



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction

www.mcalesterscottishrite.org



Newsletter Date

April 15, 2023

Editor : Don Jones, 33°

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST SCOTTISH RITE BRETHREN!



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 Center

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
Stephen Gragg, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master
John Cunningham 32°, KCCH, Wise Master
Rodney Ryder, 32°, KCCH, Commander
Bobby Peters 33°, Master of Kadosh



McAlester Scottish Rite Bodies
346th Class Reunion
April 14, 2023

Left to Right
Row 1: Jozio T. Laky-Class Chaplain; Billy E. Jett-Class Secretary; Harry W. Kimberling-Class Vice President; Mark McFadden-Director of Work; Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33°-Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Oklahoma; Michael A. Ebert, 33°-General Secretary; J. Ryan Turner-Class President; Randy W. Strider-Class Treasurer
Row 2: Kevin W. Pope-Class Director/Coordinator; Catherine C. Richardson; Logan D. Sanders; Zachary R. Skinner; Jeff D. Fryer-Class Orator; Adam D. Kermes-Class Orator; Bryce D. Reading, W. Scott-Recruitment/Backstage Manager
Row 3: Ryan D. Jones-Class Director; Judd W. McAlester; Garrett L. Hite; Edward H. Harney; Boyce Daniel Capps; Eric A. Martin; Calvert B. Reading-Class Director; Kenneth Shedd, Jr., Class Director
Row 4: Steve Anderson-Class Director; Jonathan G. Roberts-Class Historian; Roy Wayne Walker; Rickey R. Deaton; Link Mock-Class Director

Your Brothers in the Rite welcome you to the "University" of Freemasonry, the Scottish Rite. As you heard in the 4th Degree, "You have been taught and learned much, but much is to be sought for elsewhere."

Yes, your education in Masonry did not reach the end when you symbolically entered through the gate in the last Degree. As you may have been told, after high school or college; your education was just beginning.

Before you left the McAlester Temple you were given a small sack of materials. Among these items was a book, "The Bridge to Light." We encourage you to use that book.

The book you received is not expected to be read from cover to cover. The purpose of the book is to clarify and answer any questions you may still have concerning the Degrees.

If you should want to know more about the 18th Degree, turn to it and read about that Degree, and so on and so forth.

The conversation with you could go on and on, but it won't. By receiving our Degrees and their lessons of Morality, Ethics and Philosophy, you are encouraged to spend some time with self-education. Remember, there is "much" to be sought elsewhere. "When you can read the Grand Design in the "book of nature", your world will become a more pleasant place."

"Knowledge is power."

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
October 21 & 22
2024
April 13 & 14
October 12-13

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

INDIAN CHAPTER WILL HOST ARMED FORCES DAY EVENT.

Friday and Saturday, May 5th and 6th are the dates for the Armed Forces Day Celebration of the City of McAlester.

The official kick-off event for the Celebration will be the Luncheon on Friday, May 5. The luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at the Elmer Hale Dining Room of the McAlester Scottish Rite Masonic Center. The Indian Chapter of the Scottish Rite will be hosting the Luncheon and other events scheduled at the Temple.



The Temple doors will open at 10:30 a.m. There are several speakers scheduled as well as patriotic music.

Veterans and their wives will eat for free but must contact the Temple at 918 423-6360 for reservations. Tables for 8 will be \$200 per table.

Following the Luncheon, the members of Indian Chapter will conduct tours of the Masonic Center.

Starting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 6 will be the traditional Armed Forces Day Parade through downtown McAlester. Following the Parade, the V.F.W. and other veteran organizations will have games and other entertainments all afternoon.

For more information, call
Jeff Wolf.....918 424-5503
or Dennis Wilson...918 916-6165

LEVEL OF LEADERSHIP

by Dwight Smith, P.G.M.

There is far more to being Master of a Lodge than the recitation of a ritual. We are paying the penalty of years of "mass production" practices, and a bitter penalty it is. When Masters of lodges are so lacking in imagination and vision that they cannot conceive of a Masonic meeting unless a degree is to be conferred, then we need not expect a revival of interest and attendance, we need not look for an upswing in membership short of war.

I would rather see as Master of the Lodge a man who can provide real leadership, a man who can give "good and wholesome instruction," a man who commands what Freemasonry is all about, even if he cannot confer a single degree. Suppose he cannot recite the ritual. So what? There always are those who are engaged and willing to do ritualistic work, but there are precious few who can provide inspired leadership.

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.

Wed. April 19; 12 Noon; S.R. Luncheon
Muskogee Chapter of Scottish Rite
Muskogee Lodge Building
Dining Room in basement; enter
through South door.

April 27, 28, 29; York Rite of
Oklahoma, Grand Sessions
Hilton Garden hotel, OKC

Fri. May 5; 11:30a.m.' Luncheon
Armed Forces Day Celebration
McAlester Scottish Rite Temple
Host: Indian Chapter of Scottish Rite
Veterans and wives eat free.
Sat. May 6; Armed Forces Day Parade
10:00 a.m. and afternoon festivities.

2024 REUNION DATES ANNOUNCED

The dates for the 2024 reunions have been announced.
They are as follows:

April 13-14
October 12-13

Get these dates in your calendar now so you won't find
yourself with a conflict when they come around.



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



INSULTS OF THE RICH & POWERFUL

Winston Churchill: "He has all the virtues I dislike and all of the vices I admire."

Moses Hasdas: "Thank you for sending me a copy of your book, I will waste no time reading it."

Stephen Bishop: "I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here."

Mark Twain: "I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."

Mae West: "His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."

Billy Wilder: "He has VanGogh's ear for music"

NINE WAYS TO CRITICIZE & NOT CREATE RESENTMENTS

1. Begin with praise and honest approbation.
2. Call attention to people's mistakes indirectly.
3. Talk about your own mistakes before criticizing the other person.
4. Ask questions instead of giving direct orders.
5. Let the other man save his face.
6. Praise the slightest improvement and praise every improvement. Be "heavy in your approbation and lavish in your praise."
7. Give the other person a fine reputation to live up to.
8. Use encouragement. Make the fault seem easy to correct.
9. Make the other person happy about doing the thing you suggest.

Dale Carnegie

Missing at the Zoo

During a trip to the zoo, we saw a sign posted next to the empty polar bear exhibit saying that the bear had died after eating a glove.

"The poor polar bear," remarked the woman standing next to us.

Her husband's slightly different reaction: "The poor guy wearing the glove."



RECRUITMENT

Brothers, it is only 189 days till our next reunion and that is not too early to start recruiting new members for the fall class. But that is not the only source of members.



WE WANT YOU

Another often overlooked source is Brothers who were once members of the Scottish Rite but for one reason or another have let their membership lapse. They may have moved and lost touch with the valley or may have fell on hard times and did not want their misfortune known by the brothers.

Their situation may have changed and now all they are looking for is someone to invite them back. Let that someone be you! Re-instatement in the valley is \$130. If they went suspended in another valley, get with the General Secretary and he can get the brother in touch with his valley to be brought back current. As a bonus, you will get 1/2 point credit towards your perpetual membership for every reinstatement you bring in.

As SGIG Manning is fond of saying, "Twenty Reinstatements is just like having an extra reunion." Lets get these brothers back into the fold.

The Pesky Red Ant

A garden center customer picks up a container of insecticide and asked the salesperson, "is this good for red ants?"

"No," says the salesperson. "It'll kill'em."

The Educational Zoo

The highlight of our zoo trip was a peacock showing off its plumage. My 4 year old son was particularly eaten up with it. That evening he couldn't wait to tell his father. "Dad, guess what I saw, a Christmas tree coming out of a chicken!"



WE ARE BUILDERS

We are all agreed that Freemasonry is a splendid Fraternity; that it is steeped in tradition; that it numbers many great men of the past and present as its Members; that it has a beautiful ritual; and that it is, indeed, a great honor to be a Freemason.

However, in the final analysis the future of Freemasonry depends not on these things but on the influence it exerts in the life of each one of us. If society is to be successful and everlasting, it must live and breathe the principles on which it is founded. It must be workable, and this means that the individual Members must live in the spirit of real Brotherhood, we must be a doer of the Word, not just a hearer only.

To assume obligations of friendship, morality, and brotherly love; to reaffirm love for the dependence on an Eternal Father, are but empty words lost forever in the restless air if they are not practiced in our daily life. In this sense, we as present-day Masons could very well classify ourselves as "Operative Masons."

Our Lodge is not just a room. It is not merely a place in which to enjoy fraternal fellowship. It is not an organization which replaces the Church. It is not the means of promoting one's self in business. What our Lodge really is, is a group of men, a group of Brothers, who have dedicated themselves to a common task, and that is to build. A Freemason is a builder; a builder of character; a builder of a better community; a better nation; a better world in which to live; a builder of an Eternal Temple for the indwelling of God.

Such should be the real meaning of Freemasonry to each of us. If not, we should re-dedicate our lives right now to those principles of Freemasonry to which we have obligated ourselves to accept, to learn, to keep and to exemplify.

We are brought to Light in order that we may let our Light so shine before our fellowmen, that they may see our good works and join us in glorifying The Great Architect of the Universe. Author Unknown

Compromise

They say it is better to be poor and happy than rich and miserable. But couldn't something be worked out, such as being moderately rich and just moody?



HISTORY: RE-BUILDING THE TEMPLE (continued)

"The Wailing Wall" (continued)

July, 1930

The Jews' Lament"

Because of the Temple which is destroyed,
Because of the walls which are broken down,
Because of our majesty which is destroyed,
Because of the precious stones of the Temple
ground to powder,
we sit alone and weep.

It will be an interesting sight to see Bro. Muldrow, Bro. Love, Bro. Dudley, Bill Essex, John Liebrand and many other of our old brethren, on their knees with tears streaming down their cheeks, led by Bro. Bill Fuller chanting this wail for the Old Temple, and mourning its departed glory.

I am sorry that I cannot give you a Picture of the Temple as it looks now. Not that the East or main entrance looks good, but that you might keep it to compare with the finished entrance which will be the pride of Indian Consistory.

Next month I am going to print picture of the Temple as it looks then. They are getting ready to enclose the organ room, and the room for the choir. Maybe I can tell you something about that next month.

Bro. Schmitt. (the architect), tells me that he will have some more allegorical figures possibly in time to tell about them in the next issue.

to be continued

***""If you want to gather honey, don't kick
over the hive."***

Dale Carnegie

Editor Don Jones 33°

