

*Ancient and Accepted Scottish
Rite of Freemasonry*

Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America
Valley of Austin, Orient of Texas



*Sovereign Grand Inspector General
in Texas Reunion Program*

Scottish Rite Temple
207 West 18th Street
Austin, TX 78701-1308
(512) 472-7247
1-800-754-3079
Fax: (512) 472-3190
e-mail: aussrite@swbell.net
Web Site: www.austinscottishrite.org

March 18, 25, April 1, 2002

Welcome to the Austin Scottish Rite

Allegiance

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Austin, Orient of Texas, acknowledges and yields allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council to the World) of 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 Sea is at the Grand Orient of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, now sitting at Washington, District of Columbia.

M.: W.: Michael D. Nanny, 33° I.: G.: H.:, *Grand Master of Masons in Texas 2002*

Ill.: C. Fred Kleinknecht, 33° I.: G.: A.:, *Sovereign Grand Commander*

Ill.: Jack E. Hightower, 33° I.: G.: A.:, *Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Orient of Texas; Past Grand Master of Masons in Texas*

Ill.: Robert A Northcutt, 33° I.: G.: H.:, *Chairman and Personal Representative to the Valley of Austin*

Ill.: Gordon W. Kelso, 33° I.: G.: H.:, *General-Secretary, Valley of Austin*

John W. Kesner, 32° K.: C.: C.: H.:, Treasurer, Valley of Austin

Ill.: A. E. "Buster" Cocke, 33° I.: G.: H.:, *Almoner, Valley of Austin*

C. O. Jones, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master, Fidelity Lodge of Perfection
Elbert I. Franks, 32° KCCH, Wise Master, Philip C. Tucker Chapter of Rose Croix

Bobby J. Tiner, 32° KCCH, Commander, James D. Richardson Council of Knights Kadosh

Ill.: James G. Dougherty, 33°, *Master of Kadosh, Austin Consistory*

Ill.: Don R. Long, 33°, Reunion Director
Andrew Jackson McVeigh III, 32° KCCH, Ritualistic Director

Ill.: A.W. "Archie" Scott, 33°, Membership Chairman

C. O. Jones, 32° KCCH, Governor of Sanhedrin

Wm. Oscar Orum, 32° KCCH, Chief Server

Monday Evening, March 18, 2002



Fourth Degree, *Secret Master*

Degree Master: Victor Y. Armstrong, 32°

Performed by: Parsons Lodge #222

The Fourth Degree is titled *Secret Master*. By the receipt of its lessons, one is passed from the square to the compasses: that is, he begins to rise above earthly concerns and seeks spiritual knowledge. For there, and not upon earth, are truth and the lost word to be found. This Degree is bestowed so that we may at once begin the performance of more exalted duties.



Fourteenth Degree, *Perfect Elu*

Degree Master Emeritus: Joe Kelton Wells, 33°

Degree Master: Silas Audrey Powell, 32°

Performed by: Austin Lodge #12

Here will be given profound instruction on the ancient name of Deity as understood by the Hebrews. This name was so revered that it was uttered but once a year, and then, only by the High Priest. The principle symbol of the Perfect Elu is the compasses. The two arms are united to remind us of the unity of faith and reason, the most important lesson of this Degree.

Monday Evening, March 25, 2002



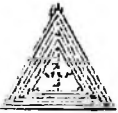
Eighteenth Degree, *Knight Rose Croix*

Degree Master Emeritus: Leonard Smith, 33°

Degree Master: Robert Northcutt, 33°

Associate Degree Master: Stephen L. Smith, 32°KCCH

This degree opens amid scattered columns and broken working tools which symbolize that the secret word is again lost. The virtues of faith, hope and charity capture our attention. Hope may be crushed by despair, and love shattered by hate, but faith, justified by reason, will ultimately give man victory over evil.



Twentieth Degree, *Grand Master of All Symbolic Lodges*

Degree Master Emeritus: Johnny K. Menges, 32°

Degree Master: David D. White, Jr., 32°KCCH

This degree is a dramatic statement of the primitive purity of Masonry. From its earliest beginnings, Masonry advocated Fraternity in the Light of Deity. The principles of Toleration, Justice and Truth are the three great supports of the Lodge of Masters.

The tools and implements of Masonry seen in this degree are familiar. Although they are exclusively the symbols of the first three degrees, they nevertheless serve to remind us in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite that advancement is dependent upon the humble labors of the Symbolic Lodges and that we must never lose sight of the lessons taught there.

Monday, April 1, 2002



Thirtieth Degree, *Knight Kadosh*

Degree Master: Richard Alan Florence, 32°

Performed by: Members of P.M.R.S.

Here we learn the great Masonic political truth that the individual is supreme over institutions. We learn this truth through philosophical pronouncements and historical examples. There is no greater threat to human liberty than the merger of political and religious institutions; and the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is dedicated to the prevention of even a tendency to this peculiar form of despotism. Political liberty is achieved by intellectual liberty, which is education. Therefore, the seven liberal arts and sciences of the Fellowcraft Degree are given a renewed emphasis and an expanded explanation. Finally, we are reminded that personal vengeance has no part in Masonry. We war, not against individuals or institutions, but against the vices which may corrupt both.



Thirty-Second Degree, *Master of the Royal Secret*

Degree Master Emeritus: John H. Kavanaugh, Jr., 33°

Degree Master: G. William Grabo, 33°

When one receives the title of Master of the Royal Secret, he is in possession of the essential lessons of the Scottish Rite. These lessons are a guide by which we may venture upon life's journey of learning and growing. Today is the end of nothing, but the beginning of everything. Properly received, the instructions given here better fit one as a father, a husband, a brother, and a citizen. They should have strengthened your faith and renewed your commitment to learning; if it is not so, the labor bestowed upon you has been in vain.



*Your Scottish Rite Philanthropies
... we can all be proud!*

Scottish Rite Learning Center of Austin, Inc.

The dream of a free-standing school for children suffering from the learning disability of dyslexia has been realized in Central Texas. Children from throughout the Valley of Austin have gone from "learning-impaired" to productive students, thanks to the Scottish Rite-developed learning program. Classes are available, free of charge, to any dyslexic child, regardless of race or financial circumstances. Our Learning Center is located at 508 West 14th Street and the phone number is 512-472-1231.

Austin Scottish Rite Theatre and Museum

The newest and most ambitious project of the Austin Scottish Rite Bodies is to bring our historic building at 18th and Lavaca Streets into the 21st Century as a monument to Freemasonry in Texas' Capital City. Built in 1869-71 our building pre-dates the Capitol building and is the oldest legitimate theatre in Austin. Since 1910, the building has served as home to, first, the Nobles of Ben Hur Shrine Temple, and then the Austin Scottish Rite Bodies; Hill City Lodge No. 456; University Lodge No. 1190; Ruh Neb Temple, Daughters of the Nile; Travis Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star and Stephen F. Austin Chapter, Order of DeMolay. Long range plans call for essential structure repairs to the building, historical restoration, and expansion of meeting. In addition, the collection and display of historic

artifacts will compliment the central Masonic theme: *Let There Be Light!*

Scottish Rite Educational Foundation (The Scottish Rite Dormitory)

Since 1922, the Scottish Rite Dormitory, adjacent to the campus of The University of Texas at Austin, has served as the home-away-from-home for thousands of daughters of Masons, as well as young women sponsored, without financial obligation, by Texas Blue Lodge Masons. The modern, yet gracious, facilities speak well of Texas Scottish Rite's dedication to higher education.

The Almoner's Fund

Charity is the great virtue of mankind. The Scottish Rite practices this virtue through our Almoner's Fund. At each meeting of the Bodies, in annual dues statement, and through bequests and other gifts, the Almoner's Fund is remembered. Monies collected go directly to those who are in real distress. Not one cent of the fund goes for administrative cost, and recipients are screened for need

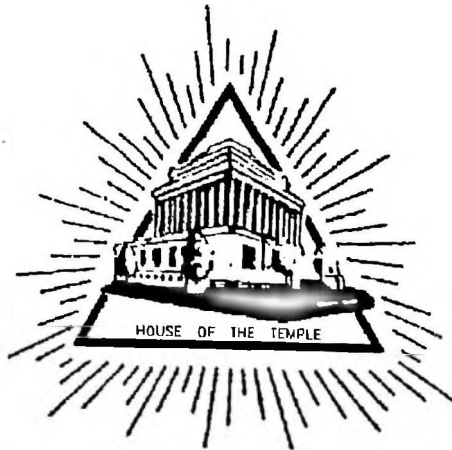
Texas Scottish Rite Children's Hospital

The "crown jewel" of Texas Scottish Rite philanthropies is our hospital for children in Dallas. Originally, a "crippled children's" hospital, the facility continues its role in orthopedic treatment and research, while attending the challenge of other childhood and adult disabilities. Dyslexia and learning disability programs designed by the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital, are in use throughout the nation.

The Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc.

When in Waco, Scottish Rite Masons should visit the Lee Lockwood Library and Museum. Named in honor of Past Grand Master of Masons in Texas and Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Scottish Rite Masons in Texas, the late Ill.: Robert Lee Lockwood, the magnificent facility houses an extensive library and museum of Texas and Masonic memorabilia. In addition, the Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc. provides numerous scholarships to graduate students in various academic fields

Most of the above Scottish Rite charitable entities are covered under Internal Revenue Service Sec. 501-C3, whereby donations are deductible to the full extent of the law. They may also be included as self-directed contributions for participants in the United Way program. Should you have questions about the tax implications of your gift, please call the Business Office at 512-472-7247 or toll-free at 1-800-754-3079.



History of the Scottish Rite Freemasonry

The Scottish Rite had its beginnings not in Scotland, but in France, when in 1754 the Chevalier de Bonneville established a chapter of twenty-five so called *High Degrees*, which including the three Symbolic Degrees, as called the *Rite of Perfection*.

In 1758, these degrees were taken from Paris to Berlin and placed under a body called the Council of the Emperors of the East and West. It was here in 1762 that Frederick the Great of Prussia became the head of the Rite and promulgated what is known as the Constitution of 1762.

In 1761, the year before Frederick the Great was said to have taken under his patronage all Freemasonry in Germany, Stephen Morin, a Frenchman, was commissioned Inspector General of the New World by the Grand Consistory of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret in Paris to introduce the Rite in America. He established Bodies in Santo Domingo and Jamaica and, in turn, commissioned Henry Andrew Francken, who established a Lodge of Perfection in Albany, New York, on 1767. Other Lodges of Perfection were organized in various locations, including Charleston, South Carolina. In 1801, they were consolidated under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council. From their beginning, these Lodges of Perfection were in full harmony with the Symbolic Lodges, assuming no authority over them and invariably beginning their work with the Fourth Degree.

The Revised Constitutions of 1786 provided for two Supreme Councils for the United States of America. Both were to have equal powers in their respective jurisdictions. Accordingly, in 1813, the Supreme Council ceded all of the area north of the Mason-Dixon Line and east of the Mississippi River in order to establish the second Supreme Council. This territory comprises the states of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio,

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. Termed the *Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America*, its See is in Boston, Massachusetts. The remaining 35 states, together with all territories and dependencies, China, Japan, and the Army and Navy were retained by the *Mother Supreme Council* now termed the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

During the Supreme Council's years of continuous existence, it has surrounded all difficulties and has become the dominant influence in the world of Freemasonry. The Supreme Council 33°, whose See is at Charleston, South Carolina, now sits in Washington, D.C. The magnificent *House of the Temple*, headquarter for the Supreme Council, S.J., welcomes Scottish Rite, as well as all Regular Masons and their families when visiting Washington.

The Symbol of the Double-Headed Eagle



The double-headed eagle was probably first accepted as a symbol by Freemasonry in 1758. In that year the body calling itself the Council of Emperors of the East and West, was established in Paris. The double-headed eagle was in all probability adopted by this body, which claimed a double jurisdiction. The eagle, one head inclined to the East and the other to the West, to guard any and all who might approach from either direction.

The accepted symbol of our Rite is the *Double-Headed Eagle of Lagash*. It is the oldest crest in the world, according to fraternal scholars and was a symbol of power more than two thousand years before the building of King Solomon's Temple.

This impressive double-headed eagle, in black and white; the white-ribboned motto, pendant from the hilt to the point of the sword, containing the words: *SPES MEA IN DEO EST*, which translates: *My Hope is in God*, comprise the modern emblem of our Rite.

An Historical Note about the Scottish Rite Theatre

In 1871, a local German social group, the TURN VEREIN, constructed and dedicated a “modern” opera house on the northern limits of Capital City Austin. This native limestone structure was the center of countless 19th century traveling shows and local entertainment and became known as TURNER HALL. Long before the Millett and Hancock Opera Houses were built downtown (the Paramount came along in the early 20th century), the TURNER not only housed opera and similar performances, but was used as a gymnasium and popular meeting hall...not to mention the decades of being a successful biergarten!

With time, more centralized and elaborate competition developed in the growing city, causing the TURNER to experience harder and leaner days. Finally, in 1910, the Scottish Rite Masons of Austin purchased the distressed property and lovingly turned it into a classic Masonic meeting place.

Recently, the Scottish Rite leadership agreed that the site was so important to the community as both a performance space and historical reminder of wonderful times gone by, it should be shared with Austin audiences. The turn-of-the-century stage rigging and priceless painted scenery (most dating back to the early 1880s) are but a few of the attractions that make this not only Austin’s major theatrical museum piece, but a practical, working theatre. As you enjoy your degrees, feel the presence of “old Austin” in its earliest and greatest moments facilities.

Thirty-Third Degree *Inspector General Honorary*

The Thirty-third Degree is conferred by the Supreme Council upon Thirty-second Degree Knights Commander of the Court of Honor in recognition of exemplary service to the Rite, or in public life, to the principles taught in Freemasonry. These *Inspector General Honorary* are honorary members of the Supreme Council. Their cap is *WHITE* with a slanting Patriarchal Cross without crosslets in the center of the front.

Knight Commander of the *Court of Honor*

The Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor is conferred by the Supreme Council upon Thirty-second Degree Masons who have rendered commendable service to the Rite.

This is not a degree, nor is it a “stepping stone” to the Thirty-third Degree. However, a member must be a K.:C.:C.:H.: for at least 46 months before being eligible to be nominated for the Thirty-third Degree.

Neither the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor, nor the Thirty-third Degree, may be applied for by a member for doing so disqualified him from consideration.

Thirty-second Degree Knights Commander of the Court of Honor wear a *RED* cap with gold Passion Cross in the center of the front.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Austin Scottish Rite is composed of the presiding officers of the four bodies, Treasurer, Almoner, principal officers of the Scottish Rite Company, the Austin Scottish Rite Learning Center, Inc., and the Austin Scottish Rite Bodies. The presiding officer of the Sanhedrin, the Servers, other committee chairman, and the *Austin Scottish Rite Messenger* Editor are invited members. The Chairman and General Secretary of the Valley are appointed by, and serve at the will and pleasure of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas.

The Sanhedrin

Members of the Sanhedrin work behind the scenes during the Reunion to provide smooth stage transitions, dramatic lighting, sound and assist in the dressing of the hundreds of characters who make up in the 29 degrees.

Scottish Rite Servers

The Scottish Rite Servers are in charge of activities in the kitchen and dining room at Scottish Rite meetings and Reunions. This dedicated corps plans and executes meals, provides hospitality and keeps our dining room spick and span.

Order of the Thistle

The Order of the Thistle exists for the purpose of being a service organization on behalf of all members of the Valley of Austin, so as to better serve our members, our ladies and guests who participate in Reunions, Foundation fundraising activities, and social activities of the Austin Scottish Rite. It is under the immediate supervision of the General Secretary of the Austin Scottish Rite or his designee. Membership in the Order is limited to fifty members and is by invitation only.

Caps and Their Significance

As the White Lambskin is the Badge of a Mason, so too is the regulation cap for a Scottish Rite Mason.

Purple Cap

A **purple cap** indicates that the wearer is a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General and Active Member of the Supreme Council.

White Cap

A **white cap** indicates a Thirty-third Degree Inspector General Honorary.

Red Cap

A **red cap** indicates a Thirty-second Degree Knight Commander of the Court of Honor ... the "K.:C.:C.:H.:."

Black Cap

The **black cap** is that of a Master of the Royal Secret ... the Thirty-second Degree.

Light Blue Cap

The **light blue cap** is that of a fifty-year member of the Rite.

When wearing the cap, it should be considered a part of one's apparel and not removed. At the presentation of the flag, it is to remain in place, as members stand at attention with the hand over the heart. Likewise, during prayer the cap shall remain in place and arms shall be crossed as in the Eighteenth Degree. Wearing the cap is proper at Reunions and other Scottish Rite meetings. It is improper to wear the Scottish Rite cap in other public places.

Your Austin Scottish Rite Staff

Personal Representative..... Robert A. Northcutt, 33°

General Secretary..... Gordon W. Kelso, 33°
..... *e-mail address:* ausssrite@swbell.net

Executive Assistant..... Barbara A. Silvus
..... *e-mail address:* ausssrit2@swbell.net

Events Manager Jerilynn L. Leonard
..... *e-mail address:* ausssrit3@swbell.net

Caretaker..... Ernest Serrano

Mailing Address: 207 West 18th Street
Austin, TX 78701-1308

Phone No.: 512-472-7247
1-800-754-3079

Fax No.: 512-472-3190

Website Address: www.austinscottishrite.org

Website developed and maintained by Robert (Bob) Dashman, 32°
webmaster@austinscottishrite.org

Stated Meetings

The Austin Scottish Rite Stated Meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m., followed by an informative and entertaining program. The meeting is a family affair, with wives and children always welcome. Members are invited to provide a salad or dessert.

Identification Card

In accordance with the Statutes of the Supreme Council and our by-laws, a brother not in possession of an identification card for the current year cannot be admitted to any meeting of the Rite. Identification cards must be presented to the Tiler at the door. The identification card must also be signed by the member in order to be valid.

Visiting Brethren

Visitors are required to have properly authenticated patents or letters, together with their current identification cards from Bodies recognized and in relation of amity with the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction if the A.A.S.R. of the U.S.A.

Blue Lodge Membership

Any member suspended in his Blue Lodge for non-payment of dues, or other cause, automatically loses membership in the Rite.

The English Patent

New members of the Rite will receive a patent of membership, issued by the Supreme Council. This beautiful patent is suitable for framing and should be mailed within ninety days of the Reunion.