



McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



www.mcalesterscottishrite.org

Newsletter Date

August 6, 2020

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

D. Larry Roberts, 33 Chairman

Mike Ebert, KCCH General Secretary

Jack Inman, 33, Member

William C. Cox, 33, Member

Thomas S. Crowl, 33 G.C., Member

Michael Sexton, KCCH, Venerable Master

John Carter, KCCH, Wise Master

Shaun Callahan, KCCH, Commander

Douglas R. Worden, 32°, Master of Kadosh

GRAND LODGE CHANGES VENUE FOR 2020 ANNUAL COMMUNICATION!

In planning for its Annual Communication held in the fall each year and in response to the pandemic of COVID-19, the Grand Lodge officials have moved from the Guthrie Scottish Rite Center to the North Rock Creek School at 42400 Garrett's Lake Road in Shawnee, Oklahoma. The date is set at November 14, 2020.

The following restrictions will still apply for safety reasons:

- There will not be an open session the day before or banquet on Friday evening.
- No out-of -state visitors will be invited.
- There will be no vendors.
- Grand School will be announced at a later date.

Note: This arrangement is subject to change. Grand Master Bobby Peters will issue a formal decision at a later date.

If you have any questions contact the Grand Secretary Bobby Laws, PGM at 405-282-3212, Ext. 4 or by e-mail.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL SECRETARY

Brethren,

This year the House of the Temple will be sending out the 2021 dues statements. The 2021 dues card will be included with the statement. Please understand that you will need to pay your 2021 dues by sending a check or credit card info, to the office at:

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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

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:

2020
October ????

2021
April 17-18
October 23-24

Masonic Website of 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](#)

MESSAGE FROM GENERAL SECRETARY

(Continued)

McAlester Scottish Rite
P. O. Box 609
McAlester, OK 7450

or by calling the office at 918-423-6360 or
online at <https://scottishrite.org/members/profile/#mydues>

IF you have Not Paid your 2020 dues, you can use the same three resources listed.

Remember, that your 2021 dues card is NOT ACTIVE you have to pay 2021 dues and be current in your dues obligation.

Thank you,
Mike Ebert, KCCH
General Secretary

SCOTTISH RITE -- SHRINERS LAUNCH PARTNERSHIP

The Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the Scottish Rite and the A.A.O.N.M.S. (Shriners) have met together to launch a website for new membership. The site "Be A Freemason.org" gives the necessary information to men who have questions about the Fraternity and need answers.

The site explains the Symbolic Degrees in language a non-Mason can understand. After the Master Mason degree, the potential candidate is free to select information on the Scottish Rite and Shrine.

The site has almost everything a potentially new Mason will need except YOU. Let us help him to make his decision! "Be a Mentor, not just an observer."

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



McALESTER CHARITABLE & EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Foundation's Scholarship Committee, chaired by Bro. Jay White, 33, met at the Temple in July to plan the program for the upcoming school year.

The John T. Liebrand Scholarship Trust established by Eleanor Litka in honor of her father provides the major funding for the program. Your contributions to the fund are deposited in the endowment. Therefore only the income from the endowment and Trust may be used.

The scholarships are provided to college level junior, seniors and graduate students in Masters programs. Only students living in the McAlester S.R. Jurisdiction are eligible and recipients must be attending an Oklahoma college or university.

Chairman White reported that the recipients this year were 3 juniors, 4 seniors and 5 graduate students. In order to keep the scholarship, the student must practice good citizenship and maintain his grades. Schools listed for the recipients were Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma University, East Central State University, Southeastern State University and Northeastern State University.

Brother White added that in case all the students had not responded as required; alternates had also been selected if a recipient drops out.

Masonic Quote

"Freemasonry teaches not merely temperance, fortitude, prudence, justice, brotherly love, relief, and truth, but liberty, equality, and fraternity, and it denounces ignorance, superstition, bigotry, lust, tyranny and despotism."

Theodore Roosevelt



ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

-- The McAlester Lodge of Perfection will meet on August 10 at 7:00 p.m. This is to be another "test" run for the Zoom format.

The Guthrie S.R. Lodge of Perfection is meeting tomorrow (August 6) in Siloam Lodge #276 in OKC. Just an FYI.



In case you are wondering, the telephone system is out-of-order at the McAlester S.R. Masonic Center. Until a new system is installed this happens occasionally. The office is open Monday thru Thursday.

The McAlester Temple's Building Superintendent, Bro. Clem Peppers, 33°, has announced that he will be retiring at the end of this year. There will be more on this closer to the end of the year. Hopefully he plans to take the "jackalope" with him.

Some Blue Lodges are doing degree work. Jones City Lodge will hold an Outdoor Degree on September 12th. Sand Springs Lodge is having a Master Mason degree on August 11th and an Entered Apprentice degree on August 19th.

"THE SCOTTISH RITE JOURNAL", A new series:

The Journal has begun a new series of articles by Robert J. Elsner, Ph.D I think his stories behind our Masonic rituals are great! They help the Mason to see where the ritual fits in biblically. I recommend them.

The Editor

Bible Study for Freemasons

a) The First Book of Kings, "The Building of King Solomon's Temple."

May-June issue, page 8

b) "The Book of Ruth for Masons,"

July-August issue, page 12

An un-related article in the May-June issue was especially interesting. It follows the one on the Book of Ruth and is titled: "Echoes of the Checkered Pavement in Antiquity" by Morgan Smith. page 10



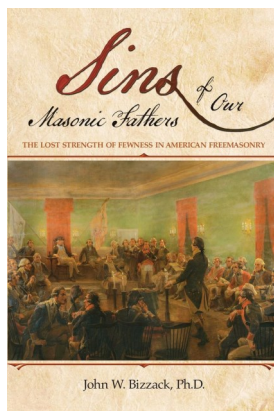
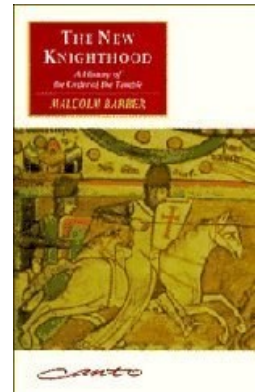
BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

(we have two books this issue)

"The New Knighthood: A History of the Order of the Temple. "

by Malcom Baber

This book is one of the classic books on the Knights Templar. Baber traces the order from its origins in the Kingdom of Jerusalem in the early 12th century to its destruction at the hands of King Philip IV of France and Pope Clement V in the early 14th century. He also includes a chapter dealing with the principal Templar cast in Outremer and the network of Templar preceptories across Europe. He ends the book with an intriguing chapter titled "From DeMolay's curse to Foucault's Pendulum" in which he offers an alternative for the widely held legend of DeMoly calling from the flames of his burning at the stake for God's judgement on the King and Pope within a year; the treatment of the Templar persona in Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe" and "The Talisman; the Integration of the Templar mystique into the fabric of Freemasonry; and a conspiracy theory and the Templar role in Umberto Eco's massive satire tied to Faucault's Pendulum



Book Two:

"Sins of Masonic Fathers"; The Lost Strength of Fewness and American Freemasonry."

by John W. Bizzack, Ph.D

The author was initiated into Freemasonry in 2010, but in the short span of membership, he has authored 7 books related to Freemasonry. He acknowledges that prior to becoming a member he read, researched, studied, and wrote about Freemasonry, utilizing that knowledge enhance his on-going concern about its future following his raising.

Continued on next page

Books (CONTINUED)

Note: Bro. Bizzack had 44 years' experience in the field of law enforcement and criminal justice.

Not every reader of this book will agree with all of its contents but it deserves to be read. It will stimulate thought and hopefully motivate the leadership, and that was his purpose in writing it. The reviewer encourages its reading.

THE FULL MOON and Its Effect on Masonry and in Folklore.

"Moon" Lodges -- In the early years of Masonry when lodges met at night, many met when the moon was full. Because roads were almost nonexistent



and unsafe, the brightness of a full moon made a relatively safer way to lodge and home again. Later when the automobile, with a good set of lights and road improvements made night travel safer, the Grand Lodges encouraged lodges to switch to regular stated meeting nights. Those lodges that did not change meeting times were called "moon" lodges. The moon lodges have, with time, disappeared from Masonry.

The Full Moon and Childbirth:

Some moon lore suggests that childbirths are more likely to occur within 7 days before and 7 days after a full moon.

Many cultures believe that full Moon's on a woman's amniotic fluid increases the chance of giving birth at this time.

Full Moon and relationships:

According to some lore, the full moon is an ideal time to accept a proposal of marriage as love is amplified.

The Greeks believed the full moon was the best time to consummate a marriage and the best time to drain stale energy. In modern times, we have all heard that the full Moon stimulate weird behavior and fills up jails.



Date: June 27, 2020
OKLAHOMA FREEMASONRY DURING THE
SPANISH FLU OF 1918
by T.S. Akers

On March 17, 2020, three days after his first edict, the Grand Master of Masons of the State of Oklahoma suspended all Masonic activity until April 10 due to COVID-19 pandemic. This suspension was soon extended, with an eventual end date of June 1. This led many Masons to seek out other ways to gather fraternally through applications such as Zoom video conferencing. Guildhall Lodge No. 553 A.F. & A.M. chose to utilize video conferences to share Masonic light, education, in the months of April and May. It was at the May video meeting that it was asked what Masons were doing in 1918 in response to the Spanish flu pandemic. This author was tasked with preparing a paper on that topic to be delivered at the next meeting, held June 3.

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The above statement was the at the beginning of Bro. Akers paper. The rest of the paper will be printed in the Blast over the next several issues.

Bro. Akers is one of Oklahoma's Masonic writers and has several books on Masonry published. He does thorough research and pays attention to detail.

The paper was also presented at Guildhall Lodge and the Oklahoma Lodge of Research.

We think, in light of today's pandemic, you will find this bit of history enlightening.

The Editor

***"Go, and by your actions, serve as a
light among men."***

32nd Degree

Editor Don Jones 33°

