



Illinois Pyramid #1



Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots

Who are the Sciots? In 1905, a group of Master Masons in California started a group called the Masonic Booster Club. Its sole purpose was to support area blue lodges. In 1910, with many men wishing to join, they developed a colorful Egyptian theme for their ritual and initiation and changed their official name to the Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots. However, their goal of helping masonry continued with no changes.

How did we begin in Illinois? In October of 2001, a dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge of Illinois to operate a pyramid in the Chicago area to show how Sciotry could benefit Illinois Masonry. Past Toparch Howard Schermerhorn of King Oscar Lodge was selected as the first Toparch, or presiding officer. Most Worshipful Grand Master James Durbin became the Pyramid's first Mobib, or 2nd in command. On October 12, 2002, Jim was installed as Toparch.

What are we doing now? With the original goal of boosting local masonry as our model, Illinois Pyramid #1 supports 3 programs to help "Boost" local lodges.

1. **Blue Lodge Visitations** are scheduled frequently. Sciots attend local lodges individually or as a group to fill chairs if needed or simply to support the lodge as sideliners.
2. We have an Entered Apprentice Degree Team that helps initiate new candidates. Any lodge may request our assistance by calling the Scribe of our Pyramid at 312-399-1577 as far in advance as possible.
3. Under the direction of Past Toparch Rick Taman we sponsor a school for Masonic Instruction that meets on 2nd and 4th Mondays. We specialize in Rod and Floor work as well as Ritual Proficiency and Catechism Posting for candidates of all degrees. For more information call Past Toparch Rick at 630-569-9000.

When do we meet? The Pyramid meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Medinah Shrine Center, 550 Shriners Drive in Addison.

How can I join? Any Master Mason in good standing may become a Scot by submitting a petition and a \$125 initiation fee which includes an Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots Fez and first year's dues. Just ask any Scot for a petition or call the Scribe of our Pyramid at 312-399-1577.

Let's Boost Illinois Masonry together!

"Unity through Sciotry"

