



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

January 25, 2021

Editor : Don Jones, 33°

I AM ALREADY A MASTER MASON, WHY THE SCOTTISH RITE?



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 Firday 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 Thursday 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

D. Larry Roberts, 33 Chairman
Mike Ebert, KCCH General Secretary
Jack Inman, 33, Member
William C. Cox, 33, Member
Thomas S. Crowl, 33 G.C., Member
Michael Sexton, KCCH, Venerable Master
John Carter, KCCH, Wise Master
Shaun Callahan, KCCH, Commander
Douglas R. Worden, 32°, Master of Kadosh

Bro. Ion Lazar had was asking himself this and other questions, like:

"Are Scottish Rite symbols, ritual, and philosophy really relative to our daily lives? Is esoteric knowledge compatible with modern science? Will any of it serve to strengthen our Faith? In what way? Does the term "below" in the fundamental Hermetic axiom, "As Above, So Below", literally to a spatial-temporal location, or does it actually hint at a mysterious system of correspondence between the sacred Geometry of the heavens and the structure of the mind or body? Does a true Adept of the mysteries really become a "better man?"

Well, as Bro. Lazar, KCCH, found out, he could only answer these questions by taking the Scottish Rite Degrees. Were his questions answered? I think the "K.C.C.H." after his name should answer that. (You will find out more about this brother in future issues)

You, the Master Mason, may continue to have questions about just what did you accomplish after being Raised? The Scottish Rite in Oklahoma has the solution for YOU.

In April, 2021, the 3 Valleys of McAlester, Guthrie, and Tulsa will be presenting the Obligatory Degrees of the Scottish Rite to a class of Master Masons, just like You.

Call 918- 423-6360 for information and a petition. More info will also be given later in this issue.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



Charitable & Education Foundation

R. Bruce Hall, 33 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:

2021
April 17-
October 23-24

Masonic Website of 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

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WHAT IS THE TRUE WORD?

Infinity, we are only one point in the span of time.

Nature, all nature acts accordingly to God's will.

Reason, allows us to understand the Holy Laws given by God.

Immortality, of the soul which is of God and will return to God.

And these are reinforced by the Great Commandment to LOVE God and your neighbor; no exceptions.

OBLIGATORY DEGREE TEAMS

14th Degree, Perfect Elu

Oklahoma County Team

Director -- Harrison Bartlett, 33°

Asst. Director -- Bryan Pumphrey, 32° KCCH

Venerable Master - Harrison Bartlett, 33°

Expert - Craig Smith, 32° KCCH

Master of Ceremonies – Kenny Sivard, 32°

Senior Warden - Robert Ramer, 32°

Orator - Kyle Ramer, 32°

Asst. Expert - Mike Howell, 32°

High Priest - Bryan Pumphrey 32° KCCH

Moses - Supernumerary Unit



MASONIC ACTIVITY

Blue Lodge degrees are found at the OKMason.com bulletin board. Remember, the COVID-19 precautions remain in force.

Wed., Jan. 27; 7:00 p.m., G.M. Forum
1st Grand Master's digital Forum. If you did not receive an e-mail, check with a Brother. There are instructions necessary to participate.

Thur., Feb. 4; 11:30 a.m. S.R. Luncheon
OKC Membership for McAlester. At the Golden Corral, I-20 & MacArthur, OK
:(tentative)

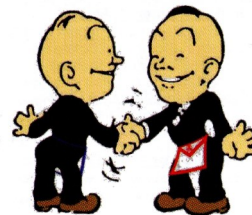
Mon. Feb. 8; 6:00 p.m. McAlester L.O.P.
Chapter, Council & Consistory Officer
Installation. The L.O.P. stated meeting
will follow at 7:00 p.m.
(there will not be a meal)
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center.

Sat. April 17; One-Day S.R. Reunion
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center in
McAlester, OK. The Obligatory Degrees
will be exemplified. Starts at 8:00 A.M.
No breakfast, but there will be a lunch
in the Dining Room.

2020 Year End Report

There were 51 suspensions for Non-Payment of Dues at the beginning of 2021. Our membership total stands at 1,966.

Thank you, Brethren, for keeping your dues current. Reinstatement forms are available from the Office if needed. If you know a suspended Brother, please reach out to him and invite him to reinstate. Membership is everyone's responsibility!



REGIONAL SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY

Dallas Scottish Rite

Thur. Jan. 28; 7:00 p.m.
Exemplification of the 18th Degree.

Ft. Worth Scottish Rite

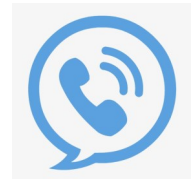
Sat., Jan. 30; 5:00 p.m.
Grand Masters Conference
100 E. Henderson St.

Wichita Scottish Rite

Tue., Feb. 2; 7:00 p.m.,
LOP meets
Tue. Feb. 2; 8:00 pm
Rose Croix Officers meet

Joplin Scottish Rite

Tue., Feb. 2: 6:00 pm. Virtual Reunion
All 29 S.R. Degrees will be presented.
Further Masonic Education with the aid
of Sov. G.C. James D. Cole, 33.
Sat. Mar. 9; 6:00 p.m., Robert Burns Night
Hickory Hill Country Club,
Springfield, MO
Call Temple for reservations.



SAY WHAT?

While he was visiting, my father asked for the password to the Wi-Fi. "It's taped under the modem," I told him.

After 3 failed attempts to log on,, he asked, "Am I spelling this right? "T-A-P-E-D-- U-N-D-E-R-T-H-E M-O-D-E-M".

After i-messaging back & forth with my wife, I jokingly commanded Siri to pass along this message, "you need to get back to work now, you have a husband to support."

Siri sent, "You need to get back to work, you have a has-been to support."



FROM THE E. A. DEGREE

"What is the meaning of the Holy St's. John at Jerusalem?"



Many a Master has been puzzled to answer this simplest and most natural of questions. As there is not now and never was such a lodge, there is certainly some reason for confusion.

Originally, lodges were dedicated to King Solomon. Later, at least as early as 1598, Masonry connected her name with that of St. John the Evangelist. Dedications to the St's. John was made by other organizations as early as the third century, when the Church adopted the two pagan celebrations of summer and winter solstices and made them our St. John's day in summer and St. John's day in winter. It was wholly natural for operative Masons, having dedicated their Craft to the Holy St's. John, to begin to believe that both Johns were themselves Craftsmen. Craftsmen must have a lodge, where should that lodge be, but in Jerusalem? Hence "The Lodge of the Holy St's. John of Jerusalem" came into imaginary existence.

No such lodge ever existed in fact, and yet, it is not a fiction, it is an ideal, and without such ideals our life would be dim and drab. The thought back of the question and answer, then, is that we come from an ideal or dream lodge into this actual work-a-day world, where our ideals are to be tested. Today, as we use the phrase as the starting point for a Masonic career, Masons mean only that their Craft is dedicated these holy men, whose precepts and practices, ideals and virtues, teachings and examples, all Freemasons should try to follow.

JOBS

During college the guy worked on a conveyer belt. One day he was on a blind date and she asked him about his job.

"I work at the end of a belt," he said.

With an ebullient smile, she asked, "Are you the buckle?"

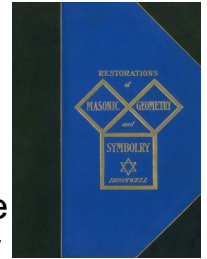
The wife poured her husband, a retired auto mechanic, a cup of her latest herbal tea. "How is it?" she asked.

"Excellent," he said, "It smells just like transmission fluid."



BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

"Restorations of Masonic Geometry and Symbolry," by Henry Bromwell



Brethren, this book is the seminal work on the esoteric tools of our Craft: Masonic Geometry and Symbolry. It was written by an accomplished Initiate who was properly revered by his Masonic peers in the Grand Lodge of Colorado as the "foremost Mason of his time."

Brethren, this book is probably not the book you want to set down and read for an evening. I use it for a reference book. It also enlightens me when I have a question concerning Masonic Geometry and Symbolism

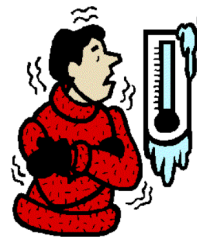
I received my copy from the Scottish Rite Research Society. Check with the Society for availability.



COPING WITH WINTER WEATHER

"The Windchill Effect"

As the wind speed increases, the body is cooled at a faster rate, causing the skin temperature to drop. The National Weather Service uses a chart that it developed which shows the effect of wind, exposed skin and low temps will cause problems. For example: when the temperature is 15 degrees and when the wind speed is 30 mph, the windchill, or how cold it feels is -15 degrees F. Why is this dangerous to humans?



The combination of cold temperature and high wind, on exposed skin, could cause your flesh to freeze -- be frost-bitten. On any day when the windchill is 13 degrees F., or below, the skin can freeze within 5 to 30 minutes.

Frostbite usually starts with the fingers, toes, tips of the nose and the earlobes. (And, yes, those things hanging between your thighs.) If you lose feeling in these areas or they are turning pale or white, immediately get indoors and get medical attention.

(Continued on Next Page)

COPING WITH WINTER WEATHER(Continued)

Hypothermia occurs when your body's temperature drops too low. Symptoms include uncontrollable shivering, disorientation, and incoherence. Seek medical attention immediately. In both cases, warm the body slowly.

Be smart! Dress for cold weather! Wear layers of loose-fitting warm clothing; the layers will trap air provide insulation. Your outer shell should be water repellant and hooded. Always wear a hat. Consider a "mask" to cover your face and protect your lungs. Be aware that mittens are better than gloves.

Heart disease; from experience – Breathing in cold air can provoke a heart "attack".

THE ANCIENT ALTARS OF FREEMASONRY

Altars, among the ancients, were generally made of turf or stone. When permanently erected, they were generally built-in regular courses of masonry, and usually in a cubical form. Altars were erected long before temples. Thus Noah is said to have erected one as soon as he came from the ark.

With the ancients, the altar was always invested with peculiar sanctity. They were places of refuge, and the supplicants who fled to them were considered as placed themselves under the protection of the Deity to whom the altar was consecrated, and to do violence even to slaves and criminals at the altar, or to drag them from it, was regarded as an act of violence to the Deity Himself, and was hence a sacrilegious crime.

After the erection of the Tabernacle, altars were of two kinds, altars of sacrifice and altars of incense. The altar of Freemasonry may be considered as the representative as both these forms. From thence the grateful incense of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, is ever rising to the Great I AM; while on it, the unruly passions and the worldly appetites of the brethren are laid, as a fitting sacrifice to the genius of our noble institution.

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THE ANCIENT ALTARS OF FREEMASONRY

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The Masonic altar, which, like everything else in Masonry, is symbolic, is an altar of sacrifice, for on it the candidate is directed to lay his passions and vices as an obligation to the Deity, while he offers up the thoughts of a pure heart as a fitting incense to the Grand Architect of the Universe. The altar, is therefore, the most holy place in the Lodge.

THE SCOTTISH RITE & ANTI-MASONRY DURING THE 1990'S

Quote: "The Scottish Rite, despite its probable 18th century French origins and accent, arguably made in the 19th and 20th centuries the most distinctly American contribution to world-wide Freemasonry of any Masonic organization in the United States. Generally, Masonry practiced in local lodges or the York Rite form were not notably American innovations as they are readily traceable to European customs and ideas or Enlightenment influences. The Shriners of North America, a uniquely American phenomenon and the most publicly recognizable American Masonic organization...were never as expansive globally as the Scottish Rite"

"The Scottish Rite is especially prominent in American Freemasonry, claiming about 40% of all Masons. It is predictable that when Masonry was criticized in the United States during the 1990's , the Scottish Rite was invariably singled out for attack or, at least, a disproportionate share of negative judgement."

Unquote (continued next issue)

This is from William Fox, author of "Lodge of the Double Eagle"

"We become better men and better Freemasons as we embrace the Royal Arch degree because wonder and initiation for hand-in-hand in developing healthy personalities."

Mark C. Phillips; Heredom

Editor Don Jones 33°

