



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

Newsletter Date

April 22, 2019

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:

### May 1st

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

### May 2nd

Oklahoma County Scottish Rite Chapter,  
OKC 1100

### May 9th

Indian Chapter, Scottish Rite Noon  
McAlester Scottish Rite Center

### May 13th

Lodge of Perfection Meeting,  
Meeting at 7:00 pm  
McAlester Scottish Rite Center

### May 15th

Muskogee Chapter, Scottish Rite  
Masonic Temple Noon

### May 30th

McIntosh County Chapter  
Belle Star Restaurant 6:30 PM

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  
Brett Cable, Venerable Master  
Jimmy Whitfield, 33°, Wise Master  
James Dulin, KCCH, Commander  
Michael Bibee, Master of Kadosh

## American Heritage Class



## THANK YOU from the General Secretary, Michael A. Ebert, KCCH Brethren,

On behalf of the Advisory Conference and the staff I would like to thank all the guests and Valley Workers for attending the McAlester Scottish Rite American Heritage Reunion on April 13-14, 2019. This Reunion saw Sixteen Candidates and four Courtesies receive their 32° caps. The reunion's success would not have been possible without the hard work of each of you and your dedication to the Scottish Rite.

Everyone did an exemplary job starting with registrations, the Cast and Support Crews, for both the performed degrees, as well as the communicated degrees, were superb and flowed smoothly and with the help of the brothers that set up the degrees, stage crew, sound, lighting, and music, made the entire reunion much more pleasurable to attend. It would take all day to name all the brothers that participated in the Reunion however your work did not go unnoticed. Well done, Brothers, and thank you for making this reunion a big success!

I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Reunion on October 19-20, 2019 doing your part as you always have. The pride that each of you show in YOUR Valley is evident and we thank each of you for your dedicated work and

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

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#### Upcoming Reunions:

**2019**  
**October 19-20**

**2020**  
**April 18-19**  
**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](#)

[McAlester RiteCare Clinic](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS

**to our newest 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Masons.**

You witnessed some excellent degree work and more LIGHT. However, as you were told in the 4th Degree there is much more Masonic knowledge to be sought for elsewhere.

In Oklahoma, we are privileged to have a prominent, national know Masonic scholar, Ill. Robert G. Davis, 33°, G.C. of Guthrie,, OK. Brother Davis, who travels around the 3 Valleys in Oklahoma conducting Masonic education seminars. His programs are well attended and informative. R.:W.: Davis also is serving this year as our Senior Grand Warden in the Grand Lodge line.

In addition, there are plenty of books, articles and web sites devoted to Masonry. Freemasonry is more interesting and fun when you know more about it. I challenge you to to seek more LIGHT in Masonry.

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## WHO EDITED THIS??

From an ad for an acting job:

"When we finish the commercial, it will be shown on screens in over 200 supermarkets. It's a great opportunity for you to expose yourself in front of everyone."

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## 2020 Reunion Dates Announced

The dates for the 2020 Spring and Fall Reunions have been announced and are in the column to the left. Please mark you calendars now and make plans to attend.



## VALLEY ACTIVITIES

**Thur. May 2, 11:30 am**, OKC Luncheon  
McAlester Scottish Rite; Golden Corral at I-40 and  
MacArthur, OKC. John Salisbury, 33, Chairman  
New S.R. Masons welcome; Candidates eat free.  
Valley updates from General Secretary and a short  
talk for Masonic education.

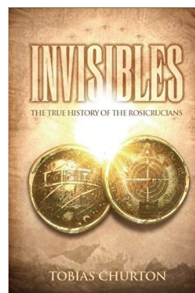
**Mon. May 13, 7:00 pm**; LOP Stated meeting  
Richards Room; McAlester S.R. Masonic Center  
Use West Door for entry.

**Fri./Sat, May 17-18**; Spring Migration  
Royal Order of the Duck event  
Bi-annual Gathering of the Bluebill Flight  
Lake McAlester Cabin (Camp Craig)  
Food, Fellowship, tall tales, cigars, etc  
Quack Quack! QUACK!



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## BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST



### "Invisibles: The True Story of the Rosicrucians"

by Tobias Churton

This book is well-researched, and the material is presented in a quite readable manner and in chronological order. The author tries to be all-inclusive with his subject matter and largely succeeds. The central question which the book attempts to answer is: did the Rosicrucians actually exist during or prior to the publication of the "Forma" (1614) or were they simply a chimera given birth by the fertile imagination of Andrea but nurtured by like-minded individuals to become a viable entity? The book provides ample material for the interested reader to ponder this question and arrive at his own conclusions.





## Attention! TOP LINE SIGNERS

In these days of declining membership , it is easy to get caught up in the numbers game; the number of petitions one has Top Line Signed. NOW, in these days of member retention, the Top Line Signature is just where **Your responsibilities begin!**

WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE "TOP LINE SIGNER?"

1. Bring or coordinate getting the Candidate to and from the reunion.
2. Assist the Candidate with his needs during the reunion; if possible, stay with him all day.
3. Mentor the Candidates; be there to answer any questions he may have.
4. Introduce him to the workers and let him know what each department does.
5. Bring or coordinate getting Your new Scottish Rite Mason to the next L.O.P. or Scottish Rite Chapter meeting.
6. Bring him back to the next reunion and let him help you mentor new candidates.
7. Keep the Valley office notified of any special concerns (financial or health-related) that the Brother may have.

We do a dis-service to a Brother if we drop him off at the door and tell him to have a good time. He probably won't and we may not see him again.

Please remember: Sponsoring a Candidate is a serious responsibility.

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## LODGE OF PERFECTION Stated Mtg April 8, 2019

The General Secretary reported that the office had 10 petitions in for the upcoming reunion. There were 2 petitions for rein-statement. The Secretary clarified the new rein-statement program stating that it was current dues (\$85) plus \$30.

Building Chairman Jack Inman, 33, reported that final bids were close to being reviewed for the boiler. The are waiting on a bid for asbestos abatement from one of the contractors. He also reported that the point tucking of the North Wall is scheduled for the summer and dry weather. Also the remaining roofs for repair are being scheduled for the summer.

Almoner Bill Erkin, 33, reported that the Almoner Fund balance is currently \$2,967.55.

General Secretary Mike Ebert, KCCH reported that Tulsa reunion class totaled 9 candidates and the Guthrie reunion class totaled 31 candidates. He reported that there would be a total of 3 courtesies for Tulsa and Guthrie at the McAlester reunion. Total Valley membership now stands at 2,156 with 12 deaths, 4 reinstatements 2 initiations from other reunions in the Orient. These numbers resulted in a net loss of 6 members since January 1, 2019. There are 201 members who still owe 2019 dues.

The Gen. Secretary read a selection from a York Rite publication in which the author expressed his dissatisfaction way the fraternity is headed. A short discussion followed.

(Personal note: I have read the article and it is interesting but, in my opinion, nothing new.. Don Jones, 33°)



## NOT A PROBLEM

A woman noticed her husband standing on the bathroom scale, sucking in his stomach. "Ha! That's not going to help," she said. "Sure it does," he replied. "It's the only way I can see the numbers."



## SUPREME COUNCIL HISTORY continued: (resuming the 1927 session)

G.C. Cowles had begun his Allocution with the membership matter of decline and his warning to the Orients and Valleys about over-spending for new temple building. He then turned to other concerns.

Continuing his Allocution, the G.C. informed the Council that he had give certain relics and items from the museum over to the Smithsonian Institution. He explained that the national museum could more properly preserve and exhibit the items.

Earlier, Cowles had begun to write a column for "The New Age" magazine and stated that it had been very well received. With the column, he said, he could inform the brethren how he was "working for the Rite". Following his tour of the world, he had written about his travels, meetings with other Supreme Councils, and made a list of his expenses for everyone to see.

Acting on a decision made in 1925, Cowles had ordered a bronze table to be placed in the atrium as a memorial to Past G.C. Richardson. It was placed on the west wall. On the table were engraved a quote of Richardson's that was later used as the "mission statement of the Rite." (continued on next page)

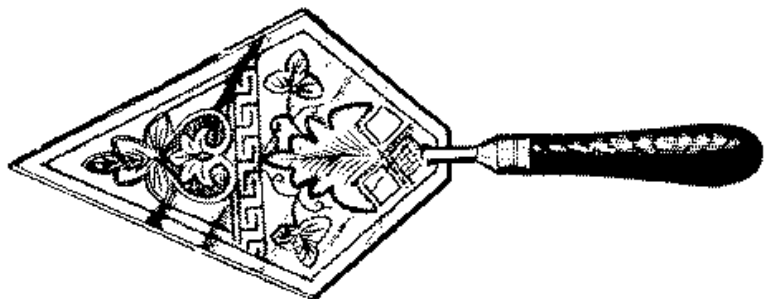


## SUPREME COUNCIL HISTORY continued:

Cowles had also ordered and had placed, the light fixtures that adorn the ceiling and sides of the atrium. He also, arranged with Pope, the H. of T. architect to have and artist do the Egyptian sculptures and the decorations. The Egyptian sculptures of "black marble" were also ordered at this time and were made from black marble found in Vermont.

After his reporting on the H. of T. , Cowles went to the subject of the Scottish Rite rituals. Basically, he gave approval to changes in the Pike rituals only to make them more current, but still retain the teaching points of the degrees. Still on the subject of rituals, he turned to the 14th Degree "ring". It is here where the design of the ring was changed to its present form, with the Jewish "Yod" , (the first Hebrew letter of "YAHWEH" ). Cowles also changed the 33rd Degree ring to enclose the number "33" in an equilateral triangle and the phrase, "God is my right" written in the underside with the name.

Following the Council's approval of the Allocution. it heard the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Legislation calling for a new circular design for all the S.R. caps. This was the "bell-hop" or "pillbox" cap. The Council approved the report which provided for the current design and distinctive adornment of the caps for the S.G.I.G.; Sov. G.C.; Inspector General Honorary; the K.C.C.H.; the Grand Cross and the 32nd Degree cap. The caps of other colors, that we know, came later. (continued on next page)





## SUPREME COUNCIL HISTORY continued:

One of the final actions of the 1927 session was the appropriation of \$1, 000,000 to be given as a grant to George Washington University. This grant was to create a "school of government". In looking at the past history of the United States, it was observed that better trained government leaders would be necessary to maintain the nation's place among other countries of the world. Later a "school of Foreign Affairs" came from this. Also added to the Committee's report was a statement prohibiting such a monetary gift to a "church-owned university. The grant had a provision concerning this which allowed for the return of the grant in case G.W. U. should ever become a church owned university.

The annual (biennial) session was closed with the usual ceremonial traditions and ritual.

Note: Later in December, the G.C. of the Southern Jurisdiction was given a position of the Board of Trustees of G.W. U.. This helped to make the relationship a closer one. However strong this was thought, the Board position was not to last past the 1960s.

to be continued.

Resource: "The Lodge of the Double-Headed Eagle"

by William Fox

***"The only time you have too much fuel,  
is when you are on fire."***

***Capt. Pekin: U.S. Air Force***

Editor Don Jones, 33°

