



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

January 15, 2022

Editor : Don Jones, 33°



Masonic Center Hours:
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (closed Noon
to 1:00) Monday–Thursday,
Closed on Fridays
305 2nd St.
McAlester, OK 74501
918-423-6360

Upcoming Events:

1st Thursday of the Month

Duncan Scottish Rite Chapter, 11:30 AM,
Jimmie's Egg, Duncan

Comanche County SR Chapter dinner mtg.,
Salsa Mexican Cafe, Lawton

1st Friday of the Month

Oklahoma County Scottish Rite Chapter,
OKC 11:30 AM I40 & Meridian

2nd Monday of the Month

Lodge of Perfection Meeting,
Meeting at 7:00 pm

2nd Wednesday of the Month

Indian Chapter, Scottish Rite Noon
McAlester Scottish Rite Cente

3rd Wednesday of the Month

Muskogee Chapter, Scottish Rite
Masonic Temple Noon

Note: Scottish Rite Chapters and Societies,
be sure to notify the office of any changes in
meeting place and times.

Advisory Council and Officers

Jack Inman, 33, Chairman
Mike Ebert, KCCH General Secretary
William C. Cox, 33, Member
Thomas S. Crowl, 33 G.C., Member Emeritus
Wade Massey, 33, Member
Michael Sexton, KCCH, Venerable Master
John Carter, KCCH, Wise Master
Shaun Callahan, KCCH, Commander
Donnie Higginbotham II 32°, Master of Ka-
dosh

ILL. JOE R. MANNING, JR. 33, S.G.I.G. IN OKLAHOMA, ELECTED LIEUTENANT GRAND COMMANDER

At a Zoom executive session, the first week of 2022 Ill. Bro. Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33°, the S.G.I.G. for the Orient of Oklahoma was elected to the office of Lt. Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R. His election fills a vacancy left by the recent death of Ill. Michael Smith, 33°, S.G.I.G. of South Carolina. Congratulations are in order for Bro. Manning from the Oklahoma fraternity.



Since his time as Master Councilor of DeMolay, Bro. Manning has served the fraternity. He is a Past Master of Cushing Lodge and is a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma. He has also served as Director of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma. His leadership abilities and enthusiasm for the Order have led him to the highest levels of Masonic offices.

Thank you, Bro. Manning, for your dedication and commitment to Oklahoma Masonry.

2022 VALLEY OFFICERS TO BE INSTALLED FEBRUARY 14th.

The elective and appointive officers of the four Bodies (Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh and Consistory) will be installed at the Annual Meeting on Monday, February 14 at the McAlester Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

The meeting and installation will follow a dinner meal starting at 6:00 p.m. All Scottish Rite members are welcome. We hope to see you there.

(Continued on next page)

Charitable & Education Foundation

Vacant President
Dave Donathan, 33 Vice-President
Jeremy Warren, 33°, Trustee
Advisory Council Trustees
Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33° SGIG

If you do not wish to receive this email, please send an email to enews-unsubscribe@mcasr.org. For questions or comments email news@mcasr.org.

[Upcoming Reunions:](#)

2022
April 2-3
October 22-23

[Masonic Website on Interest](#)

[Supreme Council 33 Southern Jurisdiction, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry](#)

[Supreme Council 33 Northern Jurisdiction, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry](#)

[Grand Lodge of Oklahoma](#)

[Scottish Rite, Valley of Guthrie](#)

[Scottish Rite, Valley of Tulsa](#)

[Scottish Rite Research Society](#)

2022 VALLEY OFFICERS (continued)

FYI: a list of the new officers is here for your convenience.

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Samuel Box
Senior Warden	Stephen Gragg
Junior Warden	Gregory Steidley
Prelate	Chris Botts
Master of Ceremonies	Ronald Gragg Jr.
Expert	Shaun Callahan
Assistant Expert	Jim Mercer
Captain of the Host	Mathew McGowan
Tiler	Nicholas Valenta

Council of Kadosh

Commander	Mike Wright
1st Lt Comdr	Rodney Ryder
2nd Lt Comdr	Paul Larcade
Chancellor	Brian Engleman
Master of Ceremonies	Alton Smith
Turcopilier	Michael Deaton
Draper	Jason R. Smith
First Deacon	James McNair
Second Deacon	Darrin Gillick
Bearer/Beauseant	Steven Helt
Bearer White Std.	Mark McFadden
Bearer Black Std.	Dan Maxey
Lt. of the Guard	Ryan Coker
Sentinel	Ryan Whitaker

Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master	Brent Heilman
Senior Warden	John Cunningham
Junior Warden	Ron Gragg
Master of Ceremonies	Mike Echols
Expert	Gary Stinson
Assistant Expert	Jim Cantrell
Standard Bearer	V. Chris West
Guardian/Temple	Link Mock
Tiler	Charles L. Cook

Consistory

Master of Kadosh	Russell Davis
Prior	Bobby J. Peters
Preceptor	Bob Reynolds
Chancellor	Brian Pumphrey
Minister of State	Marshall Harrington
Prelate	Tyler Burnett
Master of Ceremonies	Craig Smith
Expert	Bradley D. Ross
Assistant Expert	Ronnie Coppedge
Captain of Guard	Tim Carpenter
Tiler	Richard E. Gragg

Serving All Bodies

Almoner	Bill Erkin
Secretary/Registrar	Mike Ebert
Orator	Robert Padgett

SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY

Wednesdays of each week; 9:00 am.

Men's Lounge, McAlester S.R. Temple
Free coffee and donuts or rolls
Fellowship, discussion, treats

2nd Wednesday Monthly; Luncheon
Indian Chapter of S.R. Society, McAlester
McAlester Scottish Rite Dining Room
Good meals; Fellowship; Speakers

Tue. Jan. 25; Bro. Robert Burns
Birthday of the Masons' Poet Laureate

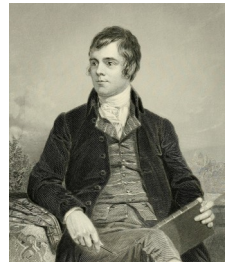
Thur. Feb. 3; 11:30 am; OKC Luncheon
McAlester & all Scottish Rite Masons
Golden Corral, I-40 & MacArthur, OKC
Good food ; fellowship; Valley updates

Mon. Feb. 14; Officer Installation
Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose
Croix, Council of Kadosh; Consistory
& LOP stated meeting.
6:00 pm.. Dinner
7:00 pm.. Meetings begin

THE MYSTIC TIE (excerpt)

Robert Burns

*Adieu! Adieu! A heart-warm, fond
Adieu! Dear Brothers of The Mystic
Tie. Ye Favored, Ye enlightened few
Companions and my Social Joy!*



2022 RITE WAY CONFERENCES (Relative Information Through Education)

When you became an Entered Apprentice, you said you "wanted to improve myself in Masonry". Well, the "Rite Way" is another link to that goal.

The Rite Way is the theme of this year's Leadership, or as some are saying, Membership Conferences. We will provide more information and Conference details in future issues, but for now the following is basic.

Dates and locations are"

- March 11/12...St. Louis, MO
- March 25/26....Charlotte, N.C.
- April 8-9..... San Diego, CA

The Oklahoma Orient General Secretaries and S.G.I.G. Manning will be attending the conferences in St. Louis. It is closer and probably less expensive. Officers are not the only brethren that will be in attendance.

If you are a Scottish Rite Mason and if you aspired to be a leader in Masonry, you are encouraged to attend the conference. To register, go to the Scottish Rite.org web site. There will be a registration charge and possibly fees for activities not on the official program. YOU owe this to yourself. Personally, as a General Secretary, and Mason, I have always benefited from the conferences.

Details of the program, speaker, facilitators and special guests will be in a later issue of the "Blast".

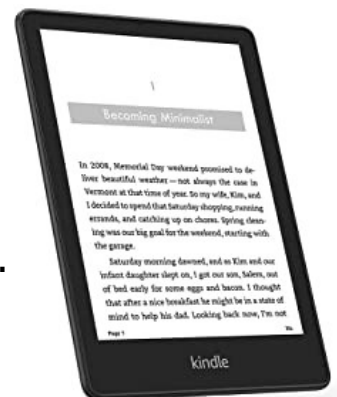
Finally, "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance." Go the RITE WAY!

ALWAYS A "BETTER" BOOK

I asked a friend about the pros and cons of using a Kindle as opposed to getting the Kindle "app" on another device.

"Oh, Kindle is way better," she said.

"Because it's an actual book."



THE ACACIA GUILD (or Club)

The Acacia Guild is a project of the House of the Temple to raise money for the preservation of that public symbol of Scottish Rite Masonry. A contribution of \$1,000 will create a Guild membership for the contributor. And this contribution may be made annually to maintain one's membership in the Guild. Oklahoma has one of each, New and Returning.

The newest member is Michael A. Lopez, 32°, from the Valley of Guthrie. Bro. Lopez is a solid Mason and promoter of the Scottish Rite.

The Returning member is M.:W.: Michael Dixon, KCCH from the Valley of McAlester. His renewal contribution brings honor to his Valley in two ways. as a past Grand Master of the Oklahoma Grand lodge and as a member of the Acacia Guild off the A.A.S.R.



BOOKS OF GENERAL INTEREST

"Leadership: In Troubled Times" by Doris Kearns Goodwin

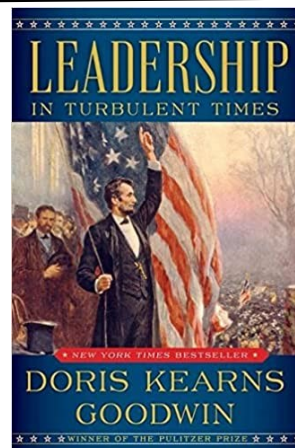
A lot of Masons are history buffs and Doris Goodwin is an expert bringing life to history. First though, I have not read this book, yet. I am on the list for an audio book due to my vision issue.

In all her books that I have read, she knows her historical characters. She almost knows them better than their contemporaries. Ms. Goodwin's writing is insightful, interesting and entertaining. All of the while learning about people who made history.

The book is about leadership, presidential leadership. Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt and Lyndon Johnson.

Each of these men went through some of the most difficult times this country has faced. And they made the hard decisions. Were they wrong, they were just men; were they right; they were intelligent men. They were the best of their time and they stepped up to the plate.

I think readers will like the book. If not, well you learned some history. Is that bad?



VEGETARIANS

-- Becoming a vegetarian is nothing more than a missed steak.

-- A vegetarian had a carrot in one ear, celery stalk in the other and a bean up his nose, He asked his doctor was wrong, who told him, "You are not eating right."

-- What is the best thing to make a vegetarian burger out of? It doesn't matter as long as it doesn't taste good.

-- Do you want to hear a vegan joke? You know that it is not going to be cheesy.

VEGGIES BY ANOTHER NAME

Brussel Sprouts - cabbage for mice

Zucchini - imposter cucumber

Cucumber - imposter zucchini

Asparagus - pee perfume

Spinach - Popeye cocaine

Beans - fart pearls

Celery - diet stick

Broccoli - dyed cauliflower

Cauliflower - shocked broccoli



FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA (continued)

In 1850, the returns to Grand Lodge of Arkansas show such illustrious Cherokee names as W. P. Ross, G.W. Adair, John Vann, J. Foreman, I. M. Lynch and R. J. Maysmute as evidence of the power of Masonry to induce estranged men to lay aside their prejudices and hatred in political, social or business strife to meet before a common altar.

The same Masonic authority which gives the record of Chief Ross reiterates that:

"On April 17, 1849, the Lodge conducted the funeral rites of W. S. Coody, a Cherokee Indian. "

and again, it is related under the caption, "of raised or affiliated":

"James Colbert, a Chickasaw Indian, July 1, 1816."

"Under the civilized name of George Capuary, "Kah-ge-ira-ga-hoh' prior to 1853".

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FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA (continued)

Unpleasant though the thought may be, it is a fact that neither of the Five civilized Tribes selected Indian Territory as their permanent home as a free, voluntary cheerful act. They faced circumstances which involved the elements of prejudice, greed, injustice and oppression. But the Red Man had his friends then as now. Fortunately for all concerned, the Army Officers and Indian Agents assigned to duty among the Indians were for the most part, just, reasonable and sympathetic. Noted among such friends was Colonel Matthew Arbuckle.

Co. Arbuckle was indeed a commanding figure in every activity of the early Indian country. It was just as natural to him to surround himself with Masons as it was for General Washington to select those among his officers who were Masons for important assignments, other qualifications being equal. The little army in the Ozarks was no more a Masonic organization than was the Continental Army -- They were 'American' in the truest sense of the word and contained men of undaunted courage, honest purpose, and patriotic motives. 'These qualities, not creed, social position or personal ambition determined the responsibility authority reposed in them. (to be continued)

Resource: "History of Freemasonry in Oklahoma."
Oklahoma Lodge of Research

KIDS, YOU GOT TO LOVE'EM

-- The 14 yr. old boy made fun of his dad because he had to go to work, while the boy got a "snow day." So Dad changed the Wi-Fi password.

-- Daughter - You are invading my personal space.
Mom - You came out of my personal space.

"There is no teaching, but recollection."

Socrates, philosopher

Editor Don Jones 33°

