



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

**Newsletter Date**

**October 29, 2020**

**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 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

## CHANGES MADE FOR A "VIRTUAL" 112th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

M.:W.: Bobby Peters, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma, exercised the powers of his office by suspending certain sections of the Constitution & Laws. This was done in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.



Those Sections were #301, F, & I, and Section 302. These have to do with Place of Meeting, Proxies, Registration of Delegates, and Section 304, Balloting and Voting.

In their place he made the following Decision:

- ◆ Hold the 112th Grand Lodge Communication by virtual Zoom Webinar.
- ◆ Allow only one vote per registered member.
- ◆ Make ALL credentials for elected Lodge officers. "Transferable only to a Master Mason who is member of the same Lodge and who is not a Past Master of an Oklahoma Lodge."

In other words, if you are a Past Master and an elected Lodge officer, (W.M., Sr. or Jr. Warden), you may only vote as the elected Lodge officers OR as a Past Master. Not both. One member, One vote. No Multiple Proxies.

The above information was sent by letter and e-mail to every Lodge in Oklahoma, on October 20th.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



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

#### Upcoming Reunions:

**2021**  
**April 17-18**  
**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

Page 2

## **MISION STATEMENT OF SCOTTISH RITE**

It is the mission of the of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, S.J., to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching an emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth which they while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, companionship, and dedication to God, to family and country.

### **Strategic Objectives:**

- Fulfill the promises of additional Masonic knowledge through education & training.
- Build a Positive Public Image of Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite.
- Support and Expand our Philanthropic activities.
- Provide a framework for effective leadership to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.
- Provide a financial process to ensure the stability and long term success of the Fraternity.

## **MANNERS**

A certain dignity of manners is absolutely necessary to make even the most valuable character either respectable or respected in the world.

Lord Chesterfield

He who has conferred a kindness should be silent, he who has received one should speak of it.

Seneca, philosopher



## MASONIC ACTIVITY

**Thursday, Nov. 5; 11:30 a.m.** Luncheon  
OKC-McAlester Membership Luncheon  
Golden Corral, I-40 & MacArthur, OKC  
John Salisbury, 33°, Chairman  
Masks; gloves provided by restaurant

**Saturday, Nov. 7,** Perpetual Pathway  
Composite Lodge, Shawnee, OK  
555 Kickapoo Rd.

**Monday, Nov. 9;** L.O.P. Stated Meeting  
McAlester S.R. Center, McAlester, OK  
Blue Lodge Room, west door, upstairs  
Masks and Social Distancing required.

**Saturday, Nov. 14;** Grand Lodge of Oklahoma  
Virtual Annual Communication; ZOOM meeting  
Must be pre-registered with Grand Lodge and  
with Zoom webinar.  
(See above for voting information.)

**April 17-18, 2021;** 342nd Reunion  
Valley of McAlester Scottish Rite Masons  
Be a part of Masonic history in Oklahoma  
Be a McAlester Scottish Rite Mason!

---

### **ON THAT NOTE**

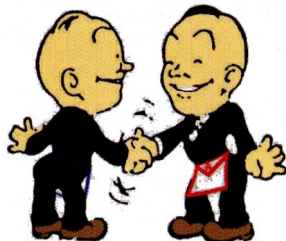
Brethren:

The next Reunion of our Scottish Rite Bodies has been fixed, (see above). Now let us begin getting candidates for the Spring Reunion. Petitions are available

This is a message to you, and a call to duty. If we all pull together, we will have no trouble in building a class of candidates.

The size of the class depends upon the zeal of the membership of our Scottish Rite Valley

Come on ---- we are counting on You!



**SOMEONE IS WAITING FOR  
YOU TO ASK THEM TO JOIN  
THE SCOTTISH RITE!**



## WHY IS IT CALLED "HALLOWEEN?"

As with many holidays, Halloween is rooted in our agricultural past marking the end of harvest time and the beginning of the new year.



The origin of Halloween and many of its customs can be traced to Samhain, an ancient pagan Celtic festival that is Celtic for "summer's end", a day to bid goodbye to warmth and light. The ancient Celts believed that the veil between worlds of the living and the dead was at its thinnest during Samhain, thereby making it the ideal time to communicate with the deceased and to divine the future.

Following the triumph of the Roman Empire over Celt-occupied lands in the 1st century, A.D., the Romans combined many of the Celtic traditions including Sambain, with their own. This day evolved into All Hallow's Day or Allhallowmas, "hallow" meaning "to sanctify."

Years later the Roman Catholic Church designated November 1 as All Saints' Day in honor of all Catholic saints. It was celebrated with a Mass, bonfire, and people costumed as angels and saints parading through the villages. November 2 brings All Souls' Day a holy day set aside for honoring the dead departed.

Just as November 1 was once called All Hallow' Day, October 31 was called All Hallow' Eve. Over time All Hallows' Eve was shortened to Halloween!

(Trick or Treat!)





## **ADDICTION and CELEBRITIES**

"I don't do drugs. I am drugs."

Salvador Dali

"Reality is just a crutch for people who can't have drugs."

Robin Williams

"I got addicted. News, particularly daily news, more addictive than crack cocaine, more addictive than heroin, more addictive than cigarettes."

Dan Rather

"I try not to drink too much because when I'm drunk, I bite."

Bette Midler

"In my twenties, I tried cocaine which I instantly loved but eventually hated. Cocaine is terrific if you want to hang out with people you don't know very well and play Ping-Pong every night. It's bad for almost everything else."

Amy Poehler

## **SHINERS CELEBRATE THEIR OLDEST LIVING PATIENT**

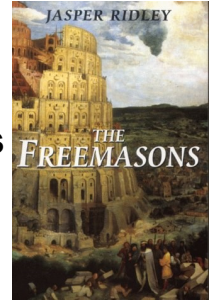
The impact that Shriners' Hospitals for Children has reverberated through generations. This was especially evident at a special celebration earlier this year -- Inez H. Roberts, who is believed to be the oldest living Shriners' Hospital for Children, turned 103.

As a surprise for Inez, Shriners Hospital patients and staff put together a video with well-wishes from them and Imperial Potentate, Jeffrey Sowder. Irene, who lives in a Montana senior living community, was also treated to a pair of drive-by birthday parties. Family members shared the experience outside with gifts and her favorited meals, which were delivered.



## BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

### "The Freemasons; A History of the World's Most Powerful Secret Society." by Jasper Ridley



The fact that historian Ridley is neither a Freemason nor a conspiracy theorist provides him with a more objective, academic view of Freemasonry's historical role than that of many shrill attacks on the organization published over the last few years. Readers looking for a deeper understanding of Freemasonry will find Ridley a fascinating, informative guide to its historical and contemporary roles.

The Kirkus Reviews

Arcade Publishing, New York; c. 2001

---

## THE MASTER CRAFTSMAN PROGRAMS

This is a plan of continuing education programs for Scottish Rite Masons. The programs were developed and produced by the Supreme Council of the S.J. The lessons may be completed via mail as a correspondence Course or done "online" with the Supreme Council. A reference book is required and is included in the price of the programs.

Originally developed for individual study, many Scottish Rite Clubs have made it a "group" project which adds to the fellowship of the Rite.

The Programs are as follows:

Program 1: The Symbolic Lodge will familiarize with aspects of the development of Blue Lodge Masonry and explore some of its developing symbolism.

(Continued on next page)



## THE MASTER CRAFTSMAN PROGRAMS

(continued from previous page)

Program II: Scottish Rite History and Ritual consists of six lessons, utilizing the "Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor & Guide" and "A Bridge to Light", (4th ed.)

Program III ; Scottish Rite Philosophy uses Albert Pike's "Morals and Dogma, Annotated Edition." The course consists of 33 quizzes grouped into 10 sessions.

Several of our Scottish Rite Brethren in the Orient have successfully completed the programs and are "Master Craftsmen". Join them.

Check the Supreme Council site or visit with your Valley's General Secretary.

---

### ADVERTISEMENT IN OCTOBER, 1930 "OKLAHOMA MASON"

PILES CURED WITHOUT SURGERY No Burning No Knife      No Chloroform No Tying      No Ether  Dr. H. C. Montague 402--3 Manhattan Bld. Muskogee, OK (Long distance, telephone 585)
---

### OKLAHOMA FREEMASONRY DURING THE SPANISH FLU OF 1918

by **T.S. Akers** (continued)

What we know about the Spanish flu today is, that it came in three waves. The Spanish flu, which has been identified as an H1N1 strain, was different from the standard influenza in that it infected the upper respiratory tract, and then settled into the lungs with viral or bacterial pneumonia. (Continued on next page)



# OKLAHOMA FREEMASONRY DURING THE SPANISH FLU OF 1918

by T.S. Akers

(continued from previous page)

It managed to kill so many young people because their immune systems attacked the disease with such force that it killed them. The second wave began as early as August in Switzerland where a U.S. Navy intelligence officer in a report marked "Secret and Confidential" indicated the Spanish flu had become an epidemic. In the United States, it was again an army camp that would see the first influenza cases. Camp Devens near Boston housed 45,000 soldiers with a camp hospital capable of accommodating 1,200. On September 7, 1918, a soldier at Camp Devens was diagnosed with meningitis. The next day, twelve more men from the same company were afflicted and physicians soon changed the diagnosis to influenza. At the peak, 1,543 soldiers were reported sick in a single day at Camp Devens. In total, the Spanish flu would kill 675,000 Americans, of which 43,000 were servicemen. Most of these deaths occurred in the second, or main wave, which came in the autumn. A subsequent wave was seen in early 1919.

As previously noted, reporting of the Spanish flu in American papers was being censored. The Sedition Act had it made punishable by twenty years in prison to publish any "disloyal, profane, scurrilous, or abusive language about the form of government of the United States." Posters urged the reporting of anyone "who spreads pessimistic stories." During a four-day period in October, the hospital at Camp Pike in Arkansas admitted 8,000 soldiers. Just seven miles away in Little Rock, a headline in the Gazette read: "Spanish influenza is plain la grippe – same old fever and chills." For Philadelphia, downplaying the threat of the Spanish flu proved disastrous.

(Continued on next page)





# OKLAHOMA FREEMASONRY DURING THE SPANISH FLU OF 1918

by T.S. Akers

(continued from previous page)

A naval vessel had brought the virus to that city from Boston in early September. The city then moved forward with a Liberty Loan parade on September 28 and 200,000 spectators crammed the streets for the event. Within three days, every hospital in Philadelphia was at capacity. By October 12, 4,500 people had died. It had become clear that dense populations, as had been seen in the army camps, accelerated the spread of the virus. The nation would soon see the closing of schools, theatres, bars, and other gathering places. Mothers were even warned to confine their children to their own yards. It is important to note that factories and industry remained operational owing to war production.

(To be continued)

***"To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy of the benevolent design of a Masonic institution; and it is most fervently to be wished, that the conduct of every member of the fraternity, as well as those publications, that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race." – George Washington***

***Editor Don Jones 33°***

