



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



[www.mcalesterscottishrite.org](http://www.mcalesterscottishrite.org)

**Newsletter Date**

**October 2, 2021**

**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 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

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

## CORRECTED REUNION SCHEDULE

We received the "corrected" reunion schedule via Facebook, like many of you. We include it here for your convenience.

### 343rd One-Day Extravaganza Reunion Schedule

- 7:00 AM Candidate Registration.....Main Lobby
- Single Candidate Photos.....Main Lobby
- 7:45 AM...Assemble Class.....Class Supervisor
- 8:00 AM...Opening Ceremony.....Auditorium
- 8:20 AM...Introduction to the Scottish Rite
- 8:25 AM...Open L.O.P.....Venerable Master
- 8:30 AM...4th Degree.....Lone Grove Team
- \*9:30 AM...5th Degree.....McAlester/Eufaula Team
- \*10:20 AM...13th Degree.....Bryan County Team
- 11:10 AM...14th Degree.....Oklahoma County Team
- 12:30 PM...Lunch.....Main Dining Room
- 1:30 PM...Open Chapter Rose Croix.....Wise Master
- 1:35 PM...18th Degree.....Nolen Watson Team
- 3:00 PM...Class Picture.....Larry McManus, KCCH
- 3:30 PM...Open Council of Kadosh.....Commander
- 3:35 PM...30th Degree.....Shawnee Team
- 4:55 PM...Open Consistory.....Master of Kadosh
- 5:00 PM...32nd Degree.....Indian Consistory Team
- 6:30 PM...Approx. Class Dismissal.....Class Supervisor
- 6:30 PM...Candidate Dinner at Pete's Place.....

\*Passport Degree

## THERE IS A LOT MORE:

While there is no Masonic degree more important than that of Master Mason there is a long tradition -- almost as old as Freemasonry -- of "higher degrees" that expand and upon and elaborate the teachings and lessons of the first three degrees. The Scottish Rite degrees teach a series of moral lessons culminating in the 32nd Degree, Master of the Royal Secret.

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](mailto:enews-unsubscribe@mcasr.org). For questions or comments email [news@mcasr.org](mailto:news@mcasr.org).

Upcoming Reunions:

**2021**  
**October 23**

**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

## VALLEY DEGREE TEAMS

### 13th Degree: "Royal Arch of Solomon" Bryan County Team

Director -- Mark McMurry, KCCH  
Asst. Dir. -- Jeff Monroe, 32  
King Solomon -- David Cathey, KCCH  
Archivist -- Billy Sprouse, 32  
Azariah -- Joe Barrett, KCCH  
Zabud -- Mike Echols, KCCH  
Satolkin -- Lynn Skocdopole, 32  
Adoniram -- Joel Scalf, 32  
Yehu Aber -- Joe Sebourme, 32



(This is not an "obligatory" degree, but is important in your search for the "True Word.")

### "FREE" PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIPS

There are 3 options for a Scottish Rite Mason to earn an Endowed Perpetual Membership. The first is given here:

Option 1 -- Members securing twenty (20) who complete their Scottish Rite degrees will receive a Perpetual Endowed Membership, (PEM) paid by the Lodge of Perfection. The only "time limit" to secure 20 petitions is the member's lifetime.

Call the office for more information at 918-423-6360. The staff may also visit with you about Options II and III.

How to get new members: "Go to work!"

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



Or go to

**[BE AN OKLAHOMA FREEMASON.ORG](http://BEANOKLAHOMAFREEMASON.ORG)**

## SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY

**Wednesday mornings;** Fellowship  
"donuts and coffee" 8 to 9:00 a.m.  
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center Men's Lounge  
All Masons & friends welcome.

**Thur., Oct. 7;** 11:30 a.m. S.R. luncheon  
McAlester membership, Central Okla.  
Golden Corral, I-40 & MacArthur, OKC  
Fellowship, good food  
Mike Ebert G.Sec. updated reunion information.  
All Masons & candidates are welcome  
Candidates' meals are paid by John  
Salisbury, 33, Chairman.



**Fri., Oct. 8;** Central Oklahoma S.R.  
dinner and activities.  
India Shrine Center, 3601 NW 36th St.  
Open meeting; bring your friends.

**Sat. Oct. 9;** 12 noon; 50 Yr. Awards  
McAlester Scottish Rite Center Elmer Hale Dining Room  
R.S.V.P

**Mon. Oct. 11;** 7:00 p.m. LOP  
Stated Meeting, Lodge of Perfection  
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center, Richards Room; west en-  
trance.

**Sat., Oct. 23;** 7:30 a.m. Registration  
McAlester Extravaganza Reunion  
One-Day; 7 Degrees;  
(COVid precautions will apply)  
Please ask candidates to send their  
petitions in early so they will be  
processed in time for Registration.

**Sun., Oct. 31;** Honors Day  
Guthrie Scottish Rite Center  
Investiture & Conferral  
Honor recipients & Honor men  
only. (Please observe COVid  
precautions.)



## MOVIES OF MASONIC INTEREST

"Time Machine" starring Rod Taylor  
From H.G. Wells book with same title in  
1895. If you haven't seen it, it can be  
very entertaining. There is a very subtle  
reference to Freemasonry.

The movie is entertaining, even if  
you miss the reference. But if you are  
a good brother you won't miss it.



## MERIWETHER LEWIS--THE MASON

If not for the mysterious circumstances of his death and his Masonic apron being on the scene, we probably would not have been as aware of Brother Lewis's masonic activity. The controversy has been whether his death was a suicide or a murder.

The subject of his death recently appeared on the History Channel and other television programs about the American frontier.

That he died of a gunshot wound is not questioned. And his Masonic apron which was near is determined to have blood stains on it. Two gunshots were heard, but only one bullet hit him.

It was determined that he was shot during a robbery and since his gun had been fired once, that the culprit was also wounded, but got away.

Lewis died in his room at the Girard's Inn on the Natchez Trace. The Trace was a main artery between Natchez Mississippi and Nashville Tennessee. The route was dangerous with gangs of robbers and all other people of questionable moral character. So, at the time, Lewis was written off as just another victim of violence on the Trace.

However, it was the evidence of a Masonic apron that has given the incident its notoriety.

Meriwether Lewis was initiated an Entered Apprentice on Dec. 31, 1796 in Virtue Lodge #44, A.F.A.M., located in Abermarle County, Virginia.

Continued on next page.

## MERIWETHER LEWIS--THE MASON continued

Later in western Pennsylvania, the 23 yr. old U.S. Infantry Lieutenant was "recommended, as a proper fellow, to be a member." On Jan. 29, 1797, he was passed to Fellowcraft. He was "raised" a Master Mason on April 2 or 3, 1797. Also "raised" that evening were Peter and Samuel Carr, nephews of Thomas Jefferson. Later Bro. Lewis was assigned to Washington D.C. and became President Jefferson's personal secretary.

Brother Lewis was "exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch, on October 31, 1799. Lewis, a while later, received the Super Excellent Master degree in Widow's Son Lodge in Milton, Virginia.

In 1803, Lewis and co-commander William Clark led the famous exploratory expedition ordered by Jefferson to the N.W. territory. They returned in 1896 after 3 years of, often perilous, travels. Lewis was then assigned to be governor of the N.W. Louisiana Territory (which included southern Missouri). While there he petitioned the lodge at Pittsburgh for the degrees of Masonry for Capt. William Clark.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on Sept. 15, 1808, received a petition from Lewis to charter a lodge in St. Louis, which became St. Louis Lodge #11. It was in this lodge that William Clark received his degrees.

Bro. Meriwether Lewis always had his Masonic apron with him on his travels. It is from his actions that we can assume that he was as active in the fraternity as time would permit. When he died, he was a member of St. Louis Lodge #11.



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## MY GRANDSON

We were on a family vacation to the Virgin Islands, and I went on a walk with my 6 yr old grandson, introduced him into the idea of evolution. We sat on the ground and talked about natural selection, adaptation--the whole thing. For 45 minutes. It was glorious. The next day, he was swimming with his cousin and asked her a question, and she said, "That sounds like a science question. Why don't you ask Grandpa?"

He said, "I'm not making that mistake again."



## THE HARVEST MOON

What is a Harvest Moon? Good that you should ask? The Harvest Moon is the first Full Moon that is close to the Fall Equinox which occurred on Sept. 22. So, this year, the first Full Moon is in October. The Harvest Moon is hard to ignore on a clear night at moonrise. It will be that large orange-red orb in the eastern sky. Here is some folklore involving the Full Moon"



-- A rabbit's foot brings luck if the rabbit is caught in a cemetery by a cross-eyed person at the "dark" of the moon.

--- Holding a moonstone in your mouth while looking at the full moon will reveal the future.

--- A Full Moon on Monday brings luck.

--- Expose your newborn to the "waxing" moon; it will bring the baby strength.

--- Move a residence during the "new" moon; prosperity will increase as the moon "waned."

Good Luck!

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## WIVES AND HUSBANDS

When the door to our front porch is opened, the doorbell rings and a motion light comes on. One night, they had been in bed for awhile and both happened. The wife awoke, shook the husband and said, "The doorbell rang and the light 's on."

"What?", he said groggily.

"The doorbell rang and the light's on."

"Huh?"

"The doorbell rang and the light's on", she repeated

He raised his head up. "Say that again."

Clenching her teeth, she spoke slowly, "Somebody is on the porch."

He said, "How do you know?"

Her husband gave her a beautiful anniversary card that had lovely art and heartfelt verse. Wiping away a tear, she said, "That is the sweetest card I ever received."

"Really?" he said. grinning broadly. "What does it say?"



## FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA<sup>(continued)</sup>

### In the Beginning"

After a few military expeditions into the (Louisiana) Territory for the purpose establishing families, a permanent military post was established at Belle Point on the Arkansas River, in 1818 to establish the authority of the United States. It was called Fort Smith in honor of Brigadier General Thomas Smith of Virginia. Major Stephen Long of New Hampshire and Major William Bradford of Virginia were in charge of military operations at the time. There are reasons to believe that both were Master Masons.

Practically all the functions of government including the administration of the affairs of the various tribes of Indians were carried on from Fort Smith and under the auspices of the War Department until 1824 when it became necessary to establish other headquarters at the confluence of the Arkansas, Verdigris and Grand Rivers later known as Fort Gibson and Fort Towson near the Kiamichi. These establishments were organized and left under the direct charge of Colonel Matthew Arbuckle, a Master Mason.

In the arduous task of meeting constantly changing Indian conditions, his chief reliance was upon Pierre Choteau, a Master Mason. Bro. Arbuckle's principal military contemporary was Colonel Henry Dodge, a Master Mason.

The first permanent Masonic organization in the Arkansas country was on June, 25, 1818, when a lodge was organized by Bro. Andrew Scott under dispensation from the G.L. of Kentucky. This Lodge was chartered on May 29, 1820., but death and emigration so decimated the Masonic strength of the community that the charter had to be surrendered 2 years later. Soon therefore, it was agreed that Arkansas should have 2 lodges ---Morning Star Lodge on the eastern side of the State and Western Star Lodge at Little Rock. "

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## FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA<sup>(continued)</sup>

In the Beginning" (continued )

Morning Star Lodge flared brilliantly for a brief time, then waned, and almost disappeared from the Masonic horizon until 1836 when it was located at the "Port of Arkansas". Western Star Lodge prospered from the beginning and after steady growth was a substantial Masonic unit in the same year. Meanwhile, Washington Lodge #1 chartered by the G.L. of Tennessee in 1837 was located at Fayetteville and Mount Horeb Lodge at Washington began work under dispensation from the G.L. of Alabama in 1838.

These 4 lodges met in convention in 1838 at Little Rock where they formed the G. L. of Arkansas.

to be continued

### **DON'T WANT TO WORK HERE**

When the coffeemaker went on the frit, the worker joked that maybe it was the fault of the cockroaches. The office manager was not amused.

"We don't have cockroaches," she said, putting the worker straight.

"What about all the roach traps?" he asked, pointing to one.

"A lot you know--those aren't roach traps," she sniffed. "Those are mouse traps."

***"The Scottish Rite Mason is to seek knowledge and be motivated by duty and honor"***

***Reunion Program***

***Editor Don Jones 33°***

