



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

March 26, 2021

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 Thursday of the Month

Duncan Scottish Rite Chapter, 11:30 AM,
Jimmie's Egg, Duncan
Comanche County SR Chapter dinner mtg.,
Salsa Mexican Cafe, Lawton

1st Firday 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 Thursday 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, KCCH General Secretary
Vacant, Member
William C. Cox, 33, Member
Thomas S. Crowl, 33 G.C., Member
Michael Sexton, KCCH, Venerable Master
John Carter, KCCH, Wise Master
Shaun Callahan, KCCH, Commander
Donnie Higginbotham II 32°, Master of
Kadosh

REUNION TIME IS HERE!



The event the Okla. Scottish Rite Masons have been anticipating has finally arrived. The Tulsa Valley reunion is coming up this weekend, (March 27) and the Guthrie Valley is scheduled for April 10th. McAlester follows on April 17.

Every member should have received a packet from our General Secretary, Mike Ebert, KCCH with the following enclosures: a letter which all the information, a reunion schedule, and a petition. Brother Mike's letter gives the "new" rules for a reunion held in a "pandemic". Please be sure to read it. S.G.I.G. Joe R. Manning, 33°, wants no brother to leave a reunion with COVid-19. Please be attentive to the safety precautions.

A reunion schedule is included with this issue of the Blast. You will notice that there are only 5 degrees. Those are the Obligatory Degrees given by the Supreme council for a "minimum" reunion. However, the day will be a busy one.

No meals or food will be available in the Masonic Center. There will be sufficient time for lunch at noon and many good restaurants are located in downtown McAlester.

Meetings for the Ducks, Chain Gang, Knights of St. Andrew and other Masonic bodies may not be held during the Reunion, this time. This is also due to COVID precautions.

The degree teams have been holding practices at the Center. They have their instructions in regard to costumes microphones, social distancing and they will be ready! Enjoy their performances, because they are good.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



Charitable & Education Foundation

R. Bruce Hall, 33 President
Dave Donathan, 33 Vice-President
Jeremy Warren, 33°, Trustee
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](mailto:enews-unsubscribe@mcasr.org). For
questions or comments email
news@mcasr.org.

Upcoming Reunions:

2021
April 17
October 23-24

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

Page 2

COVid persecutions in the Masonic Center.

1. Wash hands frequently with soap and water and use hand sanitizer liberally.
2. Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth and other areas of the face unless hands are washed.
3. Maintain "social distancing"; at least six feet from other people. The auditorium has plenty of seats.
4. Be thoughtful of your Brethren and wear a face mask. It must cover the nose and mouth.
5. Even with a mask or face covering, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or kerchief when sneezing or coughing.

(Masks and hand sanitizer will be available at the Masonic Center for your convenience.)

Welcome back; bring a candidate. The office has 8 petitions as of last Monday.

MORE LIGHT!

While there is no Masonic degree more important than that of Master Mason, there is a long tradition -- almost as old as Freemasonry itself -- of "high degrees" that expand upon and elaborate the teachings and lessons of the first three degrees. The Scottish Rite degrees teach a series of moral lessons culminating in the 32nd Degree, Master of the Royal Secret.

The Scottish Rite continues a Master Mason's education in many ways:

- ***4th -- 32nd degree ritual
- ***Leadership conferences
- ***Speakers for meetings
- ***Scottish Rite Journal

(Continued on next page)



More Light (continued)

- ***Scottish Rite Research Society
- ***Master Craftsman education program
- ***Publishing Masonic books
- ***Foundations for philanthropy

For more information call the Masonic Center of McAlester office at 918-423-5350 or email maebert@mcalesterscottishrite.org. Also on Facebook.

VALLEY ACTIVITY

Sat. Mar. 27; One-Day Reunion
Valley of Tulsa
(Covid protocol required)

Sunday, April 4, Easter Sunday
Celebration of Christ's Resurrection

Thur. April 1; Scottish Rite Luncheon
McAlester Membership Luncheon
Golden Corral, I-40 & MacArthur, OK
Candidates eat free and are welcome
Updates by Mike Ebert, KCCH Gen. Sec.
John Salisbury, 33, Chairman

Sat. April 10; One-Day Reunion
Valley of Guthrie
(COVid protocol required)

Mon. April 12; L.O.P. Stated Mtg
McAlester Lodge of Perfection
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center
Richards' Room, West side

Sat. April 17; One-Day Reunion
Valley of McAlester
8:00 a.m., Registration
9:00 a.m. Degrees begin
(COVid protocols required)

Sat. May 15; Car Show (fund-raiser)
So. McAlester Lodge #96
North Town, McAlester, OK
Fundraiser with Shared Blessings
For Information, call Gunner Tarron, 918-916-9405

August 20,21; Biennial Session of
the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., S.J.
House of the Temple Washington, D.C.
Actives 33° & Deputies only due to COVID.



OBLIGATORY DEGREE TEAMS

30th Degree; Knight Kadosh

Shawnee Team

Director - Steve Dawson

Asst. Dir. - Steve Peters, KCCH

Preceptor - Buck Banfield

Marshal of Ceremonies -

Steve Peters, KCCH

Hierophant - John Bayliss

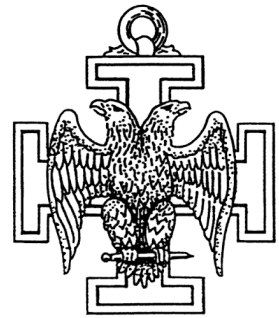
Sacrificer - Bobby Jones

Supreme Judge -

Raymond McDowell

Preceptor - Steve Dawson

Skeleton - Donnie Higginbotham, II



ANOTHER OKLAHOMAN BECOMES MEMBER OF "ACACIA GUILD"

Bro. Mike L. Dixon, KCCH, a plural member of the Valley of Guthrie and McAlester, and

Past Grand Master of the State of Oklahoma, is the latest Oklahoma Mason to join the Supreme Council's "Acacia Guild."

The Acacia Guild was organized by the Supreme Council for members who contribute \$1,000 to the House of the Temple Preservation Fund. M.:W.: Dixon is also the 12th Degree team director for McAlester.

Congratulations Bro. Mike!



Detected

A good question has been posed. "If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen are defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted; musicians denoted; cowboys deranged; models deposed; tree surgeons debarked; and dry cleaners depressed?"

DO YOU KNOW.....

That the Order of DeMolay was founded in Kansas City in 1919 by Frank S. Land.

That Building Better Citizens is its goal.

That millions of boys have knelt at DeMolay altars all over the world, and that there are chapters in every state and 12 countries and territories.

That membership for young men 14 through 20 is not restricted to sons of Masons or relatives of Masons.....

That DeMolay inspires boys, sons, men and better leaders...

That DeMolay is a dynamic force in combating juvenile delinquency ...

That the initiation contains no hazing or frivolity but is a solemn presentation that impresses an obligation on a young man live and do right..

That Senior (over 21) DeMolays have become leaders in every walk of life..

That the majority of all DeMolays become Masons. ..

That more than 25 DeMolays have become Grand Masters of their Grand Lodge and more than 130 DeMolays have attained the 33rd Degree in Scottish Rite Freemasonry...

That helping DeMolay is a help to YOU and the world of tomorrow.....

Well, it does!



Definition

It has been said that a "Masonic function" can best be described as — An Invocation and a Benediction—separated by interminable introductions.

An Indian Chief named Pythagoras had three wives. No. 1 slept on a hippopotamus skin, No. 2 on a bear skin and No. 3 on an elk skin. Wife No. 1 had twins while wife No. 2 and No. 3 had single births. Thus Pythagoras concluded that the squaw of the hippopotamus is equal to the sons of the other two hides.

EASTER FACTS; MAYBE

Why rabbits? The Easter bunny recalls the hare, the Egyptian symbol of fertility.



Why eggs?

Eggs, traditionally forbidden during Lent, symbolizes new life.

Origin of the name, Easter?

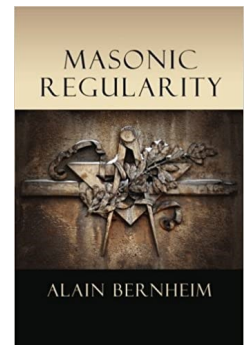
It may have derived its name from the Anglo-Saxon dawn goddess, Eostre, whose feast was celebrated each spring at about this time.



BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

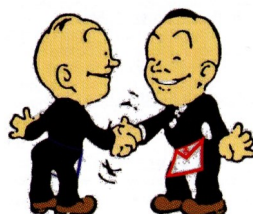
"Masonic Regularity" by Alain Benjamin

The author, Brother Benjamin, is a Well-educated man and noted as a scholar. He has received many literary awards in Europe and the United States.



The question of "regularity" is mentioned by Masons with every closing prayer when we invoked the blessings of God "on us and on all regular Masons." So what are regular and clandestine Masons? That is the question of Masonic Regularity.

As our distinguished Brother points out, the answer has varied from time to time and location to location. He charts the issue historically, citing the original documents. It is a fascinating labyrinth. He makes an admittedly abstruse issue as clear as possible. For the student of Masonic history, this is an invaluable resource, and for the curious Mason, it is most enjoyable.



**Someone is waiting for you to
ask him to join the Scottish Rite,
Why not ask him today?**

THE SCOTTISH RITE & ANTI-MASONRY DURING THE 1990'S (continued)

During the 1980's the right-wing libertarian, Lyndon LaRoche, had managed to change the Southern Baptist Convention under strict fundamentalist control. Along about the same time T.V. evangelist, Pat Robertson, also a Christian fundamentalist, set out on a campaign against the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

Robertson, to his large audience, portrayed the Scottish Rite as a reason for all the nation's problems. He constantly accused the Rite as being a wealthy, all-powerful movement for "global domination". LaRoche, leading through the Southern Baptist Convention, accused the Rite, which is not a religion, of going against the established Christian doctrine.

Politically and historically, America itself was going through a period the caused a "personal insecurity" among its citizens. They, therefore, were susceptible to non-factual accusations as the truth. LaRoche and Robertson, while using different formats, one the Baptists and the other a fundamentalist audience, expressed urgency of action in their campaigns. From both came the accusations of satanism, demon worship and "sinister forces" at work.

The Scottish rite, on the other hand, knew the claims were not true. The Rite has "no religious affiliation" but encourages its members to be faithful in whichever religion they believe. In contrast, the "LaRoche group had religious affiliation, its ideology is rigorously doctrinaire as any fundamentalist creed or systematic theology in the Christian right." Actually, their opposition to the Scottish Rite was typical of all the anti-Mason rhetoric and accusations from the time of Freemasonry's beginning.

(continued next issue)

This is from William Fox, author of "Lodge of the Double Eagle"

***"Go, and by your actions, serve as a Light
among men."***

(32nd Degree; Master of the Royal Secret)

Editor Don Jones 33°



342nd CLASS REUNION SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 17, 2021

- 8:00 AM...Candidate Registration.....Main Lobby**
- 8:45 AM...Assemble Class.....Class Supervisor**
- 9:00 AM...Opening Ceremony.....Auditorium**
- 9:20 AM...Introduction to the Scottish Rite**
- 9:30 AM...Open Lodge of Perfection.....Venerable Master**
- 9:35 AM...4th Degree.....Lone Grove Team**
- 10:15 AM...Class Picture.....Larry McManus, KCCH**
- 10:30 AM...14th Degree.....Oklahoma County Team**
- 11:15 AM...Open Chapter Rose Croix.....Wise Master**
- 11:25 AM...18th Degree.....Nolen Watson Team**
- 12:30 PM...Lunch.....Main Dining Room**
- 2:00 PM...Open Council of Kadosh.....Commander**
- 2:05 PM...30th Degree.....Shawnee Team**
- 3:05 PM...Open Consistory.....Master of Kadosh**
- 3:10 PM...32nd Degree.....Indian Consistory Team**
- 4:30 PM...Approx. Class Dismissal.....Class Supervisor**