



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

February 10, 2023

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

## From WHENCE Have WE COME and WHITHER are WE GOING?

### "The Traditional Observance Lodge"

by Dennis V. Chornenky, President  
Masonic Restoration Foundation

(excerpted) While many Masons may have heard about European Concept lodges, which are themselves a relatively new concept in American Freemasonry, few have heard of the Traditional Observance Lodge. The Traditional Observance lodge is similar to the European Concept lodges in that they also incorporate higher dues, festive boards, a strict dress code and higher standards of ritual .....

Members of Traditional Observance lodges believe very strongly that the purpose of Freemasonry is to provide an atmosphere where good men can unite .....The Traditional Observance Lodge is not to review minutes, or bills or plan social or philanthropic activities, but rather to create an atmosphere where the members can learn the lessons of Freemasonry...

Everything that occurs in Traditional Observances lodges is undertaken within this context. Success if viewed as effectively imparting the traditional teachings hidden within Masonic symbols and the spiritual unification of the brethren in such pursuit.....

..... While Traditional Freemasonry may not appeal to everyone, it is proving to be a success in more and more jurisdictions around the United States.

**Editor:** [This article, which you may obtain in its entirety online](#), is of concern to the blue lodge and Grand Lodges in jurisdictions that have traditional observance lodges. This article is here as an FYI for our Scottish Rite brethren and has no effect on the Scottish Rite degrees or their teachings.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



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:

**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

**THE A.A.S.R. SUPREME COUNCIL, S.J.**  
**SUPPORTS PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR ALL.**  
**Past Sov. G.C. Luther Smith, 33°**

"I urge every Scottish Rite Mason in the Southern Jurisdiction in these critical days to be vigilant and alert in watching over and giving support to the public schools, their teachers and other officials, to the end that they shall prepare the children under their care for the duties of citizenship in our beloved Republic. If your services are needed, take positions on Boards of Education or as trustees. Remember that you are an Ambassador of Good Will to the public schools in your community and that they need your help, encouragement and protection. They are the pillars upon which the temple of Liberty rests.

"The New Age"; Feb., 1962

**GEORGE WASHINGTON,**  
**the FARMER**



At the time of his death, our Brother George Washington, owned between 7,400 and 12,000 acres of land. He also owned about 650 African slaves to work it. Now that amount of acreage today would amount to over 12 sections. A section is a square of one mile per side and holds 640 acres. That is a lot of acres to farm at any time.

The number of slaves it took to successfully farm this acreage was ,,,a lot. The number included men, women and children. In exchange for their "forced" labor they received housing, food and clothing. Today's farms need millions of dollars of equipment to do the work these people did manually. Nevertheless, slave labor was used during this time in our history.

Washington was a success at farming. When he returned to Mount Vernon following the War for Independence, the plantation needed a lot of work. He quickly went to work and eventually did revive the profitability of the farm.

The plantation was divided into four farms, each one with its own manager and labor force. He kept excellent records of everything involved in planting, harvesting and land management.

Continued on next page

## Washington (continued)

Tobacco was the first crop for Virginia farms but the plant quickly removed nutrients from the soil. Eventually wheat was the main money crop, with hemp and corn. There was also livestock of cows, horses, mules and oxen to tend to. All this was a big operation and Washington put all his energy into farming.

Washington experimented with new farming methods, tried different varieties of plants and kept records of all that he did.

Since the plantation had to be self-sufficient, gardens were important too. The farm provided for all the food, milk, etc. required to feed a small town. It produced hemp and cotton for clothes and trees for houses, stables and outbuildings.

Yes, George Washington was a farmer, in the true sense of the name. From daylight to dark.

So, why would a man so busy and happy want to be a military general, fight a war, be the first chief executive of a new nation? One word -- DUTY.

### SCHOOL DAYS

--- Teacher: "Johnny, can you define 'nonsense'?"

Johnny: Yes, teacher,,,an elephant hanging over a cliff with his tail tied to a daisy."

---- Teacher: Willie, give me a definition of home."

Willie: "Home is where part of my family waits until the others are through with the car.

---- A schoolteacher from the city was questioning her small farm nephew to see how his country school education was progressing. "if a farm hand had 5,000 bushels of corn," she asked, "and corn is worth \$1.00 a bushel, what will he get?"

"A government loan," promptly replied the nephew.



## SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY MASONIC ACTIVITY

Weekly, Wednesdays 9:00 am  
Social Hour; coffee & pastries  
McAlester S.R. Center, use South Door  
(If you've heard a new joke, bring it too.)

**Mon., Feb. 13** 7 p.m.; Officer installation  
Elective & Appointive Officers for:  
Lodge of Perfection,  
Chapter of Rose Croix,  
Council of Kadosh,  
McAlester Consistory

It is necessary for ALL officers to be  
installed into office. but any who absolutely cannot be  
here will be installed at the Spring Reunion.

**Wed. Feb. 15;** 12 noon; S.R. Luncheon  
Muskogee Scottish Rite Chapter  
Dining Room in basement of the  
Blue lodge building; south door.

**Mon., Feb. 20,** 6:30 pm; Dinner & Bingo  
Presidents' Day & special Ladies Nite.  
Dinner 6:30 pm; "short program"; & Bingo  
Host: Central Okla. Scottish Rite Chapter  
India Shrine Center, 3601 NW 36th St., OKC

**Wed. Feb. 22;** Washington's Birthday  
Bro. George Washing was born on  
this date in 1732. He is known as  
the "Father of our Country."

**Sat. & Sun., April 1-2;** Spring Reunion  
McAlester Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
McAlester, Ok; "The Heart of Dixie."  
Petitions available from the Temple office  
or a Scottish Rite brother.  
"Don't be a 'whiner', be a Top Line Signer!"





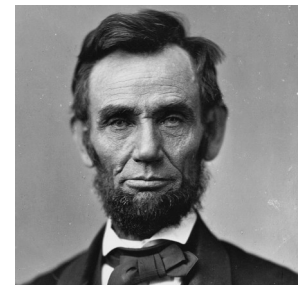
## V. M. A. P. 2. New Member Engagement



- The Valley establishes a policy to maintain regular communication with new member for a period of 3 years
- The Valley conducts a post-Reunion survey of new Masters of the Royal Secret.
- Invitations are mailed to new members informing them of stated communications, upcoming Temple events, etc..
- Form a degree team consisting of new members for a degree not presently being conferred.
- Members of the immediate past Candidate Class are specifically invited to attend the next reunion and are given the opportunity to interview and learn about all Valley organizations.
- The Valley assigns a task, a committee position, or volunteer role to a new Master of the Royal Secret.
- The Valley creates an orientation packet that includes: a directory of Valley officers, calendar of events, regular suppliers, web/social media information, checklists of volunteer opportunities, and Reunion Class directory.
- The Valley holds a Patent presentation for new members.

### ABRAHAM LINCOLN QUOTES

- Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm.
- Whatever you are, be a good one.
- Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?
- America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves .
- Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test his character, give him power.



## BEN FRANKLIN; Working Membership

The French writer, dramatist, and philosopher Voltaire, author of "Comdide", became an Entered Apprentice at the Lodge of the Nine Sisters (Loge des Neuf Soeurs) in Paris on April 4, 1778, less than 2 months before he died. It is said that his friend Benjamin Franklin, a noted Freemason, persuaded Voltaire to enter Freemasonry.



### CHEERY THOUGHTS

Just being happy is a fine thing to do;  
Looking on the bright side is the rather  
than the blue;  
Sad or sunny musing  
Is largely in the choosing;  
And just being happy is brave work and true.



Just being happy helps our souls along;  
Their burdens may be heavy and they not strong;  
And your own sky will lighten,  
If other skies you brighten  
By just being happy with a heart full of song.  
French proverb

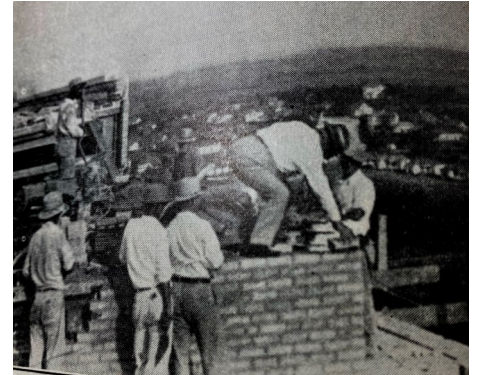
### THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

We are committed to excellence in our lives and we are not willing to compromise ourselves for the sake of popularity. One time, the great German mathematician, Karl Gustav Jacobi, was asked why he decided to spend his life at work in such an obscure field. He replied, 'For the honor of the human spirit.' That is the reason why we, as Masons, give our lives affirming our beliefs in moral conduct, brotherhood and compassion. We do it for the honor of the human spirit. - *Stanley F. Maxwell*

## HISTORY: RE-BUILDING THE TEMPLE

The Oklahoma Mason July, 1930

I wish the brethren could visualize with me the two great towers, one on the south and one on the north side of the new Temple, which will rise in majesty when it is completed. Inside those towers, leading from the great lobby floor to the



upper stories, with landing at the balcony level and then going on up to where the musicians will ascend by a spiral stairway to their place above the proscenium arch, high above the class of candidates taking their degrees. It is said that when the great Temple is completed the class members or visitors will not be able to locate either the great organ when it is being played or the Temple Quartette when it sings--that the music will fill the auditorium coming from no particular spot or place. Concerning this, "they say" the Chronicler has no hesitation in saying that he, being originally from Missouri, is just a wee bit skeptical.

to be continued

***"It is the individual who is not interested in his fellow man, who has the greatest difficulties in life."***

***Dale Carnegie***

Editor Don Jones 33°

