



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

August 5, 2021

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

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

1st Firday 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 Thursday 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, KCCH General Secretary
William C. Cox, 33, Member
Thomas S. Crowl, 33 G.C., Member
Wade Massey, 33, Member
Michael Sexton, KCCH, Venerable Master
John Carter, KCCH, Wise Master
Shaun Callahan, KCCH, Commander
Donnie Higginbotham II 32°, Master of
Kadosh

WADE MASSEY, 33°, APPOINTED TO THE S.G.I.G.'S ADVISORY CONFERENCE

Bro. Wade Massey, 33°, was recently appointed to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33°, Advisory Conference for the Valley of McAlester Scottish Rite. Bro. Massey fills the vacancy left by the retirement of Bro. D. Larry Roberts, 33°, who served on the Conference for several years. During his time on the conference, Bro. Roberts served 2 years as the Personal Representative of the S.G.I.G. Thank you, Larry, for your service.

Wade Massey, 33°, has been an active Mason since his "raising". He is a Past Master of the Broadway Circle #546 Blue Lodge. Bro. Massey has been active on Grand Lodge committees especially the Registration Committee. He also serves on the Grand Lodge's Museum and Library board.

Wade is a member of Eufaula #1 lodge and lives in Eufaula. He moved there after retiring from government service in Dallas, Texas.

Bro. Massey joined the McAlester Scottish Rite in May, 1990. He worked Registration and is now the Registration Supervisor. He is responsible for bringing that department into the "computer age". He is also director of the 32nd Degree team and the Director of Valley Communications and the Valley Librarian for our Masonic library.

Bro. Massey was invest a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in in October, 2001 and coroneted a 33rd Inspector General Honorary in December, 2009.

Congratulations, Bro. Massey! Your presence on S.G.I.G. Manning's advisory board assures our Valley of effective leadership.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



BeAFreemason.org



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

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questions or comments email
news@mcasr.org.

Upcoming Reunions:

2021
October 23-24

2022
April 2-3
October 22-23

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

IT'S AUGUST -- AND IT'S WATERMELON TIME!

August third is National Watermelon Day and one of the favorite days for watermelon lovers.



But the hot days of August make a cold watermelon a favorite on any day. So, watermelon becomes the perfect treat for August days.

To quote Mark Twain, "When one has tasted watermelon, he knows what the angels eat."

Americans' literary hero understood the serious deliciousness of this fruit (vegetable?), and, hopefully you do too. During hot weather, it is so refreshing, there's a whole day devoted to it.

TRICKS TO TELL OF IF WATERMELON IS RIPE.

- The green color becomes dull.
- On a striped melon, the color between the stripes gets dark.
- The rind will get hard.
- They will stop getting larger.
- The end of the vine closes to the melon and may start to crack or turn brown.
- The curly tendril on the main vine closest to the fruit, will turn brown.

Good eating.

IT'S BACK! and IT IS POTENT!

Just when we thought the Pandemic of the COVID-19 was coming to an end, it sprouted a more contagious and more virulent mutation. As we are aware and as the daily news informs us, it is the un-vaccinated who are suffering the most.

Therefore, the medical community is encouraging vaccination and/or following the standard precautions: masking up; distancing, avoid large indoor groups, frequent hand washing, etc.

The vaccinated population is also being required to "mask up" and avoid large group gatherings, especially indoors.

Brethren, this flu virus is not playing "games." When it wins, the loser dies. The blue lodge I attend has lost a Past Master and the current Master is hoping to recover without serious consequences. Be Safe, please.

The Changing of the Colors

By David Randolph Milsten, 33°

*As a Master of the Royal Secret
With faith, reason and creed,
He pledged allegiance to his Valley
And vowed to live by deed*

*To seek the Mysteries of God and man
And war against those who would sack:
He was steeped in symbolic blood
And adorned with tiara of black.*

*Each degree through which he had passed
Revealed to him wonders of light;
The shadows of ignorance veiled his eyes
But as an Adept he fought for right.*

*And thus he journeyed with resolute aim
Ever conscious of the innocent dead;
Summoned to the Court of Honor,
He was invested with cap of red*

*He was truly a Prince of Mercy,
"Seek," he said, "and ye shall find"
Why man is but a cavernous hulk
With out the power of heart and mind.*

*But there is no barter for honors;
They come when merit declares
The intangibles with humility
Bequeathed from mortal's heirs.*

*And he was adjudged as Inspector
For his service to the Rite
He had lived by Compass and Square
And earned the calotte of white.*

Dedicated to our new KCCH & 33°



"We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members"



SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY



Mon. Aug. 9, 7:00 pm. stated mtg.
Lodge of Perfection, McAlester
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center
Richard's Room; west door,
(open to members)

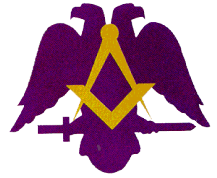
Fri./Sat., Aug 21-22 Biennial Session
Supreme Council AASR
House of the Temple
Washington, DC
(Deputies & Active Members)

Thur. Sept. 2; 11:30 a.m., S.R. Luncheon
McAlester Membership Luncheon, OKC
Golden Corral, I-40 & MacArthur, OKC
Fellowship, fun and good food,

Mon. Sept. 13, 7:00 p.m. LOP
stated meeting
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center

Fri./Sat., Oct. 23-24, FALL REUNION
McAlester S.R. Masonic Center
2-day Scottish Rite degrees
Petitions are available from the Valley
Office and/or Scottish Rite Masons.

Sun. Oct. 31, 1:00 p.m. Orient Honors
33rd Degree Conferral
KCCH Investiture will follow.
Banquet will follow degrees.
Honor Men Only.



SHRINERS HOSPITALS RECOGNIZED BY THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Responses to the Pandemic

The Children's Hospital Association has produced an exhibit of pictures and stories that highlight the way in which the children's hospitals have been able to innovate and transform health care delivery for the most vulnerable patients during the pandemic.



Shriners Hospitals for Children are proud to have a part in the project.

As COVID-19 spread throughout their communities, Shriners Hospitals for Children patients still needed specialty medical care. The medical teams found ways to continue to safely to treat their patients, to keep therapies going and to maintain a compassionate, family-centered environment through it all.

The president of the Children's Hospital Association, Amy Knight, said, "In the face of crises, and adversity, children's hospitals worked together, leveraging their expertise and strength of collective experience to care for our patients and to support our broader communities' responses."

"Thank you, Shriners, for your support."

WANT TO BET?

A proud and confident genius makes a bet with an idiot. The genius says, "Hey idiot, every question I ask you that you don't know the answer, you have to give me \$5. And if you ask me a question and I can't answer yours I will give you \$5,000." The idiot says, "Okay." The genius then asks, "How many continents are there in the world?" The idiot doesn't know and hands over the \$5.

The idiot says, "Now, what animal stands with two legs but sleeps with three?" The genius tries and searches very hard for the answer but gives up and hands over the \$5000. The genius says, "Dang it, I lost. By the way, what was the answer to your question?"

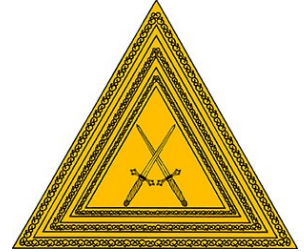
The idiot hands over \$5.



McALESTER's NEW TEAM

15th Degree; Knight of the East

(This team has performed once, then the pandemic hit. For their excellent performance, more recognition is deserved.)



Director - Brett Cable, KCCH Elect
Hannaniah - Patrick Brooks, KCCH
Cap. of Guard - Ron Gragg, KCCH Elect
Scribe - Ron Gragg, KCCH
Zerubbabel - Brett Cable, KCCH Elect
Banah - Richard LeBlanc, KCCH
King Cyrus - Stephen Gragg, KCCH
Sisinna - Ron Boyer, 32
Master of Palace - Eddie Gragg, KCCH Elect
Seraiah - Stephen Noahubi, 32
Ralaiah - Nick Noahubi, 32
Master of Ceremonies - Thomas Toland, 32
Nabuzaradan - Chris Botts, 32
Kaldag - Jackie Tannehill, 32

OKLAHOMA RESIDENT BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE ACACIA GUILD.

Bro. Richard C. Richards, 32 a member of the Valley of Wenatchee and who resides in Oklahoma, has joined the Supreme Council's Acacia Guild .

The Acacia Guild was formed by the Supreme Council as a fund-raiser for the House of the Temple. Donations of \$1,000 qualify one for the Guild with the contributors' names engraved on a special plaque in the House of the Temple.

For your information. the Valley of Wenatchee is located in the Wenatchee Valley in the center of Washington State. adjacent to the Wenatchee River. The area is noted for its reputation as an outdoor recreation location.

Congratulations to Bro. Richards and welcome to Oklahoma

RECOMMENDED READING

From the Scottish Rite Journal.

If you are not reading the articles in the "Bible Study for Freemason," you are missing out. This is my opinion. The author, Bro. J. F. Elsner, Ph.D. does an excellent job in bringing the teachings of Freemasonry from our of the Bible.

Dr. Elsner, as a layman, is considered a leader of theological education. He is a graduate of the Wake Forest School of Medicine and has a successful medical practice. In his writing, it is evident that the Holy Bible and Masonry are important features of his character.

There are many reasons why I would encourage you to read, study and think about his writings. After all, as Freemasons, we are all striving to be better.

Bro. Donald G. Jones, 33°.

WHO AM I ? Essay continued:

For many people, however, such wisdom about one's self can never be enough. They seek not only knowledge of the self but also knowledge of God's will. For them, answers to the most important questions come through faith, through revelation, not reason. So, in this chapter we also find stories about how faith can guide us on life's journey. Here we see people who draw strength from above, trusting in God for help in the large and small tasks of life. We see them living in readiness to answer God's call, and finding direction by seeking ways to serve Him. And we see them discovering answers to the question "Why am I here?" by serving their fellow man, by helping others along life's way according to the dictates of their faith.

.....Wisdom and faith can help us face our morality. We do not consider the subject of death here, however, because even though death may be the end life, it is neither its purpose nor its meaning. Life in one sense is indeed a journey from the cradle to the grave, but in a more important respect, it is a journey of understanding one's self, one's fellow creatures, and God's will.

(continued on next page)



WHO AM I ? Essay continued:

....courage and compassion and honesty and loyalty and all the other virtues can make the difference. They can be "the" difference. They can be a destination, because how we journey is more important than how far we manage to go. As Samuel Johnson said, "Life, like every other blessing derives its value from its use alone. Not for itself, but for a nobler end the eternal gave it; and that end is virtue." At the end, we may discover that those things we call virtues are among the very reasons we find ourselves here. They are not just means; very frequently they are the ends themselves. And when they become what we live by, our own actions turn out to be some of the best answers to those great questions of life.

The End

Life's Clock

The Clock of Life is wound but once
And no man has the power;
To tell just when the hand will stop,
At late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad indeed,
To lose one's health is more;
To lose one's soul is such a loss,
As no man can restore.

The present only is our own,
Live, love, toil with a will;
Place no faith in "Tomorrow" for,
The clock may then be still.

Author Unknown

"The liberty of all future generations depends on what we do today."

Dr. Joseph Warren; Founding Father

Editor Don Jones 33°

