



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

Newsletter Date

March 31, 2020

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

D. Larry Roberts, 33 Chairman

Mike Ebert, KCCH General Secretary

Jack Inman, 33, 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

Douglas R. Worden, 32°, Master of Kadosh

**EXTENDED**

From M.:W.: Bobby Peters, 33°, G.M. of the Grand Lodge  
of State of Oklahoma

March 24th - G.M. Peters has extended the date of "No  
Masonic meetings" from April 10 to April 30, 2020. The  
change is in response to the initiative of Governor Stite to  
be extended the State of Emergency another two weeks.

Please plan accordingly

## REUNION DELAYED

The 342nd Scottish Rite Reunion of the Valley of  
McAlester has been delayed until October 11, 2020.

Your candidates can still be members of this historic  
class. Plus, you now have all kinds of time to make that  
call to other potential candidates.

**Special Notice: Excerpt from the message of  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General Joe R.  
Manning, Jr., 33°.**

"After the State of Emergency ends,  
I hope we will be able to hold some  
regional meeting this summer, allow-  
ing members to gather, wear their  
caps, perhaps witness a degree exem-  
plification and receive information  
about their Valley. Hopefully, we can  
leave some enthusiasm that will carry  
us into the Fall Reunions. "



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](mailto:news@mcasr.org).

Upcoming Reunions:

**2020**

**October 10-11**

Masonic Website of 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](#)

## **ACTIVITIES FOR "HOME CONFINEMENT"** (to be good Brothers, Citizens, Disciples & Masons)

**1.** Thank and encourage anyone you know who works on the "front lines"; a healthcare worker, a first-responder; those in the supply chain- the truck driver who brings food and supplies to the stores, and including the farmers to the shelf-stockers. Send a card, e-mail, have a restaurant deliver a meal to them.

**2.** Shop for groceries or pick up prescriptions for Brothers, widows, or neighbors who are shut-ins. You can pick it up and leave it on their door step when appropriate

**3.** Assist neighbors with needed yard work or other chores.

**4.** Stay in touch with a telephone call, an e-mail, cards and letters to offer encouragement to Brethren, family, friends and others in the community.

Hints from

M.W. Douglas Jones, 33°, G.M. Grand Lodge of Virginia

Sovereign Grand Commander Jim Cole, 33°, of the Supreme Council of A.A.S.R. Southern Jurisdiction

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



[BeAFreemason.org](http://BeAFreemason.org)



# AMERICAN MASONIC CULTURE

by H.L. Harwood

"Good and true men." How simple yet how profound are those time-worn adjectives. They are not qualities that glitter but they are, in their completeness, as rare as many that do! If it be asked why Masonry does not accept bad men in order to make them good, it replies that such is not its function, for it has a unique purpose of its own to carry out. and its demands are made with that in view. One organization cannot attempt everything. The reformation of men is left to other agencies.

---

## DIRECTOR OF WORK RETIRES



After serving 12 years as the Director of Work for the Valley, Mark Halyard, 33° is retiring. Mark and his family will be moving to Grove, OK where he and Dee own lake property. However, Mark will still attend our Reunions and be active on degree teams.

Bro. Halyard was a candidate in the first One-Day Class during M.W. Ron Johnson's year as G.M. That day, he was so impressed with the ritual & memory work that he made the decision to be an active Mason.

W. Halyard is a Past Master of So. McAlester Lodge #96. In the Scottish Rite, he as served in several offices and became the Director in December, 2008. His 12-year tenure is 4 times the average for men in the office of Director.

Mark is a graduate of Texas Christian University and currently lives on his ranch, south of McAlester.

Bro. Mark McFadden, 32, of Muskogee, ok has been appointed to the office of Director and will assume the office after the Fall Reunion.



## A SEASONAL MESSAGE (from the past)

March 2, 1929

From: Ill. A.U. Thomas, 33°  
S.G.I.G. in Oklahoma



Brethren of the Rite,

I want to call your attention to the obligatory services of Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday to be observed this year on March 28th and March 31st, and to express the hope that every Knight Rose Croix will attend these services either at the Consistory home or some other point where services are being held.

I particularly want to impress upon those conducting services as well as the Knights Rose Croix generally, that these are very solemn services and that they are supposed to be conducted strictly in accordance with the ritual as promulgated by the Supreme Council. These must not be construed in any sense as "celebrations."

The Maundy Thursday service is an observance of the Last Supper of our Savior, and should be conducted with the solemnity that such an occasion demands.

Sincerely and Fraternaly Yours,  
A.U. Thomas

---

### IT APPEARS

To Ollie Meacham, KCCH

- That Masonry is the "Good Samaritan" of the world.
- That "Peace, good-will toward men" is the slogan of every true Mason.
- That while getting in the lime-light of Masonry is no easy job, it is laudable.
- That the true Mason will never say, "Let John do it," but goes and does it, himself.





## SQUARE AND COMPASSES ON MISSIONARY'S GRAVE

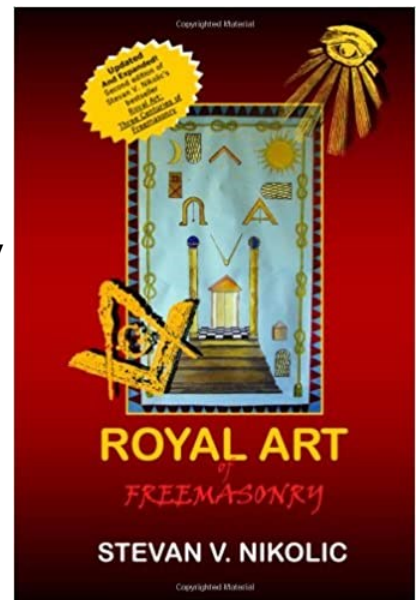
Far from friends and home, "on the top of the world in old Tibet," is the grave of Dr. Albert Shelton, a hero of Freemasonry and Christianity, according to a letter received from A.M. Lindsly, 32° of Clinton, MO.. For many years Dr. Shelton was a missionary among the people of this far away country. The stone which marks his grave bears the Square and Compasses, the symbol of the Masonic Fraternity of which he was a member, and underneath are engraved the words "Not to be ministered unto but to minister." Mr. Lindsly, in writing of Dr. Shelton's grave, said, "In ages to come, when Tibet is opened to the world, many of the brethren will pause here and grasp its significance."

*(Editor's note): "Well done, good and faithful Brother. Enter thou into the Joy of the Lord."*

### Books of Masonic Interest

*"Royal Art of Freemasonry"  
by Steven Nikolic*

Many Masonic writers have noted that this book presents an excellent overview of Freemasonry while proving a very solid basis for the newly initiated Mason. I think you would enjoy it.



## BOOKS YOU WILL "NEVER" READ

"Stringed Musical Instruments"  
by Amana Lynn

"Six Feet Under"  
by Doug Graves

"Geography of the Philippines"  
by Archie Pelago

"To Market"  
by Tobias A. Pigg

"Proper Lawn Care"  
by Ray King

"The Odds of Coin Tossing"  
by Taylor Hedds



### ***HISTORY*** (CONTINUED)

#### **INDIAN TERRITORY GRAND LODGE**

***October 5, 1874, Caddo Okla***

.....McPherson called the meeting to order. Rev. Buckner lead the prayer.

Bro. McPherson stated the purpose of the meeting whereupon Bro. Byrd moved that he act as chairman. Bro. Jones was elected Secretary, Bro. Byrd Asst. Secretary. This simple procedure accomplished the organization of the Convention. Credentials were formally presented & approved.

(CONTINUED On NEXT PAGE)

## **HISTORY** (CONTINUED)

### **INDIAN TERRITORY GRAND LODGE**

As the second step toward the organization of a Grand Lodge, Bro.. Buckner offered the following which was unanimously approved.:

"WHEREs IT IS deemed to be advisable, and for the best interest and prosperity of Ancient Freemasonry in Indian Territory,; therefore be it "RESOLVED", that the legal representatives of Musk-oo-gee Lodge No. 90, Doaksville Lodge No. 279, Caddo Lodge No. 311 proceed to organize a Grand Lodge for the Indian Territory, and that Bro.'s George W. Stidham, C. M. Slover, and H. F. Buckner of Musk-co-gee Lodge; William M. Byrd A. Hopping of Doak-ville Lodge; G. McPherson, J.B. James and C.M. Buck of Caddo Lodge, be appointed a committee to draft a Constitution for the adoption of this Convention."

The report of the Committee was of course received and adopted, whereupon the Convention proceeded to consider the report formally. Article II fixed the time for the first Communication as the "First Tuesday in October, A.D. 1874" which was the following day and subsequent annual Communication on the first Tuesday in September of each year. The Convention was the culmination of much effort and voluminous correspondence. Of the 6 lodges in the Territory It is noted that only three were represented. Two of the Arkansas Lodges refused to attend or participate. Alpha Lodge under allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Kansas ignored the call.

Among those who declined to join in the movement was Bro. Joseph S. Murrow of Ok-la-ho-ma Lodge  
to be continued.

Source: "History of Freemasonry in Oklahoma"

Prepared by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch  
Masons of Oklahoma.

---

***"The only way to get the best of an  
argument, is to avoid it."***

***Dale Carnegie***

*Editor Don Jones 33°*

