



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

August 23, 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

RALPH E. PERONA, 33° , **HONORED AT 100th BIRTHDAY RECEPTION.**

On Saturday, August 17, 2024, Ralph Perona 33° , celebrated his 100th birthday among family, friends, Masonic brothers, veterans and more. The party was held at the Krebs Veterans of Foreign Wars building.

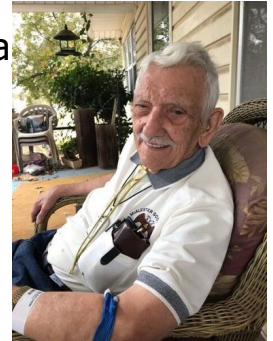
In appreciation for Bro. Perona's military service in World War II, he was presented with Flags from Mayor John Brown and the Krebs Fire and Police Departments. The Veterans of Foreign Wars recognized his service with a certificate of Appreciation. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the war, re-enlisted in the Army after the war and served with the "combat engineers" in Frankfurt, Germany.

He expressed his thanks to all in attendance for celebrating his birthday with him. He had not expected such a large crowd, in reply to which someone in the back yelled, "We love you, Ralph!"

Our Masonic Brother was raised in So. McAlester Lodge 96. He joined the Scottish Rite in McAlester at a reunion on March 13, 1989. In the Rite, he was a member of the Royal Order of the Duck, a Past Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix, the Supernumerary Club, Indian Chapter of the Scottish Rite Society, Audit Committee and the Rose Croix Funeral Team. He was also active in Membership and brought in candidates. He worked for several years for the Temple as a custodial assistant.

Brother Ralph was vested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor on October 4, 1999 and received the Inspector General Honorary, 33° on December 9, 2007.

Brethren, when you see Ralph at the next reunion, stop and say "hi" and "thank you" for his service to his country, the Fraternity and to Humanity.

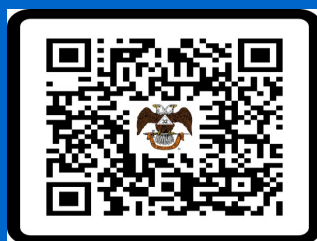


Dr. G. David Donathan, 33° President
Brett Cable, 32° KCCH Vice-President
Jeremy Warren, 33°, Trustee
Bruce Hall 33° Trustee Emeritus
Advisory Council Trustees
Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33° SGIG

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

[Online Petition](#)

Or scan this QR Code



SCAN ME

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](#)

THE 13TH DEGREE ROYAL ARCH OF SOLOMON

Like other degrees encountered in Scottish Rite Masonry, this degree is known by other names: The Royal Arch of Enoch, the Royal Arch and the Royal Arch Ecossais, (Scottish Royal Arch). It must be remembered that Albert Pike wrote the degrees of the Scottish Rite in the 19th century and in doing so he selected, combined, deleted and elaborated on material from the numerous degrees existing at the time. The other names associated with this degree attest to both its heritage and its importance in Freemasonry.

Under whatever name this degree may be found, it is essentially a legend accounting for the recovery of that which was lost. The older and newer versions of the legend differ on where the "True Word" is found. However it is found, it is again lost and must be rediscovered in a later degree.



Duties of this degree:

Seek knowledge.

Be motivated by duty and honor.

Lessons:

Moral doctrine is a habit, not found in a moment. The great law of retribution acts in our memory as remorse and at the final judgement.

For Reflection:

Are idle hours and idle words subject to the great law of retribution?

"To practice Honor and Duty is a Religion."

from "A Bridge to Light."

WORDS TO LIVE BY:

--- 5 most important -- "I am proud of you."

--- 4 most important -- "What is your opinion?"

--- 3 most important words -- "If you please."

--- 2 most important words -- "Thank you."

-- Least important word -- "T"

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY MASONIC ACTIVITY

Thur, Aug 29th 6:00 PM
McIntosh Scottish Rite Chapter Meeting
Lake Country Dinner, Eufaula

Mon., Sept. 2; Labor Day
McAlester Scottish Rite office will be closed for the holiday.
Enjoy and be safe.

Thur. Sept. 5, 11:00 a.m.; Luncheon
McAlester Scottish Rite Chapter
McClintock's Chop House
2227 Exchange, Ave., OKC
All Masons are welcome. Good food, Fellowship, Education



Mon., Sept. 9; 7:00 p.m.; Stated Mtg
McAlester Lodge of Perfection
McAlester Scottish Rite Center All members are welcome.

Mon., Sept. 16; Birthday
Marquis de Lafayette born on this day in 1757. Freemason & military hero of U.S. Revolution.

Wed., Sept. 19; 12 noon, S.R. Luncheon
Muskogee Scottish Rite Chapter
Muskogee Masonic Temple Dining Room in basement
Use south door.

Fri., Oct. 11; 11:30 am; Awards
Fifty-Year Membership Awards
McAlester S.R. Center
6:00 pm; Fly-In, Royal Order of the Duck. Meal then "hatching".

Sat./Sun.; Oct. 12-13; Fall Reunion
McAlester Scottish Rite Center
"Somewhere a Master Mason that you know is wondering about the Scottish Rite. Don't disappoint him."

Thur./Fri./Sat. Oct. 24, 25, 26
McAlester Scottish Rite Haunted House
McAlester Scottish Rite Temple



Support your Blue Lodge

ALBERT PIKE'S BABY

From The Oklahoma Mason, 1931

Nearly 3 years ago, Mrs. William Edwards was brought by her husband from their home near Indianola to Albert Pike Hospital to go alone down through the Valley of the Shadow to give to the world another immortal soul wrapped in a mortal baby. She was weak and in poor health, and this was the fifth child she has born to her and her husband. On May 8, 1928 the baby came. It was a girl and was taken in charge by the nurses who ministered lovingly and like mothers to the baby's needs. Soon after the birth of her baby, which had taxed all her strength and energy, the mother slipped away across the edge of the boundless ocean of existence to God's Eternal Day, leaving behind her all privation, pain, sickness and death.

The child was extremely delicate and had it not been for the mother's love in the hearts of the Albert Pike's nurses, it would have soon followed the mother. It has been said that God could not be everywhere at once so He made mothers. Mother's Love which is in the hearts and in the breast of every woman and more pronounced in the hearts of nurses, prevailed over the grim monster, and the baby grew strong and healthy. She became the pet of superintendent, nurses, and employees, and has never left the hospital. She was duly christened Zonna May Edwards.

Zonna May is now nearly 3 years old and should have a home where she can grow up.

.....If there be anyone who would like to take this child as their own, they can visit and see her, and talk with the superintendent and nurses concerning her.

(The "Albert Pike" referred to in this article was the hospital and not the man. The Albert Pike Hospital was located where the south parking lot of the Scottish Rite Temple now sits. A history of the hospital will be in a future issue of the Blast.)



LAFAYETTE AT YORKTOWN

By 1780 in the Revolutionary War, the British army under General Cornwallis had turned its attention to the southern colonies. Here the British were having more success and the war in the south was just about done. General Washington sent Gen. Nathan Hale and his army to North Carolina to do something,,,anything.

Gen. Hale, having a much smaller force than the British, entered into a tactic of battle, run and harass. Then do it all over again, leading the British army farther from its supply base and finally wearing them down. Seeing his army slowly deteriorate, Cornwallis turned back to Virginia to re-supply at Yorktown. This move gave everyone a short 'breather.'

Lafayette led a force of 2,000 men and had been stationed at Yorktown area to keep an eye on the British. Lafayette was getting information from a spy. The spy was a slave, James Armistead, who had access to Cornwallis's papers and served the General during meals. Armistead was so trusted by Cornwallis that Armistead was chosen to spy for the British. However, Armistead passed information to Lafayette and the two men conspired to give Cornwallis false info.

Then Armistead heard Cornwallis plan to depart Yorktown early with his army to do battle. Armistead informed Lafayette of the move. A messenger was sent north to Washington with the information.

Washington sent orders to Lafayette to keep Cornwallis at Yorktown with harassment and continuous attacks. This would give time for Washington's army to move south from New York, which he did.

So, Lafayette's small force was successful, Washington crossed the Delaware River, and French warships appeared in the Yorktown harbor. Surrounded and bewildered, Cornwallis surrendered. It was Christmas, 1781.

This did not end the fighting. But England did not send another army to the colonies. The Parliament and the home crowd wanted to be "done" with it. And the King's treasury was dangerously low on money.

Lafayette was only 24 years of age and an American hero.



PROFOUND WORDS OF WISDOM

That man alone understands the true use of society who learns from it to act more and more from his own deliberate conviction, to think more for himself, to be less swayed by numbers, to rely more on his own powers. One good action, springing from our own minds, performed from a principle within, performed without the excitement of an urging and approving voice from abroad, is worth more than hundreds that grow from mechanical imitation. ... In truth, all great actions are solitary ones. ... That is most valuable which is individual --which is marked by what is peculiar and characteristic in him who accomplishes it.

William H. Channing

WORDS TO LEAD BY

- * Inspire: others to achieve the impossible.
- * Set the example: through positive actions.
- * Communicate: with a purpose
- * Own your mistakes: do not blame individuals
- * Encourage: teamwork through teambuilding
- * Invest: in leadership development
- * Guiding principles: level your moral compass.

"Life is a rough and rugged road. Following these suggestions can remove some of the bumps."

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal. —Scottish Rite Creed



HISTORY: "THE FIRST CLASS" (Continued)

The "Movers and Shakers " of the First Class

Summary:

We have just completed bringing the profiles, or in some cases, the biographies, of the 23 men who composed the first McAlester Scottish Rite class. We hope you found their stories to be interesting and entertaining. About one-half the brethren were recent immigrants from Europe and the British Isles. All 23 though found themselves in Indian Territory seeking opportunity and fortune. Most were successful, others, not so much.

Since the first McAlester Charter was only the Lodge of Perfection, they only received the first 14 degrees, (Perfect Elu). A majority of the class completed their Scottish Rite degrees at Guthrie.

Future issues of "The Blast!") will have more of the history of the Valley and will include profiles of those brethren whose leadership abilities have led the Valley for over 100 years.

The work we have just completed we owe a debt of gratitude to Bro. Wade Massey, 33°. Bro. Massey did all the research for the project, otherwise it would still just be an "idea".

Don Jones, 33°

***"...it is Heaven on earth to have a man's mind
move in charity, rest in Providence, and turn upon
the poles of Truth."***

25th Degree, Morals and Dogma

Don Jones, 33° Editor

