



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

March 13, 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. Cowl, 33 G.C., Member Emeritus
Wade Massey, 33°, Member
Phillip Johnson, 32° KCCH Member
Stephen Gragg, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master
John Cunningham 32°, KCCH, Wise Master
Rodney Ryder, 32°, KCCH, Commander
Bobby Peters 33°, Master of Kadosh

WHAT TIME IS IT? IT'S REUNION TIME! Saturday, April 1, 2023 Sunday, April 2, 2023

The Valley officers and the office staff are ready. The letters, Petitions and Reunion Schedules have been mailed. The degree teams have been practicing. The stage, back and front, is ready. The dining room menus are set and food ordered. The Temple has been cleaned, waxed and vacuumed. And now everyone is in the anticipation stage.

Now what do we need? Oh, yes,,,

WE NEED CANDIDATES! MASTER MASONS NEED THE SCOTTISH RITE

When you were raised as a Master Mason, you had feelings and thoughts that you will only have once. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The same is true when you take the Scottish Rite Degrees and become a 32nd Degree Master of the Royal Secret' a Scottish Rite Freemason.

YOUR TIME IS NOW!

A tentative Reunion Schedule is attached to the last page of this newsletter

Class Directors brief candidates on what to expect as they are taken upstairs to the auditorium for the first time.



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



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

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE.....

- Fund Scholarships for students and teachers.
- Provide programs for young people and services for the aged.
- Assist young people to overcome language and learning disorders.
- Help crippled children to walk via advanced medical centers such as the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Atlanta and Dallas
- Support and create patriotic programs to remind Americans of our national heritage and the importance of maintaining it.
- Advance absolute separation of church and state as a mainstay of freedom.
- Advance the public school system as a guarantee of intellectual liberty for today and tomorrow.
- Champion the family as the cornerstone building block of our nation.
- Support environmental causes for future generations.
- Combat substance abuse through programs aimed at the youth and supporting anti-drug education directed to the general public.



We in the McAlester Valley accomplish all this activities through your tax-deductible gifts to the McAlester Scottish Rite Charitable and Educational Foundation.

FOR BETTER OR WORST

*** "For sale," said the ad in the hospital's weekly newsletter, "sleeveless wedding gown, white, size 8, veil included. Worn once, by mistake."

***The wife's doctor wanted to wean her off of antidepressants.

"What would happen if you stopped taking them, " he asked.

"To me? Not a thing," she said. "But all of a sudden, my husband becomes a real jerk."

SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY MASONIC ACTIVITY



Weekly, Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.
Social Hour at the McAlester Temple
Free coffee and rolls or donuts.
McAlester Scottish Rite Center
Masons and friends welcome
Use south door.

Mon., Mar. 13, 7:30 p.m. LOP
Stated Meeting; Lodge of Perfection
McAlester Scottish Rite Center
Members are welcome Use south door.

Wed. Mar. 15; 12 Noon; Luncheon
Muskogee Scottish Rite Chapter
Muskogee Lodge dining room Use south door

Fri. Mar. 31; 5:00 pm, Spring Fly-In
Royal Order of the Duck Spring fly-in
McAlester Scottish Rite Center
5:00 pm - dinner
6:00 pm; meeting & Hatching
Candidates are welcome but are not qualified for
"hatching" until they have worked 3 Reunions.
Quack.

Sat. & Sun., April 1-2, SPRING REUNION
McAlester Scottish Rite Masonic Center
See Schedule attached to last page.

Thursday, May 6, Maundy Thursday
Not a required Observance however
some Chapter commemorate the event.
Check with the McAlester Temple for info.

Thursday, May 6; The International Order of Rainbow
for Girls was founded on this date in 1922. Was founded
by Bro. Mark Sexson of McAlester.
The International Headquarters for the Rainbow is located
on Carl Albert Blvd. east of the Scottish Rite Temple.



GUTHRIE SCOTTISH RITE BROTHER IS NEWEST MEMBER OF ACACIA GUILD

Michael L. Wiggins, 33°, a member of the Guthrie Valley and SGIG in Texas, who now lives in Texas, recently became a member of the House of the Temple's Acacia Guild. The Acacia Guild is a fund-raiser for the preservation of the House of the Temple and is a project of the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R.



He received his degrees, including the 33rd, at the Valley of Guthrie. Before his move to Texas, he was serving as the President of the Guthrie Charitable & Educational Foundation.

In Texas he is a plural member of the Valleys of Dallas and Houston. He has been in Texas long enough to be in the Grand Lodge line and is now a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Bro. Wiggins has not been a stranger though. He has been seen regularly at the Reunions of the Guthrie Valley.

Our congratulations go to Bro. Wiggins for his dedication and commitment to the Scottish Rite and Masonry in general.

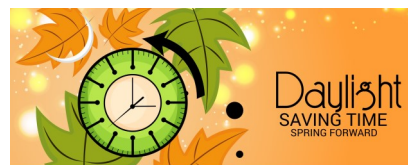
FOR BETTER OR WORST (continued)

*** When her husband pointed out her tendency to tell the same story over and over, she reminded him that he was just as guilty.

"Allow me to clarify," he responded. "I review, you repeat."

*** The maid was cleaning a hotel room when the previous occupant came in looking for her husband's keys. They searched high and low without any luck. The maid finally peeked underneath the bed closest to the wall.

"Don't bother --- that was my bed," said the wife. "He wouldn't have gone anywhere near it."



REBA MCENTIRE RE-PURPOSES OLD MASONIC TEMPLE INTO A DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUE IN ATOKA.

Despite the staircase collapsing when inspecting the old Masonic Temple in 2021, Reba McEntire and, with the backing of the Choctaw Nation and City of Atoka opened "Reba's Place" in 2023. Looking at the pictures on the web site reveals an attractive venue addition for Atoka. Check it out.

The 3-story building was constructed in 1915 by the Atoka Masons. for area Masonic Lodges to use. The Lodge room was on the 3rd floor and the 2nd floor was for Lodge use. The



ground floor was to be rented for commercial use. In November, 1979, the building was placed on the National Register of historical Places by the effort of the Oklahoma Historical Society. In September, 1980, Oklahoma Lodge #4 began meeting in its new lodge located on the southwest side of town.

Somehow, the building served as a hospital until 2013. When the hospital moved out, the building stood vacant until 2023.

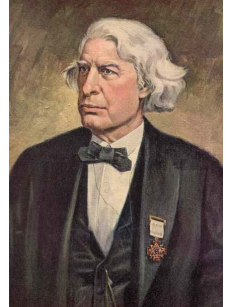
As a fairly new Master Mason, I attended what was probably the last District meeting held in the old Temple building. It was a fish fry. When David Luster and I ascended the "famous" staircase, we noticed that the 2nd floor had no walls, just frame work. I thought then, "This cannot be good." However, the Temple stood a full house on the 3rd floor when Grand Master Buford McCurley made a 20 minutes speech last for 45 minutes. (You had to be there.) But the food and fellowship were good and the staircase still stood when we left.

If you have never been to Atoka, it is worth a weekend trip. This is another in our "series" of Oklahoma Masonic sites to visit.



ALBERT G. MACKEY, 1907 - 1881

Albert Gallatin Mackey was born in Charleston, South Carolina in 1807. He graduated from the Charleston Medical College in 1837 and set up his medical practice in Charleston. He was active in Freemasonry and later he left the medical field to pursue his Masonic activities. His main interests in Masonry were in the origin and history of the Order. Being a member of the Scottish Rite, he was later appointed to the Supreme Council. On the Council he was appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of Grand Secretary and eventually was appointed to the position which he held all through the Albert Pike years. Mackey eventually retired from the Council and the office and moved to Virginia. He was living there when he died in 1881.



During his years on the Supreme Council, Mackey gained notoriety as an author and Masonic scholar. His first book "Lexicon of Freemasonry" was followed by a dozen more which included his two volume "Albert Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry."

The Scottish Rite celebrates Bro. Mackey's this Sunday, March 12.

QUOTES BY ALBERT MACKEY

"Freemasonry is a science of symbols, in which, by their proper study, a search is instituted after truth, that truth consisting in the knowledge of the divine and human nature of God and the human Soul." ~ Albert Mackey

"So important, indeed, is it (Light), and so much does it pervade with its influence the whole Masonic system, that Freemasonry itself anciently received, among other appellations, that of Lux, or Light, to signify that it is to be regarded as that sublime doctrine of Divine Truth by which the path of him who has attained it is to be illuminated in his pilgrimage of life." ~ Albert Mackey

"The ultimate success of Masonry depends on the intelligence of her disciples." ~ Albert Mackey



HISTORY: RE-BUILDING THE TEMPLE (continued)

"The Wailing Wall"

July, 1930

The north wall of the basement under the new office of the Secretary has not been disturbed by the rebuilders. It is one of the original walls of the Old Temple, built years ago. The foundation of the New Temple has been laid some 18 feet south of the original foundation, leaving the first foundation as it was put down a quarter of a century ago in cement and concrete upon the solid rock. There remains some 40 feet of this old wall exposed, and to bolster it up and strengthen it, Superintendent Richards has poured a concrete sub-base around the footings, leaving a step or bench some 2 feet wide at the base of the old wall. The step or bench can, and probably will, be used by the old brethren who go wail beside the old wall, as the Jews of Jerusalem do now beside the remaining portions of the wall of the first Temple built by Solomon. In the early days when the Old Temple was young, there was a party or sect of members of the Bodies calling themselves the "Sanhedrin. It was made up principally of members of the stage crew and leading stage worker, and was a powerful organization in its day and practically run things in and around the Temple. With the "Sanhedrin" disorganized and disbanded, I see in the future another party or sect rising up--- "The Wailers"--- made up of the surviving members of the old "Sanhedrin" . It will be the object of the "Wailers" to keep in memory the Old Temple as it was when they loved it as their child, which indeed it was,

And, lest they forget to repair at times to this old wall in the basement, singly, in pairs or groups, carrying with them their prayer caps, kneel before the old wall. and led by one of their number, duly designated, join in a lament such as do the orthodox Jews even to this day.

to be continued

"If you tell me how you get your feeling of importance, I will tell you what you are."

Dale Carnegie

Editor Don Jones 33°

