



# AUSTIN SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

ORIENT OF TEXAS · VALLEY OF AUSTIN

## The Messenger

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The annual reunion will be the first and third weekends in May (just before and after Mother's Day weekend.) The initiation fees remains \$275.
- Reminder that when you come to the Temple, please park in the spaces not marked for the news channel. Also, please remember on the southside of the Hampton Inn Suites hotel (next to the Temple) is a state parking garage that is open for our use after 5 p.m.
- Bro. Oscar Orum, 33° IGH, reminds all brethren that the cost of providing the meals has increased so please donate at least \$7 to the Garde Manger meal kitty.
- Please feel free to have your wives, girlfriends or significant others join us for dinner and the open program.

## From the Personal Rep...

### Fast out of the Blocks!!!

The year is off to a great start in the Austin Valley. Our Feast of Foundation was quite successful with nearly 65 Masons attending among whom were 40 Master Mason that are non-members. We had a delightful evening introducing the Scottish Rite, listening to live music, and having a fun social that went past my bedtime. Many of our guests have chosen to petition the Valley and will become members of our class of 2019. To date we have had 24 petitions for membership turned in. We still have several weeks before the Reunion.

I encourage you to enjoy the Reunion and perhaps sit in on some of the degrees. I have been working in the degree my Lodge puts on for 20 years. I always walk away from every exposure to it, either a practice or performance, better informed about my Masonry and its lessons. A small commitment and a little attentiveness for just a little while really pays big dividends. Beyond that benefit, consider what "reunion" really means:

re un ion /rē'yoōnyən/noun

- noun: **reunion**; plural noun: **reunions**; noun: **re-union**; plural noun: **re-unions**  
 an instance of two or more people coming together again after a period of separation.  
 "she had a tearful reunion with her parents"  
 a social gathering attended by members of a certain group of people who have not seen each other for some time.  
 "a school reunion"  
 the act or process of being brought together again as a unified whole.  
 "the reunion of East and West Germany"

While "Reunion" with a capital "R" may conjure up a little different image, let's take these two Saturdays and revisit the spirit of the literal definition of the word. Take the time to reconnect with your Rite brothers and introduce yourselves to our new family members. Make some time for them. They are joining to interact with you. Our fine degree work will impress them and foment decades of learning and study. But your presence, welcoming smile, and example of personal conduct will provide the most meaningful experience to them. We will serve breakfast and a hot lunch both Saturdays and gather after the last degree for an informal Social. Let us know if and for which meals, if any, you'll be joining us. (con't on Page 4)



**Brian Vance 33° IGH**  
*Personal Representative*  
*Valley of Austin*

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## From General Secretary George Moxley...



Brethren,

We will be having our Spring Reunion on May 4th and May 18th. We have petitions in the Secretary's office or they are available on our website, [www.austinscottishrite.org](http://www.austinscottishrite.org). The Spring Reunion will be named in honor of Brother Barry Lewis who passed away last year.

They are still needing a few people to fill some spots in the degrees if you are willing and able to help. The Sanhedrin could always use some extra hands, too! Even if you are unable to stay all day, come out and support this class by filling some seats during the degrees. The Bodies will be furnishing breakfast and the Garde Manger will be serving lunch.

There are still United States and Texas flags in the secretary's office for lodges to present to schools in their area, all thanks to Illustrious Brother Northcutt. Show the schools in the area that Masons support our public school systems, which we Masons helped to establish.

Finally, come to the stated meetings on the first Wednesday of every month and see what is going on in the Valley. Dinner is served at 6:30pm and the stated meeting at 7:30pm.

## Inaugural *Feast of Foundation* is huge success!



The Austin Scottish Rite Valley continues on its trailblazing path of reinvigoration and renewal. On February 13, 2019, the Valley launched the first-ever **Feast of Foundation** Gala Dinner. A total of 70 Brothers turned out to this highly successful event, including 48 newly-raised or recently raised Master Masons, who were treated to a superb three-course meal prepared by Chef Robert, and a first-class introduction to the Scottish Rite, presented by several learned members of our Valley. The energy, excitement and fellowship enjoyed by all could not have been more positive. Best of all, 25 of the invitees turned in a Petition to join the Austin Scottish Rite Valley! The coordination of this inaugural event was masterfully orchestrated by the Reunion Class of 2018 under the leadership of its president, Brother Eduardo Contreras, and under the diligent supervision of the James D. Richardson Council of Kadosh and its Commander, Brother Craig Hammons. Brethren, there is no denying it; the Austin Scottish Rite Valley is on the move! But the credit belongs to you, Brethren; for it is only through your generous financial contributions that the Valley was able to put on this successful Gala. Thank you, Brethren, and save the date on Saturday, August 3, 2019, for our annual Concert and Dance!



### 2019 Barry Lewis Scottish Rite Reunion

This years' reunion will be held on two Saturdays in May: May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup>, the first and third Saturdays of the month. This year, we are going to be adding some member education sections during the reunion, so be sure to attend. You will be energized by the experience, and your presence will be much appreciated by our class of 24 candidates. This is more than the last 3 reunions put together!

Even if you only come out for an hour or so, your input is needed, not only for the attendees of the reunion, but for you as well. Remember that feeding from the table of Masonic ritual is what will help you be more Masonic in all your life, and you can only get that from other Masons; the reunion is a great place for that exchange.

Now, here is the schedule:

#### Saturday, May 4, 2019

- 7:00-7:45 am-----Breakfast
- 7:45-8:00am-----Introduction to Reunion
- 8:00 am-----4<sup>th</sup> degree conferred
- 8:45-10:15-----5<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> degrees communicated
- 10:15-12:00 noon-----14<sup>th</sup> degree conferred
- 12 noon – 1:00pm-----lunch
- 1:00-1:45pm-----15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> degrees communicated
- 1:45-3:15 pm-----18<sup>th</sup> degree conferred
- 3:15-5:30 pm-----19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> degrees communicated

#### Saturday, May 18, 2019

- 7:00-8:00 am-----Breakfast
- 8:00-9:00 am-----27<sup>th</sup> degree conferred
- 9:00-10:00 am-----28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> degrees communicated
- 10:00-12:00 noon-----30<sup>th</sup> degree conferred
- 12:00 noon-1:00 pm-----Lunch
- 1:00pm-1:30 pm-----31<sup>st</sup> degree communicated
- 1:30-4:00 pm-----32<sup>nd</sup> degree conferred
- 4:00-5:00pm-----Reunion concluded



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The cooks want to have enough for everyone.

Following through on the Reunion, we will have a capping ceremony at the June stated meeting. Our new members families will be invited. This is another opportunity to meet them and introduce yourself.

Finally, **save the date August 3**, for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dance and Social. Obviously, this is a family event. Last year the dance lessons before the music started were a hit. There was a happy "buzz" going around for days after it was over! Our wives and girlfriends especially enjoyed it. The funds raised from this event go directly to support our Valley programs including the Feast of Foundation, newsletters, and more. Early sponsorships from our friends and members helped make it a success. Please join us at the event and in early sponsorship.

Fraternally,

Brian

*The Cause of Human Progress is our cause, the enfranchisement of human thought our supreme wish, the freedom of human conscience our mission, and the guarantee of human rights to all people everywhere, the end of our contention.*

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