



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

Newsletter Date

November 19, 2022

Editor : Don Jones, 33°

## FORMER S.G.I.G. KEY INDUCTED INTO THE OKLAHOMA MILITARY HALL OF FAME (Ceremony held in McAlester Temple)



**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 Wednesday of the Month

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

#### 1st Thursday 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 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, 33° General Secretary

William C. Cox, 33°, Member

Thomas S. Crowl, 33 G.C., Member Emeritus

Wade Massey, 33°, Member

Phillip Johnson, 32° KCCH Member

Samuel Box, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master

Brent Heilman 32°, KCCH, Wise Master

Mike Wright, 32°, KCCH, Commander

Russell Davis 32°, Master of Kadosh



Major General William S. Key was (posthumously) inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 5, 2022. The ceremony was held in the McAlester Scottish Rite Center with General Key looking on from his portrait which is on the Lobby wall. SGIG Manning and his wife Cindy were present for the ceremony.

Born in 1889, Brother Key exhibited energy and drive throughout his life. He was an entrepreneur, civic leader, Freemason and military officer.

Key's Masonic career began in 1913 when he was raised in Seminole Lodge #147, in Wewoka. He served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1921.

Bro. Key later became a member of the York Rite and was a member of the St. Luke Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine. He was also a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, and after becoming a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1929 was coroneted with the 33rd Degree in October, 1937.

He was appointed Deputy of the Supreme Council for Oklahoma, and elevated to Active Member of the Supreme Council. He served as Oklahoma's Sovereign Grand Inspector General until his death in 1959.

A major achievement of his term was the establishment of a new Consistory in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Bro. Key was also an active member of the National Sojourners and Mystic Shrine.

But, on this day, November 5, 2022, Major General Key was being honored for his military career.

(continued on next page)

Dr. G. David Donathan, 33° President  
Brett Cable, 32° KCCH Vice-President  
Jeremy Warren, 33°, Trustee  
Bruce Hall 33° Trustee Emeritus  
Advisory Council Trustees  
Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33° SGIG

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Upcoming Reunions:

**2023**  
**April 1-2**  
**October 21 & 22**

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

**KEY** (continued)

His military career began in 1907 as a soldier in Pershing's Expeditionary Force that went into Mexico to capture Poncho Villa.

Key was in the U.S. Army during World War 1. At the end of that War, he joined the National Guard. When the War in Europe began, Key was made Commander of the 45th Army Division which went to Ft. Sill for training. There Key trained the 160th Artillery Regiment.

Key's first assignment at the onset of World War II was as Commanding Officer of the occupation forces in Iceland. As the War progressed, he served in the major theaters in Europe. After the War, the Major General was assigned the Commanding Officer of the Occupational Force in Hungary.

Key retired from the Army in 1949 as a Major General and had received several awards. Chief among them was the Distinguished Service Medal with 2 Oak Leaves, the Bronze Star, and European Theatre Command.

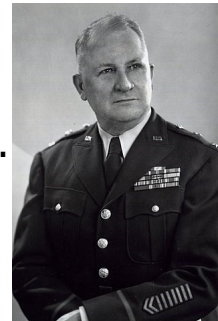
Family of Major General Key were present to accept the honor and expressed their appreciation to the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame and the Scottish Rite for hosting the event.

We close with a quote from Robert G. Davis, 33, G.C.:  
"General Key's record as a soldier, merchant, realtor, banker, civic worker, and Mason was a story of achievement which is rarely equaled in the human events of history."

**THE MASON'S PLEDGE**  
**by Bro. Rob Morris**

Brother, hearken, while I tell you  
What we Masons pledged to do  
When, prepared at yonder altar,  
We assumed the Mason's vow!  
Foot and knee, breast, hand and cheek --  
Hearken while I make them speak!

Cheek to cheek, in timely whisper  
When the temper strives to win.  
Urge the brother's bounden duty,  
Show him the approaching sin.  
Point to him the deadly snare,  
Save him with a brother's care.



## SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY MASONIC ACTIVITY

**Mon.; Nov 21** Muskogee Scottish Rite Society – Monthly Lunch 12:00 Noon  
(Usually on Wednesday but moved this month)

**Thur.-Fri.; Nov. 24, 25;** Thanksgiving  
Temple Offices closed  
Happy Thanksgiving from the Temple Staff.

**Fri., Nov. 25;** Anniversary  
United Grand Lodge of England organized - 1813

**Sun., Dec. 4;** Supreme Council AASR  
The anniversary of the Supreme Council's issuance of the "Manifesto" to the world of Masonry -- 1802



**Mon. Dec. 12;** 7:00 pm, Stated Mtg.  
McAlester Lodge of Perfection  
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center  
Use south door.

**Wed. Dec. 21;** Winter Solstice  
official beginning of winter. And shortest day of the year.

**Sun., Dec. 25;** Christmas Day  
Temple Offices closed on Mon,  
the 26th. Merry Christmas.

**Tue., Dec. 27;** St. John's Day  
St. John the Evangelist Day is commemorated by the Symbolic Lodges.

### BAD JOKES

Someone stole my mood ring yesterday.  
I still don't know how I feel about that.

Light travels faster than sound, which is the reason that some people appear bright before you hear them speak.



## **S.G.I.G. in OKLAHOMA ELECTED TO IMPERIAL COUNCIL (Red Cross) OFFICE**

At the annual assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine, our Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Oklahoma, Ill. Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33° was elected to the office of Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer.

We congratulate our Scottish Rite leader for his continued activity in appendant Masonic Bodies.



## **ANOTHER OKLAHOMAN BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE "ACACIA GUILD"**



Bro. Rusty D. Henson, 32°, is a Scottish Rite Masons at the Valley of Tulsa, OK. He recently became a member of the House of the Temple's Acacia Guild.

The Acacia Guild is a program in which the \$1,100 fee is entered in a fund for the preservation of the House

Bro. Henson is a member of Grove Lodge #187. A Master Masons since 2017, he is also a member of the Scottish Rite, the York Rite and is a Shriner. He has been busy.

Congratulations to Bro. Henson and thank you for your commitment to the Rite.

## **MORE BAD JOKES**

The sky was looking ominous so I asked Siri, "Surely, it's not going to rain today?"

And she replied, "Yes it is, and don't call me Shirley."

That was when I realized I'd left my phone on Airplane mode.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.





## V. M. A. P. (Valley membership Achievement Program)

### #5-- Scottish Rite Education for Candidates

\*\*\* Candidates are provided break-out sessions during Degree weekends in which themes and meanings of individual Degrees are more fully explained and discussed.

\*\*\* Candidates are presented a written history of the Valley.

\*\*\* Candidates are presented A Bridge to Light by the Valley at the Reunion in which they join.

\*\*\* Candidates are presented Morals and Dogma by the Valley at the Reunion in which they join.

\*\*\* Candidates are provided an interest and expectations survey.

\*\*\* The Valley establishes a "passport" program, encouraging members to see all 29 Degrees.

### **THE SQUARE AND COMPASSES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN OTHER WORKING TOOLS**

WHY?

Without compasses no accurate square can be made: without a square no building can be erected. The square and compasses are universally the symbol of a Master Mason and of Freemasonry. Symbolists have read many meanings into both these tools of a Freemason. Both symbols are much older than Freemasonry; Chinese manuscripts give them a Masonic significance (although there was no Freemasonry in that country two thousand years ago).

No symbols in Freemasonry offer so many possible interpretations. But many symbols mean different things to different men; each interprets according to his best light. In modern Masonic rituals, the compasses are "dedicated to the Craft" and is emblematic of the restraint of violent passions. Here "passions" refers to any over-emotional lack of control. It is passions in the larger sense; intemperance, temper, unjust judgment, intolerance, selfishness, that the spiritual compasses circumscribe. The positions of the square and compasses in the three degrees are universally symbols of light, further light, more light.



## Perfect Ashlars. Rob Morris

*The sunbeams from the eastern sky,  
Flash from yon blocks, exalted high,  
And on their polished fronts proclaim  
The framer and the builder's fame.*

*Glowing beneath the fervid noon  
Yon marble dares the southern sun,  
It tells that wall of fervid flame,  
The framer and the builder's fame.*

*The chastened sun, adown the west,  
Speaks the same voice and sinks to rest,  
No sad defect, no flaw to shame  
The framer and the builder's fame.*

*Beneath the dewy night, the sky  
Lights up ten thousand lamps on high  
Ten thousand lamps unite to name  
The framer and the builder's fame.*

*Perfect in line, exact in square,  
These Ashlars of the Craftsmen are,  
They will to coming time proclaim  
The framer and the builder's fame.*



### Meaning of the Scottish Rite Cap

"In the Scottish Rite, the caps [indicate] the consecration of one's physical and spiritual (material and intellectual) attributes to the betterment of humanity. On the one hand, the caps are an inheritance from our chivalric tradition, as similar ones were associated with European Orders of Knighthood, where they evolved from the Arming Bonnet, worn under the helmet. On the other hand, they are also worn as a type of prayer cap, a tradition which also survives in some religions. Thus, the caps are a constant reminder that the physical must be subject to the spiritual and that, like knights, we must valiantly endeavor to maintain honor and virtue by applying the Moral Sense and Reason." —From Arturo de Hoyos, *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide*,



## HISTORY & THANKSGIVING

In a 1789 proclamation, President George Washington called upon the people of the United States to acknowledge God for affording them "opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness" by observing a day of thanksgiving. Devoting a day to "public thanksgiving and prayer," as Washington called it, became a yearly tradition in many countries.

Of course, Thanksgiving is not born of presidential proclamations. Native American's harvest festivals had been celebrated for centuries, and colonial services date to the late 16th century.

***Sow a thought, reap an act,***

***Sow an act, reap a habit;***

***Sow a habit, reap a character;***

***Sow a character, reap a destiny.***

***Thank you, Brethren, for your support.***

***Editor Don Jones 33°***



Happy  
Thanksgiving

