

EL PASO SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN



NO. 661

<http://www.elpasoscottishrite.org>

2ND QUARTER 2023

Message from the Wise Master



Brethren:

I would like to express my gratitude for all the support you have given me throughout my Masonic journey. It is a pleasure and a privilege to serve you this year as Wise Master of El Paso Chapter of Rose Croix.

I would like to thank all who attended, contributed, and participated in our Remembrance and Renewal Celebration, it was well attended and overall, a success.

The Chapter of Rose Croix confers the 17th and 18th degrees, known as the philosophical degrees. These degrees make use of Christian symbols and historical settings, but their spiritual message is universal for all Masons who are united in the belief of a Supreme Being. Both degrees use the concept of avoiding the mistakes of the past.

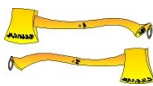
The term "Rose Croix" literally means "rose cross," and is derived from the symbol of the order of the Rosicrucian's a rose on a cross. The aspects of the Scottish Rite's 18th degree, Knight of the Rose Croix, were inspired by Rosicrucianism.

The degrees within the Chapter of Rose Croix are known for being among the most intellectually stimulating within the body of Freemasonry. It is the responsibility of a Rose Croix chapter to confer the 17° and 18°. The lessons within these degrees are rich, exploring the themes of philosophy, religion, ethics, and more. Fully comprehending these degrees can take years and is considered one of the most rewarding parts of being a Scottish Rite Freemason.

Few degrees examine the topic of spirituality to the extent these two degrees do, making them among the most significant degrees in our fraternity.

I would like to encourage you to continue your Masonic education by exploring and comprehending the degrees of The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, and would like to extend an invitation for you, your family and friends to come by and explore your Temple. This Masonic edifice is something to be proud of and has so many interesting places, Our Museum, Theatre and the Albert Pike Room just to name a few. I'm proud of our building, its beauty, what it stands for and especially its history.

Sincerely and Fraternally
Juan M. Navarro, 32° KCCH
Wise Master
El Paso Chapter of Rose Croix



On visiting the Santa Fe Valley, Orient of New Mexico Spring Reunion...

What is a REUNION?

It is an instance of two or more people coming together again after a period of separation?

OR

A social gathering attended by members of a certain group of people who have not seen each other for some time.

OR

The act or process of being brought together again as a unified whole.

All three of these definitions can be used to define what a Scottish Rite Reunion is. At no point in any of these three definitions is any type of initiation or bonding ceremony mentioned. A Scottish Rite Reunion is for Scottish Rite members. Dinners and social events open to all have been incorporated into them here in our Valley such as the Feast of Tishri and our Remembrance and Renewal event but the Reunion proper is for Scottish Rite masons only.

Every Valley and to some extent every Orient has different ways of putting on a Reunion but they all have one thing in common – the performance of Scottish Rite degrees. If SR Reunions are for SR members, then the degrees are for a lack of a better turn of phrase, continuing education for SR members. But to confer or grant or bestow a degree for a non-SR member, these works are specifically for the NEW SR candidate and as such are the first time they will be seen.

I shadowed the class from meals to classroom to degrees throughout Friday and Saturday. I found it astounding, amazing and utterly unbelievable that although the Santa Fe Valley had but four candidates, I was told all the degrees on the program would have been performed had they no candidates at all. Hence, continuing education for SR members. I sat in on 21 degrees performed. I have yet to see the 16°, 19° and 31°. The first two were communicated at the Reunion but I left early Sunday and did not see the 30° - 32° performed.

In addition to the four candidates, there were from 3 to 13 “current” black, red and white cap SR members who sat through the entire degree they were watching. There were also between three to six members who sat in on the between degree classroom sessions. But every Valley and to some extent every Orient are different.



In the Valley of Santa Fe during their Spring Reunion, El Paso SR Bros. William Fidler, Javier Gutierrez and myself made the journey there to witness something none of us have had the fortune to experience here in our home Valley for a decade and maybe longer. Twenty-four of the twenty-nine degrees of the Scottish Rite were being performed and each of us was blessed with the experience. Bro. Fidler was tapped to assist with stage work on the 4° and others later I believe; both Bro's. Fidler and Gutierrez were given small roles in the 5°; Bro. Fidler was given a part in the 15° and Bro. Gutierrez a part in the 29°. I assisted in the KoSA knighting ceremony after all the degrees were performed on Saturday night. Our brothers in Santa Fe did not have to include us as they did but they were polite and caring enough to bring us into their fold for the Reunion.

To see degrees with 5 to 15 cast members, not including stage and prop crews, the choir and lights and sound depending on the degree was amazing. The Valley of Santa Fe is very blessed with their membership numbers. Not only was the organ at the Temple utilized for almost all degrees, some more so than others, but the choir was used for some degrees, Masons all, added quite a nice touch to some of the degrees.

The 112 year old Temple in Santa Fe is patterned after the Alhambra Palace in Granada, Spain and has a wonderful barracks wing (separate from where candidates stay) that has 20 sleeping rooms with up to three beds and a desk per room. Linens and blankets are provided.

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.

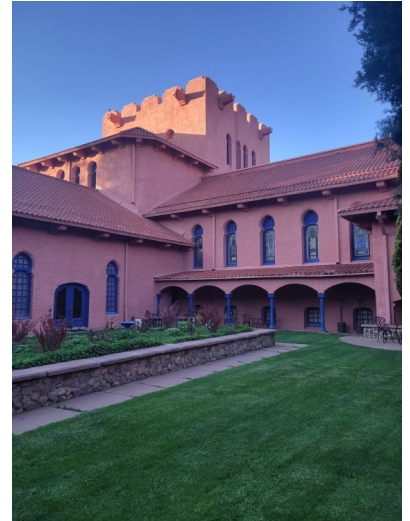
The meals for the Reunion (Friday B, L, D, Saturday B, L banquet and Sunday B & L) cost \$60 for all listed. The food was for the most part incredibly good and filling and made on site. As guests, we did not have to leave the building for any reason unless one wanted to.

Next year, the Valley is looking to confer an extra one or two more degrees bringing them almost to the full 29 in a Reunion. We are all invited back next year and I hope to bring with me a larger contingent to refresh one's memory of the degrees we have not had the favor of witnessing in quite some time. Any SR mason may shadow the class if they wish or simply watch the degrees when performed or communicated.

To be able to travel and see things we are not able to see is one way in how we learn. I encourage my brothers when travelling to visit Lodges and Temples where so ever their travels take them and see how masonry is performed elsewhere. Some aspects are identical and some are different. But Masonry is Masonry where ever you go!

Be well!

Bro. Barry Boetto
SW of the Lodge of Perfection and Chief of the KoSA





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



Jennings Bennett, 32°
William J. Chambless, 32°
Harold Donohue, 32°
James F. Silhan, 32°

10/19/1934-03/11/2023
04/13/1923-02/20/2023
04/04/1930-08/17/2019
08/17/1931-02/02/2023



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

Honoring

Ill. Fred E. Haller, 33°

October 21, 2023



The El Paso Knights of St. Andrew had the pleasure of conferring an honorary Knighting upon Hon. Brother Juan Navarro, 32° KCCH - the El Paso Valley's Personal Representative. We are proud to receive him as our honorary member, and a great time was had by all. Thank you for all you do for the El Paso Valley, Honorary Sir!



At our June 12, 2023 Stated Meeting (left) Chairman Juan Navarro, Chief Barry Boetto (KOSA) and Commander of Kadosh Joshua Miller presented Bro. Mark Miller with a Certificate recognizing his service as Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix for 2022. The picture above show Bro. Joshua Miller pinning the Past Venerable Master lapel pin on his father, Bro. Mark Miller. What truly made this meeting more joyous was the announcement by Bro. Mark Miller that after a long, hard fought battle, his Doctors have pronounced him cancer free. We are thrilled that he is back with us.

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
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.

Stated Meetings:
July 10, 2023
August 14, 2023
September 11, 2023
NO Stated Meeting in October
November 13, 2023
December 11, 2023

Upcoming Events in 2022:
Feast of Tishri
October 20, 2023
Fall Reunion
October 21, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you would prefer to receive your bulletin by email - please email nicole@elpasoscottishrite.org
We will add you to our mailing list - please also let us know if you prefer not to receive our printed bulletin.