

*Ancient and Accepted Scottish
Rite of Freemasonry*

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



*The Leonard Ashley Smith, 33°
Fall Reunion*

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 See is at Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, now sitting in Washington, District of Columbia.

M.: W.: Elmer Murphey III, 33° I.: G.: H.:, *Grand Master of Masons in Texas 2005*

Ill.: Ronald A. Seale, 33° I.: G.:, *Sovereign Grand Commander*

Ill.: Jack E. Hightower, 33° I.: G.:, *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.: James Griffis Dougherty, 33° I.: G.: H.:, *Almoner, Valley of Austin*

Andrew J. McVeigh III, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master, Fidelity Lodge of Perfection

Russel E. Hain, 32° KCCH, Wise Master, Philip C. Tucker Chapter of Rose Croix

Ill.: A. W. "Archie" Scott, 33°, *Commander,
James D. Richardson Council of Knights Kadosh;
Grand Treasurer, Grand Lodge of Texas*

Robert Benson Dashman, 32°, Master of Kadosh, Austin Consistory

George W. Schalles IV, 32°, Venerable Master, Order of the Thistle

Victor Y. Armstrong, 32° KCCH, Colonel, Republic of Texas Degree Team

Stephen T. Rye, Sr., 32° KCCH, Reunion Director

Ill.: Don R. Long, 33°, *Reunion Director Emeritus*

Andrew Jackson McVeigh III, 32° KCCH, Ritualistic Director

Karl Neumann, 32° KCCH, Membership Chairman

Dwight G. "Mike" Hall, 32°, Governor, Sanhedrin

Ill.: Billy J. York, 33°, *Chief Chef*

*Ancient and Accepted Scottish
Rite of Freemasonry*

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



*The Leonard Ashley Smith, 33°
Fall 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

April 1-2, 2005

SCHEDULE

Friday, October 28

4:3-6:0p.m.....	Meal.....	Dining Room
6:00p.m.....	Welcome.....	Auditorium
6:20m.....	Fourth Degree	Auditorium
7:05p.m.....	Fifth, Sixth, Seventh Degrees	Blue Lodge Room
7:25p.m.....	Eighth Degree.....	Auditorium
8:25p.m.....	Ninth, Tenth Degree	Auditorium
8:45p.m.....	Eleventh Degree.....	Auditorium
9:45p.m.....	Twelfth thru Fourteenth Degrees.....	Auditorium

Saturday, October 29

7:00-8:45a.m....	Breakfast	Dining Room
8:30a.m.....	Class Reforms	Class Reforms
8:45a.m.....	Fifteenth thru Eighteenth Degrees.....	Auditorium

Intermission and Class Photo

10:30a.m.....	Nineteenth thru Twenty-Third Degrees.....	Auditorium
10:45a.m.....	Twenty-Fourth Degree.....	Auditorium
11:45a.m.....	LUNCH.....	Dining Room
12:35p.m.....	Twenty-Fifth thru Twenty-Ninth Degrees.....	Blue LR
12:55p.m.....	Thirtieth Degree	Auditorium
2:25p.m.....	Thirty-First Degree	
2:40p.m.....	Thirty-Second Degree	Auditorium

CONCLUDES AROUND 4:30 P.M.

Leonard Ashley Smith, 33°

08/26/1920 – 05/22/2005



Member of Winnfield Masonic Lodge
39 Year Member Austin Scottish Rite
32° Scottish Rite Mason: 04/09/1966
32°KCCH: 10/20/1969
33°: 12/08/1973

Leonard Ashley Smith was born in Winnfield, Louisiana on August 26, 1920. He passed away on May 22, 2005 after a courageous battle with Lymphoma.

Following his college years at Louisiana State University and upon his ROTC graduation in 1940, he resigned his commission with the U. S. Army Infantry Reserve to enter the U. S. Air Corps Flying School as a flying cadet. He subsequently served in the China-Burma-India Theater where he flew numerous missions across the infamous "Hump". Leonard spent the last days of World War II as a pilot evacuating overseas PRISONERS OF WAR FROM Java, Indonesia and Thailand before the peace agreement was signed. He was awarded many decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In January 1946, Leonard married Mary Bell Ahlstrom. After working for the Civil Aeronautics Administration, he began his career as a corporate pilot in 1949. Leonard flew for several different companies before going to work for the Shary-Shivers Foundation in 1960. He served as Chief Pilot and Administrative Assistant for Governor Allan Shivers until his death in 1985. He continued in that capacity for Allan Shivers, Jr. until his retirement in the early 1990's.

He was a Master Mason, a member of the Winnfield Masonic Lodge. He was a 33° Scottish Rite Mason, a member of the Austin Scottish Rite Bodies and a Shriner. Leonard took pride in his years of service as Trustee of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. In 1989, Leonard was instrumental in establishing the Austin Scottish Rite Learning Center for Dyslexic Children. He served on the Board of Directors for many years.

All who knew him recognized an exceptional leader. He will be much missed.

Friday Evening, October 28, 2005

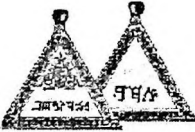
Fourth Degree, *Secret Master*



Degree Master: Victor Y. Armstrong, 32°KCCH
Performed by: Parsons Lodge No. 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.

Eighth Degree, *Intendant of the Building*



Degree Master: John Paul Thomas, 32°KCCH
Performed by: Round Rock Lodge 227

In *Morals and Dogma* the concept of justice is explored from three principle points of view: consequences attend our every action; we should be just in judging other men's motives; and we can only be just when charitable. Masonry does not speak to take the place of religion, but, like religion, acknowledges a higher law than that of man.



Eleventh Degree, *Elu of the Twelve or Prince Ameth*

Degree Master: Jimmie L. Christensen, 32°KCCH

Performed by: Elgin Lodge No. 328

Fulfilling the duties of a Prince Ameth—be true, earnest, reliable, sincere, and protect the people—requires the Mason to view himself and the whole of the human race as one great family; thus the duties of a Prince Ameth extend from himself to his family, his lodge, his brothers, his neighbors, his country and the world. The lecture assumes the broadest interpretation of these duties and in so doing provides us with a review of the duties and lessons of previous degrees. Pike emphasizes that all of life is a school; this lesson is appropriate here because to be earnest and true requires education and enlightenment on the meaning of life, the Deity and human nature. Finally, we learn that Masonry's special charge is to protect the people and is therefore work.



Fourteenth Degree, *Perfect Elu*

Degree Master: Silas Audrey Powell, 32°KCCH

Performed by: Austin Lodge No. 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.

Saturday, October 29, 2005



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.



Twenty-Fourth Degree, *Prince of the Tabernacle*

Degree Master: Si Lee Bingham, 32°KCCH

Assistant Degree Master: Benton E. Ryon, 33°

Having progressed to this degree, we may now begin to understand the importance of symbolic instruction. The lessons of the Scottish Rite are taught by symbols because it is the most obvious mode of instruction. Nature, itself, is but a set of symbols which teach sublime lessons. The mystery religions of the past transmitted their teachings by symbols so that they could remain hidden to the uninitiated.

All the world's great religions have expressed the confidence that the true adherents of their faith could be recognized by the kind of life they led. Virtue has been the standard of righteousness from the beginning of time. Therefore, we teach only those virtues which unite all men in a common purpose to make a better world. Even in the ancient mysteries, as now in Masonry, it was not enough to be initiated; one had to accept the duties that came with initiation. These duties correspond to the virtues taught in our lessons and have

the same objective – the improvement of the character of the individual.

Thirtieth Degree, *Knigh Kadosh*



Degree Master: Charles Keith Orrison, 32°KCCH

Performed by: Members of Order of the Thistle

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-First Degree, *Inspector Inquisitor*



Degree Master Emeritus: Thomas Blackwell, 33°

Degree Master: Andrew J. McVeigh III, 32°KCCH

Performed by: National Sojourners

In many of the previous degrees and particularly in *Morals and Dogma*, references to classic Egyptian religion and philosophy are made, but it is only here that we see the elaborate costuming and

furnishings from this heritage. The leading feature of the Egyptian religion was its emphasis on eternal existence, reflected clearly in the majestic pyramids, mummification and numerous talismans. The most important of these was the scarab, a beetle symbolic of immortality. Descriptions of these artifacts and their importance to ancient Egypt are found in the lengthy scrolls of papyrus compiled under the title *The Book of the Dead*.

The Book of the Dead is composed of some two thousand papyrus rolls found in various tombs, all of which contains formulas to guide the dead in their journey to everlasting peace in the realm of the gods. The title of these scrolls is more appropriately translated from the Egyptian as “manifested in the light” or “coming forth by day” a second title is best translated “the chapter of making strong (or perfect) the Khu” (Wallace-Budge, p. xxx).

There is a long tradition which connects modern speculative Freemasonry with the teachings of the ancient Egyptians. Dozens of books have been written which stress this association. Some scholars have even theorized that speculative Freemasonry originated in Egypt. The actual historical connections which support this theory are entirely lacking. Whatever importance is assigned the Egyptian heritage in Masonry, our concern here is a path to immortality which the Egyptians elaborated and illustrated in their writings in a dramatic fashion.



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.

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.

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 1622 East Riverside Drive and the phone number is 512-472-1231.

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 honour 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.

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, granddaughters, nieces and sisters of Texas 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.

Austin Scottish Rite Community and Children's Theatre

Curtain Up! Scottish Rite Children's Theatre was launched in 2004 with productions by Second Youth Family Theatre and local artists Freddy Carnes and Bernadette Nason, and our own resident company whose mission is to be a provider of year-round, quality, fun and affordable children's entertainment. We focus on wholesome plays for children, hoping to nurture a love and respect for the theatre arts, and to preserve the legacy of Austin's oldest surviving theatrical treasure! For years, children have been a focus for Scottish Rite through our Learning Center of Austin and the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in Dallas. Producing quality theatre for youth seems a natural extension of that focus. Visit our website www.scottishritechildrenstheatre.org for information about ongoing and upcoming performances. The Austin Scottish Rite and Community and Children's Theatre, Inc. is a 501-(c)3 organization and contributions to the Children's Theatre are tax deductible.

Theatre available for Special Events

The Historic Scottish Rite Theatre and building is available for performances, weddings, receptions and meetings. We are here to assist in making your special event a success! Call our Events Manager at 512-472-7247 or 1-800-754-3079 to discuss arrangements.

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.



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, Honourary.

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 outdoors or in other public places.

Thirty-Third Degree *Inspector General Honourary*

The Thirty-third Degree is conferred by the Supreme Council upon Thirty-second Degree Knights Commander of the Court of Honour in recognition of exemplary service to the Rite, or in public life, to the principles taught in Freemasonry. These *Inspector General Honourary* 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 Honour*

The Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour 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 Honour, nor the Thirty-third Degree, may be applied for by a member for doing so disqualified him from consideration. .

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*.

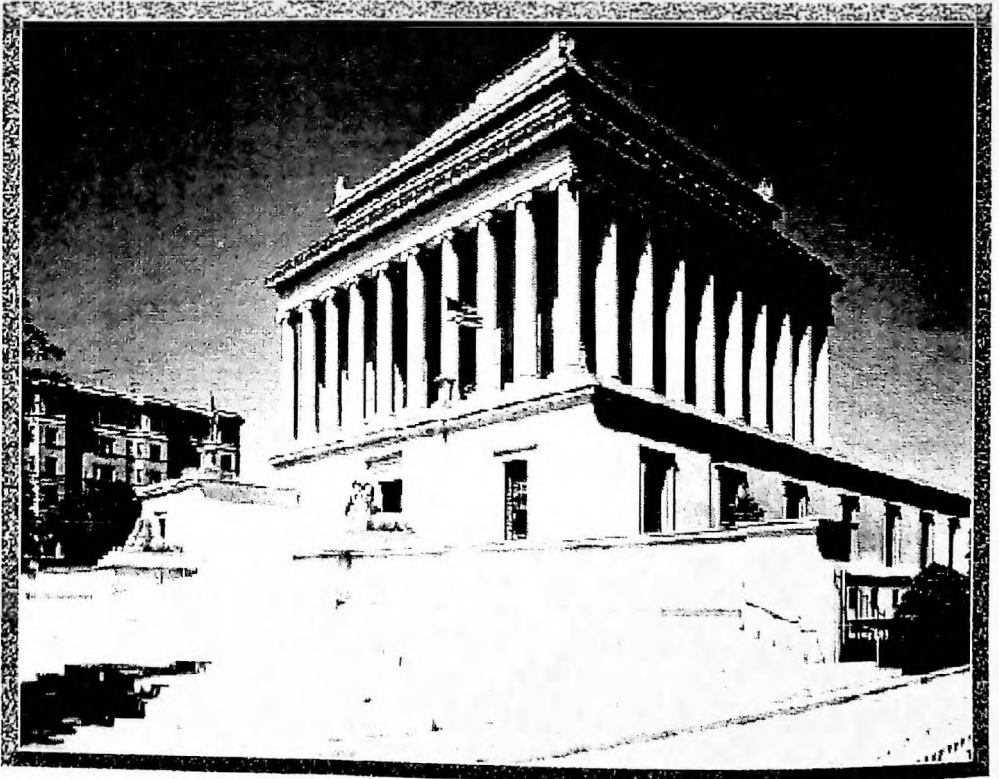
In 1758, these degrees were taken from Paris to Berlin and placed under a body called the Council of the Emperors of the East and West. It was here in 1762 that Frederick the Great of Prussia became the head of the Rite and promulgated what is known as the Constitution of 1762.

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*, headquarters for the Supreme Council, S.J., welcomes Scottish Rite, as well as the general public when visiting Washington.





Order of the Thistle

Founded February 9, 2002

Charter Officers

Joby E. Dixon, 32°KCCH Venerable Master
 Mark L. Carter, 32° Standard Bearer
 Richard A. Florence, 32° Preceptor
 Dwight W. Hall, 32° Sentinel
 Gary L. Jones, 32° Prelate
 Ian (Andrew) Martin, 32° Orator
 Charles (Keith) Orrison, 32°KCCH Prior
 Keye E. Perry, 32° Registrar/Almoner
 George W. Schalles IV, 32° Bailiff
 John E. Wallace, 32° Junior Deacon

Charter Members

Warren A. Angerstein, 32° Victor Y. Armstrong, Jr., 32°KCCH
 James A. Baker, 32° Raymond G. Bronk, 32°
 James L. Brown, 32° Robert B. Dashman, 32°
 Michael R. Dow, 32° William R. Faust, 32°
 Larry Fisher, 32° Edward I. Franks, 32°
 Javier R. Gonzalez, 32° Dennis J. Hill, 32°
 Gilbert C. Iwanski, 32° Larry G. Joslin, Sr., 32°
 Howard K. Kimball, 32° Randy L. Lackey, 32°
 James J. Miller, 32° Charles H. Pascoe, 32°
 Silas A. Powell, Jr., 32°KCCH Rafael A. Rivas, 32°
 Stephen T. Rye, Jr., 32° John (David) Smith, 32°



Republic of Texas Degree Team

Victor Y. Armstrong, Jr., 32°KCCH, Republic Texas Colonel No. 47
 Walter C. Otto, 33°, Republic Texas Lt. Col., Emeritus

Alan G. Adams, 32° James A. Baker, 32°
 Octavio (Tripp) Garza, 32° Howard K. Kimball, 32°
 Eugene Baker III, 32° Kent D. Kinkade, 32°
 Andrew J. McVeigh III, 32°KCCH Richard L. Vaughn, 32°KCCH
 William (Oscar) Orum, 32°KCCH Charles H. Pascoe, 32°
 Keye Perry, 32° George Robins, 32°
 Stephen T. Rye, Sr., 32°KCCH Kervin W. Warnken, 32°
 Gilbert Theiler, 32°KCCH Gordon W. Kelso, 33°
 George W. Schalles IV, 32° Robert "Bob" Dashman, 32°
 Brian Vance, 32°

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Austin Scottish Rite is composed of the presiding officers of the four bodies, General Secretary, 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.

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 the 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.

Scottish Rite Learning Center of Austin, Inc.

207 West 18th Street, Austin, TX

Campus: 1622 East Riverside Drive, Austin, TX

Phone: 512/472-1231

History

The Scottish Rite Learning Center of Austin, Inc., opened its doors in March of 1989. The Center was established to provide dyslexia tutoring for children in grades 1-5. The Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas developed a videotape program that was used successfully at the Learning Center for the first 12 years.

In 2001, the Learning Center Board of Directors decided to broaden its focus and not only tutor children, but also provide area educators with the training required to become Certified Academic Language Therapists through the Academic Language Therapy Association. These individuals have completed rigorous requirements, including passing a national exam. This is an exciting step for Austin and the surrounding area. Because of this new venture, the videotape series was discontinued, and the students accepted at the Learning Center work directly with educators who are seeking Academic Language Therapy certification. Students receive the same high quality instruction that parents and educators have associated with the Learning Center.

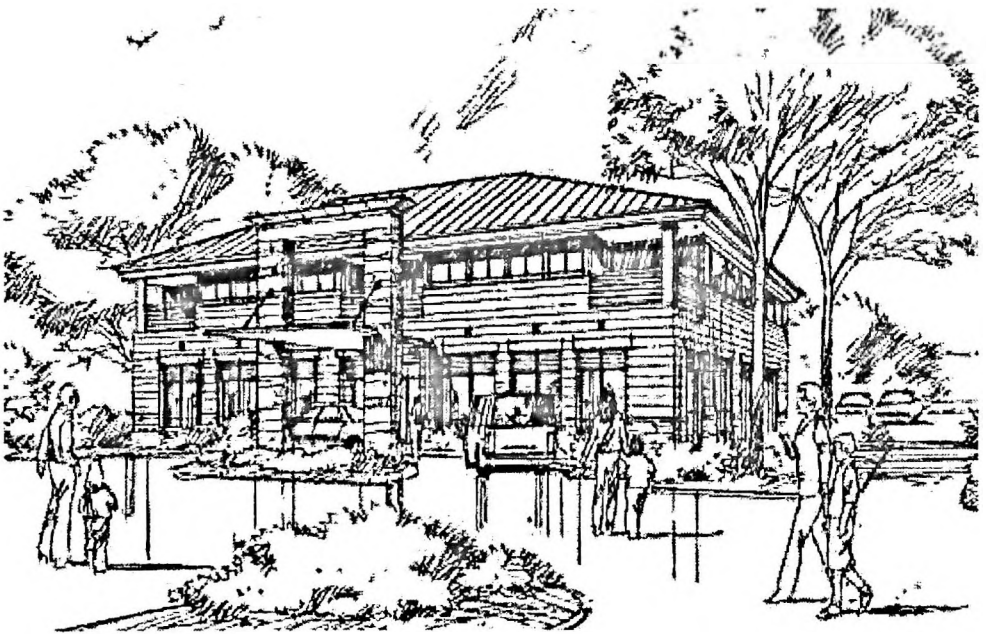
Our Mission

The Scottish Rite Learning Center of Austin, Inc., provides dyslexic individuals with a proven research-based, multisensory approach for learning the basic language skills of reading, writing, and spelling, through the ongoing charitable commitment of the Scottish Rite Masons. Scottish Rite Learning Center's efforts are also concentrated in maintaining a nationally accredited teacher-training institute as well as a resource for educators, parental consultant, and adult education.

Future Plans

A new, state-of-the-art Learning Center will be built at the former Robert Mueller airport location at 51st Street and IH-35 in Austin. This new facility will provide ample space for student tutoring, teacher education, parent seminars, and parking. Distance learning has been included in the plans so that more children and adults can be reached.

In order to complete this project and continue our mission to serve the students and educators in Central Texas, your generous support is needed. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the building fund and/or include a bequest in your will.



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 will be forwarded in time.