



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

May 13, 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 HAS COME AND GONE; WHAT NOW?

By now the newly initiated Scottish Rite Masons have had time to begin to reflect on their experience as a candidate. Yes, the degrees were well exemplified, the Temple was impressive and the Brethren were cordial and pleasant to "hang with" and new friendships were made. So what's next?

Like blue lodge, are there meetings to attend and programs to see; or do we just wait until the fall reunion? Well, here is what you do.

Check the list on the right side of this page for the Scottish Rite Chapter or Club that is meeting in your area. Ask your "top line signer: of your petition about Rite activity in your area.

If the Chapter of Club exist, but is not meeting, check around and see why not. And if there is not a Scottish Rite organization, Get your Scottish Rite brethren together and start one. Just ask the General Secretary Mike Ebert to assist you in forming a Chapter. You are a Scottish Rite Mason, You can do it. You surely have Master Mason companions that have not, or may not know, about the Scottish Rite. Encourage them to share the Scottish Rite experience at the Temple's next reunion in October. You can do it, you are a Scottish Rite Freemason.

Do you like to work with membership? Do you know that if you bring in new members to the Rite, you have the potential to earn a Perpetual Membership for yourself?

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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. For questions or comments email news@mcasr.org.

Upcoming Reunions:

2021
October 23-24

2022
April 2-3
October 22-23

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](#)

WHAT NOW?

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Do you enjoy researching and writing essays, articles, or books? Join the Scottish Rite Research Society. You will get some of the latest information and articles on Freemasonry. The Society has a need for new ideas and papers.

Masonry and the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry have a myriad of activities for their members. You should make use of them and enjoy being in the fraternity of brothers.

EARNING A PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP

Option 1: Members securing 20 candidates who complete their Scottish Rite Degrees will receive a Perpetual Endowed Membership (PEM), paid by the Lodge of Perfection. Petitions must have been secured after January 1, 1989.

Option II-- Members securing 12 candidates who completed their Scottish Rite Degrees in a 12-month period of time will receive a Perpetual Endowed Membership (PEM), paid by the Lodge of Perfection.

Option III -- Members attaining 30 PEM credits as follows will receive a Perpetual Endowed Membership paid by the Lodge of Perfection :

- 1/2 Credit for Affiliation (Out of State of Oklahoma)
- 1/2 Credit for Reinstatements,
- 1/2 Credit for Dues Collection

Option IV -- Members may attain 30 PEM credits as follows: A minimum of a minimum of 15 credits must be secured from new candidates and the balance of the PEM credits may be accrued affiliations, reinstatements, and dues collection credits from Option III.

Hint: how to get new members.

GO TO WORK!



FROM THE H.R. FILES

Half of all employers know within the first 5 minutes of an interview if a candidate is a good fit for a position. It's a wonder these people made it past the first 5 seconds.

**Candidate sang her responses to questions.

**Candidate put lotion on her feet during the interview.

**When asked why he wanted the position, candidate replied, "My wife wants me to get a job."

**Candidate had a pet bird inside her shirt.

**Candidate stated feeling interviewer's chest to find a heartbeat so they could "connect heart to heart."

MASONIC ACTIVITY

Thur May 6; OKC Luncheon
McAlester Membership meeting report
Two Scottish Rite Masons from the
342nd Reunion were present.
Mike Ebert updated the group
on activity at the Temple and the last
reunion. 54 candidates in all.
Don Jones gave a short talk about the
Philosophical Degrees with the emphasis
on lessons of the 28th Degree
Also present was M.:W.: Mike Dixon,
KCCH, the 12th Degree Director.

Sat. May 15; Car Show
Host: So. McAlester #96 Lodge
Fund-raiser
North Town, McAlester
plus food, crafts, etc.

Mon. June 14; LOP Stated Mtg.
McAlester Lodge of Perfection
7:00 p.m., Richards Room of the
Scottish Rite Masonic Center

Fri. June 18, 6:30pm. BBQ & Bingo
Central Okla. Scottish Rite Society
BBQ prepared by Jones City Lodge
\$15 per person; includes bingo cards
Open meeting

August 21-22, 2021 Biennial Session
Supreme council; House of the Temple
Washington, D.C.
Actives, Deputies & officers only

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MASONIC ACTIVITY(CONTINUED)
July 4-8, 2021; Imperial Session
Shrine International ; Houston, TX

Fall Reunion, October 23 & 24
make your plans now to be there
more Degrees, more education and
more fun!

MOTHERS' DAY BEFORE ANNA JARVIS

Mothers' Day, as we know it, was a 20th century development, but the basic idea goes back to the ancient civilizations of the Greeks and romans.

The Greeks paid annual homage to Cybele, the mother figure of their gods, and the Romans dedicated an annual spring festival to the mother of their gods.

Mothersing Sunday

In the 16th century England, a celebration called "Mothersing Sunday" was inaugurated ---a Sunday set aside for visiting one's mother. The eldest son or daughter would bring a "mothersing cake" which would be cut and shared by the entire family. Family reunions were the order of the day, with sons and daughters assuming all household chores and preparing a special dinner in honor of their mother. Sometime during the day, the mother would attend special church services with her family.

Later, in 1910, through the efforts of Anna Jarvis a church in Grafton, West Virginia held one of the first Mother's Day celebrations.

And in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson established Mother's Day to be the 2nd Sunday in May. (and sales of chocolates & flowers began to increase).

The Old Farmer's Almanac

H A P P Y
Mother's Day
♥



BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

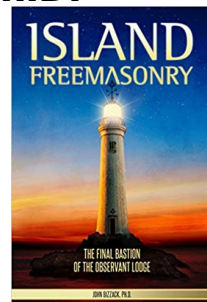
"Island Freemasonry: The Final Bastion of the Observant Lodge," by John Bizzack, Ph.D.

In the United States, the last 100 years has seen Freemasonry, once a cornerstone of American civil society, subside in influence, popularity and relevance. From an all-time membership in the 1950's, American membership numbers steadily declined for the last 50 years, resulting in half-empty lodges and shuttered temples across the nation. What Changed?

From "Anderson's Constitutions" to the "Morgan Affair", to the Post-War Boom in membership, John Bizzack, with this book, answers those questions, by examining the evolution of American Freemasonry from its arrival in colonial times to the 21st century. Bizzack traces the roots of Masonry's decline by charting how the U.S. grand lodges lost their way, departing from the original plan of Masonry in a never-ending quest for numbers.

This is a powerful book, albeit not a comforting one. But it gives one hope---not hope that things will be all right, but hope that it is not too late to make things right. We are probably going to have to slap ourselves around a little, but would we rather be slapped than left to die alone.

(Reviewed by James Tresner, 33, G.C.)



BE PATIENT, MY DEAR.

The graduating grand-daughter loved her grandmother's Chihuahua puppy so much, she asked, "When you die, can I have Romeo"

"Of course," grand-mother said.

She was thrilled. "Oh, I can't wait!"



THE PAPER WORK IS TOO HARD

The owner of a construction company was supervising some prospective employees as they filled out their applications. Everyone was busy writing away except for one guy, who appeared stumped. He turned to his friend and whispered, "Hey, George. What's my maiden name?"

MASONIC EQUALITY

There is no place where equality, as a social condition, is more happily illustrated than within a lodge of Master Masons. Here no distinctions exist save those based on worth and merit. Men in the highest positions of wealth and power give and meet upon the common level with those in the humblest ranks of life. Titles, wealth, and honors that the world bestows do not insure pre-eminence in a Masonic lodge. The faithful laborer who best serves his God, his country, and his fellow-man receives the highest reward of Masonry. From this principle, Equality, which in our order is fundamental, there comes naturally that harmony and unity of action which is the strength and support of all institutions. It is the spirit of goodwill and fraternity that pervades every true Masonic lodge and guards its entrance against those contentions in which mankind engages. The rivalries of business, the jealousies of ambition, the bitterness of hatred of political and sectarian strife can find no shelter beneath our canopy; and the jarring sounds of the outside world cannot disturb the peace and harmony that prevails within our walls.

"London Masonic News"

"Masonry was not made to divide men, but to unite them, leaving each man free to think his own thoughts and fashion his own system of ultimate truth. All its emphasis rests upon two extremely simple and profound principles, love of God and love of man." ~ Joseph Fort Newton

2022 Reunion Dates

April 2-3

October 22-23



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

What led to American Religious Right to turn religious prejudice to anti-Masonry?

Our author, Mr. Fox, credits it to the publication of the book, "The Broken Covenant: American Civil Religion in Time of Trial." in 1975. The author of the publication, Robert Bellah (Professor of Sociology) at the University of California, with this book, brought the concept of Civil Religion to the public. And the extreme religion fundamentalists went with it. Eg. "One nation under God" added to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Scholars had long known about the "religion-moral character" of Freemasonry. With the reading of the book by Bellah, those of the religious right began to look at Masonry and other fraternal associations differently. Written in Bellah's book was this: when an organization has "a common set of moral understandings expressed in public ceremonies (or ritual?) and national holidays hold equivalent values and functions on a religious calendar, the evidence is strong." "Freemasonry, the oldest, largest and most prestigious of American fraternal associations is an organization dedicated to the maintenance and propagation of civic religion."

Mr. Fox: "One can see how in the 2000's, a fraternal association whose meetings begin with a generic invocation and closed with a similar sounding benediction was perceived from the outside to be demonstrating ..vague religious concepts."

Mr. Fox: "in the early 1990's, Roman Catholic theologians (for instance), still abhorred the possibility the Masons were 'receiving instructions on the nature of God' with...the secrecy...of a rival..with no divine commission " to do so.



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

Acting on this, "conservative Christians - both Protestant and Catholic - formed.... naturally, for Masonry to become a theological straw man and then, consequently, a victim of energetic antagonism ...of religious prejudice."

Looking at the "constructs of social-psychology", (Bellah), "Freemasonry certainly has the cultic creedal, behavioral, and organizational characteristics of organized religion, yet its central focus appears to be the maintenance and propagation of a civil religion."

Mr. Fox: "perhaps is the anti-particularism (whatever that is) of Masonic civil religion, which attracted the animosity of the religious right in the 1980's."
(to be continued)

***"It is the song you sing, and the smile you wear,
that's making the sun shine everywhere."
James Whitcomb Riley***

The Scottish Rite Creed.



***Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our
supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission,
and the guarantee of equal rights to all people
everywhere our ultimate goal.***

Editor Don Jones 33°

