



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



[www.mcalesterscottishrite.org](http://www.mcalesterscottishrite.org)

Newsletter Date

September 14, 2023

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, 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

## FALL REUNION !

*Now that the summer days are past,  
The call to Labor comes at last  
And parted brothers, in the Fall,  
Assemble for the Lodge roll call.  
Once more the Gavel sounds the cue  
For friends and brothers, tried and true,  
To meet on Level, Plumb and Square ---  
Their joys and sorrows each to share.  
O, brothers of the Mystic Tie,  
So many tasks before us lie,  
Ere war and strife on earth doth cease  
And Brotherhood brings joy and peace.  
So let us labor -- let us strive  
To keep our Masonry's way alive  
Ours is the Duty--ours the right  
To help shed darkness, spread the Light!  
by Arthur Herriman*

(A Reunion Schedule is attached to the end of  
this issue.)

**REUNION MOTEL ONLY \$75/NITE CLICK ON  
THE LINK BELOW FOR SAVINGS!**

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/CP54Z1>

Above is the link to make your reservation for the October 20  
and 21 McAlester Scottish Rite reunion. The room rate is  
\$75.00 nightly at the McAlester Comfort Inn. Cancellation is  
no later than 4:00 P.M. the day before. Room numbers are  
limited.

If you have any questions contact me by [e-mail](mailto:) or text 405-  
210-4101. John Salisbury

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

If you do not wish to receive this email, please send an email to [enews-unsubscribe@mcasr.org](mailto:enews-unsubscribe@mcasr.org). For questions or comments email [news@mcasr.org](mailto: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

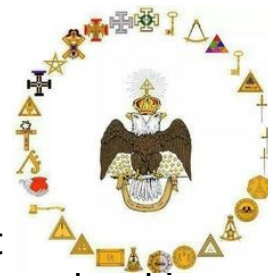
# ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE of FREEMASONRY

## Candidate Information

When you are a candidate, you will begin a pilgrimage through the Scottish Rite degrees and it may become to you one of the grandest and most inspiring experience of your life. If you become a Master of the Royal Secret by receiving the 32nd Degree and are no better or wiser then when you began your journey, your investment of time and money will have been in vain. If, however, you bring a receptive mind and a sensitive heart to the Degrees you will indeed be wiser and a better man. It is the hope and prayer of the Masters and the brethren that your experiences may be rich and significant.

### What is the Scottish Rite?

Scottish Rite Freemasonry is a system of Freemasonry embodying in its Degrees important Masonic teachings and in its activities many forms of Masonic endeavor. It is widely diffused throughout the world and its organized Bodies and membership are found in almost every civilized country.



### What are the Scottish Rite Degrees?

All the degrees of the Scottish Rite are thought - presented merely for the purpose of entertainment -- to fill the eyes with color and the ear with pleasant sounding dialogue -- but are presented from the lessons, profound lessons from which knowledge can be gained. It will be discovered that each degree presents or stepping stones, that make for human betterment and as near an approach to perfection as is humanly possible.

## THE DUTY OF MEMBERSHIP

H. L. Haywood

"The individual who secures membership in a Masonic lodge becomes thereby the heir to a rich tradition; that to which initiation gives him access is not something put together in a day and it will profit him little if he makes no attempt to enter into his patrimony. He must learn something of the history of Masonry; to its achievements in the great nations; of its outstanding teachers, and what they have taught; of its ideas, principles, spirit. Initiation alone does not confer this knowledge (and could not): the member must himself strive to make his own the inexhaustible riches of the Order."

## 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.



**Fri., Oct. 13, 6:30 pm, Dinner & Bingo**  
Central Okla. Scottish Rite Society  
Catered meal; \$15 per person & 3 bingo cards.  
Be a Winner tonight!!

**Fri., Oct. 20;**  
50 Year Membership Awards  
Advisory Conference meets  
Fish Dinner; Dining Room  
Royal Order of the Duck meeting

**Sat., Oct. 21; 8:00 am; Reunion**  
7:00 a.m. - Registration  
8:00 a.m. - Degree Work Begins  
**Sun., Oct. 22; 8:00 a.m., Degree Work**  
4:00 pm, Reunion Farewell

**Fri./Sat., Oct. 27,28, LOP Fundraiser**  
HAUNTED "TEMPLE" (scary)  
See Bro. Steve Gragg for tickets

**Sun., Nov. 5; 1:00 pm; Honors Day**  
1:00 pm; 33rd Degree  
3:00 pm; KCCH Investiture  
Honor Men by invitation Only.

**2024**  
Leadership Conferences  
**April 5-6, Salt Lake City, Utah**  
**April 19-20, Kansas City, Missouri**  
**May 3-4, Jacksonville, Florida**  
Mark your calendars now.



## BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

"The Great Teachings of Masonry."  
H.L. Haywood

By the middle of the last century, Harry Leroy Haywood had written many millions of words about Freemasonry. He had lectured on many college and university campuses about the search to understand The Brotherhood. His influence on the members of the Craft was deep and was spread. His editorship of "The Builders" and "New York Masonic Outlook", would give him a vast audience to share his philosophy of Masonry. It is however, his books that he is remembered for today.

Take a look at one. The "Great Teachings of Masonry" by Brother Harwood, copyright 1921 is available through the National Masonic Research Society: 1971 Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Co., Inc. 199 pages, hard back, enlarged edition.

Also available through the Education Board, of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Int'l. \$24.00 postpaid within the U.S.

### SUGGESTED READING

By now members of the Scottish Rite in the Southern Jurisdiction should have received their copy of "*The Scottish Rite Journal*" for Sept.-Oct, 2023. If so, then you have in your possession one of the better Masonic publications available in the U.S. The Journal's variety of articles has something for everyone. Such as:

**History, Education** - "Celebrating the Tercentenary '1723 Constitution of the Free-Masons"

**Economics** - "Guaranteed Stability; Turbulent Times."

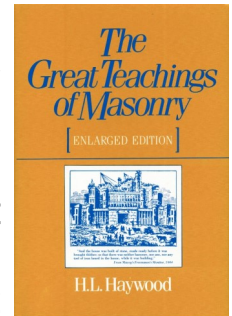
**Human Interest** - "Old Dues Cards and Petitions Tell Our Masonic Life."

**Travel** - "The Masonic Traveler Visits Miami and Its Temple."

**Antiques** - "Our Wine has a Spring."

and News from around the Jurisdiction.

So, pick up that Journal, sit down in a comfortable chair and enjoy. It will be time well spent.





## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

@ Friends are God's way of apologizing to us for our families."

@ "When you are in love it's the most glorious two-and-a-half days of your life."

@ "When my daughter was born, we videotaped the birth. Now when she makes me angry, I just hit Reverse and put her back in."

@ "Families are about love overcoming emotional turmoil."

@ Scene: The Garden of Eden. Eve to Adam, "Do you love me?"

Adam to Eve. "Do I have a choice?"

## WE HAVE SEEN THE ENEMY ---

Whatever attendance troubles our Lodges may be having are not caused by television, nor the automobile, nor by bowling, nor togetherness, nor any of the other "busyness" in which our restless society is engaged. A multitude of activities may contribute to a decline in Lodge attendance, but they do not constitute the cause. When we complain of lack of attendance, what we really are saying is that 'interest' is at a low ebb, for in any organization, if there is interest, there will be attendance. No amount of television or bowling or endless 'busyness' can usurp the position of eminence a Lodge of Freemasons occupies in a man's loyalty if the Lodge is in a position to command his loyalty.



The ailment isn't quite that simple. We are looking at symptoms--not the disease. The real source of the trouble is within ourselves!

**----AND, IT IS US!**

Dwight Smith, P.G.M.

## HISTORY: "THE FIRST CLASS" (Continued)

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 their Lodge of Perfection degrees in McAlester in 1901.

### **Lucian A. Conner, MD**

Born: March 25, 1858, Kosciusko, Mississippi

Died: May 1, 1925, Coalgate, Oklahoma

Dr. Lucian Conner received his early education in the schools of Mississippi, his home state. Following his secondary schooling, he moved to Louisville, Kentucky where he received his medical education and training. He then moved to Chicago and took, what today is called a "residency", and in 6 months received his specialty as an Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat physician.

In 1883, Dr. Conner moved to Savannah, I.T. and 3 years later, in 1886, he relocated to Lehigh, I.T. In 1895, he moved on to Coalgate, I.T. where he remained.

Dr. Conner's profession as a medical doctor caused him to be a prominent figure in early Coalgate city history and at one time he served as the official county and city doctor. However, his work in the financial activity of Coalgate only increased his prominence.

Living in Coalgate, Bro. Lucian was active, both as an officer and a director, of the several banks in town. He served as president of the Old Coalgate International Bank, as member of the board of directors for the Citizen Bank and Trust of Coalgate, and as the president and a director of the Bank of Lehigh. All this was in addition to his other business activities as part-owner of the Coal County Abstract Company, a member of the Commercial Club of Coalgate and the Brotherhood, Fraternal Order of Elks.

Masonically, Bro. Lucian was a Master Mason at Savannah Lodge #20 and the Chapter #4 of Royal Arch Masons of Savannah.

Continued on next page



## HISTORY: "THE FIRST CLASS" (Continued)

### The "Movers and Shakers " of the First Class

#### John Cornwell

Born: September 20, 1865, Scotland

Died: Unknown

The only information we were able to find was from his Scottish Rite petition.

On his petition, Bro. Cornwell listed his occupation as that of "merchant."

He was a Master Mason at Savannah Lodge #20 at Lehigh.

His file included petitions for the other three bodies of McAlester but they were never signed.

#### John Crawford

Born: August 11, 1842, Scotland

Died: Unknown

We were not able to locate any additional information about John Crawford that would help clarify the following:

He was a member of the Savannah Lodge #20 at Lehigh.

A letter from the Lodge Secretary stating the He (Crawford) and (Brother) Kelton would not be attending meeting and wanted to withdraw.

(Crawford), Went suspended for Non-Payment of Dues in March of 1908.

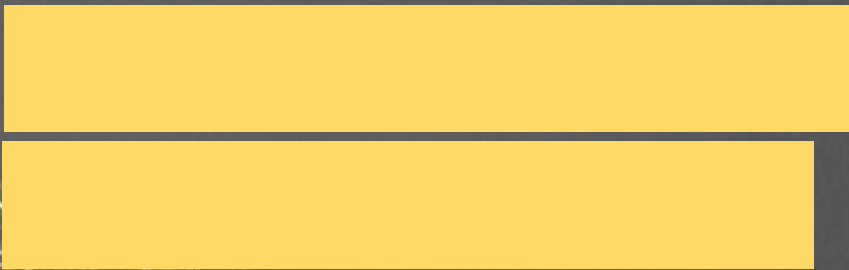
To be continued

***"Honors are an inspiration so long as the man who carries them is himself is honorable, active and inspirational."***

***Ill. Fred Kleinknecht, 33, P. G. C.***

**Don Jones, 33° Editor**





**7pm - 11midnight**

**Tuesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**7pm - 10pm**

**\$10 per person**





**347th Class Reunion Schedule  
October 22-22, 2023**

**Friday, October 20, 2023**

11:30 AM...50 Year Awards.....Richards Room  
1:30 PM...Advisory Conference.....SGIG Conf. Room  
6:00 PM...Fish Dinner.....Masons and guests are invited

**Saturday, October 21, 2023**

6:30 AM...Breakfast.....Main Dining Room  
7:00 AM...Candidate Registration.....Main Lobby  
Single Candidate Pictures.....Main Lobby  
7:45 AM...Assemble Class.....Class Supervisor  
8:00 AM...Opening Ceremony.....Auditorium  
9:00 AM...Open Lodge of Perfection....Venerable Master  
9:05 AM...4th Degree.....Lone Grove Team  
10:00 AM...5th Degree.....McAlester/Eufaula Team  
10:55 AM...12th Degree.....Edmond Lodge No. 37 Team  
12:00 PM...Lunch.....Main Dining Room  
1:00 PM...13th Degree.....Bryan County Team  
1:50 PM...14th Degree.....Oklahoma County Team  
3:00 PM...Open Chapter Rose Croix.....Wise Master  
3:05 PM...17th Degree.....Duncan Team  
5:00 PM...Approx. Class Dismissal.....Class Supervisor

**Sunday, October 22, 2023**

6:30 AM...Breakfast.....Main Dining Room  
7:45 AM...Assemble Class.....Class Supervisor  
8:00 AM...18th Degree.....Nolen Watson Team  
9:30 AM...Open Council of Kadosh.....Commander  
9:35 AM...19th Degree.....Shawnee Team  
10:25 AM...28th Degree.....Duncan Team  
11:30 AM...Class Picture.....Larry McManus, KCCH  
12:00 PM...Lunch.....Main Dining Room  
1:00 PM...30th Degree.....Shawnee Team  
2:15 PM...Open Consistory.....Master of Kadosh  
2:20 PM...31st Degree.....Durant Team  
3:15 PM...32nd Degree.....Indian Consistory Team  
5:00 PM...Approx. Class Dismissal.....Class Supervisor

**\* *Passport Degrees***

