

EL PASO SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN



NO. 672

<http://www.elpasoscottishrite.org>

1ST QUARTER 2026

Message from the Venerable Master



My Brethren,

First, I would like to say that I am honored and humbled to have been elected as your Venerable Master for this year of 2026. I hope I meet your expectations of this office and it is my honor and pleasure to serve the El Paso Scottish Rite. I was reflected the other day on what is important about the Scottish Rite and Freemasonry in general and while the meetings, finances, building upkeep and maintenance are all very important, the one thing that comes to mind that should matter to most of us is learning. What can we learn from Masonic education and more especially what can we learn from each other.

Thinking back about all of my time in Masonry, I recall enjoying all the degree work and the meetings in all its aspects along with the brotherly love and fellowship. All of which I hold dear and there is plenty that I have learned during all of those events. However, now that I think about, I have learned so much more from the brethren themselves. Whether it be to learn the degree work or whether it be to learn how to conduct yourself as a Freemason, all of these are important and that I have taken note of them. I have reflected a great deal about what I have learned from each and every brother I have met. The overwhelming lesson that I have been taught is to serve the brethren but to do so as not to expect reward or recognition but to do so for it is the prime duty of a Mason to serve for the sake of serving.

The service to the Scottish Rite and Freemasonry in general is not just what elected officers are charged with to carry out, nor is it just the attendance of meetings and degrees but it is the service to one another that is held high among us. Many of us wonder what we can do and how much we should do to serve our Scottish Rite and our respective lodges, and we are charged to do what is in our capacity and ability to do. For some that might be enough for others that might not be enough. However, I believe that any service to the Scottish Rite and to any lodge is always something that is commended and appreciated. While some brothers may be able to serve further than others, all of the brethren should seek to serve each other as much as they can and while all of that service certainly calls for recognition and maybe reward, the ultimate take away is the service itself. To serve is the reward.

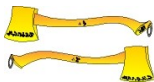
As Masons we are taught to serve each other and to be there for one another to ensure not only brotherly love prevails but to ensure that we are all taken care of. As we help one another and realize how much that help or assistance from one brother to another has actually made a difference and what it means to them, we should smile upon that as the greatest aspect of Masonry. To help a brother and be there for him is a privilege and honor. In fact that service to the brother is the ultimate reward that we Masons can receive. To help a friend and brother is the duty to which Freemasonry and the Great Architect of the Universe commands us to perform.

With that my brothers, I implore you all to serve your fellow brothers in any capacity and ability that in which you are able and so for the sake of helping and or serving that brother. Whether this is service to the Scottish Rite and our various lodges in the necessary work that keeps them running or down to simply helping your brother through or with something, let us serve each other and share in the blessings of the reward of service.

Thank you my brothers for your ears and attention, as well as for once again for your faith and support and blessings for the time to serve you as your Venerable Master for this 2026 year. I encourage all of you my brothers to not only learn from one from one another but to serve the brethren of this valley in any all needs that is necessary for brotherly love and peace to prevail.

Respectfully and Fraternally,

Joshua S. Miller, 32°
Venerable Master of the El Paso Scottish Rite



THE CAVALRYMAN

A Sentinel of Stone Before Our Temple



The Cavalryman statue was unveiled during the 67th Semi-Annual Reunion of the El Paso Scottish Rite Bodies on March 28, 1940.

Gifted by Percival Henderson, former Superintendent of the El Paso Smelter, the monument honors his close friend William Crawford Harvie, a dedicated member of the El Paso Consistory, and pays tribute to the historic role of the U.S. Cavalry in the Southwest.

Henderson purchased the triangular plot of land directly in front of the Scottish Rite Temple specifically so this memorial could stand at its entrance. Sculpted by artist José Ruiz de Rivera, the statue was carved from a single 10-ton block of black granite quarried in Pennsylvania.

Rivera employed a full-time blacksmith solely to keep his tools sharpened during the extensive carving process. The completed figure stands 8 feet 3 inches tall, depicting a cavalryman in authentic 1870s frontier uniform, symbolizing the soldiers who protected early settlers, immigrants, and ranchers throughout the region.

The unveiling ceremony reflected the monument's military importance. Major General John Brees of Fort Sam Houston and Major General Kenyon A. Joyce of Fort Bliss attended, accompanied by troops and the Seventh Cavalry Band from Fort Bliss, all of whom participated in the dedication festivities.

The project also marked a turning point for Rivera. After completing The Cavalryman, he transitioned away from figurative work and moved toward modern abstract sculpture — making this one of his last and most significant traditional pieces. In 1995, respected El Paso artist Ron Clark conducted a detailed study of the statue — including X-rays and geological analysis — before performing a full restoration, ensuring the monument's preservation for future generations.

Today, The Cavalryman remains the oldest free-standing sculpture in El Paso, a distinctive and enduring symbol of frontier defense, civic pride, and the Scottish Rite's historical connection to the community. More than artwork, it stands as a testament to friendship, remembrance, and the legacy of those who shaped the Valley's story.



THE CAVALRYMAN
IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM CRAWFORD HARVIE 33°
PRESENTED BY
PERCIVAL HENDERSON
MARCH 28, 1940



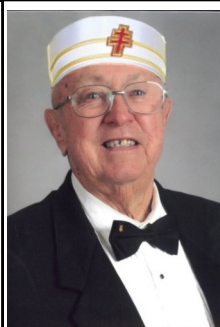


*Our most sincere
sympathies and condolences
to all the families of our members
who have passed on to a better life*



Ronald M. Pruett, 32°
Gary T. Ryan, 32°
Ronald W. Williams, 33°

03/30/1946-03/19/2026
10/15/1944-02/26/2026
09/10/1937-02/26/2026



**The
Two Hundred-Sixty-Seventh**

**El Paso Scottish Rite
Fall One-Day Reunion**

Honoring

Willard "Arnie" Simms, 33°



In the early morning hours of July 24, 2023, the El Paso Scottish Rite Temple suffered an act of arson that caused significant damage to the lobby, destroying much of the furniture and flooring. Thanks to a quick response, the fire was contained and no one was injured.

Since then, the Temple has undergone a careful restoration with the support and dedication of its community.

We're proud to share that the replacement lobby furniture has finally arrived, and the space looks absolutely beautiful—a true symbol of resilience and renewal.



WANTED



**Candidates
for Scottish Rite**

Get a petition today at:
www.elpasoscottishrite.org
or by email from
Nicole@elpasoscottishrite.org
or pick one up at the Office

The El Paso Lodge of Perfection
El Paso Scottish Rite Bulletin
Editor— Nicole Moran
nicole@elpasoscottishrite.org
Regular Meetings of all bodies
Second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.,
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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, 33°
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.

May 11, 2026
June 08, 2026
July 13, 2026
August 10, 2026

Stated Meetings:

Upcoming Events in 2026:
Feast of Tishri
October 16, 2026
Fall Reunion
October 17, 2026



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We will add you to our mailing list - please also let us know if you prefer not to receive our printed bulletin.