



# McAlester Scottish Rite

Orient of Oklahoma, AASR Southern Jurisdiction



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

**Newsletter Date**

**September 18, 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 Friday 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

## McALESTER FALL REUNION TO BE A ONE-DAY EVENT.

### 343rd EXTRAVAGANZA REUNION October 23, 2021

Eight (8) Degrees will be exemplified at the Fall Reunion for McAlester Valley this year.

The 5th, 13th and 19th Degrees, will be exemplified in addition to the five Obligatory degrees. (See the schedule below). The addition of these particular 3 Degrees will add much to your Scottish Rite knowledge.

Other actions that were taken in regard to this Reunion are that the dormitory will not be available and no meals will be served at the Temple. Also considering the increased effects of the pandemic, COVID-19 precaution, (masks, social distancing, washing and disinfection of hands) are to be observed.

The schedule has set time aside for a Class Picture so please dress accordingly.

7:00 AM Candidate Registration.....Main Lobby Single Candidate Photos  
7:45 AM...Assemble Class.....Class Supervisor  
8:00 AM...Opening Ceremony.....Auditorium  
8:20 AM...Introduction to the Scottish Rite  
8:25 AM...Open L.O.P.....Venerable Master  
8:30 AM...4th Degree.....Lone Grove Team  
\*9:25 AM...5th Degree.....McAlester/Eufaula Team (Passport Degree)  
\*10:15 AM...13th Degree.....Bryan County Team (Passport Degree)  
11:05 AM...14th Degree.....Oklahoma County Team  
12:00 PM...Lunch.....Main Dining Room  
1:00 PM...Open Chapter Rose Croix.....Wise Master  
1:05 PM...18th Degree.....Nolen Watson Team  
2:35 PM...Class Picture.....Larry McManus, KCCH  
3:00 PM...19th Degree.....Shawnee Team  
3:55 PM...Open Council of Kadosh.....Commander  
4:00 PM...30th Degree.....Shawnee Team  
5:20 PM...Open Consistory.....Master of Kadosh  
5:25 PM...32nd Degree.....Indian Consistory Team  
6:30 PM...Approx. Class Dismissal...Class Supervisor  
6:30 PM...Candidate Dinner at Pete's Place

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](mailto:enews-unsubscribe@mcasr.org). For questions or comments email [news@mcasr.org](mailto:news@mcasr.org).

Upcoming Reunions:

**2021**  
**October 23**

**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

## VALLEY DEGREE TEAMS

### 5th Degree; Perfect Master McAlester-Eufaula Team

Director....Monte Hendrix, 33°  
Asst. Director....Randy Roden, 32  
M. of C.....Jerry Donathan, KCCH  
Orator....Bill Erkin, 33°  
Sr. Warden....Mike Sexton, KCCH  
King Hiram....Robert Padgett, KCCH  
Solomon...Christopher Botts, KCCH  
Venerable Master...Jack Tannehill, 32°  
Cushion Bearer...Greg Steidly, KCCH  
Cushion Bearer...Randy Roden, 32°



Thank you, Brethren, for your participation in the Scottish Rite Degrees.

### Dr. RICHARD POLK, 33° TULSA VALLEY RECEIVES THE SUPREME COUNCIL'S GRAND CROSS OF HONOR



It is with great pleasure that we announce that Dr. Richard Polk, 33, will be receiving the Grand Cross of the Court of Honour this year from our Supreme Council. Dr. Polk has a very long and active Masonic career and has been a long-time leader in the Broken Arrow and Tulsa communities. Please join us in congratulating him and thanking him for all he has done and will continue to do.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?



[BeAFreemason.org](http://BeAFreemason.org)



## SCOTTISH RITE ACTIVITY

**Wed. weekly**, 8am-9am: Social Hour  
McAlester Scottish Rite Center  
free coffee and donuts  
Masonic fellowship - candidates welcome

**Sept. 22**, Wed.; Fall Equinox

**Sep. 26**, 1:00 p.m.; Practice  
Guthrie Scottish Rite Center  
KCCH & 33rd Degree team practice.  
Use the south backstage door.

**Oct. 7**, 11:30 am; S.R. Luncheon  
McAlester membership luncheon  
Golden Corral, I-40 & MacArthur, OKC  
Join us for good food & fellowship  
Candidates eat free!

**Oct. 11**, Mon., 7:00 pm; LOP Stated Mtg  
McAlester Scottish Rite Center  
Lodge of Perfection stated

**Oct. 23**, Sat./ McAlester Reunion  
One-Day; 8 Degrees  
8:00 a.m. to approx. 6:30 p.m.

**Oct. 31**; Orient Honors Day  
Guthrie S.R. Masonic Center  
33rd Degree conferral  
KCCH investiture.

Wichita Scottish Rite; Kansas

**Sept. 22**; Fri., Fall Reunion

**Oct. 9**; Feast of Tishri; CANCELLED

Ft. Worth, TX Scottish Rite

**Sept. 18**, One-Day Reunion



## WHAT ARE DUES, ANYWAY?

"Dues are a standard, periodic fee charged the members of an organization", eg. clubs, societies, sororities, fraternities, professional associations, ; all of which includes Masonic lodges and the Scottish Rite Valleys.

Your dues pay administration costs, insurance, utility bills and support the philanthropies of the organization.

Paying your dues means something. It means that you have obligated yourself to the mission of the Masonic fraternity.

2021 dues are due now. If you have a particular problem, please contact the Valley's General Secretary, Mike Ebert at 918 423-6360. He can help you.

## BOOKS OF MASONIC INTEREST

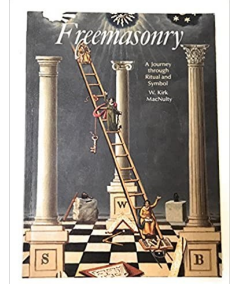
"Freemasonry: A Journey Through Ritual and Symbol", by Kirk MacNulty

Publisher: Thames & Hudson Company

Brother MacNulty is a well-known Masonic author whose books never fail to inform and delight. The illustrations are powerful and well done. He is interested in the relationship between Freemasonry and the western esoteric traditions and explores them here.

I really recommend this book.

Reviewed by James Tresner, 33, G.C.



## FAMOUS QUOTES

"My parents moved a lot, but I always found them."

"I haven't spoken to my wife for years. I didn't want to interrupt her."

"I tell ya, I know how to get girls. I hang out at women's prisons and wait for parolees."

"I went to a fight last night, and a hockey game broke out."

"Last time I saw a mouth like that, it had a hook in it."

"Now, take my wife, please!"

Rodney Dangerfield



## THE AUTUMN EQUINOX; SEPT. 22

(We celebrate it with Folklore and Proverbs)

-- Autumn days come quietly, like the  
the running of a hound on the meadow.

Irish proverb

--- Trees snapping and cracking in the  
autumn indicate a very dry winter.

--- If, in the fall of the leaves in October,  
many of them wither on the boughs and  
hang there, it betokens a frosty winter  
and much snow.

--- Spring rain damps,  
Autumn rain soaks.

--- Of autumn's wine, now drink your fill,  
The frosts on the pumpkin, and snows on the hill.  
"I ain't got time for that!"

---

## **LIFE EXPECTANCY DROP IN THE U.S.**

--- from AARP

The expectant longevity of Americans fell during 18 months in 2020. This is the largest drop since World War II. During 2020, 3.4 million Americans died of which 375,000 (11%) is attributed to COVID-19 or its complications.

So:

How long are Americans expected to live?

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Overall.....	78.8 yrs	77.3 yrs.
Men.....	76.3 yrs	74.5 yrs
Women....	81.4 yrs	80.2 yrs

(now to bring those numbers up: masks, distance, washing)



## WHAT?

It was a typical noisy, dinner at my parent's home, and Dad was having trouble following the conversations. He kept jumping in with off-topic comments and asking for things to be repeated. The oldest son finally told him, he needed to get a hearing aid.



Looking at his son as if he was crazy, Dad said, "What would I do with a hand grenade?"

---

## Why do Freemasons end their prayers with the phrase "So mote it be"?

It is customary in contemporary English to end prayers with a hearty "Amen," a word meaning "So be it." It is a Latin word derived from a Hebrew word meaning "certainly." Thus a congregation saying "Amen" is literally saying "So be it."

The word mote is an archaic verb that means "may" or "might," and traces back to Old English. The phrase "So mote it be" means "So may it be," which is the same as "So be it."

Now that we've established the equivalence of "Amen" and "So mote it be," the question remains, "Why do Masons end their prayers with 'So mote it be'?" The answer goes back to the Regius Poem of about 1390 AD, the oldest known Masonic document (now housed in the British Museum, London). It is one of the Old Charges or Gothic Constitution used by early Freemasons to regulate their trade. It has a legendary history, regulations to guide the Mason trade and rules of manners and moral conduct. The poem ends famously with this couplet: Amen! Amen! So mote it be! So say we all for charity. Thus Freemasons today end their prayers the same way they did in 1390. The next time you're in lodge and say "So mote it be" after the chaplain finishes a prayer, remember that you are continuing a 600-year-old Masonic tradition.

The phrase "So Mote It Be" is written in a highly decorative, blue Gothic script. The letters are ornate with flourishes and are enclosed within a simple blue rectangular border.



## FREEMASONRY AND OKLAHOMA<sup>(continued)</sup>

"Jefferson's folly (the Louisiana Purchase), did not appeal to many of the statesmen of the day. In the northern part of the new territory there was little to attract the home seeker. In the southern sections, the climate discouraged the fur traders; the proximity to Spanish domination frightened the fearful because of the hazard of war with France or Spain or the or the more dangerous outraged Indians; the gold seeker looked beyond the fertile valleys and rich pastures to the fabled Mexico and the Rocky Mountains; the missionary and the adventurer, each for his own purpose "followed the crowd." Among those who were attracted to the new country were Meriweather Lewis and William Clark who began a thorough exploration of the entire area to the Pacific Ocean. These two Master Masons blazed the trail over which their brethren followed. In the meantime, the southern part of the territory was neglected.

That part of Louisiana which is now Oklahoma was first officially visited by Zebulon Pike, a Master Mason, prominent in the craft in 1806. He explored the territory of the Arkansas River to the Mississippi and on to New Orleans. On this journey he was accompanied by Dr. Joh H. Robinson, a Master Mason.

Soon after Bro. Pike's reporting gained circulation, there began to pour into the valleys of the Arkansas and Red Rivers a small stream of Indians seeking more prolific hunting grounds, traders in search of opportunities, and adventurers and Renegades from every level of society. Following these came the bravest and sincerest of all empire builders, the missionaries whose influence upon the most reckless frontiersmen of the early days as it was on the families who enjoyed the harvests.

(to be continued)

***"Show respect for the other man's opinion.  
Never tell a man he is wrong."***

***Dale Carnegie***

***Editor Don Jones 33°***

