



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

August 29, 2022

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 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

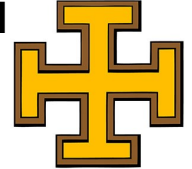
Muskogee Chapter, Scottish Rite
Masonic Temple Noon

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, 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

NEW 31st DEGREE TEAM WILL DEBUT AT OCTOBER RUNION



For the past few years, one of the favorite degrees of the brethren, the 31st Degree, Inspector Inquisitor, has been "communicated" at McAlester reunions for lack of a team.

The Degree requires a substantial cast of the brethren to exemplify and a number of stage crew to prepare and maintain the production.

Director Shawn Springer has worked many hours in preparation for the day. His cast of enthusiastic "young" (well, younger than most of us) has done the labor necessary for a superb presentation. Thank you, brethren, we look forward to a great Degree.

Durant, OK Team

Director.....Shawn Springer
Seneschal.....Jim Whitfield, 33°
Isis.....Ryan Summit
Anubis.....Charles Ingle, KCCH
Nephthys.....Evan Ward
Osiris.....Michael Wright, KCCH
Maat.....T.C. Collins
Atum.....Charles Manning
Tua-Mutef.....Butch Scalf
Hapi.....Donnie Higginbotham
Kebsbsenuf.....Jason R. Smith
Amset.....Bubba Pendleton
and the Candidate Exemplary
(and the Rite rolls on)

PRACTICE & MORE PRACTICE

We are writing this article for those brethren who are directors of cast members of Blue Lodge, York Rite or Scottish 'Rite degree teams. What we have to say to you applies to all Masons who toil in the fields.

Just like you memorize your lines by repetition, the same effort is required for a good team effort to exemplify a degree. Repetition of degree work will lead to better work and make a good impression on candidates. Plus, you will also be pleased in a more successful performance.

(Continued on next page)

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:

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](#)

PRACTICE(continued)

In the Scottish Rite 4th Degree we were all told that "Duty is the One great Law of Masonry." When you accept an invitation to be on a degree team, and you should be congratulated for accepting; you are taking on a Duty to the best you can do and to do it that way all the time.

If you are a director of a degree team and you have a performance of "proficiency " then you and your team make practicing enjoyable.

So, degree directors, especially those of the Scottish Rite Degrees, be sure your team is properly prepared for, not just the upcoming Reunion, but for the future Reunions. Your Brethren will thank you and our Candidates will congratulate you. After all, our candidates deserve the best.

Give it to them!

V. M. A. P.
(Valley Membership Achievement Project)

Valley Membership Achievement Project



#1: Membership Retention

The Valleys that are participating in the VMAP program of the Supreme Council are required to have a Membership Retention Committee. McAlester does have such a committee, but there are things that you, as a member, can do and be rewarded.

Those methods are as follows:

--- Any member who obtains six (6) reinstatements during a calendar year, will receive a Dues Card for the ensuing year, paid by the Lodge of Perfection.

--- Any member who collects six (6) delinquent dues payments during a calendar year will receive a Dues Card for the ensuing year, paid by the Lodge of Perfection.

--- Perpetual Members may transfer free dues card to the brother of his choice.

Members who participate in the above programs must work with the Temple Office with keeping a record of their progress.

SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY

MASONIC ACTIVITY

Weekly, Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.

McAlester S.R. Masonic Center

Coffee & rolls or donuts, conversation

Join the group for fellowship and refreshment. in the office work room Enter at South Door of Temple.

Mon., Sept. 6; Labor Day holiday
McAlester Scottish Rite Center closed.

Mon. Sept. 12; 7:00 p.m. Stated Mtg.

McAlester Lodge of Perfection..

McAlester S.R. Masonic Center Richards' Room

Scottish Rite members welcome.

Wed. Sept 14 12:00 noon, Luncheon

McAlester S.R. Masonic Center Elmer Hale Dining Room

Sponsored by the Indian Chapter of the Scottish Rite Society

Fri. Sept. 16; Birthday

Marqui de Lafayette, of France

Revolution War hero and Mason

(See article in this issue)

Thursday, Sept. 22; Fall Equinox

First day of fall and 'hello football'.

Sat. and Sunday, October 22 and 23

McAlester Scottish Rite Reunion

Get Motel reservations now while rooms are available. Call the Temple Office for special room rate info.

Master Masons; petitions are available from the Office and your Scottish Rite Masons. Please get petitions in early for easy registration.



A BRIEF SKETCH FROM THE LIFE OF THE MARQUIS de LAFAYETTE



The boy, Lafayette, became an orphaned at a young age. But his was not a "poor" orphan. When he would "come of age" he would own land, estates, serfs and bank accounts. In the meantime, he was placed under the guardianship of an uncle who also had land and estates.

The Uncle had two sons. As the sons of the aristocracy, which included Lafayette, the boys were typical of young boys. They played together, fought imaginary battles together, and enjoyed the life of the "privileged."

As Lafayette and his cousins grew into manhood they began to think about their futures, and about girls.

However, Lafayette did not show interest in the usual pranks and other activities enjoyed by his cousins. He preferred to sit at home and read.

It was a time in France when most young men aspired to be heroes of the battle field. Lafayette was enthralled with stories of battle field glory and took to reading and studying military work and tactics even outside of class.

When he became of age, he enlisted in the French Army and, being aristocracy, he was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant. After a little "orientation", he was stationed at a remote post near the eastern border. It was there that his life path began to change.

The Commanding Officer of the post, Captain DeBroix was a Master Mason. He invited Lafayette to go to lodge with him one evening. Lafayette was impressed and he began his pathway toward being a Master Mason.

Some biographers credit Freemasonry with the changes now made in his life.

In the Masonic Lodge, Lafayette, the man, was introduced to the idea of equality of men and the liberty of thought and action men should have. He loved it. The principles and tenets of Freemasonry appealed to his nature and he ardently studied them.

But, his military career was going nowhere. France was not at war with anybody at this time. How was he to find "glory" and fame?

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LAFAYETTE(Continued)

After Lafayette had become a Master Mason, Captain De-Broix invited him to attend a festive board with him. Present at the event was England's Duke of Gloucester, the brother of King George. After a few pints of brew the Duke began to talk about the ignorant colonials in America who talked about independence. This was in 1775, and Lafayette sensed an opportunity and he took it.

The rest is history.

(A personal observation: I think this is an excellent example of how Freemasonry can change a life and along with that, a change in history.)

JUST A LITTLE LODGE ROOM by George G. Staff

*"Just a quiet little lodge room,
But a mighty force for good
With its loyal bond of members
Learning more of brotherhood
Striving, stumbling but progressing
Down a Pathway towards the right
Just a humble bunch of plain folks,
Reaching seeking for the Light."*

*Just a quiet little lodge room,
How it stirs the heart and soul
With a thrill of great endeavor
Toward a high and common goal
With each pledge of faith and courage
To maintain the forward fight,
On the road that leads them onward
Ever onward to the light.*



WORK PLACE HUMOR

*** "I'm pulling up your account information and --- Yikes!,, Sorry, I clicked on your Facebook photos by mistake."

*** I used to work at the unemployment office . I hated it because when they fired me, I had to show up at work anyway.

*** The very busy boss placed this want ad in the newspaper. "Local photocopy shop looking for employee who has reproductive experience."

And then there was the following:

*** After giving birth she quit her job. The exit questionnaire asked. "What steps would have prevented you from leaving ?"

Her answer, "birth control."



TEMPLE MAINTENANCE

While the summer months are slow at the Masonic Center, they allow for maintenance work to be done. This summer was no exception.

--- On the Richards' Room side, the "point tucking" was completed to prevent leakage during rainstorms and rain in general. The water had been running down the wall with potential to damage the pictures hanging there.

--- The Richards' Room has been better prepared to hold meetings in the Room. Additions were a new sound system and video system plus a new wide screen television to enhance presentation of information.

All expenses for the Richards' Room are paid by the Richards' Family Trust. In the past the Trust also paid for new carpet and drapes, new windows and painting.

--- Leonard, our Building Custodian, has improved the appearance of the front lobby by stripping and re-waxing the entire floor of the lobby. He can now tell us how many chairs and couches are in the lobby.



Helping, because it is the right thing to do

One Sunday evening, a young salesman was driving through the country for a meeting with a prospective client the following morning when his car suddenly broke down. Being Sunday evening, each call he made met with a recorded message informing him that business hours were Monday through Friday. Just at that moment he saw a farmer headed towards him on his tractor. After a brief discussion, the farmer told him that he would pull his vehicle to his home, put him up for the evening, and loan him his truck the following morning to make his appointment. Beside himself with gratitude, the young salesman marveled at the generosity of the farmer. As they shared an evening meal, the young man saw several pictures of the old farmer with groups of men wearing Masonic aprons. Glancing down at his own Masonic ring that he recently received for being Raised, the young man gave a wry smile and went to bed happy to know that his Brother had recognized his ring and taken care of him. The following day upon returning from his appointment, the young man found that the farmer had repaired his car. The young man thanked him profusely and told the farmer how grateful he was and how glad he was that he had joined the Fraternity. The farmer gave him a puzzled look and the young man said, "I saw the pictures of you with Masonic Brethren and I know you must have seen my Masonic ring. I understand that's why you helped me." The old farmer just shook his head and said, "My Brother, I didn't help you because you're a Mason...I helped you because I AM A MASON."

So, being a good Mason means being a good neighbor... not for the sake of reward and not only to other Masons, but because it's the right thing to do. Remember the first important lesson taught you in Masonry? Of course it reminds us that we should offer help to a Brother in need, but it begins by admonishing us to offer relief to "anyone" in need. All are your neighbors, and all are deserving of your aid and assistance.



HISTORY; FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA (continued)

After putting their horses in the shelter of a small shed, they reentered the cabin, taking their rations with them. The Indians showed such keen delight at the sight of food, that after sharing with their hosts, they began an investigation. There was no food in the house except a little corn upon which the Indians had subsisted on since the storm began two weeks before. Then they discovered that the little girl whom they supposed had been put to bed early was suffering from a raging fever.

Without fully performing the duty to which they had been detailed, the soldiers, one of which was a Mason, left early the next morning to return to Fort Towson. They went without their own breakfast in order to leave a more generous supply of food with the distressed family. Upon reaching the Fort, the soldier Mason reported the case to the Master of Doaksville Lodge. Within 2 hours after the return of the detail, an Army surgeon and a Choctaw Indian, both Masons, galloped away from the post into the chilly darkness, their saddle bags stuffed with food, with extra blankets and with medicine. Although Doaksville Lodge is long since dead, stories of its acts of mercy will live as long as descendants of its members or its beneficiaries survive.

There was no rush of immigration to Indian Territory prior to the Civil War. There was little to attract the white man. There were no lands to buy, lease of homestead --- trading at Army posts was limited to settlers who were duly protected against competition. The Indians had large herds of cattle and other stock but little money. The Indians themselves, when they called the roll:" in 1853, found that practically all the people of the Five Civilized Tribes had arrived except a few Creeks in Florida who did not go to Indian Territory, some Choctaws in Mississippi and scattered bands of the other tribes who successfully resisted enforced migration until after the War. So there was no considerable growth population from 1848 to 1853.

But the growth of Masonry was marked. Grand Lodge proceedings of Arkansas not being available, there is no way to ascertain the membership of the 4 early lodges and no record is known to exist which would disclose the considerable number of sojourning brethren, practically all of whom brethren, in membership and that interest in Masonry steadily and rapidly increased is evidenced by the fact that on November 9, 1853, the Arkansas Grand Lodge issued a Charter to Flint Lodge November 7, to be located at Flint Court House, not far from the present site of Stilwell in Adair County. Bro. W. S. Adair was the first Worshipful Master. The new Lodge naturally decreased the membership of Cherokee Lodge but peace and perfect harmony prevailed in and between the 2 lodges. The new Charter was necessary for the convenience of those brethren who resided in the southern part of the Cherokee County and quite as much to accommodate the increasing number candidates who could not well go to Tahlequah for work in a lodge which already had all it could do. (to be continued)

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

"Discipline is doing what you have to do, and doing it the best that you can, and doing it that way all the time."

Bobby Knight, Coach

Editor Don Jones 33°

