



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

June 23, 2022

Editor : Don Jones, 33°

FATHERS' DAY, (belated)

I hope all of you who are Dads had a good Father's Day on June 19th. I certainly did. It seems to be another holiday for gifts of new ties and or new shirts. I got a new Polo shirt. I like it.



Fathers' Day is also a good day just to bask in the limelight and enjoy watching the kids or grandkids play and entertain us. It's another advantage of being a Senior Citizen. You don't have to take the young ones home unless you want to.

Anyway, "belated" Happy Fathers' Day to all the Dads.

SUMMER SOLSTICE

What is it? Besides being the longest day of sunlight in the northern hemisphere, it also represents the 1st day of summer. In Edmond, the sun rose at 6:18 a.m. and sets at 8:53 p.m., D.S.T. (daylight saving time).

What is the Solstice? It is when, due to the orbit of the Earth, the Sun reaches its northern most point in the Northern Hemisphere. At that point it follows a line at 23.5 degrees latitude or what is named the Tropic of Cancer. Following that line, the Sun is directly over Mexico, the Caribbean, North Africa, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and China. Then, after a day or two, the sun will begin to go south, passing the equator on the Equinox and then to the Southern Hemisphere to the imaginary line, the Tropic of Capricorn. We call that the "Winter Solstice."

On June 21st, at sunrise, the Stonehenge circle catches the sunrise at a specific point. It has done this since its construction, over 5,000 years ago.

So, we also welcome "summer". Thankful for air conditioning and ice-cold drinks.



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 Center

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

Samuel Box, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master

Brent Heilman 32°, KCCH, Wise Master

Mike Wright, 32°, KCCH, Commander

Russell Davis 32°, Master of Kadosh

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

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Upcoming Reunions:

2022
October 22-23

2023
April 1-2
October 15-16

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](#)

THE WORK

*The gavel sounds and all is still"
The Master speaks, proclaims his will:
Each one obeys, takes up his tools.
Inspect the plan, consult the rules:
With trowel and level, plumb and square,
Each stone is set exactly where
The plan provides, the drawing shows
And day by day, the Temple grows:
The porch is finished, pillars placed
The strands of net-work, interlaced
The chambers furnished, pavement laid,
The sacred vessels all displayed"
The walls are standing, straight and true
The roof is on, the labor through:
The Master speaks, The work is done:
The gavel sounds, God calls us home.
Montford C. Holley*



V. M. A. P.

(Valley Membership Achievement Program)

VMAP is designed to help every Valley provide its members with a superior Scottish Rite experience and is the result of the 2014 Scottish Rite Regional Leadership Workshops. The Supreme Council took the information from the attendees to develop VMAP so that the Valleys can exceed our candidate's and members' expectations in their Scottish Rite membership.

VMAP specific subjects are:

1. Membership Recruitment
2. New Member Engagement
3. Degree Conferral Proficiency
4. Reunion Experience
5. Scottish Rite Education for Candidates
6. Scottish Rite Education for Members
7. Officers Responsibilities and Engagement
8. Philanthropy and Public Image
9. Member Retention
10. Valley Organizations

Valley Membership Achievement Project



Beginning in July (next month) we will consider each of these subjects beginning with # 10 and work our way up.

FYI: This program is Important! to our Valley, the Orient of Oklahoma and the Southern Jurisdiction of AASR.

SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY

MASONIC ACTIVITY

Wednesdays, weekly; Social Hour
9:00 a.m.; coffee & rolls; Fellowship
McAalester Scottish Rite Center
Open to all Masons & Friends, Use South door of Temple

Thur. June 23; St. Johns Observance
Canadian Lodge #22, Indianola, OK
Dinner at 6:00 pm; program follows meal.
This Observance is open to the public

Friday, June 24th: Official St. Johns Day
In recognition of St. John the Baptist, one
of the Patron Saints of Masonic Lodges.

Mon. July 4; Independence Day in U.S.
A celebration of the spirit, fervor and
sacrifice of the men who gave all to be free of tyranny.

Mon. July 11; 7:00 pm; LOP
Stated Meeting of Lodge of Perfection
McAlester Scottish Rite Center
All members are welcome, Use South door

Wed. July 13; Noon, S. R. Luncheon
Indian Chapter of S.R. sponsored
McAlester S.R. Dining Room
All Masons and Friends welcome. Use south door of Temple

Wed. July 20; Noon, S.R. Luncheon
Muskogee Chapter of S.R.
Blue Lodge dining hall, Muskogee
Open to all Masons and Friends, Use South door of Lodge Building



REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

(Hanging the Scenery)
Oklahoma Mason 1930

As the time draws near for the Reunion everything is being pushed to the utmost speed to have things ready in ample time for November 17, when it (the reunion) begins.

Bro. Tom Moses is here hanging the scenery on the great stage, which he has been painting for 18 months past. This scenery is Bro. Moses' last and crowning work of the kind. In it he has put his very soul and it is a great work of art. As one looks at the painted palaces, castles, mountains, sea-coasts, and scenes of the Far East where Freemasonry first began to make itself felt in the higher development of man, he forgets the here and now and is walking on Judea plains, or climbing Syrian mountains, or wandering along the sea coast of Palestine. Now he (Moses) is helping to move the great stones into place. or with his fellow workers pulling them on wooden rollers from the quarries from which the Mighty King Solomon is having them pried and cut to be built into the walls of his Temple and Capital City. With open mouth we stand in amazement forgetting everything else until someone yells, "Get out of the way or get run over." We wake up and get out of the way, pronto.

Wm. P. Freeman, 33°, Gen, Sec.

ALABAMA, OF COURSE

As any Southerner knows, there's nothing like a back-handed compliment from a proper southern lady. Here are some examples:

-- I just love how you don't care what people think. That takes a special person.

-- I bet those shoes are comfortable.

-- After you tell her you lost nine pounds: Well that's a wonderful start.

-- After you arrive for a visit: "What did you do, sugar, drive all the way home with the windows down?"

--- After you've cooked: "That was good. I must have been hungry."

--- 'I bout this the other day, but it's too big on me. Do you want it?"



THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE RETIREMENT

1. Would you recognize your primary care doctor if you saw him or her on the street?

(Begin now to make regular visits to your Dr.)

2. What about your dentist? Could you pick him or her out of a lineup?

(Trust me, this is important as you age.)

3. When was the last time you tired yourself out?

(Not that long ago, was it?)

4. Picture your parents, or grandparents, living in your home. Would you worry about them getting around safely?

5. Would you like your neighborhood if you can't drive? (I never thought this would mean something to me.)

6. OK, you are retired. What will you be doing next Monday if you are not yet retired, can you name 3 activities or projects you're ready to get started? (Freemasonry?)

7. Add up (or estimate) your monthly retirement expenses. Then add up your monthly retirement income (social security, pension, investments, savings, and so on). Which amount is bigger?

(Many retirees have to work to make ends meet)

8. What two assisted-living facilities are close to where you live?

(I'll bet your kids know)

9. How many people could you call if you were sick or scared in the middle of the night?

(Thank God for Masonry)

***You may not want to think about it now, but don't wait until other people are making these decisions for you.

AARP Bulletin

Bad Jokes

A man walks into a library and asks the librarian for books about paranoia. She whispers, "They're right behind you!"

Want to hear a roof joke? The first one's on the house.

What should you do if you're attacked by a group of clowns? Go straight for the juggler.

A cement mixer and a prison bus crashed on the highway. Police advise citizens to look out for a group of hardened criminals.

I couldn't figure out why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.



THE SAINTS JOHN

The patron Saints which were chosen for Masonry were Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist, and their feasts are celebrated on the days of the summer and the winter solstice.

It is not known why, when, and by whom, these two Saints were chosen for Masonry in the place of, say, Saint Thomas, the patron Saint of Architecture, but many reasons have been advanced for the choice, one could say, in retrospect.

It is considered that the Gospel of Saint John is the most Masonic of the Gospels, if only because its central theme is LIGHT. It portrays Jesus as the Light of the World, and His Gospel as the Gospel of Light. Lodges were dedicated to the "Holy Saint John", and Masons were called "John's Brothers", no doubt because Masonry is a quest after light.

It is a legend that, after the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, the Order, then in decline, sought Saint John, then living in Ephesus and over 90 years of age, to become its Grand Master, and he did so, saying that he had been initiated into the Craft as a young man. While this is only a legend, the Old Charges speak of Saint John the Evangelist as a Saint of the Craft.

Saint John the Baptist makes his appearance in the history of the Craft after the Reformation, and it was on his day in 1717 that the Grand Lodge of England was formed "according to ancient usage".

Regardless of the facts, it is fitting that the names of Saint John the Baptist, the stern prophet of righteousness, and Saint John the Evangelist, the teacher of Love, are honored by Freemasonry. Righteousness and Love tell the whole duty of man and a Mason.

Ref: Short Talks on Masonry by J. Fort Newton.



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



HISTORY; FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA

(continued)

Their brethren of that day demanded something more than entertainment of Masonry. The interest of the Order was a matter of serious business with them. Although Ft. Gibson was but 25 miles away (from Tahlequah), the brethren there could not attend lodge communications regularly without more or less serious interference with their duties at the Army post or their businesses. In consequence of this condition the Fr. Gibson brethren with the cheerful assistance of the Tahlequah fraters organized a lodge of their own, Chartered on Nov. 5, 1850 as Ft. Gibson Lodge No. 35.

The charter officers

W.M. William Chapman

S.W. M.R. Rudner

J.W. C. Delano

Sec. P. Lugenbul

and 25 additional members.

The members of this lodge were Ft. Gibson soldiers and Post merchants. It was visited at various times by brethren whose names shown forth in splendor and distinction a few years later when the country was plunged in deadly warfare. Because of the difference in conditions at Ft. Gibson and Tahlequah and the personnel of the two lodges they were not rivals in any sense and no record appears of any clash, even in matters of jurisdiction, although Cherokee Lodge did enter a complaint against Belle Point lodge of Ft. Smith on account of invasion. The Grand lodge thereupon established the line between Arkansas and Indian Territory as the limit of jurisdiction but this was afterwards changed to a point equi-distant between the two lodges.

The eminent success achieved by the Lodge at Ft. Gibson and Tahlequah attracted the attention of soldiers stationed at Ft. Towson. Several prominent Choctaw Indians has visited Cherokee Lodge. Their membership remained at Ft. Smith or Washington. Convinced that a lodge at their station could as active and as useful as those of the Cherokee country, they petitioned for a dispensation which was granted by the Grand Master of Arkansas and later on Nov. 4, 1852 a Charter was issued to Doaksville Lodge, No. 52. The original roster of this lodge cannot now be recovered but it is known to have included such illustrious names as Sam Garvin, Chief, Basil LeFlore, former chief of the Choctaw Nation, Robert Jones, a wealthy merchant and Rev. Cyrus Kinglsey prominent missionary. Soldiers, planters and merchants comprised the membership.

to be continued

Resource: "History of Freemasonry in Oklahoma."
Oklahoma Lodge of Research

***"Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of You."
Waldo Emerson***

Editor Don Jones 33°

