



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

Newsletter Date

May 19, 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

**Office is currently closed  
to Public due to Pandemic**

## 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

## GRAND MASTER'S EDICT #6 EXTENDS LODGE CLOSURE UNTIL JUNE 1st.

Grand Master Bobby Peters 33° extended until June 1st, the closure of Masonic lodges in Oklahoma. Even then, the Grand Master laid out certain rules that must be done for the protection of our brethren from the current plague affecting our society.

The letter, dated May 15th, was mailed, not only to the lodges, but put on the OkMasonMail.org which goes to all brethren that subscribe to the internet bulletin board.

The Edict gives explicit instructions in regard to the protection of our members, (distancing, masks, hand sanitizers, etc.) cleaning & disinfecting lodge interiors and furniture, Clean Restrooms, etc.

The Edict also gives instructions on the business that a lodge may conduct and lodges will meet only on the Entered Apprentice degree. NO degrees are to be conferred.

See the letter for more a more detailed review of the restrictions.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



**Dates for 2021 Reunions**  
**April 17-18**  
**October 23-24**

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**

**2021**  
**April 17-18**  
**October 23-24**

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](#)

## **SGIG OF SCOTTISH RITE IN OKLAHOMA ISSUES LETTER FOR THE RITE FOLLOWING JUNE 1ST DATE.**



In accordance with Grand Master Peter's statewide opening of Masonic lodges on June 1st, the S.G.I.G. in Oklahoma, Joe R. Manning, Jr. 33° has updated the Oklahoma S.R. Masons for the Scottish Rite Temples, meetings and reunions.

Excerpted from his letter:

"By closing businesses and organizations, staying in our homes, wearing masks in public, adopting extra washing and cleaning, etc., we have slowed the spread of the COVID-19 virus." and "we have learned that life cannot return to normal, until a vaccine is perfected to control this virus.."

"We must evaluate all our actions with the safety of our brothers in mind. "

Below are some actions mandated by the SGIG.

#### Temples

- Professional staff will return on date the Oklahoma Grand Master reopens the Craft Lodges.
- Temples will remain closed to tours, degree practices, social gatherings, etc.

#### LOP Meetings

- Targeted for July meeting, if 65+ Safer- at-home is lifted.
- Social distancing
- Masks

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### Fall Reunions

- Uncertain at this time whether they will occur.
- Eliminating food service in Temples, etc.
- No over-night lodging in Temples, etc.
- Probably social distancing
- Probably masks
- Extreme Cleaning of Microphones and limiting costumes exchanges.

.....Exact policies will depend on spread of the virus and government regulations.

(Check the letter for more specific information )

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## OTHER MASONIC ACTIVITIES

**June 4, 2020;** ZOOM meeting of Knight Masons

The New Jersey Council of Knight Masons has invited members of the McMillin Council of Tulsa to participate in Zoom meeting on the above date.

If you are a member and did not get the e-mail, contact James R. Taylor, Jr. Secretary. The e-mail has the connecting link for the meeting.

**Sat. August 1, 2020;** Okla. York Rite College

Your meeting of May 30 has been cancelled and moved to the above date. Edmond Lodge is still the Place. If you are a member of the College and did not get the e-mail, especially in regard to online balloting, contact James R. Taylor, Jr., Secretary for the link.

F.Y.I.; **Thursday, May 21, 2020:** Degree Watch Party (Northern Jurisdiction ONLY)

A digital presentation of the 19th Degree and the 31st Degree. Check their website for the link. If you are a Scottish Rite member in the Northern Jurisdiction you can log in.

Sorry, brethren, your Southern Jurisdiction membership number will NOT work.





## NOT A TOTAL LOSS

There was a young man of Devises,  
Whose ears were of different sizes;  
The one that too small  
Was of no use at all  
But the other won several prizes.



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## NEWEST OKLAHOMA "ACACIA" CLUB MEMBER

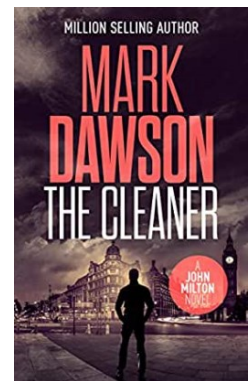
Bro. Preston Doerflinger, 32, KCCH has become the latest Oklahoma Scottish Rite Mason to be a member of the Supreme Council's Acacia Club. Bro, Doerflinger is a successful business man and serviced as a Financial Officer for Gov. Mary Fallin's term in office. He is a Past Master and Past Sovereign of McMillin Council, of Tulsa. Bro. Doerflinger is a member of the Valleys of Guthrie, McAlester and Tulsa in the Orient of Oklahoma.

Congratulations!

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## BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

" The Cleaner,  
(A John Milton Series, Book One)"  
by Mark Dawson, fiction



John Milton is the man the government calls when they want a problem to go away. What happens when Milton is the one who disappears?

Kindel, edition; Amazon

## NUMBER PLEASE

A gentleman visiting in Washington went to a pay phone to call a friend in Baltimore. It became annoying when the operator said, "Deposit \$5.00 please."

"What" he cried, "5 dollars to call Baltimore? Why at home we can make a phone call to Hell for a dime."

"Oh yes, " she replied, "But that is a local call."

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### FROM THE "March, 1929" ISSUE OF "THE OKLAHOMA MASON"

#### TO OUR READERS,



With this issue The Oklahoma Mason ceases to be the official publication of the Craft Lodge of Oklahoma and becomes the official organ of the Scottish Rite bodies in the Valley of McAlester.

Had it not been for the brethren of the Rite in McAlester The Oklahoma Mason would have died long ago of starvation. For 18 years and 5 months--since October 1, 1910---the McAlester brethren realizing the need of a Masonic publication in Oklahoma, have kept it alive as the official publication of the Oklahoma Grand Lodge without any help, aid or assistance from it. It is not right that they should bear this burden any longer, so the paper has been transferred to the McAlester Scottish Rite Bodies.

The Oklahoma Mason will retain its name and volume number for it will continue to be a Masonic publication, interested in and advocating the undying principles of the Fraternity in all its rites and ceremonies. As a matter of course it will give its first allegiance to the Bodies of the rite in the Valley of McAlester.

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It hopes to become the mouth piece of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Oklahoma in so far as it may be able to give publication to his orders and edicts to the brethren of the state, but no further. That which is official will be published over his signature and that which is not signed by him will be merely the opinion of of the editor or author.

The paper has been greatly reduced in size but we will endeavor to keep it as we have heretofore, a publication of interest to the Mason of whatever rite. And it is with genuine regret that we are compelled to discontinue our Eastern Star Department.

I have had editorial charge of the paper since October 1, 1919, and will as long as I am Secretary of the Scottish Rite Bodies, continue to be in charge.

Editor-- Wm. P. Freeman

## **THIS WEEK IN MASONIC HISTORY**

May 19, 1958--- Harry S. Truman, 33, (U.S. President 1945-1953), Past Master, Past Gran Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and Certificate Lecturer, received his 50 Year Membership Award.

May 24, 1901--- Sir Winston Churchill received the First Degree in Studhome Lodge No. 159, London.

May 27, 1985--- Carl H. Claudy, Masonic scholar, playwright; Past Grand Master of Grand Lodge of District of Columbia and Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Association passed away.

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

### **INDIAN TERRITORY GRAND LODGE**

Having completed the work of adopting a Constitution and By-Laws, amended time without number since that October day in 1874, the Convention dissolved.

On the following morning, the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory, a reality, was opened in ample form and the officers elected by the Convention installed by the Past Master Byrd as the First Grand Officer of the Grand Lodge. The official line was as follows: (continued on next page)



## **HISTORY** (CONTINUED)

### **INDIAN TERRITORY GRAND LODGE**

M.W. G. McPherson, Grand Master  
R.W. M. Slover, Deputy Grand Master  
R.W. John B. Jones, Grand Lecturer  
R.W. J. B. Young, Grand Orator  
R.W. William Byrd, Grand Sr. Warden  
R.W. Augustus Hopping, Grand Jr. Warden  
R.W. G.W. Stidham, Grand Treasurer  
R.W. R. P. Jones, Grand Secretary  
R.W. H. F. Buckner, Grand Chaplain  
Bro. W. A. Welch, Grand Marshal  
Bro. W. H. Ainsworth, Grand Sr. Deacon  
Bro. James Sutton, Grand Jr. Deacon  
Bro. C. C. Belcher, Grand Sr. Steward  
Bro. Joh Barnwell, Grand Jr. Steward  
Bro. Wiley Stewart, Grand Pursuant  
Bro. C. M. Beck, Grand Tyler

The Proceedings record that "the officers were installed" but as a matter of fact not all of them were present and at least one, Bro. Barnwell did not know at the time that such an institution as the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory had come into being

The Communication continued all through Tuesday and Wednesday, time for the most part being consumed in the adoption of the first code of laws, 15 sections of which were devoted to the subject of 'trials', the most important Chapter in the By-Laws as it unfortunately developed a few years later. The last session of the Grand Communication convened at 8:00 P.M. Wednesday evening concluded with an exemplification of the Master's Degree.

(to be continued)

***"Every man has the power to act. It is up to him to act well. Such is the meaning of living a virtuous life."***

***Robert G. Davis, 33, G.C.***

**Editor Don Jones 33°**

