

EL PASO SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN



NO. 653

<http://www.elpasoscottishrite.org>

2ND QUARTER 2021

Message from the Sage Maitre de la Rose Croix



It is with the tidings of better times coming soon that I write you this day!

After the continued quarantines, social distancing and some aspects of Masonry recently still being closed to mass gatherings here in our Valley, the situation is looking up and we are now meeting in Blue Lodges and Appended Bodies even if not at 100% capacity. The time is coming brothers!

It is with a heavy heart though, that like many of you, I mourn the passing of our Personal Representative of the S.G.I.G. Illustrious Brother Tom Higgins, 33°. I did not know him as long or as well as many of you did but he did have a profound effect on how I view the Craft and can serve the Valley. He is and will continue to be sorely missed. I pray that our S.G.I.G. finds the traits of wisdom, patience and perseverance in his replacement of Bro. Higgins.

I am humbled, again, to sit as Sage Maitre de la Rose Croix and have the opportunity to serve my brethren in that capacity.

There are a few events that are already on our calendar;

1 – Remembrance and Renewal will be held on Friday, 16 July 2021 at 6:30PM to honor all the Scottish Rite brethren who have passed in the last two years. Although in the past we have had a dinner to coincide with this masonic event, this year only light refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

2 - The Feast of Tishri will be held with its' coinciding dinner (circumstances permitting) on Friday, 15 October 2021. If all goes well, this will also be the weekend of our Fall Reunion (be it a one or two day event) giving us a second reason to be in festive moods! Lastly, it will also be...

3 - The Scottish Rite Centennial Celebration in honor of the 100 years our Valley Temple has been standing! A reenactment of the Corner Stone laying is planned to be performed during the afternoon of Saturday, 16 October 2021 and will include some period entertainment to bring joy to those lucky enough to witness the event! Our predecessors built our Temple, let us honor them with a rededication of their efforts!

I do so look forward to welcoming and introducing new Scottish Rite Masons to our Valley and all it has to offer them and seeing old friends and brothers who as many of us did, complied with the suggestions to not attend Masonic functions and give social distance to our brothers.

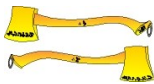
As always, I am still most thankful for the effort, toil and consistent work our General Secretary, Ill. Brother Larry Kane, 33° and our most competent Office Manager, Nicole Moran have continued to perform to maintain the everyday function of the Scottish Rite here in El Paso. Thank you are two words that do not convey anywhere near the gratitude I hold for you both!

I close in the hope that you, one and all, and your families are happy and healthy.

Be well and be safe –

Barry Boetto, 32°
Sage Maitre

Cornerstone laying 1921



Ill. Tom L. Higgins, 33°

09/25/1946-04/28/2021



It is with great sadness that we report the unexpected passing of Ill. Tom L. Higgins, 33°. Tom passed away Wednesday, April 28, 2021 due to non-COVID related health issues.

Tom was the Personal Representative and Chairman of the Executive Committee for the Valley of El Paso from August 22, 2012 until his passing. He served on the Board of Directors for the El Paso Scottish Rite Foundation, Trustee for the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas and Trustee for the Texas Scottish Rite Foundation.

He was born to Dan and Pauline Higgins on September 25, 1946, and was raised in Canyon, Texas. A masonic service was held at the Scottish Rite Auditorium in El Paso on May 6th, 2021.

Tom graduated from Canyon High School in 1965. He was a proud member of the 1964 state winning Canyon Eagles basketball team. Both Dan and Pauline proudly worked at WT. Tom, along with his father, saw the first WT basketball game in the "Box" and the first football game in Kimbrough Stadium. He spent his school years attending WT athletic events and remained a huge Buffalo Sports fan his entire life. Tom was recruited, and signed, to play basketball for WT. While at WT he pledged the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and later became president of the Texas Theta Chapter. He was a loyal and active "Phi Delt" throughout his life. Tom worked with the Heflin Foundation to build the beautiful Texas Theta Lodge on 4th Avenue in Canyon, Texas. He graduated from WT in 1971 and enjoyed a successful career in the apparel business and commercial advertising. Tom was a member of the Masonic Lodge #730 in Canyon and Lodge #130 in El Paso. He was very proud that he worked with his father who led the building of the Masonic Lodge #730 in Canyon.



Ill. Fred E. Haller, 33°

04/14/1939-05/12/2021



The El Paso Scottish Rite is saddened to report the passing of Ill. Fred E. Haller, 33° on May 12, 2021. Fred passed while under care in a hospice facility due to long-term health issues. His passing was not COVID related. He retired from teaching and coaching from the El Paso Independent School District.

Fred was a Past Master of Five Points Lodge # 1137 in El Paso, TX. He held a lifetime certificate from the Committee on Work of the Grand Lodge of Texas and served for many years as the District Instructor of Masonic District #60A.

Fred was a member of the El Paso Scottish Rite and served as General Secretary from July 2007 to January 2011. He was knighted as a 32° KCCH on November 21, 2005 and was Coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary on November 14, 2009 by the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite. Fred was also a Shriner with El Maida Shrine in El Paso, TX.



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

Jose F. Collazo, 32°	01/13/1930-03/02/2021
William S. Cooke, Jr., 32° KCCH	07/18/1923-05/28/2021
Robert Falk, 32°	05/20/1921-01/20/2021
Fred E. Haller, 33°	04/14/1939-05/12/2021
Tom L. Higgins, 33°	09/25/1946-04/28/2021
Wesley C. Hull, 32°	04/10/1930-03/22/2021
John D. Jones, Jr., 32°	02/16/1932-02/14/2021
Joy M. Leslie, 32°	01/26/1934-04/19/2021
Joseph H. Schley, 32°	04/13/1939/02/10/2021
Robert K. Thomas, 32°	04/18/1924-04/26/2021
Ellis "Bud" W. White, 32°	01/31/1940-05/11/2021



We want to take this opportunity to apologize to Bro. Allen E. Snapp, 32° KCCH, who was placed on our deceased list by accident - Bro. Snapp has since called the office and he is doing well. We hope it will be many more years before we have to announce his passing again.

The General Secretary presented Bro. Mike Davis with the Certificate and badge, recognizing his completion of the Master Craftsman III Program. Bro. Davis is the first member from the Valley of El Paso to have successfully completed all three Master Craftsman Programs.



Greetings Brothers and those others who read these words!

Once again the powers of the evil Queen Covid have foiled the plans of Knights of St. Andrew everywhere to meet at the Biennial Gathering of the Knights which was to be held in the Valley of Nashville, Orient of Tennessee in June of this year. The pandemic has yet again forced the moving of the date of this august gathering to the summer of 2022.

Do YOU have what it takes to be a Knight of St. Andrew? Come to our stated meeting held at 11:00AM the Saturday before the Scottish Rite holds their monthly Monday meeting and see what we are about! Be a part of restarting Scottish Rite masonry here in our Valley! Be a part of the Great Quest!

Knight Brother Barry Boetto
Seneschal and Exchequer (Secretary & Treasurer)
Knights of St. Andrew
Valley of El Paso
Orient of Texas

2021 Fall Reunion October 15-16, 2021

We will also take this opportunity to celebrate the 100th year Building anniversary, honor our 50 year members and celebrate the Feast of Tishri.

The El Paso Lodge of Perfection
El Paso Scottish Rite Bulletin
Editor- Nicole Moran
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Regular Meetings of all bodies
Second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.,
El Paso Lodge of Perfection
El Paso Scottish Rite Bulletin
(USPS #170-540) is published four times a year
by the El Paso Scottish Rite,
301 W. Missouri Ave.
El Paso, TX. 79901-1131
Official Publication of the El Paso Bodies of
The Ancient and Accepted
Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.



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

ILL. Michael L. Wiggins, 33°
is Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas.

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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.

July 12, 2021	Stated Meetings:	August 09, 2021
September 13, 2021		NO meeting in October
November 08, 2021		
December 13, 2021		

July 16, 2021	Remembrance & Renewal
October 15-16, 2021	Fall Reunion, Feast of Tishri, Awards Ceremony and Temple Centennial Ceremony

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you would prefer to receive your bulletin by email - please email 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.