



The klahoma Mason

The Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma

2011 - VOL 111

page 1

Got ya, Granddad!



see story, page 3

also see information on the Leadership Workshop, page 10
information on Grand School, page 5



From the Grand Master

When push comes to shove, maybe we shouldn't push or shove.

I'm not talking about fighting through when we have a challenge, or finding a way to make things work when it seems everything is against us. I'm talking about pushing a new Mason into a Chair when he isn't ready or doesn't want to be there.

I've seen it happen in a lot of Lodges. A Lodge has a new Master Mason, maybe only raised a few weeks or months ago. The Lodge is getting ready to open and the Junior Deacon isn't there. And so someone says, "Hey, Joe, go sit in that chair by the door."

"But I don't know what to do," Joe says.

"Don't worry, we'll tell you what to do." And so Joe, uncomfortable, not wanting to look like a fool but not wanting to disappoint the people in the Lodge, takes the Junior Deacon's place.

You'd think, under those circumstances, everyone in the Lodge would cut him as much slack as possible. Yeah, sure! If it's like most of the times I've seen, "helpful" Brothers in the Lodge will chew on him for not knocking on the door the right number of times, not shifting his rod where he should, not staying on the working lines, and not knowing how to collect the word. Three or four will try to tell him his language at the same time, and they won't always be saying the same thing. And if you remind them that it isn't his office, he's only seen it done a few times, and is only doing it to be nice, they'll say things like, "He might as well learn it right from the beginning." or "He has to learn sometime," or "But he ain't doing it right!"

He's doing the Lodge a favor in spite of the fact that it is really uncomfortable for him to do, he gets embarrassed and feels people are making fun of him. But the Lodge doesn't understand why he isn't feeling the joy of doing ritual, and they are surprised when he doesn't come back. And then, in hypocrisy, they say, "Well, I guess he just wasn't cut out to be a Mason."

Not one of us would put up with being treated that way, and yet we expect him to take it and be grateful for it.

I am not saying that a new Mason should not be allowed to take an empty officer's seat in the Lodge. I am saying he should not be pressured or pushed into it if he doesn't want to do it. If he does want to take the chair, that's fine. But don't try to teach him the ritual there, in Lodge, in front of everyone, when he's going to think he is just delaying things for everyone. Let **one** person help him with the language and the floor work, and **do not** correct any mistakes he makes then. After Lodge, ask him if he would like to learn the language (DON'T PUSH) and, if he says "yes," set a time to get together.

The problem isn't limited just to having a new Brother fill a chair for an officer who happens to be absent for an evening. It's even worse when we insist on appointing or electing a new member to a chair when he doesn't want to hold that position. Some people like to jump into things with both feet, but most people like to ease into new situations. None of us like to be boxed in, or pressured into things. That's just as true of new Brothers. And it's easy to avoid. Just ASK them, without pressure, what they want to do.

If we let new Brethren start doing ritual when THEY want, we have a good chance of ending up with members who enjoy the ritual and like serving as an officer.

If we try to push them into it, well probably just embarrass them and frustrate them, and drive them out the door. They have not been raised to be a slave, a puppy, or a robot— they have been raised to be a Brother. Surely we have an obligation to treat them like that.

Grand Master *F. Almy*

Got ya, Granddad!

Worshipful Warren McConnell, Medal of Honor, has to be one of the most active and certainly best loved Masons in the state. He is a "good ole boy," in every positive sense and no negative sense of that term. He lives his Masonry every day (and I can only imagine how much he will hate reading this—but so it goes). Warren is a perpetual member of Coronado #56, Kingfisher #52, Anchor-Crescent #104, Pond Creek #125, Western Star #138, Waukomis #161, Okeene #357, Seiling #495, Garfield #501, Hoyle #535, India #551, Watonga #552, Ringwood #554, and the Oklahoma Lodge of Research, plus two Lodges in Russia, the Peace Gardens Lodge on the American/Canadian border, a Lodge in Texas, a Lodge in Missouri, and one in the state of Washington. He is a member of the Scottish Rite, the York Rite, and the Shrine, as well as the Red Cross of Constantine, the York Rite College, the Masonic *Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederalis*, and *Philalethes*. In DeMolay he holds the designations of Chevalier, Cross of Honor, and Legion of Honor, as well as the Grand Cross of Colors of Rainbow. He is Past Sovereign Master, Father Murrow Chapter, Allied Masonic Degrees. His wife, Margie, is Past Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of Eastern Star, and they have traveled Masonically extensively.



Grandmother Margie McConnell and Grandson Garrett Stegall flank R. W.: Ron Chambers, Junior Grand Warden

Between his sons, sons-in-law, grandsons, and grandsons-in-law he has brought into Masonry, Warren could literally charter a Lodge. And so, when grandson-in-law Jesse Stewart submitted a Petition and was to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree, the rest of the family entered into a deeply-laid plot. The sons, sons-in-law, grandsons, and grandsons-in-law divided the parts in the Degree between themselves and quietly learned the language. Keeping it secret from Warren has to rank as a major Masonic achievement (not to mention keeping it secret from Margie!). But they managed it; and when the family walked into the Lodge and took the places of the officers, and Warren, completely nonplused, asked what was going on, and Grandson Toby simply said "Got ya, Granddad," it took out everyone in the room. Well done, Brothers! Finally, a *real* Masonic conspiracy. It was one of the most powerful evenings I've ever experienced in a Lodge.
Jim Tresner, Editor

Here was the trestleboard:

W.:M.: - Rick Kerr - son-in-law
 S.:W.: - Gerald Stegall - son-in-law
 J.:W.: - Derrick Walker - grandson-in-law
 S.:D.: - Warren McConnell (as himself)
 J.:D.: - Garrett Stegall - grandson
 S.:S.: - Richard Kerr - grandson
 J.:S.: - Dustin Kerr - grandson
 Sec.: - Wayne McConnell - son
 Chap.: - Will McConnell - grandson
 Tre.: - Toby McConnell - grandson
 Cat. Lecture - Warren McConnell & Toby
 2nd Section Lecture - Garrett Stegall
 Tyler - Don Fevorly



When a Grandson is receiving a Degree, Margie McConnell does the cooking. That's a little like saying that Leonardo DaVinci is designing the decorations. The photo shows only a portion of the crowd digging into a remarkable meal.



2011 Senior Essay Contest Winners Announced

For several decades, Freemasonry in Oklahoma has sponsored an essay contest for high school seniors. The essays are graded by professionals, and the contest is administered by the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma. We are happy to announce and congratulate the winners. The Lodges shown are those who participated by contacting the schools and facilitating the contest.

Ladies

1 st Britton Brewer - Davis HS	\$2,000
Tyre Lodge #42	
2 nd Conny Van Wyhe - Owasso HS	\$1,500
Owasso Lodge #545	
3 rd Paige Dexter - Moore HS	\$1,000
Moore Lodge #539	
4 th Kelsey Taylor - Owasso HS	\$750
Owasso Lodge #545	
5 th Lauren Mounts - Geronimo HS . . .	\$500
Lawton Lodge #183	
6 th Samantha Rousey - Geronimo HS	\$400
Lawton Lodge #183	
7 th Elizabeth Himes - Okarche HS . . .	\$300
Kingfisher Lodge #52	
8 th Shauntel Cornaby - Mustang HS . .	\$200
Mustang Lodge #407	
9 th Samantha Sutton - Adair HS	\$100
Adair Lodge #99	
10 th Katie Mixson - Vinita HS	\$100
Vinita Lodge #5	

Men

1 st Jakob Lancaster - Berryhill HS .	\$2,000
Red Fork - Brookside Lodge #505	
2 nd Seth Wright - Southmoore HS .	\$1,500
Moore Lodge #539	
3 rd Jordan Pierce - Plainview HS . .	\$1,000
Ardmore Lodge #31	
4 th Tim Tatro [Tetreux] - Wayne HS .	\$750
Purcell Lodge #27	
5 th Grant Giddens - Jenks HS	\$500
Jenks Lodge #497	
6 th Benjamin Brownlee - Jenks HS . . .	\$400
Jenks Lodge #497	
7 th Spencer Hood - Bixby HS	\$300
Bixby Lodge #359	
8 th Devin Taylor - Stroud HS	\$200
Stroud Lodge #142	
9 th Eric Harris - Stroud HS	\$100
Stroud Lodge #142	
10 th Franco Bramante - Anadarko HS	\$100
Anadarko Lodge #21	



Ronald Wray, Grand Lecturer

Grand School

May 20 - 21

There are lots of reasons to come to Grand School in 2011!

It's a chance for men who are just starting their Masonic experience to come and learn—not *just* a chance for those who already know the work to check-out for a card.

Of course, Brothers who have learned the work can check out for an "A" or a "C" card. But there's more.

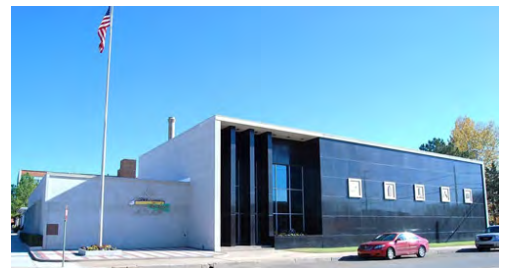


On Friday and Saturday evening, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, one room in the Grand Lodge will be specifically dedicated to the instruction of Brethren who want to learn the language, floor-work, etc., for opening and closing a Lodge. You can learn from the best. This is a new feature of Grand School, and one we think will prove very popular.

Grand School runs from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM on the 20th and 21st. All you will need is a current dues card in order to register. It's at the Grand Lodge building in Guthrie (102 South Broad Street, for those who want to set their GPS).

The Certificate Lecturers' Association will meet at 4:00 PM on Saturday, the 21st., in the Master Mason room.

Special information for those who want to stay in Guthrie Friday night. In order to help Grand School break even on costs, the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple has offered us a special arrangement on rooms in the Inn. **If a minimum of 50 Brethren commit in advance to a room in the Inn for a cost of \$25, the Temple will make the rooms available. To reserve a room, call the Grand Lodge (405-282-3212) and give us your name, phone number, and e-mail address (if any).** If not enough rooms are reserved, we will notify you that you will need to make other arrangements. **Deadline for registration is Friday, May 13.**



Come and make this Grand School one of the most memorable ever. It's a great opportunity to learn more about Masonry!



FROM THE MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF OKLAHOMA

Some highlights and notices

On April 9, the Grand Master presented a check for \$100,000 to Panhandle State University, establishing another Masonic endowment at a state-funded four-year university. This program allows the Fraternity to make a difference in the lives of thousands of Oklahoma college students, as well as “getting our name” in front of students and faculty across the state. Later this spring, presentations will be made to Cameron University at Lawton, University of Arts and Sciences at Chickasha, and Langston University at Langston.




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Grand Master Glenn Almy, Dr. Doris Looper-Panhandle Foundation Executive Secretary, Dr. David Bryant-OPSU President, and John Logan-Executive Director of the Charity Foundation



On April 26, the State Superintendent's Awards for Arts Excellence will be held at the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. For some years now, the Fraternity, through the Charity Foundation, has underwritten the costs of the program in partnership with the State Department of Public Education. While there are many programs which reward high school students for ability in athletics, few recognitions are available for those who excel in the arts. Yet, we know that arts education is one of the most important elements of good overall academic performance. The Recognition ceremonies are held in formal regalia, with the recipients, their families, and the members of their school boards invited to attend. The Grand Master and State Superintendent of Public Education present medals to the students and selected performances are given. A display of art and sculpture is set up in the Atrium. It is a beautiful and impressive evening, and Masons and their families are invited to attend.

 The Masonic Service Association of North America has requested disaster assistance funds for the Australia and Japan disasters. Funds have been sent by the Foundation on behalf of the Fraternity.

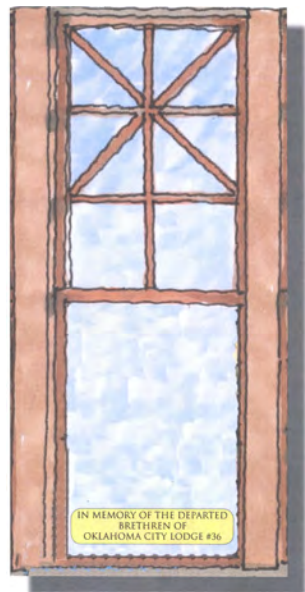
 May 1st is the deadline for the receipt of applications for scholarships for DeMolays, Rainbows, and Job's Daughters under the Youth Scholarship Program.



From the Scottish Rite Memorialize Your Lodge

Anyone walking through the rooms in the Guthrie Temple has noticed that almost every artistic window includes the name of a town, Lodge, or individual. Masonic Lodges in each of those communities donated the money for the window.

The Guthrie Temple is the home of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. In fact, Grand Lodge has met in Scottish Rite buildings since 1909. Guthrie Scottish Rite Masons would like to bring back that tradition of fraternal cooperation and good will by asking our Oklahoma Lodges to consider purchasing a window for the old legislative hall, which is part of the Temple.



The name of your Lodge or town will be painted onto the glass, just as was originally done with the Temple windows. Each window will cost \$1,000 to replace. There are 20 windows in the Grand Ballroom and numerous others in the upper floors. If your Lodge would like to have its name permanently inscribed in the windows of one of Oklahoma's most historic buildings, contact the Temple at 405-282-1281.



From the York Rite

Some important events and dates!

April 28 - 30

York Rite Grand Sessions
Wyndham Airport Hotel, Oklahoma City
Contact Dwayne Dixon - 405-677-1210
or www.okyorkrite.org

May 7

All Masonic Day, Grand Lodge building
Contact Charles Stuckey - 580-762-2804
Robert G. Davis - 405-282-1281
(All Masonic Day is a day when several smaller Orders meet, including Allied Masonic Degrees, Knight Masons of the USA, Knights of the York Cross of Honor, Masonic *Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederalis*, Philalethes, and York Rite College.)

May 14

KYCH - Composite Lodge, Shawnee
Contact Kenneth Buckley - 918-267-4522.





Look Garefully

During the Grand Master's recent trip, he was given a copy of this polychrome carved wooden panel. It was from a Norman-style Cathedral built in Mdina, Malta in the 11th Century and destroyed by an earthquake in 1693. The panel itself dates from the 1400's.

One might want to remember that the 3rd Degree, so far as we know, was written between 1720 and 1730.

About 1726, a pamphlet was published in England, entitled *Antediluvian Masonry: the whole History of the Widow's Son killed by the blow of a Beetle, afterwards found three Foot East, three Foot West, and three Foot perpendicular, and the necessity there is for a Master to well understand the Rule of Three.*



OETA FUNDRAISER DOES WELL



The Masonic fundraiser for Oklahoma Public Television was a success! Oklahomans across the state watched as Grand Master Glenn Almy presented a check for \$49,139.50 to the management of the station. 175 Lodges participated.

We would especially like to congratulate the 26 Lodges which, with Matching Funds, donated \$500 or more.

Akdar Lodge - \$500	Ardmore Lodge - \$500	Bartlesville Lodge - \$1,267
Bixby Lodge - \$592	Broken Arrow Lodge - \$810	Cyril Lodge - \$504
Del City Lodge - \$500	Duncan Lodge - \$502	Elk City Lodge - \$600
Garfield Lodge - \$600	Grove Lodge - \$534	Millennium Lodge - \$1,200
Moore Lodge - \$616	Mount Scott Lodge - \$540	Muskogee Lodge - \$540
Myrtle Lodge - \$1,000	Norman Lodge - \$600	Oklahoma City Lodge - \$710
Pilgrim/Rock Lodge - \$500	Siloam Lodge - \$1,156	S. McAlester Lodge - \$600
Stigler Lodge - \$540	Trinity Lodge - \$522	Wagoner Lodge - \$500
Will Rogers Lodge - \$800		Woodward Lodge - \$500

Student of Today

Teacher of Today

Two of Oklahoma Masonry's most important programs are **Student of Today** and **Teacher of Today**. Both of these programs have proven track records as ways the Lodge can be involved with the community. Both programs have the potential of shedding a favorable light upon the Fraternity.

Our goal is to make 2011 a very successful year. Last year, 2,566 Student of Today certificates were presented from 186 Lodges, and 893 Teacher of Today certificates were presented from 176 Lodges. If your Lodge has never participated in the programs, we hope that you will make the change in 2011 to honor the outstanding students and teachers in your area.

Flyers for the Student of Today and Teacher of Today programs were mailed to all Oklahoma Masonic Lodges in February. **We encourage each Lodge to take them to their local PUBLIC school(s) as soon as possible. Participating in the programs will bring major rewards of good will to your Lodge.**

Please note that the SCHOOL selects the student(s) and teacher(s) to be honored. This not only involves the school with the Lodge, it also keeps the Lodge out of controversy.

2011 LODGE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP ANNOUNCED

June 10, 11, 12 will be an exciting weekend in Oklahoma Masonry! That's the weekend of the 2011 Lodge Leadership Workshop.

It isn't easy being Worshipful Master—not if you actually want to accomplish something. It usually isn't so much that people are fighting what you want to do as that you end up dealing with so many little things you suddenly find the year is over and you never got around to your program. Attending the Workshop is a good investment of time and money for the success of your Lodge.

This year's workshop is structured a little differently. Some of the hard-edged necessary information (how to create a calendar, how to plan a budget, etc.) will primarily be provided in written form. It will be discussed briefly, so that you know what resources you have, but you can read it on your own.

But much of the time will be devoted to hands-on experience.

- ✧How do you settle a conflict between Lodge members?
- ✧How do you keep young members from dropping out?
- ✧How can you plan activities outside of Lodge that members will enjoy, just like they did in the '50's?
- ✧What are some ways you can make the people of your town more aware that the Lodge is there?
- ✧Are there more effective ways to use the Internet to benefit the Lodge and its members?

And you will get important, first hand information about programs for 2012 and how they can benefit your Lodge.

Your wife is welcome to attend—there will be a program and shopping opportunities for her. **And the workshop is not just for Senior Wardens.** Any officer or member of your Lodge is welcome to attend.

The cost is \$125 per Mason, whether or not wives accompany them. That covers printed materials, a banquet, and refreshments. It does not include the cost of a hotel room. See contact and price information for the hotels in Guthrie below, so you can make your own reservation. AND NOTE that while the workshop starts Friday evening, if you cannot come until Saturday morning, come right on. There will be a brief review Saturday morning to help get you current.

To register, print the registration form, fill it out, (or send a letter with the same information) to Grand Lodge Leadership Workshop P.O. Box 1019 Guthrie, OK 73044. Enclose a check, payable to the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, for \$125 for each Mason. You can enroll individually or through the Lodge. You can also register by fax or e-mail.



Registration by fax or e-mail requires a credit card.

To register by fax, fill out the form, including credit card information, and fax to the Grand Lodge at 405-282-3244.

To register by e-mail, send an e-mail containing the same information as the form, including credit card information to me Randy Rogers, Deputy Grand Master, at trp074@yahoo.com

Whichever way you register, the registration cut-off date is May 31st.

Schedule (an Agenda will be sent with your enrollment materials)

Friday, June 10 - Registration at Grand Lodge from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Dinner on your own
Opening session for Masons and wives starts at 7:00 PM

Saturday, June 11 Registration at Grand Lodge from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM
Breakfast on your own
Morning Session 8:00 AM to 12:00
Afternoon Session 1:00 PM to 5:30 PM
Banquet

Sunday, June 12 Morning Session 8:00 AM to Noon, Presentation of Certificates.

You are responsible for making your own hotel reservation if you want to spend the nights in Guthrie. Information on the two newest hotels is given below. NOTE that these are special rates. Be sure to tell the clerk when you make reservations and check in that you are a Mason.

Sleep Inn

414 Heather Road
Guthrie, OK 73044
405-260-1400 \$82.00 per night, plus tax

Holiday Inn Express

2227 E. Oklahoma Avenue
Guthrie, OK 73044
405-293-6464 \$99.00 per night, plus tax

Registration

for the 2011 Lodge Leadership Workshop

(Please print, fill out, and submit a copy for each Mason attending from your Lodge)

TO INSURE A SPACE, RETURN BY MAY 31st

Lodge Name & Number _____

Name of Brother _____

Current Office in Lodge, if any _____

Brother's mailing address _____

Brother's e-mail address _____

Brother's phone numbers (cell) _____ (home) _____

Anticipated arrival Friday afternoon/evening Saturday morning

Name of Brother's wife if she is attending _____

Signature of Brother or Lodge Secretary if paying by credit card _____

Credit card information if registering by fax or e-mail

Visa MasterCard Card # _____ Exp, _____

Signature if paying by credit card _____

Please bring a current copy of the Constitution and Code with you, or plan on purchasing one at the Workshop, Cost is \$15.

Register by mail

Please send a registration sheet and \$125 for each Brother attending to

Leadership Conference

Grand Lodge of Oklahoma

P.O. Box 1019

Guthrie, OK 73044

Register by fax or e-mail

Please send a registration sheet for each Brother. Be sure to add credit card information above.

Fax - 405-282-3244

E-mail - Randy Rogers - trp074@yahoo

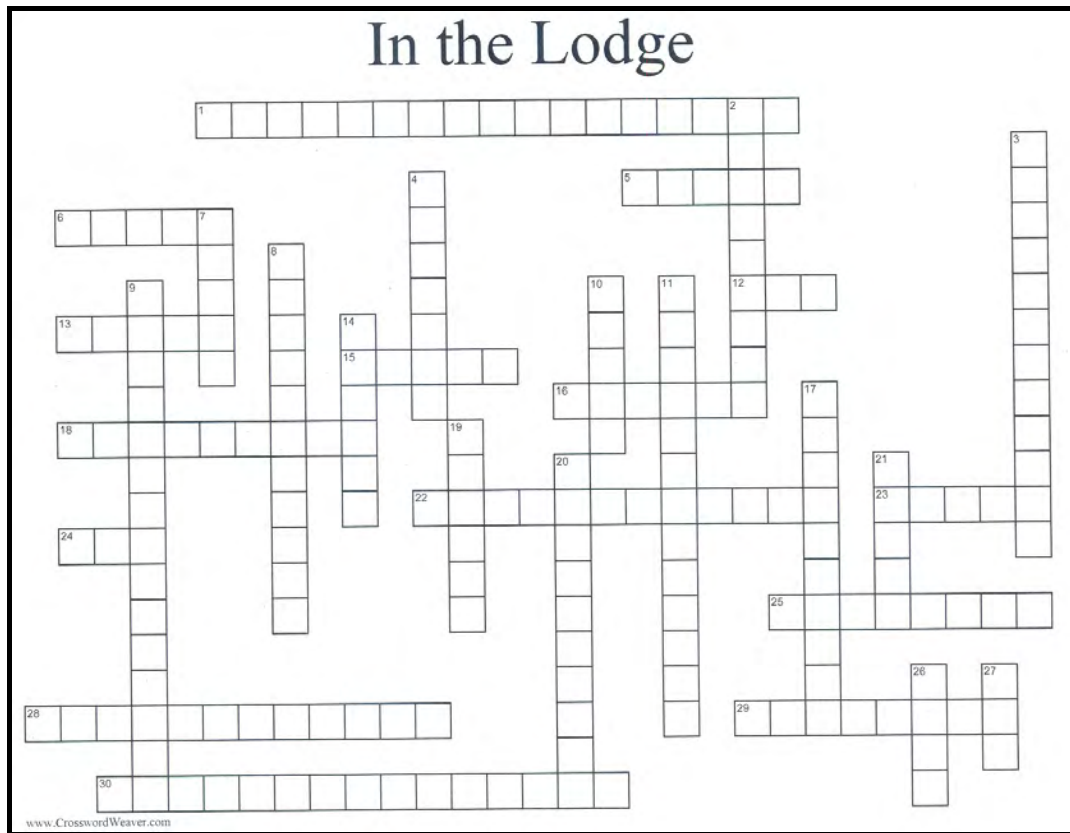
Masonic Crossword

It may be easier to print this page and work on the paper. The solution appears further into this issue, but don't cheat.

ACROSS

1. A beginning (2 words)
5. Its name comes from the Latin word for "lead" of which it was originally made
6. A mallet—it's never pointed at an individual because of Lincoln's injunction "with mallets toward none."
12. Atop the Sr. Deacon's rod
13. Making sure no cowans are present
15. The badge of a Mason
16. They burn, and there are three
23. Color Steward's rods are supposed to be
25. As a verb, it means to deceive or confuse
29. For those without a place

18. It's cloudy (2 words)
22. He's in charge if you're relaxed
24. Only the W.M. wears one
28. Slick stone in the Lodge (2 words)
30. Leave them where they are (2 words)

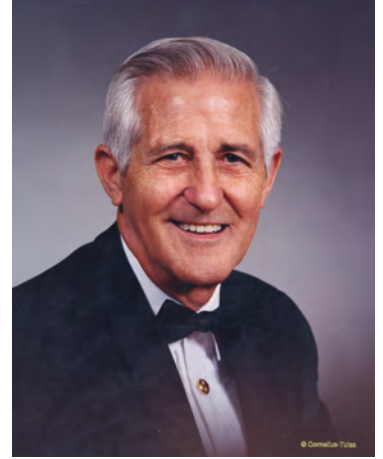


DOWN

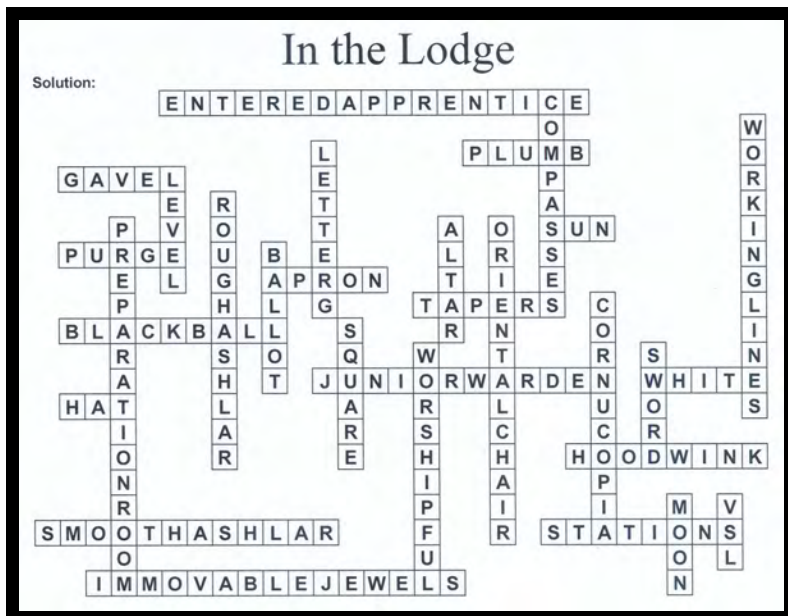
2. Like Moses, an arc constructor
3. Where we move (2 words)
4. Its mysteries are taught in the Fellow Craft (2 words)
7. To check the blue horizon, you might need this
8. Rugged stone in the Lodge (2 words)
9. Get ready here (2 words)
10. It's in the middle
11. Leader sits here (2 words)
14. Only one letter keeps this from being a dance
17. It tops the Steward's rods
19. Virtue, morality, and the physical world
20. Leader's title
21. Tyler's tool
26. Atop the Jr. Deacon's rod
27. No Lodge can open without it (abbreviation)

Book on Cornerstones and Early Lodges Now Available

In the last issue of The Oklahoma Mason, we mentioned that M.:W.: Robert T. Shipe had written a book on the history of Masonic Cornerstones in Oklahoma. The book has arrived from the printers, and it is a treasure. With many photographs in full color, the book tells the story of Masonry in Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory as marked by the stones, set with Masonic ceremonies, across the land. Of special interest is M.:W.: Brother Shipe's discovery of the role played by the railroads in the spread and development of Lodges across the area. A map clearly shows the coordination between the two.



You can order a copy of the book from the Oklahoma Lodge of Research. If you are a member, the cost is \$33. If you are not currently a member but wish to join, you can fill out the application in this issue and send it with \$25 for a year's dues plus \$33 for the cost of the book to John E. King, Secretary, OLOR, 1128 N. Lee, Altus, OK 73521. The cost of the book to non-members is \$40, and it can be ordered from the same source. (For the record, M.:W.: Brother Shipe does not profit from the book sales—the sales are nearly at cost, and any additional funds are used by the Lodge of Research to fund more publications.)



The 2011 "Blue Book" is for Sale

The Blue Book is the list of Oklahoma Lodges with the location, meeting days and time of the Lodge, the name, address, and contact information of the Worshipful Master and Secretary, plus a list of all defunct Lodges, all the Grand Lodge Committees and members, Grand Lodge officers, Masonic Districts, and much more. It's a good idea to keep one in your car. To order a Blue Book, send a check for \$7.00 [\$5 + \$2 shipping] to Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044.

To join the Oklahoma Lodge of Research and receive the Member's price on M.:W.: Robert Shipe's book plus other membership benefits, print the form below, fill it out, and send it with a check for \$25 for the first year's dues to John E. King, Secretary, OLOR, 1128 N. Lee, Altus, OK 73521. If you wish to order the book at the same time (for the member's cost) add \$33 to the amount of your check.



OKLAHOMA LODGE OF RESEARCH MEMBERSHIP PETITION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

HOME LODGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP: _____

GRAND LODGE: _____

PAST MASTER: NO YES YEAR(S): _____

GRAND LODGE POSITION _____

OTHER MASONIC AFFILIATIONS: _____

WIFE'S NAME: _____

RESEARCH INTERESTS _____

Why should you come to the 2011 Lodge Leadership Workshop on June 10, 11, 12?



Network

Make new friends



Get practical experience with real-life situations

Find out what's going to happen next year



Learn close-combat fighting techniques (sort of)

Lay the foundation for a successful year



Develop more pride in Freemasonry!

See notice and registration form in this issue.

First Bookcases for the Learning Center Arrive

The first two bookcases for the new Learning Center in the Grand Lodge have arrived, thanks to the craftsmanship of Worshipful Brother Michael A. Fritts, and the able assistance of the Brethren who helped deliver them from Sand Springs.

They are beautiful examples of the woodworker's art. Locking glass door will help to preserve the books, and the shelves are fully adjustable. Brother Fritts is kindly donating his time and talents to the project for just the cost of the materials. Shelving of the books has started. Ultimately, bookcases will line the walls. The books, along with electronic media, computers, video and audio players, and study carrels will make the Center one of the outstanding Masonic study facilities in the United States.



Just before this electronic issue of The Oklahoma Mason was released, Most Worshipful William C. "Bill" Clure, Jr., Grand Master 1999, announced that he was giving his personal Masonic library to be a part of the Learning Center. It is a kind and gracious act, and we all greatly appreciate it.

You can help in the work of establishing one of the first Masonic Learning Centers in the United States. Send a contribution to Library & Museum, Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044. The Library and Museum is a 501-(c)-3 organization, and contributions are tax-deductible.



Thanks to Christopher Butler, a Doctoral candidate in anthropology, who is currently researching Native Americans and Freemasonry in the Grand Lodge Proceedings, for providing these photographs.

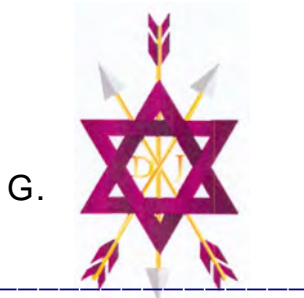
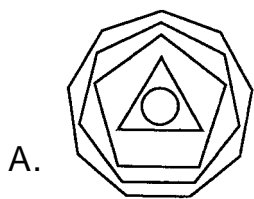
Secretary Workshops Meet Across State

As of this writing, 7 of the 9 workshops for Lodge Secretaries have been held at various locations across Oklahoma. The workshops, held by Grand Secretary David Allen with the able assistance of John Logan, Executive Director of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, help new secretaries understand the forms and procedures necessary to report Lodge activities and new members, as well as the process of applying for Matching Funds and Promises Matter Grants. Experienced Secretaries have a chance to sharpen their skills, learn about new developments, and network with other Secretaries.

So far, workshops have been held in Tulsa, Stillwater, Ardmore, Oklahoma City, Weatherford, Lawton, and McAlester. Additional workshops are scheduled for Woodward and Bartlesville. To date, 103 Secretaries representing 90 Lodges have attended.

LOGO-ISTICS

There are many Masonic and Masonically-related organizations, some of which are quite small. How many of these emblems or logos can you identify?



A. Scottish Rite Research Society B. White Shrine of Jerusalem C. Ye Antient Order of [Noble] Corks
D. Grand Tylers of Solomon E. Tall Cedars of Lebanon F. Order of Quetzalcoatl G. Order of the Secret Monitor H. Royal Ark Mariner I. Order of the Golden Chain