



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

**Newsletter Date**

**February 15, 2025**

**Editor : Don Jones, 33°**

## **SUCH A LARGE NUMBER**



**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**

Oklahoma County Scottish Rite Chapter,  
OKC 11:00 AM McClintocks, Stockyards

#### **2nd Monday of the Month**

Lodge of Perfection Meeting,  
Meeting at 7:00 pm

#### **3rd Wednesday of the Month**

Muskogee Chapter, Scottish Rite  
Masonic Temple Noon

#### **5th Thursday of the Month**

McIntosh Chapter Scottish Rite  
6:00 pm Lake Country Dinner

Note: Scottish Rite Chapters and Societies, be  
sure to notify the office of any changes in  
meeting place and times.

#### **Advisory Council and Officers**

Wade Massey, 33° , Chairman  
Mike Ebert, 33° General Secretary  
William C. Cox, 33° , Member  
Phillip Johnson, 33° ,Member  
Harrison Bartlett, 33° Member  
Chris Botts, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master  
Ron Gregg, Sr, 32° KCCH , Wise Master  
Brian Engleman, 32° KCCH , Commander  
Craig Smith, 32° KCCH , Master of Kadosh

At each Lodge of Perfection meeting the General Secretary gives a membership report. This past week's meeting was no exception. When he got around to reporting the numbers, there were 70 deaths reported since the first of the year. Members were quick to comment on that number being a large amount for just over one month into the new year.

Not all of these 70 brothers had passed away in January. The majority of these came from searching the internet for obituaries on Brothers over 80 years old. In looking over the past due members in that age group, it was discovered that 15 of these brothers had passed on. Obituaries were found that dated back as early as 2022. After this exercise was completed, a search was conducted on all perpetual member 80 or more, and another large group of brothers were found to have gone to that house not made with hands.

For those brothers who passed away before 2024, we have had to pay per capita for them. By finding out they have passed away, we will stop having to pay that. Just like in your Blue Lodge, money is tight and we do not need to be paying more per capita than is absolutely necessary. More important is why we have not heard that they have already passed. While, some have relocated out of state and some may have moved their blue lodge affiliation from Oklahoma, many still lived here at the time of their deaths.

Brothers, we need to let the office know when a brother has passed. A simple email or call to the office will establish if the brother is or was a member of the Scottish Rite in our valley. Plans are underway for the Rose Croix memorial services at future reunions. We need to recognize our deceased brothers for their contributions to the support of our valley. Please let us know when a brother has passed on.

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

You can petition the Scottish Rite for membership online at the following link:

[Online Petition](#)

Or scan this QR Code



Upcoming Reunions:

**2025**

**April 12-13**

**October 11-12**

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](#)

If you or someone you know is struggling with mental health, reach out for help immediately by calling the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988](#); you can also [text HOME to 741741](#) to access the Crisis Text Line. This service is available 24/7 and can connect you with a trained crisis counselor who can provide support and guidance

# PRINCE OF JERUSALEM

## The 16th Degree

The drama of the previous degree continues in this degree in which the construction of the Second Temple is to begin with the building of the city walls.



The exiles have returned, begun the work of re-building and meet adversity from the Samaritans and other ethnic groups, who had moved in to the area.

King Cyrus had promised the exiles his protection however the Persian armies are too busy in the eastern provinces to help the Jews. Seventeen years go by and the re-building is at a standstill. By now Darius is the Persian king and representatives from the warring groups present themselves to his Court. As a test, Darius gives the representatives a question. The best answer wins the argument and of course, it is Zerubabel. The Biblical account is found in the Old Testament's Book of Ezra.

### DUTIES

To direct and aid those who labor to build the Symbolic Temple.

Judge equitably and fairly.

Provide aid and whatever kind to fellow Princes of Jerusalem.

Keep faith in the justice of the beneficence of God.

Press forward with hope for the persecuted and oppressed.

### LESSONS

Build Temples of the living God in our Hearts by following Masonic Truth---justice, equality, wisdom, honor, fidelity, brotherhood-- to achieve immortality.

### FOR REFLECTION

Will you have a noble heritage to those who follow you in this world?

.....The Pursuit of Masonry is to build the Symbolic Temple all over the world. The special tools of a Prince of Jerusalem are justice and equity; but we are not to forget those tools which we have learned in previous degrees.

( from "The Bridge to Light" )

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



## SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY MASONIC ACTIVITY

**Mon. Feb. 17,** Presidents Day  
National Holiday  
Temple office closed.

**Wed. Feb. 19,** 12 Noon, Luncheon  
Muskogee Scottish Rite Chapter  
Muskogee masonic lodge  
basement Dining Room  
Please use the South Door.

**Fri. Feb. 21;** 6:30 pm Bingo  
Central Okla. Scottish Rite Chapter  
Ladies Bingo Night  
Dinner plus cards \$15  
catered by Ladies of the Nile  
India Shrine Center  
3601 NW 35th St., OKC

**Sat. Feb. 22;** Birthday  
Bro. George Washington was  
born on this date in 1732.

**Thur. Mar. 6,** 11:00 am; Luncheon  
Scottish Rite Chapter, OKC  
Mcclintock Chop Shop,  
1119 Exchange Ave., OKC  
Good food and company for fellowship.  
Valley updates from Mike Ebert, 33°

**Sat-Sun, April 12-13;** S.R. Reunion  
McAlester Scottish Rite Spring Reunion.  
McAlester Scottish Rite Center, McAlester, Ok.  
918-423-6360

**Aug. 17-19;** Biennial Session  
Supreme Council meets at the  
House of the Temple in Washington, D.C.  
Honors year



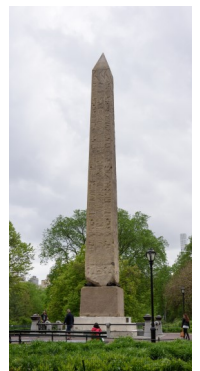
## WHEN A MAN IS POOR

A man is poor when he has lost the confidence of his friends, when people who are nearest to him do not believe in him; when his character is honey-coated by deceit and punctured dishonesty. He is poor when he makes money at the expense of his character, when he does not stand clear out, supreme in his idea. When this is clouded, he is in danger of the worst kind of poverty. To be in the poor house is not necessarily to be poor. If you have maintained your integrity, if your character stands forth square to the world, if you have never bent the knee of principle to avarice, you are not poor, though you may be compelled to beg bread.

Queensland Freemason

## DID YOU KNOW?

When the great Obelisk of Alexandria (Cleopatra's Needle) was moved to New York in 1880, there were discovered certain emblems on the original foundation and pedestal. One is clearly a square, causing some to conclude that Masonry existed in ancient Egypt. This issue is still open to debate.



However, in reality, Freemasonry started being illustrated by symbols because at the very beginning, most Freemasons were illiterate, so the symbols served to remind the members of the teachings of the Fraternity.

The oldest Masonic symbol is the square and compasses. It is also the most universally recognized symbol of Freemasonry, even though its exact significance varies in different countries.



VALLEY OF MCALESTER REUNIONS

APRIL 12-13, 2025

OCTOBER 11-12, 2025

# LORD MAKE A REGULAR MAN OUT OF ME

By Edgar A. Guest

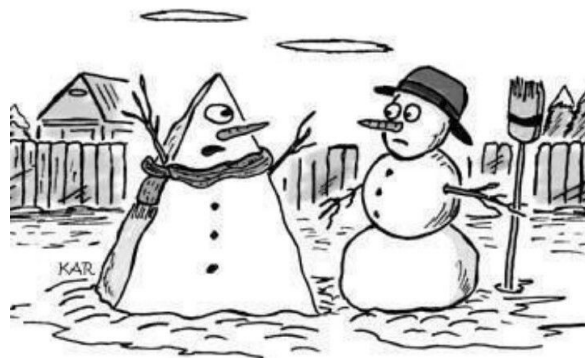


*This I would like to be – braver and bolder,  
Just a bit wiser because I am older,  
Just a bit kinder to those I may meet,  
Just a bit manlier taking defeat;  
This for New Year my wish and my plea –  
Lord, make a regular man out of me.*

*This I would like to be – just a bit finer,  
More of a smiler and less of a whiner,  
Just a bit quicker to stretch out my hand,  
Helping another who's struggling to stand,  
This my prayer for the New Year to be,  
Lord make a regular man out of me.*

*This I would like to be – just a bit fairer,  
Just a bit better, and just a bit squarer,  
Not quite so ready to censure and blame,  
Quicker to help every man in the game,  
Not quite so eager, men's failings to see,  
Lord make a regular man out of me.*

*This I would like to be – just a bit truer,  
Less of the wisher and more of the doer,  
Broader and bigger, more willing to give,  
Living and helping my neighbour to live!  
This for the New Year, my prayer and my plea –  
Lord make a regular man out of me.*



"I was built by a Freemason!"

## DAD JOKES

I got a new pen that can write under water. It can write other words too.

Can a frog jump higher than a house? Of course, a house can't jump.

I was walking down the beach when I heard a swimmer yelling for help with a shark circling him. I just laughed....I knew that shark wasn't going to help him.

## HISTORY: Giants of McAlester Consistory" (continued)

### William Mark Sexson, 33°

#### His Masonic History

William Mark Sexson was initiated, passed and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Bloomfield lodge No. 80 in Bloomfield, Indiana, in 1902, during his time as the minister of the Christian Church in that city. He quickly became identified with the Craft as a lecturer and contributor of fraternal literature. He spent practically all his life in the field of research and has been honored by the Fraternity many times for this work. After moving to Oklahoma in 1906, he became a Scottish Rite Mason at Oklahoma Consistory, in Guthrie, on May 10, 1907.

In 1909 in pursuit of his research goals, Bro. Sexson went overseas to Europe. His travels took him not only through European countries but to Assyria and Palestine. His search for Masonic information further prepared him for his work as a contributor to Masonic literature.

In 1912, Bro. Mark, as he preferred to be called, moved to McAlester to take the office of pastor for the First Christian Church of McAlester. During the same year, he became the Secretary of the McAlester Scottish Rite bodies and served in that office until January, 1922. In 1913, Bro. Sexson was coroneted a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary by the Supreme Council in Washington, D.C.

Bro. Sexson became a Royal Arch Mason when he became a member of Indian Chapter No. 1, North McAlester, also, a Knight Templar in the McAlester Commandery No. 6, North McAlester.

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## **HISTORY: Giants of McAlester Consistory"** (continued) **William Mark Sexson, 33°**

Also, during the years as Secretary, Bro. Sexson became a Noble of the mystic Shrine in the Bedouin Temple of Muskogee and an honorary member of Akdar Shrine Temple in Tulsa. And then, for good measure, he joined the Amrita Grotto of Fort Smith, Ark.

At some point, probably when Bro. Sexson moved to McAlester, he moved his Blue Lodge membership to South McAlester Lodge No. 96. He was the Worshipful Master of this lodge in 1921. He also had become active in the Grand Lodge as the Grand Orator in 1923 and 1924. At the Grand Lodge session in Tulsa in 1926 Bro. Mark was elected Junior Grand Warden and in 1928 was elected and installed to the highest office of Freemasonry; the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma.

Previously, in 1921, Rev. Sexson had been initiated into South McAlester Chapter No. 149 O.E.S. He was active in Eastern Star and in 1923 was installed as Worthy Patron of Chapter 149 and became a life member during that year.

In 1925 Rev. Sexson was elected to the office of Worthy Grand Patron of the O.E.S., the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma. He had previously served on the Ritual Committee of the Grand Chapter of O.E.S.

Years later, in 1937 Rev. Sexson was initiated into White Shrine of Jerusalem at ceremonies in Muskogee, OK.

to be continued...

***"Nearly all men can stand adversity; but to test a man's characters, give him power."  
Abraham Lincoln***

**Don Jones, 33° Editor**

