



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

December 15, 2022

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 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 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, 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



FREEMASONRY and CHRISTMAS

Certainly, Freemasonry is not a religion, Christian or otherwise. It leaves the determination on spiritual matters to each individual Mason, so long as he believes in the Almighty Creator, but there are certain messages from the story of Christmas that are applicable to all Masons, not just those who celebrate a certain birth on December 25th.

HOWEVER: according to a Christmas song, it IS a 12-day celebration! And within those 12 days is when the ancient Romans celebrated the holiday of Saturnalia with much feasting and the exchange of gift. Also, the Winter Solstice occurs on December 21st which the ancient peoples celebrated, with feasting and drinking, the re-birth of the Sun.

The Scottish Rite celebration of Christmas held in 2021 at the Valley of Omaha, Nebraska was a joyful time. The theme of the evening was National Lampoon's movie, "Christmas Vacation", and was sponsored by the Lodge of Perfection.

The emcee for the evening was "Cousin Eddie," With help from wives and daughters, the L.O.P. officers represented other characters from the movie.

Following the catered Christmas banquet, membership awards were presented. The Venerable Master of the L.O.P. presented the Educational Foundation with a \$1,200 donation.

Then, guess who? Santa Clause made his appearance with toys and candies for the children

At the conclusion of the festivities, the date for the 2022 banquet and celebration was announced - December 21st.

The evening was closed with a:

Merry CHRISTMAS to All and to All a Good Night.

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

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:

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](#)

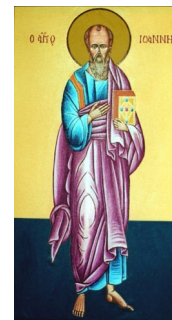
[Scottish Rite, Valley of Guthrie](#)

[Scottish Rite, Valley of Tulsa](#)

[Scottish Rite Research Society](#)

St. JOHN the EVANGELIST

In accordance with traditions of Freemasonry, the fraternity has two patron saints. They are St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. We in Masonry recognize them with observances: the Baptist in June and the Evangelist in December. These observances coincide with the summer and winter solstices.



St. John the Evangelist is represented by the equilateral triangle with the point "UP". This is the ancient symbol of "fire". and gives us a link to "light and knowledge".

The Evangelist came to this "knowledge" through his discipleship with Christ. Works that link him to this are "The Epistle of St. John" and the "Book of Revelations".

The message we can take from St. John the Evangelist is to "Apply Thyself" principally in the pursuit of more knowledge and therefore, more Light.

McALESTER MEMBER JOINS THE "ACACIA" GUILD

Charles W. Manning, 32°, has become a member of the "Acacia" Guild by contributing a donation to the House of the Temple. The Fund was set up by the Supreme Council to have money for temple preservation.



Bro. Manning is a plural member of McAlester and the Guthrie Valleys. At McAlester, he is a member and officer in the Knights of St. Andrew and Royal Order of the Duck. He also is the Director of the 29th Degree team.

We congratulate Bro. Manning for his commitment to the Scottish Rite.

ISN'T IT SO!

Successful Planning

We go on a vacation to forget things and we no sooner get where we planned than we find that we did.

Sweet Success

Money talks,
And it makes me cry,
For all it says,
Is good-bye.

SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY MASONIC ACTIVITY

Weekly, Wednesdays 9:00 am
Social Hour; coffee & pastries
McAlester S.R. Center,



Thur., Dec. 15; 7:00 pm Christmas Concert
77th Div. Army Band from Ft. Sill
Arch Thompson Auditorium; McAlester
Doors open at 6:00 pm
Sponsored: Indian Chapter of the Scottish
Rite and the City of McAlester.

Sat. Dec. 17; 11:00 am to 12 noon
"Wreaths Across America"
Military memorial service features
singing, 21-gun salute and speaker.
Sponsors: Indian Chapter of the Scottish
Rite and U.S. Army Ammunition plant.



Sat. Dec. 17, 7:00 pm, Organ Concert
Guthrie S.R. Christmas Concert
Guthrie S.C. Masonic Center
Open to the public.

Wed. Dec. 21; 12:00 noon; Luncheon
Muskogee Chapter of the Rite
Dining Room of the Muskogee Lodge
Use south door.

Wed., Dec. 21: Winter Solstice
1st day of winter and shortest
day of the year.

Sun., Dec. 25; Christmas Day
Temple Office will be closed on
Monday, the 26th
"Merry Christmas"

Tue., Dec. 27; St. Johns Observance
Blue Lodge observance of patron.

D.D.T. and ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

James Gallagher, BBC News

A (recent) study published in the "Journal of the American Medical Association", Neurology, showed patients with Alzheimer's had had four times as much DDT lingering in the body as healthy people.

Some countries still use the pesticide to control malaria. Alzheimer's' Researchers, United Kingdom, said more evidence was needed to prove DDT had a role in dementia.

DDT was a massively successful pesticide initially used to control malaria at the end of World War II and then to protect crops in commercial agriculture.

Note: DDT is found in virtually every plant and animal on every continent on the planet.

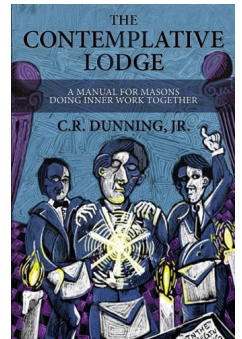
Note: the Oklahoma Masonic Charity Foundation funds Alzheimer's research through the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation.

BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

"The Contemplative Lodge: A Manual for Masons doing Inner Work Together"

by C.R. Dunning, Jr.

Review by Robert G. Davis, 33°, GC



"The Contemplative Lodge" provides the reader a conducive classroom for God's instruction. To be a man-temple is to be a place of contemplation, a consecrated center for uncovering the ultimate reality that is the God within us. My brethren, may we all take on our sacred responsibility of building the temple of our lives. Let me assure you that Brother Dunning is a great teacher and mentor in this type of Temple.

Published by: Stone Guild Publishing; Plano, Texas.

YOU DON'T SAY

Party Pooper

Indignant wife to husband as they leave a party: "Just because I'm a few pounds overweight, I wish you'd stop referring to me as a barrel of fun."



Brief History of Masonic Charity

From the March/April 2013 Scottish Rite Journal: Philanthropy or charity has been an important part of Freemasonry from its earliest records. The oldest Masonic document, the Regius Poem of ca. 1390 ends with these words, "Amen! Amen! So mote it be! So say we all for charity."

The first official book on Masonry, Rev. James Anderson's 1723 Constitutions of the Free-Masons, has this under General Regulation 7: Every new Brother at his making is ... to deposite something for the Relief of indigent and decay'd Brethren, as the Candidate shall think fit to bestow....

The first record of American Masonic philanthropy comes just six years after Anderson's Constitutions were published. IXthly Every Member shall pay at Least two shillings more per Quarter to be applied as Charity Towards the Relief of poor Brethren. —"Bylaws, First Lodge of Boston, 1733," in Melvin M. Johnson, *The Beginnings of Freemasonry in America* (1924), p. 106 This is believed to be the earliest records of an American Masonic lodge establishing a charity fund. The following month, on November 4, [1754], a petition from a member and indigent Brother, John Spottswood, was read, and on motion of the Lodge, he was given one pound 12 shilling and sixpence "to relieve his necessity." —R. E. Heaton and J. R. Case, *The Lodge at Fredericksburgh* (1975), p. 34 This is believed to be the earliest record of American Masonic charity to an individual.

January 2, 1776: Ordered: That this Lodge take under their care Brother Rind's two Eldest Boys. That the Right Worshipful Master provide for the Education and support of said children, that he do it in the most frugal and advantageous Manner and that this Lodge will abide by any agreement by him and made for this purpose. —George E. Kidd, *Early Freemasonry in Williamsburg, Virginia* (1957), p. 36. This is believed to be the earliest record of the care of orphans by American Masons.

(Continued on next page)



Brief History of Masonic Charity (continued)

May 29th, 1777 Ordered that a sum of money not exceeding £24 be sent to Brother Samuel T. Wright, a distressed prisoner at New York. Lodge No. 17, held at Queen's-Town, Queen Ann's County, Maryland —Edward T. Schultz, History of Freemasonry in Maryland (1884), 1:65. This believed to be the earliest record of American Masonic support to the Armed Forces.



Something Missing:

An absentminded professor drove up to the door of his garage, looked inside, blinked, then backed out of his driveway, drove full speed to the police station, and ran in.

"Officer", he cried. "My car's been stolen!"

HISTORY: RE-BUILDING THE TEMPLE

"Good work and square work"

St. Peter, will you please have the shade of Col. William Busby paged? They have torn down the whole front, or east entrance to the temple and have put down new foundation fittings, solid and secure as that of the eternal hills surrounding the City of Certainties. There's be no cracks in the east wall of the new Temple, as there was in the old. You remember that there was a crack the foundation and wall of the Old building. Well, Bro. Dick Richards has seen to it that there will be none in the new. On account of the peculiar formation of the earth it was difficult to put down a footing strong enough to prevent giving with the immense weight it had to carry. So, Bro. Richards excavated much deeper than the old foundation and filled it with concrete and tons of steel I-beams so that it will take a small earthquake to affect it now, and upon this foundation will be built the arches that will carry the granite columns with which you are familiar. These columns were the pride of Col. Busby in his day and remained so until he left the material Temple for the Celestial one which awaits the Faithful Craftsman. They have been taken down and now laying across the street on the parking of the High School building until such time as the Superintendent is ready to replace them.

to be continued.

—
Happy New Year!!!
—

Should old acquaintance be forgot

And neber brought to mind?

Should old acquaintance be forgot

And auld lang syne.

Auld lang syne, my friend,

Auld lang syne,

Will take a cup of kindness yet,

For auld lang syne.

Editor Don Jones 33°

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from
the Officers and Staff of the McAlester Scottish Rite*

