<b>Stated Meetings:</b>	

<b>October 19, 2024</b>	<b>Fall Reunion</b>
<b>October 18, 2024</b>	<b>Fest of Tishri</b>
<b>Upcoming Events in 2024:</b>	

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

If you would prefer to receive your bulletin by email - please email [nicole@elpasoscottishtishri.org](mailto:nicole@elpasoscottishtishri.org)  
We will add you to our mailing list - please also let us know if you prefer not to receive our printed bulletin.