



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

Newsletter Date

November 17, 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 Center

### 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 Ka-  
dosh

## Happy Thanksgiving

### WHY THE "FEAST OF TISHRI?"

When our ancient brethren chose to use the emblems and symbols of the building of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem, it became fitting for later Masons to celebrate the Dedication of the Temple. The significance of the Feast of Tishri makes it the most Scottish Rite of festivals. Although originally celebrated as a harvest and gathering festival, no other occasion epitomizes the character and purpose of the Rite more wholly than our historic celebration, held in conjunction with the dedication King Solomon's Temple (2 Chronicles 8:1-10) To marshal the meanings of the feast summarize the principal ideals and traditions of our Fraternity.

We observe the Feast of Tishri because it is an age-old custom which now had the power of law. Under the Statutes of the Supreme Council, the feast is considered an obligatory observance, a sharing of our Fraternity.

The message of Tishri comes to us strongly and clearly from across the ages because it has been so preserved in the symbolism and allegory of the Scottish Rite.

### **FOR THIS, I AM THANKFUL**

Here are the things I prize  
And hold of deepest worth:  
Light of the sapphire skies,  
Peace of the silent hills,  
Shelter of forest, comfort of the grass,  
Shadow of clouds that swiftly pass,  
And after showers  
The smell of flowers,  
And of the good brown earth--  
And best of all, along the way,  
Friendship and mirth.

--Henry vanDyke



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

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#### 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

## **OKLAHOMA'S 2021 HONOR MEN INVESTED OR CORONETED OCTOBER 31, 2021.**

The Honors for Scottish Rite Masons in Oklahoma were bestowed to the 2021 Classes last month on October 31.

The Degree of Coronation of the 33rd Degree was the first event of the afternoon. It was followed by the Investiture of the new Knights Commander of the Court of Honor.



The ceremonies were followed by a banquet of the Honor Men in the banquet hall of the Guthrie Scottish Rite. The Flag was presented by the young men of the

DeMolay and the meals were served by the young ladies of the Rainbow.

The Grand Cross of Honor recipient for 2021, Dr. Richard Polk, 33°, of Tulsa gave the address for the Class. Several toasts were presented by a number of Brethren from around the state of Oklahoma. S.G.I.G. Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33° presided over the festivities.

### **ANOTHER OKLAHOMA MASON JOINS THE ACACIA CLUB.**

Bro. Christopher J. Mochon, 32°, is the latest Scottish Rite Mason to become a member of the House of the Temple's Acacia Club.

Bro. Mochon is a member of Hennessy Lodge #56 and he lives in Hennessy, OK. He became a Master of the Royal Secret, 32nd degree, in 2013 at the Guthrie Scottish Rite.

Those that join the Acacia Club have contributed \$1,000 to the House of the Temple Building Fund.

Congratulations, Bro. Mochon. Your gift will help to ensure that our national symbol remains for future generations.

## SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY

**Nov. 25-26** Thanksgiving Holiday  
Scottish Rite offices Closed.  
Happy Thanksgiving!

**Wed. Dec. 1;** 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 pm  
Fellowship; Coffee & Donuts  
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center  
Men's Lounge

### REGIONAL:

Wichita, KS

**Sat. Nov. 27;** Grand Assembly  
Kansas Rainbow  
Wichita S.R. Masonic Center

**Tues., Nov. 30;** 7:30 p.m.  
Honor Men meeting  
Wichita S.R. Masonic Center

Joplin, MO

**Wed., Dec. 1,** 1:00 p.m. Luncheon  
Monthly Membership meeting  
Joplin S.R. Masonic Center

**January, 2022;** "Burns Supper"  
Robert Burns birthday observance  
Hickory Hill Country Club  
Springfield MO  
Reservations online or call the  
Joplin S.R. Masonic Center  
Cordials 6 pm; Dinner 7 pm.

Ft. Worth, Texas

**Wed. Nov. 24;** 11:30 am Lunch  
Ft. Worth S.R. Gun Club  
(lunch only)

**Wed. Dec. 1;** 11:00 am; Shoot & Eat  
Ft. Worth S.R. Gun Club  
call Temple for location  
Ft. Worth S.F. Masonic Center



## MOVIES OF MASONIC INTEREST

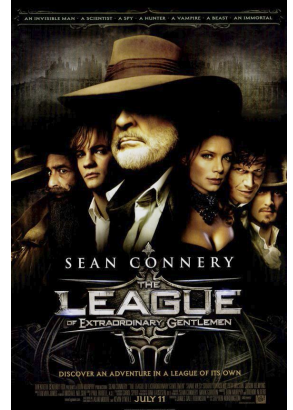
"The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen."

(2003)

The movie is adapted from a series of "graphic" novels. The Freemasons are not always presented in a positive way here. However, the action flows constantly and one needs to pay attention for any masonic moments. In fact, the "evil" Masons may be implicated in the coming disasters that the League seeks to prevent.

The movie moves fast. It combines action with what may be called comedy when appropriate.

It is entertainment with good acting and exciting action



### GENTLEMEN

Emerson-"Good manners are made up of petty sacrifices."

Robert Steele - "Men of courage, men of sense and men of letters are frequent: but a true gentleman is what one seldom sees."

Addison - "Good - breeding shows itself most to where to an ordinary eye it appears the least."

### ***The Knife And Fork Degree***

*I don't attend the meetings,  
for I've not the time to spare.  
But every time they have a feast,  
you'll surely find me there.  
I cannot help with the degrees,  
for I do not know the work.  
But I can applaud the speaker,  
and handle a knife and fork.  
I'm so rusty in the ritual,  
that it seems like Greek to me,  
But practice has made me perfect,  
in the Knife and Fork degree.  
By:A.J. Disbrow*





## WHY GEOMETRY?

Masonry, my brethren, is a progressive science meant to lead man from ignorance to enlightenment. It is a system of Spiritual Initiation with Geometry as a carrier of the code. Geometry is unique among the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences in that it alone is able to engage the mind at a rudimentary level and lead it to the Divine Plan. It is a connecting bridge. For this reason, Geometry is revered and practiced by Masons and in fact is said to be synonymous with Masonry. This manifest Universe is based on Number, but it is Geometry that gives number form and allows it to enter into man's mind through his senses.

Geometry, again, is unique in its ability to engage us at the level of the Intellect and when meditated upon can facilitate the unfolding of the intuition or higher faculties of mind.

The intellect thorough only can carry us so far. While it is the supporting structure that enables us to move from ignorance to intelligence, it must eventually yield to a higher faculty, the Intuition. As John the Baptist was the herald of one greater than he, so the intellect is merely the preparer of the way. At its highest development, can only ever attain to being the handmaiden of the Intuition, which is the attainment of the Master Mason. It is through the higher mind that we connect with the Divine and access the designs drawn upon the Trestle board and learn to work in concert with the "Divine Plan." (32nd Degree)

from Duke B. O'Neill, PM

Columbia Lodge #14, AFAM

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### Bad Luck

A small Lodge had had a string of bad luck. It was preparing to initiate a candidate on a steamy evening in June and it's air conditioner had stopped working.

After sweating their way through part of the work, the Master had asked the candidate what he most desired.

The candidate replied "a beer".

At this juncture, the W.M., being startled, whispered "light" to the candidate.

"OK," the candidate replied, "a lite beer."

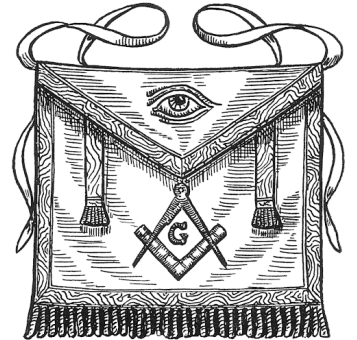


# The Master's Apron

Robert Burns

There's many a badge that's very grand  
With ribbon, lace and tape on  
Let kings and princes wear them all,  
Give me the Master's apron!

The honest craftsman's apron,  
The jolly Freemason's apron,  
Be he at home or roam afar,  
Before his touch fall bolt and bar,  
The gates of fortune fly ajar,  
When he but wears the apron!



For wealth and honor, pride and power  
are crumbling stones to base on  
Eternity should rule the hour,  
and every worthy Mason!  
Each Free Accepted Mason,  
Each Ancient Crafted Mason.

Then Brethren, let a wholesome song  
Arouse your friendly ranks along.  
Good wives and children blithely sing  
To the ancient badge with the apron string  
That is worn by the Master Masons!

Christened **Robert Burness**, the celebrated Scottish poet was born January 25, 1759 in Alloway, near Ayr. His poetry is known around the world and he is well known to freemasons as the Poet Laureate of Lodge Canongate Kilwinning, No.2.

He joined Saint David's Lodge No. 174, Tarbolton in 1781, the first of six masonic lodges he was to join. By 1784 he was Depute Master of Saint James' Lodge No 178, now 135, in the same town. In 1788, two years after publication of his Kilmarnock edition, he was master of a lodge in Mauchline.

A childhood bout with rheumatic fever led to a gradual deterioration of his health until his death on 21 July 1796 at the age of 37.



## Turn It Off and On Again

Whoever said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results has obviously never had to reboot a computer.

—William Petersen

## AN ARM AND A LEG

Robert went to his lawyer and said, 'I would like to make a will but I don't know exactly how to go about it.' The lawyer smiled at Robert and replied, 'Not a problem, leave it all to me.'

Robert looked somewhat upset and said, 'Well, I knew you were going to take a big portion, but I would like to leave a little to my family too!'

## FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA (continued)

In the Beginning"

Col. Peter Pitchlynn

Among the noblest characters to be found in either Masonic or "profane" history of Oklahoma is Bro. Peter P. Pitchlynn, Choctaw Chief. He was knighted in Washington Commandery No. 1, Washington, D.C., May 27, 1854. Colonel Pitchlynn visited the Grand Lodge of Georgia in 1854 and in the Proceedings for that year it is recorded that:

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master presented to the Grand Lodge of Georgia Col. P.P. Pitchlynn, a Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Indians, who addressed the Grand Lodge in a most interesting and elegant manner, giving good evidence that he felt and understood the true principles of the Order of Masonry; and also gave a very favorable account of the conditions of the Craft in his tribe, which he considered a convincing proof of their progress in civilization."

Continued on next page



## FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA (continued)

Bro. Pitchlynn's Indian name was "Ha-tchoo-tue=kee" (Snapping Turtle). He was born in Hus-ook-wa, now a part of Nosubee, County, Mississippi in 1806. He died in Washington, D. C. in January 1881. His remains were buried in the Congressional Cemetery. While a small boy he was sent 200 miles from home to school. Upon his return home found his people negotiating a treaty with the U. S. Government. He considered the contract a fraud upon the Tribe and refused to shake hands with the government's representative, General Andrew Jackson. In later years he and Gen. Jackson became good friends. He graduated from the University of Nashville.



Among the champions of the Indian's cause in the early Thirties was the colorful Sam Houston who capitalized upon his personal friendship with President Jackson in the Indian's behalf. Houston had been made Master Mason in Cumberland Lodge No. 8 Cumberland, Tennessee in 1817. His interest in Indian welfare was of incalculable importance.

to be continued

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

(Note: The "Clarence Brain:" Masonic Library located in the McAlester Scottish Rite Temple has, in its collection, a book of poems written by Albert Pike. Inside the cover is this inscription; "to my good friend and Brother, Col. Peter Pinchlynn and signed by Albert Pike.)

***"Let us be thankful of the One who has provided so much inside the lives of each of us and share our thankfulness with one another."***

***Sov. Grand Commander, James D. Cole, 33°***

***Editor Don Jones 33°***