



# AUSTIN SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

ORIENT OF TEXAS · VALLEY OF AUSTIN

## The Messenger

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Great news! We have our old phone number back: 512-472-7247.**
- **The annual reunion will be the first weekend in June. The initiation fees have been lowered to \$275.**
- **Bro. Fernando Albornoz, 32° KCCH, is planning a Scottish Rite fundraiser at the Theater in May 2018.**
- **Reminder that when you come to the Temple, please park in the spaces not marked for the news channel.**
- **The Orient convocation will be held on September 7th and 8th in Waco.**
- **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.**

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JANUARY 8, 2018

## From the Personal Rep...

I would like to take a moment and say that it is my hope and prayer that each of you had a wonderful holiday season and a very Merry Christmas! As we enter the new year, I would like to update you on all of the activities going on with your Austin Scottish Rite Valley.

The business and activities of the Austin Scottish Rite Valley continue to evolve as the Strategic Planning committee and the heads of our Bodies identify areas of emphasis and implement our initiatives. The initiatives that have been identified as primary to our success are: Service; Social and Fraternal; Education; and Spirituality.

The Service initiative is led by the following brethren: Jose Veles, Thistle; Oscar Orum, 33° IGH, Garde Manger; and James Mercer, Sanhedrin.

Our newest volunteer for the Service initiative is Bro. Raul Scully who will be heading the Ambassador's program. This critical program will enable to continue our outreach and support the Lodges in our Valley and to communicate effectively with them.

The Social and Fraternal initiative is headed by Bro. Keye E. Perry, Sr. 32° KCCH. Bro. Perry is working with Bro.'s Mark Dermit, 32° KCCH, and Joe Schriever, 32° KCCH, to develop job descriptions and officer requirements for the Bodies' officers.

The Education initiative is led by Bro. John Brengle, 33° IGH. Bro. Jerry Casebolt, 33° IGH, continues his monthly program on Masonic symbolism. Bro. Craig Hammons has restarted the monthly Collegium study groups. Bro. Mohammed Ali has started a Scottish Rite 101 program for both new Scottish Rite Masons and non-Scottish Rite Masons. The Masonic education 101 program concept has had very positive results in some of our Blue Lodges. Bro. John Wallace is our Director of Work and is very involved with the education and Reunion programs.

Our Spirituality initiative is headed by Bro. John Tolbert, 33° IGH.

Our newest Honor's recipients are: Bro. Michael Keasler, 33° IGH; Bro. Jim Wells, 32° KCCH, Bro. Craig Clark, 32° KCCH; and Bro. Jonathan Felger, 32° KCCH.

In closing, I would like to share with you the script written on the top of the mirror in the Scottish Rite office reads, "You are looking at someone's impression of Masonry." A very nice reminder indeed—Brian.



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

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## From General Secretary George Moxley...



improve our Valley.

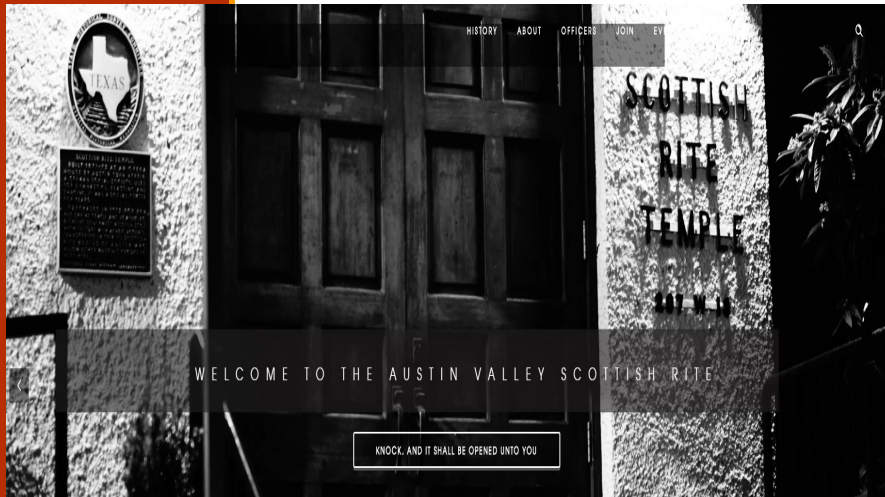
I would also like to give a big "Thank You" to the Sanhedrin for all of their work, from getting the auditorium set up and ready for each meeting; to the Garde Manger for all of the excellent meals that they have prepared and to the Thistle for their assistance in handling all of the needs that occur during meetings and the Reunion.

This upcoming year we will be having our Reunion on June 1st and 2nd so mark your calendars, both paper and electronic, and please plan to attend. The degree teams are doing a fantastic job but we are always looking for new Brethren to participate. Remember also please to talk to your Lodges about the Scottish Rite so we can have a nice class for this Reunion.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Safe Holiday and Happy New Year!

Brethren, As we come to the end of another year and with the installation of new officers, I look forward to another great year at the Austin Scottish Rite. I would like to extend my appreciation to all of the outgoing officers for their work and support and to our strategic planning committee which is still working on way to

# The new look for the webpage



If you haven't had a chance, please check out the new website for the Austin Scottish Rite! Bro. Marcus Holley has devoted a great deal of time and effort to re-design the website and update it with features that allow for greater integration with social media. This will allow the Valley to extend its communication reach.

There are also planned upgrades to the several of the drop down menus; while the webpage is new, there are still sections that are a work in progress. So please keep checking back to see what has changed and we will also let you know through e-mail updates (so make sure we have your current e-mail address!)

*“The ASRT continues to carry out its mission of providing quality programs for children while tending to the much needed care and maintenance of our historic building”*

## An update from the Scottish Rite Community and Children's Theater Board

by Fernando Albornoz, 32° KCCCH and President of the Theater Board.

The Austin Scottish Rite Theater (ASRT) continues to carry out its mission of providing quality programs for children, while tending to the much needed care and maintenance of our historic building. We have restored the Starlight Auditorium, spruced up the foyer and are about to resurface the hallway and floors during the month of December 2017. The big news, however, is that our

aging elevator will be finally replaced early next year.

On the programming side, the ASRT served over 12,000 children in central Texas last year and we are looking to exceed that number this year. Significantly, the ASRT has developed into one of the premier educational enrichment centers in the region and has earned stellar reviews from the Austin arts community. Apart from the critical success and extensive media coverage, our shows have grossed records

sales—nearly \$40,000 for *Rosita y Conchita* and already \$28,000 for *Junie B. Jones* (at the time of this printing).

These achievements and successes are made possible through the efforts of our dedicated staff, led by our talented Producing Art Director Susan Gayle Todd and supported by our devoted Board of Directors. Brethren, we look forward to seeing you next year at our Stated meetings, our reunion and at our award-winning shows!!!

## An update from the Scottish Rite Learning Center of Austin

by Richard Smith, 32°, President of the Learning Center Board.

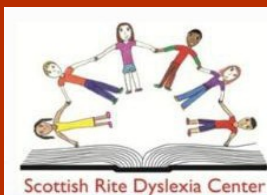
As the new president of the Scottish Rite Learning Center Board of Directors, I am proud to be working with a fine group of Board members. We are now in the process of completing the conversion from the “brick and mortar” school to a Foundation. The Foundation's mission has been updated to provide support for reading-disabled persons through funding for

teacher training and for tools to support this effort.

For the business minded Brothers, this new model provided a much better Return on Investment by allowing the educational institutions that we support to provide the brick and mortar while we provide the funds to apply directly to the children. In the past year we have provided sufficient funds

to provide educational assistance to approximately 700 children.

Our goal is to grow this support over the coming years by increasing the number of trained educators and support their needs in the process of helping reading disabled children.



# An Update from the Scottish Rite Dormitory



From Ralph Wayne, 33° IGH  
Over the course of the year, Ill. Bro. Ralph Wayne has given the Bodies many updates on the “goings on” over

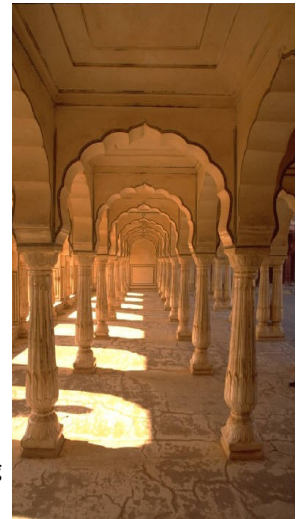
at the dormitory. As is always the case, the dorm was full at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year and is also always the case, there is a long waiting

list to get in.

Also, there is additional renovation work underway with some of the rooms but overall the building is now in wonderful shape.

Ill. Wayne has also reported that the dormitory is in very good shape, with an endowment of over \$3 million!

He also asked that you call Ill. Pete Laney 33° IGH, President of the Dormitory Board and Mary Mazurek, Dormitory Director, and let them know that you appreciate all of the good work they are doing at the dorm.



## The elective and appointive officers for 2018

### FIDELITY LODGE OF PERFECTION

Venerable Master: Garth Weaver, 32° KCCH  
Senior Warden: Phillip Bates, 32° KCCH  
Junior Warden: John “Andy” Barclay IV, 32°  
Orator: James Baker, 32° KCCH Almoner; James Baker, 32° KCCH  
General Secretary: George Moxley, 32° KCCH  
Treasurer: Keye E. Perry, Sr., 32° KCCH  
Prelate: TBD  
Master of Ceremonies: Adrian Early, 32°  
Expert: Richard Garrett, 32°  
Assistant Expert: David Hill, 32°  
Captain of the Host: Todd Swanson, 32°  
Tiler: TBD

### PHILIP C. TUCKER CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

Wise Master: Brad French, 32° KCCH  
Senior Warden: Justin Yancy, 32° Junior Warden: Donnie Barron, 32° KCCH  
Orator: Craig Hammons, 32°  
Master of Ceremonies: Michael Pierce, 32°  
Expert: James Baker, 32° KCCH  
Assistant Expert: Joe Schriever, 32° KCCH  
Standard Bearer: Charles Ormiston, 32°  
Guardian of the Temple: Richard Garrett, 32°

### JAMES D. RICHARDSON COUNCIL OF KNIGHTS KADOSH

Commander of Kadosh: James C. Wells, 32° KCCH  
1st Lieutenant: Craig Hammons, 32°  
2nd Lieutenant: Jose’ Velez, 32°  
Chancellor: John Brengle, 33° IGH  
Orator: Fernando Albornoz, 32° KCCH  
Master of Ceremonies: Raul Scully, 32°  
Turcopilier: Tom McGuire, 32°  
Draper: Scott Conn, 32°  
1st Deacon: Garrett Moxley, 32°  
2nd Deacon: Rick Smith, 32°  
Bearer of the Beauceants: Mohammed Ali, 32°  
Bearer of the White Standard: Alex Ortiz, 32°  
Bearer of the Black Standard: Matthew Whitaker, 32°  
Lieutenant of the Guard: Byron Webster, 32°

### AUSTIN CONSISTORY

Master of Kadosh: Benton Ryon, 33° IGH  
Prior: Carl Sizemore, 32° KCCH  
Preceptor: Peter Reardon, 32° KCCH  
Chancellor: Tom McGuire, 32°  
Minister of State: Alex Ortiz, 32°  
Master of Ceremonies: TBD  
Expert: Jonathan Felger, 32° KCCH  
Assistant Expert: TBD  
Captain of the Host: TBD



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Last year, we told you that there was a change to the meeting format. Some experiments work, some don't. So we have switched back to the previous format as follows:

5:30—6:30 p.m.: Educational programming

6:30—7:30 p.m.: Fellowship dinner

7:30—8:00 p.m.: Open program

8:00—9:00 (ish) p.m.: Stated meeting

As a reminder to all that the state parking garage located one block south of the SRT (and across the street from the Hampton Inns and Suites hotel) on Lavaca Street is available for brethren to park in after 5 p.m. If the parking lot at the Scottish Rite is full when you come to the meeting, please consider using this available venue to park.

*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.*

Austin Scottish Rite

Attn: General Secretary

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