



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

July 31, 2023

Editor : Don Jones, 33°

JOHN T. LIEBRAND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED.



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, 33° Elect Member

Stephen Gragg, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master

John Cunningham 32°, KCCH, Wise Master

Rodney Ryder, 32°, KCCH, Commander

Bobby Peters 33°, Master of Kadosh



Brother Jay White 33° with SGIG Manning and 2023 Scholarship Recipients

The Scholarship Committee for the McAlester Charitable & Educational Foundation, under the guidance of Chairman Jay White, 33°, met recently and made the selections for the 2023-2024 school year.

Listed by Name, School and Major, the recipients are:
Mary K. Sherrick-Blair, NSU, MBA Management; Paige Lane, NSU, Speech-Language Pathology; Kimberly M. Dechant, UCO, Elementary Education; Nathaniel W. Moore, UCO, Accounting; Kiley M. Moore, ECU, Criminal Health & Rehabilitation; Jennifer Glassco, OU, PreMed; Sarina Kirkhart, OU, Elementary Education; Junior Ramirez, Cameron, Business Administration; Hailey D. Morrison, Cameron, Family Studies; Brent A. Jenkins, Cameron, I.T. Cybersecurity.

The recipients were presented at the Advisory Conference meeting with the exception of Blair, Glasco and Jenkins who had prior commitments.

The money for our scholarships comes from the interest earned by the John G. Liebrand/Litka Trust Fund. John T. Liebrand was a McAlester businessman and was responsible for the "lighted" ball on the roof of the Scottish Rite Temple.

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](#)

THE ONE GREAT LAW OF MASONRY

Duty: A task of activity that someone is required to perform: a moral or legal obligation.

The concept of Duty in Scottish Rite Masonry demands attention, reflection and understanding. Since the 4th Degree is the first degree of the Lodge of Perfection, it lays the foundation for the succeeding degrees and provides instruction on specific virtues. All throughout the Scottish Rite degrees, Duty is discussed in a multitude of areas --- the Lodge, the Masonic fraternity, the family, the community, the nation and the world.

Albert Mackey said it thusly:

The Duty of a Mason as an honest man is plain and easy. It requires of him honesty in contracts, sincerity in affirming, simplicity in bargaining, and faithfulness in performing. To sleep little, and to study much; to say little, and to hear and think much; to learn, that he may learn to do; and then to do earnestly and vigorously whatever the good of his fellows, his country, and mankind requires, are the Duties of every Mason.

"Inflexible as Fate; Exacting as Necessity; and Imperative as Destiny."

Harry S. Truman QUOTES:

- Never kick a fresh turd on a hot day.
- I remember when I first came to Washington. For the first 6 months, you wonder how the hell you ever got here. For the next 6 months you wonder how the hell the rest of them ever got here.
- Imperfect action is better than perfect inaction.
- Give me a one-handed economist. All my economists say, On the one hand and on the other.



FYI" Harry S. Truman was also an active Freemason. He was an "A" Certificate Lecturer and instructor for his Blue Lodge. He was in the US Senate when he was in the Grand Line. However, when he became Grand Master of Missouri, he still performed his duties. We know because he kept the Grand Lodge checkbook in his Washington office.

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.

Thur, Aug. 3; S.R. Luncheon
Golden Corral, I-40 & McArthur, OKC
Meeting at 10:30 a.m. Luncheon at 11:30 a.m.
Join us for good food &
Masonic fellowship.

Mon. Aug. 14; 7:00 p.m.; stated mtg.
McAlester Lodge of Perfection
McAlester Scottish Rite Center
Valley members are welcome

Wed. Aug. 16, 12 noon; S.R. Luncheon
Muskogee Scottish Rite Chapter
Muskogee Masonic Temple
basement Dining Room Use south Door
Always good food & fellowship

Sun/Mon/Tue; Aug 20,21,22; Biennial Session
House of the Temple; Washington D.C.
See the Scottish Rite journal or the
Supreme Council web site for information..

Sat./Sun. Oct. 21-22; Reunion
McAlester Scottish Rite Fall Reunion
McAlester Scottish Rite Center
Get Petitions in early, please
Call 918-423-6362 for information or Petitions.

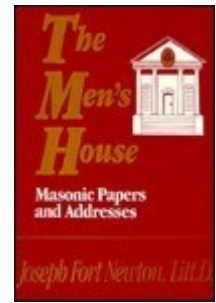
Sunday, Nov. 5; Orient Honors Day
Guthrie Scottish Rite Center
33 Degree Coronation and KCCH
Investiture; 1:00 p.m.; Banquet at 5:00 pm
Honor men only.



BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST "The Men's House"

Joseph F. Newton; Collection

Between the covers of this book may be found a collection of the best writings and lectures of the 20th century for Freemasonry. The book contains the collection of the best lectures and writings of Brother Joseph Fort Newton, Lit.D. over a period of 48 years.



He became a Mason at the turn of the century and witnessed the "golden age of fraternalism" at its height. His writings are not what we expect of today's masonic writers. His is from the perspective of a minister. In 1938, he was selected as one of the top 5 Protestant Clergyman in the United States.

This book is divided into four chapters. Within each chapter are seven lectures which Bro. Newton gave on a Masonic occasion. A sample from each chapter gives you a sense of Newton's thoughts on various topics.

This book is available from: Educational Bureau, General Grand Chapter RAM, P. O. box 128, Greenfield, IN 46140

Item number is: MO86. \$14.00 plus shipping
(Every Masonic library needs this book.)

"Before cell phones"

*Our daughter, Alicia,
Had just turned sixteen,
And was earning the title,
Of "Telephone Queen."*

*For her birthday, we gave her
Her own private phone
Along with instructions
To leave ours alone.*

*Now we still catch her using
Our line with the stall,
"I can't tie mine up, Mom"
"I might get a call."*



WHITHER ARE WE TRAVELING:

"The Puritan Influence on American Freemasonry"

It is that influence which, almost without our knowing it, attaches some sort of holier-than-thou stigma to the Hour of Refreshment, frowns upon anything cheerful and festive, and gives us that grim and silent staring at a wall of which Heywood speaks in his writings. How many times have you heard a pious Brother refer sneeringly to the Knife and Fork, the Mason and the 6:30 Degree as if there might be something reprehensible in the enjoyment of fellowship? How silly can we become? The Brethren are not going to fill the benches until the walls bulge just to see the pious Brother down his part of the Master Mason degree, and why should they?

For some reason, Freemasonry overseas was able to escape the more dour effect of Puritanism, but on almost every facet of American life we still suffer from it. The ramifications of its influence on Freemasonry in the United States are far too numerous and controversial to discuss here, and I must not elaborate on the subject except to say that a great many of our problems today can be traced back to the period when it was deemed almost a mortal sin to eat, drink and be merry.

By "casual living", I do not mean the dress of the cook-out supper or to manners of the truck stop cafe. No Lodge can experience the true joys of the Festive Board unless the Brethren are willing to adopt some of the ways of civilization. Hard words, perhaps, but they need to be spoken.

Dwight Smith, PGM; Indiana



IT APPEARS

to Ollie Meacham, KCCH

--- That Masonry teaches that the Kingdom of Heaven is within you; it's not to be found outside of you.

--- That when the tenets of Freemasonry are known and practiced around the world, wars will cease.

--- That until the tenets of Freemasonry are demonstrated in the daily life of Masons, we are only ritualists and not real Masons.

--- That Freemasonry responds to the call of human nature and the needs of the heart as readily today as it did centuries ago.

The Oklahoma Mason; 1929



Interested in learning about MORE LIGHT IN MASONRY?

(You know a Master Mason who has questions about the Scottish Rite. Here are some "talking" points.)

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is commonly known as the Scottish Rite. It is one of several "appendant bodies" that are part of the worldwide fraternity known as Freemasonry. The Scottish Rite is the largest and most widely practiced Masonic Rite in the world and employs a Lodge system.

It is the mission of the Scottish Rite to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly love, Tolerance, Charity, Truth while actively embracing higher social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.

While there is no Masonic degree more important than that of Master Mason, there is a long tradition --almost as long as Freemasonry--of "higher degrees" that expand upon and elaborate the teachings and lessons of the first 3 degrees. The Scottish Rite degrees teach a series of moral and ethical lessons culminating with the 32nd Degree, Master of the Royal Secret.

HISTORY: "THE FIRST CLASS"

The "Movers and Shakers " of the First Class

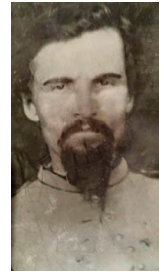
We continue our discussion of the members of the first class of Scottish Rite Masons who took there Lodge of Perfection degrees in McAlester in 1901.

Jean Baptiste Bucher, Jr.

Born: Jan. 5, 1838; Guebwiller, France

Died: August 21, 1925; Panama City,
Bay County, Florida.

The Valley records have no documentation of Bro. Bucher's movements from France to the United States. However, we do know that he served in the Confederate Army in the War Between the States and we have a photo to prove it. The picture shows him in his military uniform.



Brother Bucher was married twice. His first marriage was to Martha Isabell Caldwell on May 14, 1861 in Pike Missouri. She passed away in 1885. About two years later, he married Susan Ann Anderson on October 3, 1887 in Harrison, Boone, Arkansas. Between the two wives, he had eleven children. Of these children, at least two sons were Freemasons and one daughter belonged to the Eastern Star. Bro. Bucher's gravestone has a Square and Compass engraved on it.

Our Brother also preferred to be called "John", the English version of the French name, "Jean".

Bro. Bucher was a carpenter by trade and that is probably what brought him to McAlester in Indian Territory. A McAlester newspaper had a short article in 1893 which indicated that he was doing work on the McAlester High School.

Bro. Bucher's petition for the Scottish Rite degrees list him as a resident of South McAlester and a member of the South McAlester Masonic lodge. (To be continued)

Don Jones, 33° Editor

