



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

**Newsletter Date**

**May 31, 2024**

**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

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

### 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Muskogee Chapter, Scottish Rite  
Masonic Temple Noon

### 5th Thursday of the Month

McIntosh Chapter Scottish Rite  
6:00 pm Lake Country Dinner

Note: Scottish Rite Chapters and Societies, be  
sure to notify the office of any changes in  
meeting place and times.

### Advisory Council and Officers

Wade Massey, 33°, Chairman

Mike Ebert, 33°, General Secretary

William C. Cox, 33°, Member

Phillip Johnson, 33°, Member

Harrison Bartlett, 33°, Member

Greg Stiedley, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master

Mike Echols, 32° KCCH, Wise Master

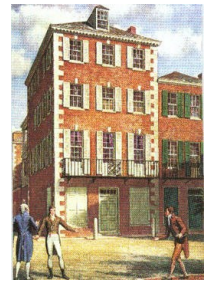
Paul Larcade, 33° KCCH, Commander

Bryan Pumphery 32° KCCH, Master of Kadosh

## SHEPHERD'S TAVERN

(The Birthplace)

Charles Shepherd built his tavern around 1720. During the 18th century in Charleston the term tavern was used to describe any establishment that served a number of purposes for the town. The building site Charles Shepherd chose for his business was a lot at the corner of Broad and Church Streets located near the center of Charles Town, as it was then called. It was a 4-story oblong building and its purpose, while commercial, was also to serve the community in a variety of ways.



Not only was Shepherd's a place to eat and drink but also a place to do business, hold public meetings, and write or receive mail. As one of the principal public houses of Charleston, it played an important part in the development of the city.

Let's skip ahead to May 31, 1801. On that day, Colonel John Mitchell and the Reverend Fredrick Dalco opened "The Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree for the United States of America." Dalco had received the 33° from Col. Mitchell six days before the opening.

Now May 31, 1801 was on a Sunday, a day when most Lodges did not meet. However, importantly to the Scottish Rite, this was the date of the ascension to the throne in 1740 of King Frederick of Prussia, a day that was celebrated annually. Frederick is prominent in the Camp Scene of the 32nd Degree.

And we now skip to 1924. The building (Shepherd's Tavern) was then owned by Klinck, Wiskenberg, and Company. This firm demolished the old structure on the site and constructed a new building more suited to banking and offices. (Currently an Abstract Office is in the building).

(Continued on next page)

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

You can petition the Scottish Rite for membership online at the following link:

[Online Petition](#)

Or scan this QR Code



Upcoming Reunions:

**2024**

**October 12-13**

**2025**

**April 12-13**

**October 11-12**

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](#)

## SHEPHERD'S TAVERN (Continued)

It took some persuasion on the Supreme Council's part but it finally succeeded in placing a "memorial" tablet on the corner at Broad and Church Sts. Engraved on the tablet is this:

"On this Site Stood The Building In Which The Supreme Council, 33rd, Ancient And Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry was Founded May 31, 1801, A.D., Corresponding To Siva 19, 5561 A.M. Solomon's Lodge No. 1, Ancient Freemasons Chartered by The Grand Lodge England 1735 Was Organized On This Site, October 28, 1736."

There are 2 more memorial tablets on the corner but Tablet No. 1 is all we have space for.

Happy Birthday to the Supreme Council!

## McAlester Brother renews Membership in "ACACIA GUILD"

By renewing his contribution to the House of the Temple's Preservation Fund, Bro. Charles W. Manning, KCCH is a member of the "Acacia Guild".

Bro. Manning is an active Mason and is a plural member of the Valleys of McAlester and Guthrie.

Among other activities in the McAlester Valley, Bro. Maning is the Director of the 20th Degree team and President of the Supernumerary Club. He served as an officer in the Knights of St. Andrew until receiving his KCCH.

Our congratulations to him for his membership in the Acacia Guild and thanks for his commitment to the Scottish Rite.



## What does the Fourteenth Degree ring mean?



The Scottish Rite Fourteenth degree ring is a flat, plain band of gold, and embossed thereon is a plate in the form of an equilateral triangle and within the triangle is the Hebrew letter yud, the initial letters of Jehovah in Hebrew (yud he vau he). Inside the ring is inscribed the Fourteenth Degree Motto: Virtus Junxit, Mors Non Separabit (Virtue has united and death shall not separate). The rings circle expresses the unbreakable fraternal bond between Masons of all generations. Upon the death of the owner, the ring should go into the hands of his widow, eldest son, the friend who was loved above all others, or another Scottish Rite Mason.

## SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY MASONIC ACTIVITY

**Fri. May 31;** Anniversary  
Supreme Council, 33 (Mother Council),  
founded on this day in 1801 in  
Charleston, South Carolina

**Thur. June 6;** 11:00 a.m.; Luncheon  
McAlester Scottish Rite Chapter, OKC  
---- McClintock's Chop House-----  
222 Exchange Ave., OKC  
Good food, fellowship; atmosphere  
All Masons are welcome.

**Mon. June 10,** 7:00 pm, Stated Mtg.  
McAlester Lodge of Perfection  
McAlester Scottish Rite Center  
Men's Lounge; west side, use  
West Door.  
All members are welcome.

**Fri. June 14;** National Flag Day  
Fly a Flag. Show your support for  
what it represents.

**Wed. June 19;** 12 noon; Luncheon  
Muskogee Scottish Rite Chapter  
Dinner Room; Muskogee Lodge  
Use South Door  
All Masons welcome.

**Thurs. June 20;** Summer Solstice  
Longest day of the year.

**Sat./Sun. Oct. 12 & 13;** Reunion  
McAlester Scottish Rite  
Petitions are available at the office or go  
Online. Call the Temple Office at  
918 - 423- 6360

Support Your Blue Lodge



## HELLO DAD AND BROTHER TOO!

*Hello dad I'm on my way to Lodge, as you may well know. I love you're watching over my earthly travels down here below!*

*I remember as a boy, on what you'd call "Lodge night" After dinner you'd leave Mom 'n me, in a suit and tie For a couple hours, or sometimes more like three If you had extra business up there, or were putting on a Degree.*

*I'd ask you what you did up there, and who were all "the guys" You said "they're friends you haven't met, the rest is a surprise Someday you can petition, and I really hope you do Then all our mysteries revealed, from our fraternity unto you."*

*Some don't understand us, they cry "conspiracy!" We just laugh it off as we practice charity And improve ourselves with every step, to make us better men Through brotherly love, relief and truth, again and again*

*The Lodge back then would host these banquets, for father and his son I'd go up to the Lodge with you, and it was so much fun The dining hall was packed, as we ate a feast This was when I knew: Freemasonry's for me!*

*You'd say that your Masonic Brothers were from every walk of life. And everywhere around the globe, yes it goes worldwide. And if we'd ever need assistance, they'd lend a helping hand, Or two or three, they'll always help in any way they can.*

*I wanted a petition, you said "not until you're a man" And 'tho you passed before I joined, I now understand All these "Masonic Secrets" that you held so dear I'm aiding all my Brothers' needs, yes both far and near*

*And now I know that when I pass to that celestial Lodge above I'll greet you once again, not just with a hug I'll also grip your hand, the way Lodge Brothers do I'll greet you for the first time as my dad and Brother too!*

**HAPPY FATHERS DAY!**

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



## TUBAL CAIN

After Cain had slain his brother, he traveled into a far country. There he married several women, each of whom presented him with children. He built a walled city, and into it he gathered his numerous families. He was wicked and aggressive and dominated the surrounding peoples. His eldest son was Enoch, after him he named his city. His son was Irad, and three followed Nauejael, Methusael, and Lamech. The last named by several wives, had 77 children. One Jubal, was a musician. Tubal, a half-brother, was distinguished for his stature and great physical strength and for his excellence in metal performance. He was ingenious and devised the smelting of ore. Out of the resultant metals he produced brass, and with it he made sharp-edged weapons and tools. Better armed, his fighting men prevailed. With better working tools his workmen excelled. The building was more ambitious and with artistic ornamentation. For this and as the first known artificer or cunning worker in metals, his name has a place in the science of Masonry. That is the record drawn from ancient Jewish history. Mackey, a Masonic authority, confirms what is above written and adds somewhat to it. In his mind Tubal Cain was the Jewish prototype of the Aryan Bulcan, the god of fire and the patron of the mechanic arts. As a discoverer and smelter of metals, he created sharp edge metal tools, by the use of which artistic buildings was promoted. For this reason, his name has an appeal to both operative and speculative Masonry. The reference is historical and is to his reputation and an artificer. It may also symbolize labor, as it is a Mason's labor to seek truth rather than material wealth. So its Masonic use is in accord with what is sought to be taught.

from The New Age May, 1962

### The Tyler's Place Podcast

In days of old, those stories and lessons were handed down from brother to brother within the walls of the lodge. But today, it can be a challenge to stop and listen because of professional, personal, and family obligations that can sometimes keep us from engaging and learning more about the men we call "Brethren."

So in an effort to bridge that gap, the Supreme Council, 33° is presenting a new monthly podcast series called [The Tyler's Place](#). The Tyler's Place is a collection of stories, lessons and interviews by Masons, for Masons and about Masons. Each episode offers a variety of topics on Masonry; like interviews with interesting and inspiring people, historical facts and insights, and tips, tricks and life-hacks for the modern Mason. And The Tyler's Place podcasts are short enough to listen to while you're driving to work, headed to a lodge meeting, or just relaxing at home. [Click here for more information.](#)



## The Flag of Humanity"

*I am the symbol of Liberty---the Liberty that unfolds individual freedom to bless others.*

*I am the symbol of Democracy---the Democracy that joins humanity in the bonds of brotherhood. I am the symbol of Justice-- the Justice that metes out to all righteously.*

*I am the symbol of Love--the Love that embraces all tenderly.*

*I am the symbol of Peace--the Peace that governs man with unselfishness.*

*I am immortal because I image forth these attitudes of Heaven.*

*My tongue is the language of the Spirit. The the Truths of which I speak heal the animosity of men and nations.*

*My mission is Universal. Humanity is my field.*

*That is why I, the Stars and Stripes, am the Flag of Humanity.*

--- Bagdasar K. Baghodigian---

**HISTORY: "THE FIRST CLASS"** (Continued)

**The "Movers and Shakers " of the First Class**

Michael Edward (M.E.) Williams

Born: May 8, 1870, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Died: December 30, 1958, McAlester, OK

Buried: Denison, Grayson County, TX

We do not have a record of Bro. Williams arrival in Indian Territory except that in 1899 he was the Katy Railroad ticket master in Krebs and we know that politically he was a Democrat and was the vice-president of the Party in Pittsburg County.



## HISTORY: "THE FIRST CLASS" (Continued)

### The "Movers and Shakers " of the First Class

His primary business in McAlester was in the field of insurance, loans and real estate. His offices were at 220 1/2 Choctaw.

Bro. Williams was a member of (South?) McAlester Lodge and in the First Scottish Rite class in McAlester. He finished his Scottish Rite degrees in 1905 at Guthrie.

His obituary from "The Tulsa World", 02 Jan. 1959 Sat.-Page 19 reports the following:

Quote - "McAlester, Jan. 2 -- Funeral services for M.E. (Mike) Williams, 88, retired McAlester insurance agency owner, were held Friday afternoon in the Oakwood cemetery at Denton, Texas.

Mr. Williams died Tuesday in a McAlester hospital following an extended illness. He had lived in McAlester for more than 60 years, moving here from Grand Rapids, Mich.

He was born in Grand Rapids. He was a member of the Masonic and Elks lodges. Survivors include, a brother, D.G. Williams of McAlester. " End Quote

FYI: M. E. Williams was the 22nd member of the "first class" as stated earlier. The 23rd member of that class was William Perry Freeman.

Bro. Freeman has an extensive history in McAlester Freemasonry. His story will appear in the next three issues of the Blast.

to be continued

***"It's the song you sing and the smile you wear,  
That's a'makin the sun shine everywhere."***

***James Whitcomb Riley***

**Don Jones, 33° Editor**

