

voice of the **orient**

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE SCOTTISH RITE, ORIENT OF ARKANSAS



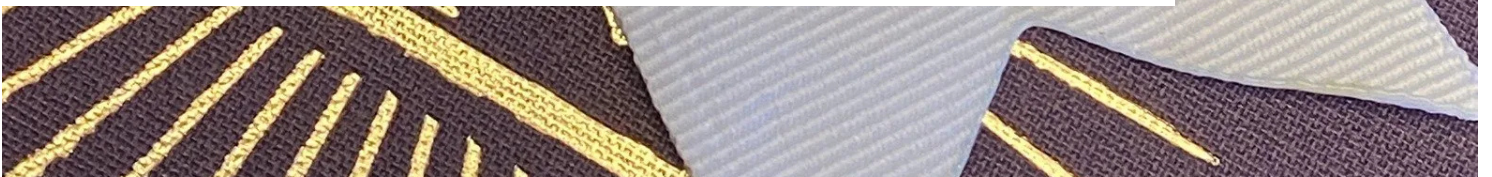
For Mrs. Beverly:
THANK YOU FOR 33 YEARS OF SERVICE

APRIL 2025



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Do you know its history?**

Contact us at the Orient office. We'd love to hear its history and
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APRIL 2025

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Fayetteville

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Left to right: Debbie Mckinney, Beverly Huneycutt, & Barbara "Bubba" Schutt.

Thank you, Mrs. Beverly

Ill. C. James Graham, 33°
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Many Scottish Rite Masons know Beverly Huneycutt, who has worked in the Little Rock office for 33 years.

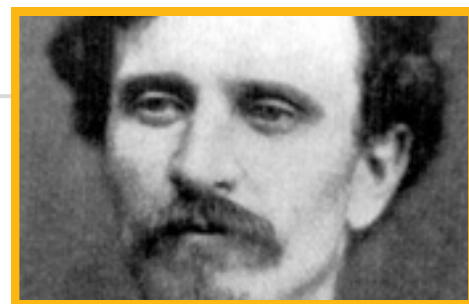
Most call her Miz Beverly! She retired at the end of February and we had a lovely dinner in her honor on March 13. I just wanted to take this space to honor her, to thank her, and to reflect on the gentle and effective way she has served the Scottish Rite for so long...



W. Bro. John Middleton Clayton, PM

John Kyle Day, 32°, KSA
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Bro. John Middleton Clayton was born in 1840 in Pennsylvania. During the Civil War, he served in the Union Army of the Potomac, 5th Pennsylvania Volunteers, attaining the rank of colonel. His regiment was present at the Battles of Antietam (September 17, 1862), Fredericksburg (December 11-15, 1862), and...



For the Sake of the World

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I can say this without engaging in political or religious discussion, especially on the heels of the Valley of Fayetteville's Feast of Remembrance and Renewal. The world is broken. Perhaps permanently. Or maybe not...



Thank you, Mrs. Beverly

SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL

Many Scottish Rite Masons know Beverly Huneycutt, who has worked in the Little Rock office for 33 years. Most call her Miss Beverly! She retired at the end of February and we had a lovely dinner in her honor on March 13. I just wanted to take this space to honor her, to thank her, and to reflect on the gentle and effective way she has served the Scottish Rite for so long. I think that nearly everyone who has talked to Beverly on the phone or in the office; or needed some information about their dues or about an upcoming reunion, or just wanted to visit found such a wonderful and dear friend in Beverly. Honestly, the way that she treats everyone is an example for every Freemason to note and to emulate! We wish Miss Beverly the best in this next stage of life!!

We also welcome Barbara “Bubba” Schutt. Welcome, you say? Bubba has worked at the temple for a long time. But we welcome Bubba to her new additional role doing Beverly’s work. Bubba will continue to provide leadership for the event rentals, but she will also be available for assistance and questions about dues, meetings, etc. So, please congratulate and thank Bubba!!!



Left to right: Debbie McKinney, Beverly Huneycutt, & Barbara “Bubba” Schutt



Mrs. Beverly Huneycutt on her last day of 33 years of service to the Scottish Rite



**Ill. C. James, Graham, 33°, PGM
Sovereign Grand Inspector General
Orient of Arkansas**



Ark. Freemasonry: A Beacon of Enduring Light

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN ARKANSAS

In an era of rapid societal change, evolving values, and technological advancements, the need for a steadfast moral compass has never been greater. Arkansas Freemasonry stands as a beacon of ethical guidance and stability, offering its members the timeless virtues of **Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth**. While the world shifts around us, Arkansas Freemasonry remains a foundation of moral strength, helping individuals navigate the complexities of modern life.

The moral and ethical teachings of Freemasonry transcend fleeting trends, rooted instead in enduring principles of **integrity, character, and duty**. The Arkansas Masonic tradition upholds the importance of virtue, personal rectitude, and service—values as relevant today as they were centuries ago.

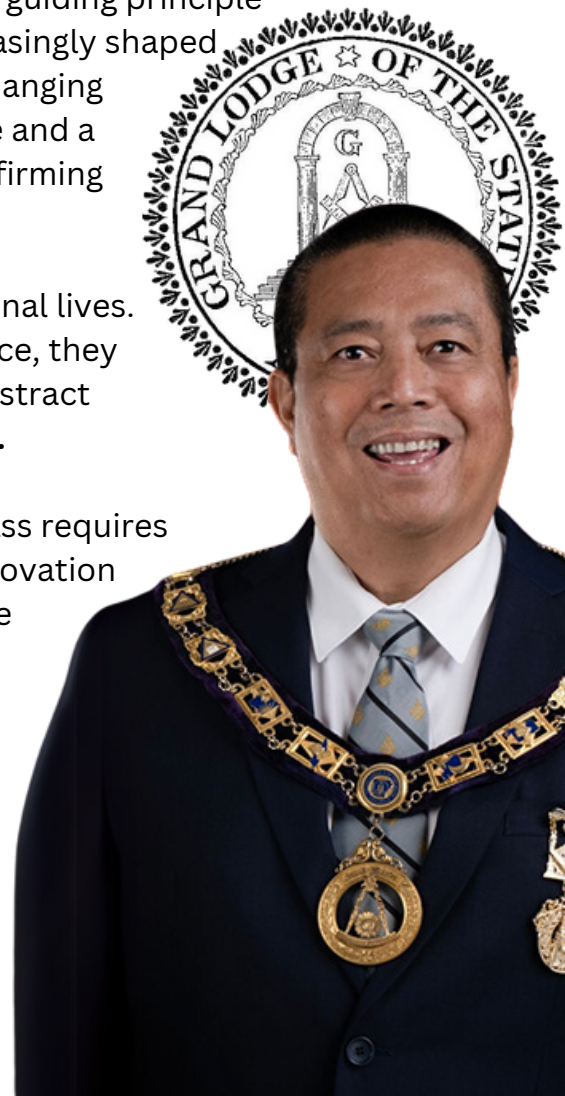
At the heart of these teachings is the symbolic **Moral Compass**, a guiding principle that every Mason strives to follow in his daily life. In an age increasingly shaped by moral relativism, Arkansas Freemasons find solace in the unchanging wisdom of the Craft. The compass represents both self-discipline and a commitment to aligning one's actions with the greater good, reaffirming that morality is not subjective but built upon **universal truths**.

Arkansas Masons lead by example in their professional and personal lives. Whether in business, education, law enforcement, or public service, they embody Masonic ideals, demonstrating that morality is not an abstract concept but a **lived commitment to integrity, honor, and service**.

In a world of constant change, maintaining a steady moral compass requires vigilance. Arkansas Masons recognize that while progress and innovation bring new opportunities, they also present ethical challenges. The rise of artificial intelligence, the power of social media, and the shifting foundations of traditional values all demand careful consideration and principled decision-making.

As society continues to evolve, **the values of Freemasonry remain a grounding force**. Arkansas Masons hold fast to their compass, ensuring that integrity, honor, and service remain at the core of all they do—**lighting the way for those who follow**.

M.∴W.∴ Michael Olegario, 32°, KCCH 
Grand Master of Masons in Arkansas



Valley of Little Rock

BY TOBY CROW, 32°, KCCH 

A was leak was identified at the Temple on February 23rd where a soldered joint on the auditorium air handler (on the 3rd floor) broke loose and flooded the hallway by the wagon yard. This torrent leaked through to the 2nd floor. repairs and cleanup have been manageable thanks to Hon. Brother Don Schutt.

On February 28th, the Orient of Arkansas hosted the Annual Eagle Scout Banquet. For decades the Orient has provided, free

of charge, our facility. Meanwhile the Valley of Little Rock provides the meal to support Scouting. This year approximately 320 people including Scouts, and families were served. Thank you to all the Brethren that assisted with putting on that special occasion for the Eagle Scouts.

On February 24th, there was a lecture on the C.S.S. Hunley (Confederate Submarine) by Ill. Brother Chuck Morgan of Baton

Rouge, LA. The H. L. Hunley became the first successful combat submarine in world history with the sinking of the USS Housatonic. It has been the center of a multi-agency, conservation-and-education effort. The lecture was free and open to family and friends.

Mrs. Beverly Huneycutt's Retirement Party was held on March 13th. She has been Secretary in the temple for 33 years. Thank you to that sweet lady that will be dearly missed.



Retirment party for Mrs. Beverly Huneycutt



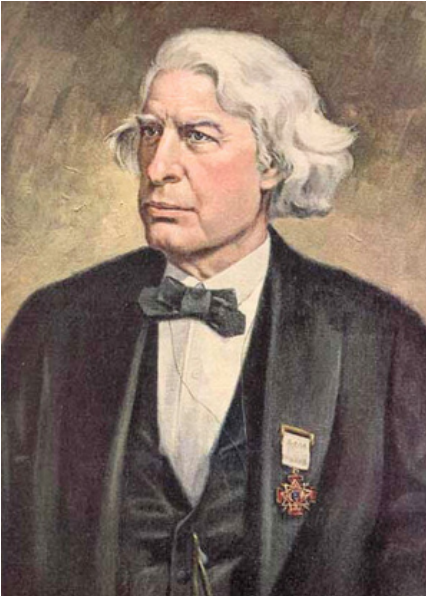
Ill. Bro. Chuck Morgan presenting on the C.S.S. Hunley



SNOW DAY: Snow on the Albert Pike Memorial Temple on January 10.

III. Albert Gallatin Mackey, 33°

BY HON. TOBY CROW, 32°, KCCH 



III. Bro. Albert Mackey

Albert Gallatin Mackey was born March 12, 1807 in Charleston, South Carolina and died June 20, 1881 at Fortress Monroe, Virginia and interred at Glenwood Cemetery in Washington, D.C. Bro. Mackey was a school teacher in order to pursue becoming a medical doctor. His physician vocation lasted for only ten years after which he then pursued life as an author and immersed himself into Freemasonry.

Before the Civil War Bro. Mackey had hoped that Freemasonry's ideals could lessen or prevent the

pending conflict. The efforts of Masons to quell hostilities were not enough though, "Passion had closed the ear and dethroned the judgement." The Civil War led to Brother Mackey's decline into poverty. A unionist, he was a delegate to South Carolina's post-civil war constitutional convention, serving as the body's president, and held federal office. History further records Bro. Mackey as when there were Civil War prisoners in Charleston that he paid little heed into whether they were Northern or Southern.

His Masonic career is as follows: Initiation into St. Andrew's Lodge #10 in Charleston South Carolina on June 25th, 1841. He was named Senior Warden in the Dispensation to revive Solomon's Lodge #1 in Charleston. Bro. Mackey was installed as Worshipful Master in December of 1842 and was selected to be Grand Orator for the St. John's day later that same month.

In December, 1843, he was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, where he served until 1866. One thing of note, on March third 1846, he was appointed Grand Lecturer and held both offices simultaneously.

His Scottish Rite Career was equally spectacular. He received the degrees and in 1844 was elected Active Member of the Supreme Council. In December, he was elected Grand Secretary General, an office he held throughout the years as Dean of the Supreme Council until his death at age 74. Illustrious Brother Mackey was also active in York Rite Masonry. He was instrumental in establishing the Mark Master in York Rite. Also, of note, he was Eminent Commander of South Carolina Commandery #1 in 1851 and again in 1865. Another interesting component of his York Rite career was his major role in getting the Cryptic Rite integrated into York Rite of South Carolina.

Valley of Jonesboro

BY HON. JON WALTER, 32°, KCCH 

The Circle of Brotherhood: Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future

On March 1 st , 2025, the Eastern Arkansas Scottish Rite Bodies gathered for a momentous occasion—our 100th reunion. It was a time of reflection, celebration, and renewal as we welcomed new candidates into our fold. Yet, this reunion carried a deeper significance, for it was dedicated to the memory of three beloved brothers.

At every reunion, we come

together to celebrate our Craft—to witness the degree work, enjoy the fellowship of our brethren, and strengthen the bonds that unite us. But at this, our 100th reunion, we paused to reflect on three brothers who set out to do the same on March 1, 2022, when fate intervened, and they were suddenly called to “that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

Their loss was sudden, but their impact was lasting. They left behind a legacy of

service, brotherhood, and unwavering commitment to the principles of Freemasonry. While we cannot measure the full extent of their contributions, we can honor their memory by carrying forward the work they so deeply cherished. We were privileged to have known them, to have walked alongside them, and to have called them brothers. Though their time with us was far too short, it was meaningful, and it was special.



*(L-R) Bro. David Neal Davis, 32°; Ill. Wallace “Wally” Ray Thomas, 33°, Past Venerable Master;
Bro. John W. Shipley, 32° KCCH, Past Master of Kadosh*

VALLEY OF JONESBORO REPORT CONT.



SGIG C. James Graham speaking at the Valley luncheon

During our luncheon, Ill. C. James Graham 33°, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Arkansas, spoke eloquently about the circle of life within our membership. His words reminded us that, while we mourn the loss of those who came before us, we also witness the continual growth of our fraternity. *Those of us who now labor for its advancement will pass away, but you will take our places and carry on the work. The cardinal principles of Masonry have remained unchanged. Let us hope, my brother, that they may so continue until time shall be no more.*" - 14th Degree Senior Warden

These words carry even greater weight when we consider that the three brothers we honored at this reunion were all members of our 14th Degree team. They understood the importance of the degree's teachings, and in their work, they embodied its ideals. Freemasonry is an unbroken chain, linking past, present, and future. As we mark this centennial reunion, let us honor our departed brethren not just with words, but with action—by living the principles they held dear, by guiding those who follow, and by ensuring that our Order remains a beacon of enlightenment and virtue.

As the Senior Warden also reminds us in the 14th Degree, "The legend of this degree is contained in the book, A Bridge to Light, which you will receive at the end of this reunion." This is not just a gift, but a charge—to study, to reflect, and to apply its teachings. It is our responsibility to seek the deeper meanings of our

work and to pass that understanding forward.

The circle of life in our fraternity is not merely a cycle of succession; it is a continuum of light, where each Mason, in his time, ensures that the flame never extinguishes.

Finally, we are proud to welcome our two newest Masters of the Royal Secret, Bro. Bryan Earney, 32°, a member of West Memphis Lodge #737, and Bro. Weston Whited, 32°, a member of Aurora Lodge #423 in Walnut Ridge. As they take their place among us, we hope they will embrace the lessons of the Scottish Rite, become active in our Valley, and help carry forward the light that was entrusted to them—just as our departed brethren did before them.



W. Bro. John Middleton Clayton, PM

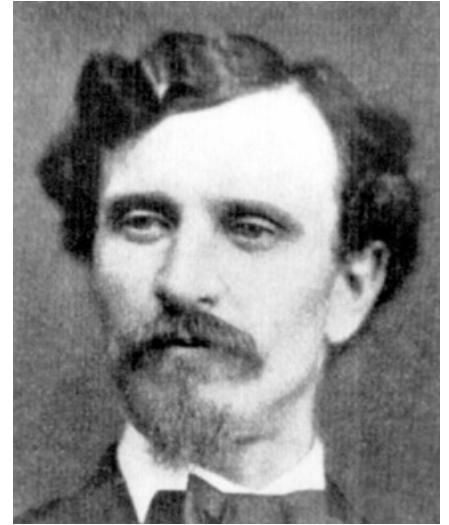
BY BRO. JOHN KYLE DAY, 32°, KSA 

W. Bro. John Middleton Clayton was born in 1840 in Pennsylvania. During the Civil War, he served in the Union Army of the Potomac, 5th Pennsylvania Volunteers, attaining the rank of colonel. His regiment was present at the Battles of Antietam (September 17, 1862), Fredericksburg (December 11-15, 1862), and Chancellorsville (April 30-May 5, 1863).

In 1867, Clayton migrated to Jefferson County, where he helped found the Republican Party of Arkansas. He was elected State Representative in 1871, then State Senator in 1873. Clayton also served on the inaugural Board of Trustees of Arkansas Industrial University (today's University of Arkansas). As state senator, Clayton sponsored the successful legislation that established Arkansas Branch Normal School (today's University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff). In 1874, he commanded a volunteer Jefferson

County militia during the Brooks-Baxter War. In 1876, Clayton was elected Jefferson County Sheriff, serving five consecutive two-year terms. In 1888, he ran for a seat in the United States Congress, barely losing to the incumbent, Democratic Congressman Clifton R. Breckenridge, in one of the most fraudulent elections in state history. While investigating the skullduggery in Conway County, Clayton was assassinated on January 29, 1889.

In 1884, Clayton was elected master of Pine Bluff No. 69, F.&A.M. of Arkansas. He was also appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the Third Masonic District. In 1880, he served as King of Pine Bluff #39's Lafayette Chapter No. 7, Royal Arch Masons of Arkansas. He was elected Deputy Illustrious Master of English Council No. 14, Royal and Select Masters, in 1888. He also served as an officer in Damascus Commandry No. 8. At the



W. Bro. John Middleton Clayton



W. Bro. Clayton's gravestone

time of his death, John Clayton served as Deputy Grand Commander of Arkansas Knights Templar. He received masonic honors and a York Rite funeral service performed by the remaining officers of the Grand Commandery at his burial in Pine Bluff.

Honor Your Sweetheart

WITH A SWEETHEART AWARD



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A new way to **show your appreciation and support the Arkansas Scottish Rite Foundation!** For anyone that would like to purchase one for that special lady in their life, it is a \$50 tax-deductible contribution. This is open to all Scottish Rite Masons in Arkansas. Contact Mitch Hensley.

For the Sake of the World

BY HON. JAMES KRING, 32°, KCCH ✚

PART 1



Having recently participated in the Valley of Fayetteville's Feast of Remembrance and Renewal much can be said about the darkness around us without political or religious discussion. Upon observation it appears that the world is broken. Perhaps permanently, perhaps not, the word has been lost.

Historical examination of centuries and maybe millennia of hardship, pain, and malice. show us the common denominator, Humans. Many aimless and amoral, guided by the darkest impulses of free will. If you are offended by that characterization, remember where we all came from prior to crossing the threshold of the Blue Lodge; remember, those words, thoughts, and deeds are still a part of your story.

For the sake of the world, remember who is at the center of every Lodge: the Supreme Architect of the Universe. The Master may assume the East, the Wardens the West and South, but at the center of it all, is the Great Light in Masonry. That is a ritualistic and also theological reminder, that in all things, consult your faith for the best path forward. Your Brothers may be tools in discerning the path, but they should not be the center. Your faith in however you call the Supreme Architect must be that center to which you eternally turn. Not media, not our elected officials, not even our families. The Supreme Architect is the source of all, and as such, we must remember to look to Him first.

For the sake of the world, when we come upon those less fortunate or those who do not share our beliefs, do not turn up your nose immediately. Doing so gives truth to the rumor that Freemasons are elitists who only look out for those that are connected to "the Craft." When someone comes to us for comfort or aid, remember the lesson in Charity that you received upon your first entry into Freemasonry. You were not asked about specific religious beliefs, nor your political affiliation, and not any of your social and moral beliefs. A focus on these small components of a man makes us no better than 3 well known assassins. Remember the words of the Wise Master:

Valley of Fayetteville

VALLEY REPORT

Yes, my brethren, the Apostles of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity have fallen victims to Ignorance, Fanaticism, and Despotic Power. The punishment of slaves and malefactors has been inflicted upon those who long to emancipate all mankind. Mourn and lament, and cry “woe unto us” for Falsehood triumphs, Truth disappears, and Ignorance extinguishes the Light of Philosophy.

1st Annual Robert Burns Dinner



Beautiful Table Settings



Piping in the Haggis



Address to the Haggis

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