



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

May 7, 2018

Editor : Don Jones, 33°

McALESTER SPRING REUNION REPORT



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 14th

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

May 16th

Muskogee Chapter, Scottish Rite
Masonic Temple Noon

May 31st

McIntosh Scottish Rite Chapter, Checotah
Lodge 6:30 PM

June 6th

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

June 7th

Oklahoma County Scottish Rite Chapter,
OKC 1100

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
Dr. Doug Auld, 33, Member
William C. Cox, 33, Member
Thomas S. Crowl, 33 G.C., Member
Richard Lerblance KCCH, Venerable Mas-
ter
Ryan Bibee, KCCH, Wise Master
Tom Keenze 33, Commander
James Harlow III, KCCH, Master of Kadosh



Twenty Master Masons were created Masters of the Royal Secret, 32nd Degree, on Sunday, April 18. Two days of ritual, education and fellowship ended with the Lights of Freemasonry continuing to shine from the McAlester Valley. Our sincere and hearty "thank you" to our new Masters for making our Valley their Scottish Rite home in S.E. Oklahoma.

We always owe a debt of gratitude to our members who "work" at their Reunions. From the Actors and Directors, the Stage, Wardrobe and Makeup departments the kitchen and Dining Room workers, Rainbow #1 Assembly and all for their commitment to our Valley.

Congratulations are also due our Valley officers and the efficient Office Staff. Our Reunions could not happen without you.

MEMBERSHIP workers have the most impact on whether a Reunion is successful or not. Many thanks to our Chairman, Mike Bibee, KCCH and all the Top Line Signers and the guys in the trenches.

REMINDER!

The hours at the Temple have CHANGED. The new office hours are Monday -Thursday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

TOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

918 423-6360

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:

2018

October 20-21, 2018

State Wide Reunion

July 21st Tulsa

2019

April 13-14

October 19-20

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](#)

MEMBERSHIP "MAN OF THE YEAR" AWARD

There was a tie this year. The two Brethren who will have their names placed on the Elmer Hale "Man of the Year" wallboard are:

Steve Gragg, KCCH, McAlester

Danny Maxey, 32, Oklahoma City

LAVERN FISHEL, 33, AREA MEMBERSHIP AWARD.

Also a tie:

Area 3- Pittsburg Co, Chairman Clem Peppers, 33

Area 1- Oklahoma Co., Chairman John Salisbury, 33

A plaque will be placed on the Lavern Fishel trophy.

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERSHIP AWARDS GIVEN



Thomas Gibson
Lloyd Lee

James Tooley
Charles Rogez

The "blue" S.R. caps for 50 yr. men were provided by the Valley service organizations.

GIVING ADVICE.

"A bad cold wouldn't be so annoying if it weren't for the advice of our friends." Kim Hubbard

"Be yourself," is about the worst advice you can give to some people." Tom Mason

"When a man comes to be for advice, I find out the kind of advice he wants and I give it to him." Josh Billings

VALLEY ACTIVITIES

Central Okla. S.R. Society hosted a dinner and bingo night last April 27. Van West and his lady provided an excellent Italian meal and served it. Following dinner, 70 plus Masons and ladies enjoyed an evening of bingo. The event was held in the dining hall of the India Shrine Center. Next event will be a BBQ & bingo night in July.



Wed. May 16, 7:00 p.m., Education, Rite Nite Broken Bow Lodge, Broken Bow, OK
Education on the Rite Nite; a program from your McAlester Valley.

Presenter: Robert G. Davis, 33, GC. Our own nationally recognized Masonic scholar from Oklahoma. Join us for More Light.

Fri./Sat., May 18-19, Spring Migration at the (quack) Mulberry Rook; Lake McAlester, McAlester, OK
Enjoy Fellowship, Food, and Fun with the "Royal Order of the Duck". Mulberry Rook is on Lake Road NW of the prison. Quack, Quack Have your quacker ready.

Sat. May 19, 5:30 pm-11:30pm. Celebrate the Craft Pod cast from the House of the Temple featuring fine entertainment. Celebrate at home or at the Men's Lounge in the McAlester S.R. Temple. Join your brethren in the fun.

Sat. July 21, 8:00 a.m., One-Day S.R. Reunion
Tulsa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
Tulsa, OK This opportunity may not happen again for those brethren who cannot spend a whole weekend at a Reunion.
McAlester Teams are presenting the 14th and 32nd Degrees.

NEWEST DEGREE TEAM MAKES ITS DEBUT

The "Shawnee Boys Degree Team" exemplified the 19th Degree "Grand Pontiff" for their debut performance on Saturday of the Reunion. It is good to have another Team from the Shawnee area and we (the old guys) are "rooting" for you.

Team Director- Steven Dawson
Asst. Director - Steven Peters, KCCH
actors:

Venerable Pontiff - Steve Peters, KCCH
Master of Ceremonies - Buck Banfield
Mufti of Islam - Steve Dawson
Chief Druid - John Bayless
Prelate of Christianity - Donny Lambert
Prelate of Mithra - Chad Barrett
Spirit of Evil - Kenneth Kline



Listen to one of the "old guys" The more you perform your Degree, the smoother it gets

JOHN ALLFORD, KCCH ELECTED

At the York Rite's Grad Sessions on Friday, April 27, Bro. John Allford, KCCH of the McAlester Valley was elected Grand Illustrious Master of the Grand Council, York Rite, of Oklahoma. He was installed into the office following the afternoon session.

Bro. Allford started in the line off Grand Council 3 years ago and worked his way up to the top spot.

Bro. Allford has served the Scottish Rite as a Geeral Secretary, on the Investment Committee and a member of the 32d Degree team.

He is a member of the McAlester York Rite Bodies and has served as Treasurer, High Priest, Illustrious Master and Commander. He is a member of St. Luke Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine and serves as the Recorder.

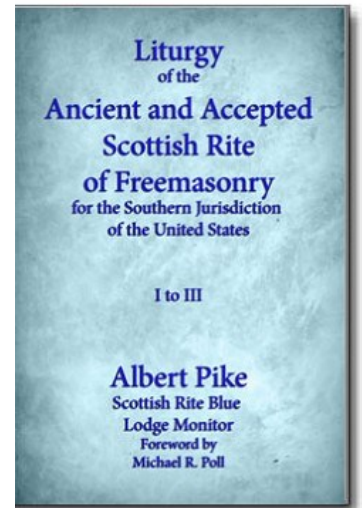
His proper title as the head of the Cryptic Masons of Oklahoma is: Most Illustrious Grand Master. Congratulations Bro. Allford. We wish you a successful year.



BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

The "Liturgy" is the "manual" or "Monitor" of the Scottish Rite Degrees of Freemasonry. Each chapter of this book includes a description of the Degree's regalia, as well as a description of the lodge, Chapter or Council, including furniture, decorations, the officers, titles, etc. needed to confer the Scottish Rite Degrees.

Available through the Supreme Council's scottishritestore.org (I consider this book to be a necessity for every Valley's library.)



VALLEY'S ALMONER FUND AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

From Billy Erkin, 33, Almoner

Recently the McAlester Scottish Rite Almoner's Fund entered into an alliance with the McAlester School Board to fund a "Child in Need" program. The purpose of the project is to assist children who need help with clothes, school supplies, fees or other items. We have donated \$1,000 to the program since March, 2017.

We continue to help others in need, especially brother Masons. If you know of a brother or a deserving individual who needs assistance, call the Temple Office at 918 423-6360.

HEAR, HEAR!

No organization epitomizes core values --- morals, ethics, character than Freemasonry.

David McCuiston, KCCH



THE CLUELESS HUSBAND

Returning home early from a business trip, a man found his wife in the bedroom. She isn't wearing a stitch of clothing.

Surprised, he says, "It's the middle of the afternoon. Why aren't you dressed?"

"I have nothing to wear," his wife answered.

"Nonsense," he says, throwing open her closet. "you have a red dress, a green dress....Hi Harry....a purple dress..."



TALES FROM HOME

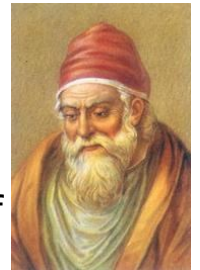
One thing I've learned from my last relationship, is that if an argument starts with, "What did you mean by that?" It is not going to end with, "Now I know what you mean by that."

The downside to retirement, I told my daughter, a stay-at-home mother with 3 young girls, is that you no longer feel euphoric about Fridays. "When you're retired, every day is Friday."

"I know what you mean, my daughter replied,. "When you're a stay-at-home mom, every day is Monday."

WHO WAS EUCLID --WHY IS HE IMPORTANT TO FREEMASONRY?

Euclid was from Greece and lived from 325 to 265 BCE. Historically, he is known as the Father of Geometry. He is responsible for assembling almost all the world's knowledge of flat-plane and 3-D geometry in one book. His work, together with the work of Pythagoras, forms the basis of all "sacred" geometry. It is only in the last few centuries that any new and significant has been added to what Euclid laid down 2,000 years ago.



Masons are first introduced to Euclidian geometry as the 5th liberal art & science in the Fellow Craft Degree.

SUPREME COUNCIL HISTORY continued: (resuming the 1915 biennial session)

Continuing his Allocution, Grand Commander Moore, who had formerly worked as the editor of the "New Age" magazine, expressed some "frustration" with the Council. He said "the continual recurrence at the end of each 2 years" of talk to "kill" the publication, had extended his patience to the "breaking point."



The publication had always been under funded and it took the use of his own money to complete each edition. In response to his obvious anger and irritation, the Council voted a sum of \$5,000 for continued publication of the periodical.

Still speaking from his Allocution, Moore made the following remark, "We have in all the States of our great Republic, a System of Public Schools designed to educate All children of All the people. I think we cannot render any greater or nobler service to the country than to align ourselves openly and squarely in favor of the creation, the maintenance, the efficiency and the perpetuity of our Public School System. I know of no other subject upon which there can be, or ought to be such uniformity of opinion and action as the education of the people IN THEIR OWN SCHOOLS." This was a position "Editor" Moore had advocated in "The New Age" in 1914. It looks like the Scottish Rite's support of Public Education began at this time.

Still using the Rite's magazine as a tool for change and action, (editor) Moore also promoted "Americanism" and patriotism support for the Scottish Rite. World War I offered incentive for the Rite to accept "Americanism as one of its promotions. Even though the promotion of patriotism might affect its "international" purposes, the Southern Jurisdiction of the Rite composed of "white, old-stock Americans" approved.

The Rite's promotion of Americanism was not without criticism. Some said the "Anglo-Saxon" ideals promoted by society would lead to imperialism and racism. However the movement was nationalistic and American Masonry was moving with it.

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SUPREME COUNCIL HISTORY continued:

Committee reports began on Oct. 20, with the librarian, William Boyden. He reported the completion of the "Index" of the sessions from 1857 to 1913. The project had taken 7 years to arrive at that point. His report included the final completion of a system of "classification for Masonic literature" other than the Dewey Decimal System. His system is now used in the majority of Masonic libraries, including the McAlester library. This had earned him the informal title as the "dean of Masonic libraries."

During the rest of the Session of 1915, which already was one of significant sessions, the Council acted on several other areas. One was the the "authorization of the G.C. to make final settlement of differences, claims and counterclaims with the District of Columbia; Scottish Rite Bodies for a Life Membership in the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Assoc." ; place on the Charter Roll of Honors the designation of depositories for the funds of the Council; change of the name of the Committee on Library and Building to "Committee on the Library"; and the empowerment of the G.C. to approve the Masonic War Relief Assoc. appeal for funds to the local S.R. bodies; approved the Council budget for the years 1915 to 1917's session, and to set the salaries of the G.C., and the Secretary General to \$12,000 yearly for each This equal salary of the two was not a good sign for harmony and was an indication to Moore that the "road ahead may be filled with difficulties."

Following the 1915 session, the Scottish Rite became a "pioneer in 20th Century Masonic Charitable works. The Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children that had opened early in 1915 was instrumental in starting this movement into philanthropy of the Rite.

(to be continued)

Resource: "The Lodge of the Double-Headed Eagle"
by William Fox

"Charity for the faults and injustices of our Brethren."

18th Degree, Knight Rose Croix
Editor Don Jones, 33°

