



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

May 20, 2023

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 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 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, 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

2023 SUPREME COUNCIL BIENNIAL SESSION COMING IN AUGUST

Sunday, August 19 - Tuesday, August 22

Early Registration available On-Line at the Supreme Council, S.J. web site



Saturday, August 18, 12:00 p.m.; Registration opens at House of the Temple, Washington, D.C. The Schedule for the Biennial is available on the Supreme Council, S.J. web site. It includes all Biennial degrees, events, meetings, special sessions and Tours, etc. Cost: Members - \$375.00. Spouses and/or guest, \$300.00 . Includes Banquets and scheduled tours.

WHY DO WE NEED SCOTTISH RITE COUNTY CHAPTERS

Twice a year we all journey to McAlester for a weekend for fellowship, education and work at our reunions. Most everyone will agree that they enjoy the experience. So the question is why do we limit this experience to just two times a year?

Now, we are not promoting 12 reunions a year, but county Scottish Rite clubs can and do offer much of the same experience. For one reason or another not all of our brothers can make it to the reunions but a meeting in the same county is another thing.

What do Scottish Rite chapters offer:

1. Information on what is happening in the valley from the General Secretary who attends these meetings.
2. Education on the Scottish Rite from well informed brothers
3. Promotion of the Scottish Rite to Master Masons who are welcome to attend the meetings.
4. FELLOWSHIP! Even with brothers of other valleys who live in the area.

If you are interested in forming a Scottish Rite Chapter in your county, contact the General Secretary at 918-423-6360,

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](#)

MAY 31, 1801, IN THE BEGINNING:

Prior to the American colonies War for Independence, Masonry in Europe was being exposed to so-called "higher" degrees. The "Constitutions of 1761 and 1762" were an effort to have some type of regulation to those degrees.

A Freemason named Stephen Morin received a patent from the Grand lodge of France and "the Emperors of the East and West" and a self-designated title of "Inspector General", Morin made plans to sail to the New World.

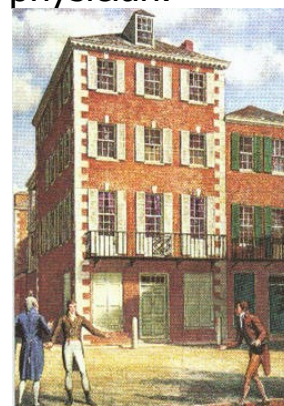
Before Morin was able to leave Europe, the "Constitutions of 1762" had been passed. This document established 25 degrees as "official". Morin took these to the West Indies.

Taking his authority from the new Constitutions, Morin put the Rite degrees on Frenchman Henry Franken. Franken traveled to New England and began to establish Rites of Perfection there and along the east coast of the colonies.

The appearance of the "Constitutions of 1782" set the stage for the establishment of the Scottish Rite in the United States and for what was to become the Supreme Council or "Mother Council of the World." Two years previous, Barend Spitzer, Deputy General of the Rite of Perfection, had appointed Colonel John Mitchell of Charleston, South Carolina a Deputy Inspector General.

While there is some question about where Mitchell received his 33rd Degree, he, as the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of South Carolina, conferred the 33rd Degree on Dr. Frederick Dalco, a Charleston physician.

It was six days later, on MAY 31, 1801, that Mitchell and Dalco opened a SUPREME COUNCIL under the "Constitutions of 1786". The location was in Charleston at Shepherd's Tavern at the corner of Church and Broad streets. (a monument for the event is at that corner now and an abstract business is on the site of the Tavern.) Since no minutes were taken, it isn't known if others were in attendance. Another meeting was held on June 15, 1801 to appoint seven other men to make up the constitutional limit of nine.



Happy Birthday to the Supreme Council.

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.

Tue. May 22; Birthday
Bro. A. Conan Doyle born 1859
"It's elementary, Dr. Watson."

Mon., May 29; Memorial Day
Temple Office closed.

Wed., May 31; Scottish Rite began
Supreme Council founded 1801
Shepherd's Tavern, Charleston, S.C.

Thur., June 1; Scottish Rite luncheon
McAlester Membership Luncheon; OKC
10:30 a.m.; meeting, 11:30 a.m. luncheon
Golden Corral, I-40 & MacArthur, OKC
Food, Fellowship, short Program

Mon. June 12; 7:30 pm, stated Mtg.
McAlester Lodge of Perfection
McAlester Scottish Rite Center

Wed., June 21; Muskogee Luncheon
Muskogee Chapter of Scottish Rite
Dining Room (in basement)
Muskogee Masonic Lodge Temple

Wed., June 21; Summer Solstice
Longest Day of the Year

August 20,21,22: Biennial Session
Supreme Council; House of the Temple
33rd Degree Investiture
Registration now open; [check Web Site](#)



OUR S.G.I.G. IN OKLAHOMA WILL PRESIDE OVER ANNUAL CONCLAVE OF "Knights, York Cross of Honor."

Grand Master General Joe R. Manning, Jr. will be the host and presiding officer of the 88th National Conclave of the Knights, York Cross of Honor for 2023. The Conclave for 2023 will be held in Oklahoma City on September 1-2 at the Embassy Suites.



As is our Masonic custom, Bro. Manning started in the national leadership "line" a few years ago and reached the high office of "Grand Master General" in 2022.

We congratulate S.G.I.G. Manning for reaching this high honor and wish him a successful Grand Conclave session.

The Knight, York Cross of Honor is an invitational York Rite Body. York Rite members who have held the highest offices in the Blue Lodge and the York Rite Bodies of which they are members are eligible for nomination and the ballot must be unanimous.

We also want to thank our S.G.I.G. for continuing to represent Oklahoma Freemasonry on the national level.

MORE INSULTS

--- "He is a self-made man and worships his creator."

John Bright

--- "I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial." Irvin S. Cobb

--- "He loves nature in spite of what it did to him". Forrest Tucker

---"Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without an address on it." Mark Twain

Brotherly Jokes

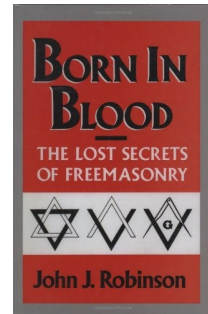
On his way home from work, a brother Freemason came upon a "Road Closed" sign. Undeterred, he maneuvered his truck around it and continued. But he didn't get very far. The pavement ended, giving way to another, larger sign: "What part of "Road Closed" Didn't you understand?"





BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

"Born in Blood The Lost Secrets of Freemasonry" by John J. Robinson



Historian Robinson persuasively links Freemasonry's origins and goals to the once powerful and wealthy Knights Templar order. ... The author combines scholarly research and entertaining storytelling in tracing Freemasonry as a worldwide political, religious, economic and social body dedicated to self-improvement and charity while governed by secret rituals and symbols.

— Publishers Weekly

The Past Master

*"Who's the stranger, Mother, dear?
Look, he knows us - ain't that queer?"*

*"Hush, my son, don't talk so wild -
"He's your father, dearest child."*

*"He's my father? It's not so!
Father died six years ago."*

*"Dad didn't die, Oh love of mine,
He's been going through the line.
But he's been Master now so he
Has no place to go you see -
No place left for him to roam.
That is why he is coming home.
Kiss him, he won't bite you child.
All Past Masters are quite mild."*

Brotherly Jokes (Continued)

In our Lodge's storeroom there is a ladder to get items from the top shelf. But it's always in the way, and after banging my shin on it for the umpteenth time, I asked the Brothers to please keep it somewhere safe.

The next day I found the ladder neatly collapsed and placed where it couldn't hurt anyone: on the top shelf.

Brotherly Jokes(Continued)

Seen on a marquee outside of a maximum-security prison in Dannemora, New York, the message: "The Dannemora Fire Department reminds you it's fire prevention week. Practice your escape plan."

A Mason walked into an auto parts store looking for a flat washer. "That will be 15 cents," the clerk said.

"15 cents for a washer? Are you crazy?" the Mason yelled. "I'll drill a hole in a quarter and make my own."

PICTURES FROM ARMED FORCES DAY



HISTORY: RE-BUILDING THE TEMPLE (continued)

To summarize:

Early in 1928 the brethren of Indian Consistory began preparations to re-build the First Temple. Plans were made for that purpose and work began. The First Temple was taken down brick by brick and the walls rebuilt with light colored brick instead of red with which it was originally constructed. In rebuilding the form of the new structure was changed and does not resemble the old in any way except, perhaps, the main front or the east facade, where the six fluted columns and arches have been retained., with some changes. Otherwise, the new Temple does not resemble the Old.

So, the original east portion of the Old Temple, built some twenty-five years ago, has been raised and rebuilt, the Banquet Room remodeled, a beautiful Blue lodge Temple built over it, and the whole structure made fire-proof with reinforced concrete and steel.

HISTORY: RE-BUILDING THE TEMPLE (continued)

As the stage in the Old Temple was the latest thing in its day and time, so in the New Temple the new stage and auditorium is a quarter of a century ahead of the present day. The lighting, scenery and stage properties are wonderful and will carry to the minds and hearts of candidates the great lessons of the Rite through the eye, assisting the degree workers who are endeavoring to take the message to them through the ear.

Indian Consistory has long been noted for its wonderful and effective presentation of their Scottish Rite degrees. With the help of the great stage, drops, lights and properties the brethren will be able to do better and more effective work than ever.

High over the proscenium arch is the wonderful, new organ. Not another like it in Oklahoma. It cost \$25,000.00 and will fill the great Temple auditorium with symphonies and sweet and soul-stirring music under the guidance of the skillful fingers of Mrs. Mary Ross, Our Mary, who presides at the console.

.....Brother L. E. Loonsberry has traveled extensively throughout the Middle East of North Africa. When he toured the ruins of the ancient city of Carthage, Bro. Lounsberry was able to purchase some of the mosaic tiles that had been used for the floors of Carthaginian buildings. He had the tiles transported to McAlester.

"Now".....when you come to visit your new Consistory, in the New Temple, through the East Door,,,,,,You, (and we) walk over some of the mosaic tiles used as a pavement in Carthage, 2,500 years ago, and over which, no doubt, millions of Carthaginians , Phoenicians, Romans and peoples from every city of the known world have walked.

This concludes "Re-Building the Temple"
The Oklahoma Mason, Nov., 1930
William P. Freeman. General Secretary

"It is our Duty to obey the laws of our country, and to be careful that prejudice or passion, fancy or affection, error and illusion, be not mistaken for conscience."

Albert Pike, "Morals and Dogma"

Editor Don Jones 33°

