Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

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



S P"Sonny" Jones, 33°

Memorial Spring 2007 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∴ Donny W. Broughton, 33° I∴G∴H∴, Grand Master of Masons in Texas 2007

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

Ill .: M. Douglas Adkins, 33° I .: G .: H .: , Deputy, Orient of Texas

III.: 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

Ronald C. Harrison, 32° K .: C .: C .: H .: , Treasurer, Valley of Austin

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

Ronald C. Harrison, 32°KCCH, Venerable Master, Fidelity Lodge of Perfection
John Paul Thomas, 32°KCCH, Wise Master, Philip C. Tucker Chapter of Rose Croix
O. Tripp Garza, 32°, Commander, James D. Richardson Council of Knights Kadosh
Charles Henry Pascoe, 32°, Master of Kadosh, Austin Consistory
Gary Jones, 32°, Venerable Master, Order of the Thistle
Victor Y. Armstrong, 32°KCCH, Colonel, Republic of Texas Degree Team
III.: Stephen T. Rye, Sr., 33°, Reunion Director
III.: Don R. Long, 33°, Reunion Director Emeritus
III.: Andrew Jackson McVelgh III, 33°, Ritualistic Director
III.: Karl Neumann, 33°, Membership Chairman
Otis Carl Sizemore, 32°, Governor, Sanhedrin
Paul Bullock, 32°, Executive Steward

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

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



The SP"Sonny" Jones, 33°

Memorial Spring 2007 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: <u>aussrite@swbell.net</u> Web Site: <u>www.austinscottishrite.org</u>

May 17, 18, 19, 26, 2007

SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 17	
4:30-6:30p.m. Meal 6:30p.m. Welcome 6:50p.m. Fourth Degree 7:35p.m. Fifth through Seventh Degrees 8:15p.m. Eighth Degree 8:55p.m. Ninth, Tenth Degree	AuditoriumAuditoriumBlue Lodge RoomAuditorium
Friday, May 18	
4:30-6:30p.m. Meal 6:30p.m. Class Reforms 6:45p.m. Eleventh Degree 7:30p.m. Twelfth, Thirteenth Degree 8:00p.m. Fourteenth Degree 9:00p.m. Fifteenth thru Seventeenth Degree	AuditoriumAuditorium .Blue Lodge RoomAuditorium
Saturday, May 19	
7:00-8:45a.m	Class Reforms
9:40a.m. Nineteenth Degree	Auditorium Blue Lodge RoomAuditorium Dining Room Blue Lodge RoomAuditorium Blue Lodge RoomAuditorium Blue Lodge Room
Saturday, May 26	
1:30p.m. Thirty-First Degree Class Photo 3:30p.m. Thirty-Second Degree	
J.Jopani Thirty-occord Degree	Auditorium

S P "Sonny" Jones, 33°

10/11/1918 to 11/25/2006



Member of Hill City Lodge, Austin, TX 50 Year Member Austin Scottish Rite 32° Scottish Rite Mason: 10/25/1956 32°KCCH: 10/16/1989 33°: 11/20/1997

S. P. "Sonny" Jones was born in Salty, Texas, near Rockdale, on October 11, 1918, to Maude Guthrie Jones and Samuel Parmell Jones. He passed away peacefully on November 25, 2006.

He graduated from Sharp High School and moved to Austin where he began work in the grocery business and later in the dry cleaning business. He met Mary Louise Cindron in Austin and they were married in February, 1940.

Sonny joined the U.S. Army in February 1943 and served in the 494th Quartermaster Company in New Caledonia, South Pacific, from September 1943 until November 1945.

Following his military service, he returned to the dry cleaning business and managed Master Valet Cleaners next to the Driscoll Hotel in the early 1950s. He and Louise opened Twin Oaks Cleaners in 1954, where they were the joint owners and operators until their retirement in 1980. Post retirement, Sonny worked part time for Wilke-Clay-Fish Funeral Home for many years.

Sonny was the founding charter member of Asbury United Methodist Church and taught the Adult Sunday School Class there for over 40 years. He was a Past Master and 50-year member of Hill City Lodge 456 and a long time member of the York Rite, Shrine and Red Cross of Constantine.

He became a Master of the Royal Secret in 1956 and served in numerous offices in the Bodies. In 1989, he was made a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour and in 1997 coroneted 33° Inspector General, Honorary.

All who knew him recognized him as an outstanding Mason who served his fraternity tirelessly.

Thursday, May 17, 2007



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 P. Thomas, 32°KCCH Performed by: Round Rock Lodge #227

Pike reminds us in *Morals and Dogma* that these degrees are not for those who will refuse to explore the mines of wisdom in the teachings of the Scottish Rite. We may become adept at uncovering and interpreting the meaning of the ceremonies and symbols of Masonry but this is not sufficient. Only when we have learned to practice all of the virtues they inculcate are we prepared to receive its lofty philosophical instruction and to scale the heights upon whose summit Light and Truth sit enthroned.

In addition to presenting direct instruction on Masonic virtues, this degree is the first of the Ineffable Degrees to provide a summary of the important political lessons concealed within the preceding degrees.

Friday, May 18, 2007



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: Jeff Goldman, 32° 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, May 19, 2007



Eighteenth Degree, Knight Rose Croix

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: James W. Maines, 32°

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.

Of great significance is the number nine. There are nine lights arranged in three concentric triangles. The nine special virtues of this degree are: Veneration for the Deity, Charity, Generosity, Heroism, Honor, Patriotism, Justice Toleration and Truth.



Twenty-Fourth Degree, Prince of the Tabernacle

Degree Master Emeritus: John Sheffield, 33°, Dec'd 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.

The object of the Mysteries was to procure a real felicity on earth by the means of virtue; and to that end he was taught that his soul was immortal; and that error, sin, and vice must needs, by an inflexible law, produce their consequences.



Twenty-Seventh Degree, Knight Commander of the Temple

Degree Master: Robert Blair, 32°KCCH

Performed by: ASR Members who are also members

of Colorado Commandery No. 4

This is the first of the really Chevalric Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. It reminds us that the Masons should continuously engage in the active duties of the great warfare of human life. He should be not only a moralist, but a soldier, the successor of those knights of the Middle Age, who, while they wore the Cross, also wielded the sword, and were Soldiers of Honor, Loyalty and Duty. Although the days of Knighthood are long passed, virtue, duty, truth and loyalty are needs of all ages.

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.

Thirty-Third Degree Inspector Seneral 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 honourary 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.



Order of the Thistle

Founded February 9, 2002

Charter Officers

Charter		
Joby E. Dixon, 32°KCCH	Venerable Master	
Mark L. Carter, 32°	Standard Bearer	
Richard A. Florence, 32°	Precentor	
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°	Pagistrar/Almoner	
George W. Schalles IV, 32°	Poiliff	
John E. Wallace, 32°	Lucia Dance	
<u>Charter Members</u>		
Warren A. Angerstein, 32°	Victor Y. Armstrong, Jr., 32°KCCH	
James A. Baker, 32°KCCH	Raymond G. Bronk, 32°	
James L. Brown, 32°	Robert B. Dashman, 32°KCCH	
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°	

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Republic of Texas Degree Team

Victor Y. Armstrong, Jr., 32°KCCH, Republic Texas Colonel No. 47

Walter C. Otto, 33° (Dec'd), Republic Texas Lt. Col., Emeritus

Alan G. Adams, 32°	James A Raker 32°KCCH
Octavio Tripp Garza, 32°	Howard K Kimball 320
Eugene Baker III, 32°	Kent D. Kinkade 32°KCCH
Andrew J. McVeigh III, 33°	Richard L. Vaughn, 32°KCCH
William Oscar Orum, 33°	Charles H. Pascoe, 32°
Keye Perry, 32°	
Stephen T. Rye, Sr., 33°	Kervin W Warnken 32°
Gilbert Theiler, 32°KCCH	Gordon W Kelso 33°
George W. Schalles IV, 32°KCCH	Robert "Bob" Dashman, 32°KCCH
Brian Va	nce 32°

Scottish Rite Bearning 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.

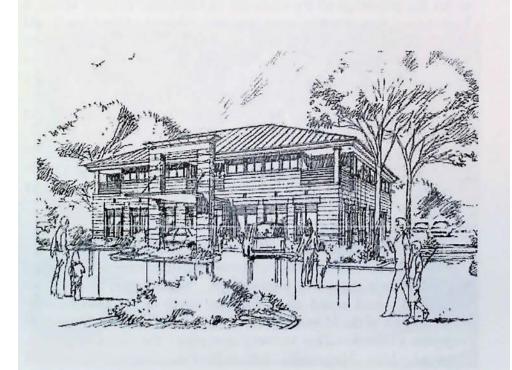
Our Mission

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.



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*.

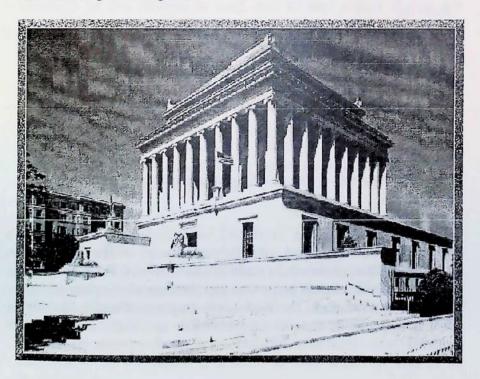
In 1758, these degrees were taken from Paris to Berlin and placed under a body called the Council of the Emperors of the East and West. It was here in 1762 that Frederick the Great of Prussia became the head of the Rite and promulgated what is known as the Constitution of 1762.

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.



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 Honour ... 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.

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.

The Order of the Sarde Manger

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 as 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.

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 all the Business Office at 512-472-7247, or toll-free at 1-800-754-3079.



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.

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 bylaws, 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 Bodge 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.