

# 722 Master Masons Raised at Guthrie May 12, 2012



The

## klahoma Mason

The Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma

# 503 Master Masons Raised at Muskogee September 15, 2012



## Grand Lodge 2012

Biographies Resolutions Information about attending Grand Lodge & More

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## From the Grand Master

Looking back over 2012, I simply do not have the words to tell you how happy and excited and humbled I feel. The Chance to Advance program has been more than I dreamed possible. To stand on the stage at the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple on May 12<sup>th</sup> and look out at 722 newly-raised Master Masons, and even more Brethren who had come to help our new Master Masons and to be part of the day was an experience like I have never had before. To look up into the seats at the Muskogee Civic Center and see more than 500 new Master Masons, and, again, even more of their Brethren who had come to help and share in the day simply blew me away. There is no exhilaration like that.

I know I actually had little to do with it. The credit goes to those who worked and planned the event, and even more to the Lodges who saw an opportunity for growth and to individual Brethren who saw a chance to share the Freemasonry they so much love with their best friends. And so in two days filled with hard work and emotion and education and excellent ritual, more than 1,200 men have joined the ranks of the Fraternity in Oklahoma. And the only credit I can claim is that I was smart enough to get out of the way and let the Craft work.

It is very important that we not let these new Master Masons slip through the cracks. Talk with them, offer to bring them to Lodge meetings. Share the fellowship and the fun of Freemasonry, and share its lessons as well. We belong to one of the most wonderful, rich, and rewarding organizations on the planet; be sure to welcome them and fully involve them.

There are two very good opportunities coming up quickly: the **TRI-STATE DEGREE CONFERRAL - OCTOBER 19 & 20** and the **DEDICATION AT THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL MUSEUM - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>** More information about both these events is in another part of this magazine. Take advantage of these opportunities to show our new Brothers something of the scope and depth of Oklahoma Masonry.

Let me encourage you to come to the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in Guthrie. You will find a list of the Resolutions, biographies of men available for office, and other information about attending in this issue. I really hope to see you there.

Finally, there are some things I want to take this opportunity to say. I have had the honor of working with some of the most dedicated men of our Fraternity. Every Grand Master will say that his Grand Lodge Officers were the best. Guys, "YOU" are the best. As we come to a close and our Grand Lodge Session is upon us, I can't tell you how honored I am to have been able to serve you as Grand Master. Thank you!

We are very fortunate to have a great Grand Lodge staff, and when you get an opportunity, tell them what a great job they are doing. They truly keep our Fraternity going.

The Chance to Advance Committee and my Masonic mentors, thanks for all you have done to make this year memorable.

And last, but NOT least to my beautiful wife, Kim. Where do I start but to say "I love you." Thank you for all you have done to make this year remarkable. I couldn't have done this without you by my side.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall L. Rogers".

Randall L. Rogers, Grand Master



# Available for Office

Brethren wishing to be elected to a Grand Lodge office start by filing a form with the Grand Secretary's office and paying a filing fee of \$100 (if the person receives at least 10% of the vote, the fee is returned to him.) The information for the biographical sketches below is taken from the material provided by the Brother on his filing form. Nothing appearing here should be considered advocacy for or against any individual. The biographical sketches are given in the order the filing forms were received in the Grand Lodge Office.

## Richard "Rick" Larry Allison

lives in Enid, Oklahoma. He serves as Grand Marshal this year. Brother Allison is co-owner of Enid Iron & Metal Company. A member of Garfield Lodge #501, where he was raised in 1978, he served the Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1984 and again in 2005. He is a



Perpetual Member of the Lodge, as well as a Perpetual Member of Coronado Lodge #56.

He served the Grand Lodge as Grand Tyler in 2011, as Grand Marshal in 2010, as Grand Pursuivant in 2009, and as District Deputy Grand Master in 1989 and 1990.

He holds the 33<sup>o</sup> in the Scottish Rite, has served as Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix, director of the 21<sup>st</sup> Degree Team, and assistant director of the 30<sup>th</sup> Degree.

In the York Rite, he is a member of Chapter #6, Royal Arch Masons; Council #48, Cryptic Masons; and Commandery #1, Knights Templar. He is also a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, the Royal Order of Scotland, and the Order of the Sacred White Buffalo.

He has served as State President of Oklahoma State Archery Association, as well as National Representative and Board member for the Association. He also serves on the Board of his church and on various committees for Enid Ambucs.

In answer to the question Why do you seek this office? Brother Allison wrote: *Hope to assist Masonry in Oklahoma to grow and be involved in our communities. I believe that Masonry should be and could be a visible presence in these communities.*

In answer to the question What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge officer? He wrote: *To pass on the idea of brotherhood among Masons. Brotherhood where one Mason will stand by another for support and comfort in time of need, be it physical, emotional, or spiritual. Also, I would like to support all Lodges in the goal of becoming very proficient in their work. I believe it instills pride to new Masons coming up and in older members alike.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If

you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to Brother Allison.

**D. Ridge Smith** and his wife Carol live in Yukon, Oklahoma. He is retired from the Federal Aviation Administration, Civil Aerospace Medicine Institute, where he designed and implemented instructional media and coordinated and supervised medical seminars for Aviation Medical Examiners.



He is a member of Yukon Lodge #90, which he served as Worshipful Master in 1992 and where he has served as Treasurer from 2002 to the present. He has served the Grand Lodge on numerous committees, and as Junior Grand Steward in 2004, Senior Grand Steward in 2005, Junior Grand Deacon in 2006 and Senior Grand Deacon in 2007. A member of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Valley, he serves as Director of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Degree team, and holds the KCCH designation. He belongs to Capitol Hill Chapter, Council and Commandery in the York Rite.

Worshipful Brother Smith is a member of the India Shrine Temple and Past President of the India Shrine Masonic Degree Team. He is Past Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star and six-times Past Patron of Yukon Chapter #245. He is Past Rainbow Dad of the Yukon Assembly and Past State Rainbow Dad. He is Past Chapter Dad of the Yukon DeMolay Chapter and holds the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor, the Advisor's Honor Key, the Zerubbabel Key, and the Rainbow Grand Cross of Color. He is an "A" Certificate Lecturer.

He is a member of Mensa and the Vietnam Helicopter Pilot's Association, is Past Chairman of the West Point Christian Church and the Mathematics Department of Kinnich High School. He has Masters Degrees from Central State University and the University of Oklahoma, and was awarded the Purple Heart.

In answer to the question Why do you seek this office?, he wrote: *I have the experience, the drive,*

*the intelligence and the imagination to lead Oklahoma Masonry to a greater and more relevant future in our communities, our state, and our nation.*

In answer to the question What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge Officer?, he wrote: *I have three major goals: One, to improve our membership support for both new and current members; Two, to improve our involvement in our local communities and our state. And, three, to promote ritualistic excellence in every Lodge.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to Brother Smith.

**Gene M. Rodgers** lives in Ft. Cobb, Oklahoma, where he farms. He is also a photo-journalist, served for 10 years as an engineer in radio and television broadcasting, and was the owner of a successful painting and remodeling company.



He was raised in 2004 at Cyril Lodge #504 where he has a perpetual membership. He is also a perpetual member of Carnegie Lodge #294, and a member of Western Star Lodge #138 and Mountain View Lodge #168.

He has served Carnegie Lodge as Worshipful Master in 2007 and 2008, and presently serves the Lodge as secretary. Worshipful Brother Rodgers has served the Grand Lodge as Grand Historian, Grand Flag Bearer, and as District Deputy Grand Master. He has also served on the College Fraternity Relations Committee.

He is a member of both the Guthrie and McAlester Valleys of the Scottish Rite, where he is Assistant Head Tyler and an officer in the Council of Kadosh. He is also a member of the Knights of St. Andrew of both Temples. He belongs to India Shrine, and is Master and founding member of Amber Grotto in Elgin, and is a Honorary Member of Alpha Chapter, Theta Alpha Omega College Fraternity. He is a member of Washington Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, where he has served as Marshall and Associate Patron. He is also a member of the United Scottish Clans of Oklahoma.

In answer to the question Why do you seek this office?, Brother Rodgers wrote: *I see a huge need for someone to take a true leadership role and admit that "Yes, we have a serious membership problem, both in obtaining new Master Masons and then keeping them after the fact." The 1500's and 1980's are gone, and what worked then is not working in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. I see a need for someone to encourage and motivate Lodges to reinvent themselves to stay alive*

*and relevant in this new century.*

In answer to the question What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge Officer?, he wrote: *20 years ago from now, I would like to have it known that Freemasonry is still alive and relevant, even in the small towns across Oklahoma, because of (1) one person. In all of the towns and Lodges where I have had influence they have grown and become relevant to their town, which makes men proud to say they are Masons. I want all of Oklahoma Masonry to be like Carnegie where, when the word "Mason" is mentioned, they respond with "they do a lot of good things in this town." In the Dollar Store folks will stop you and thank you for all the good we are doing. This could be done over the entire state with the right leadership.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to Brother Rodgers.

**John Edwin King**

lives in Altus, Oklahoma, with his wife, Vicki. He is retired from the Great Plains Area Technology Center. He holds an Associates of Science in Avionics from the University of the Air Force, and Associates of Arts from Western Oklahoma State College, a Bachelor of Science from Southern Illinois University, and post grad. studies at OU and OSU.



He was raised at Altus Lodge #62, and served the Lodge as Worshipful Master in 2005. He is also a member of Yeldell and Mangum Lodges, and served Mangum as Worshipful Master in 2010. He is Past Worshipful Master of the Oklahoma Lodge of Research, and now serves as Secretary of that Lodge.

Brother King has served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Master in 2009 and 2010, has served on various Grand Lodge committees, and was appointed Grand Representative to Rhode Island in 2011.

He holds the 33<sup>o</sup> from the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple, where he served as Commander of Kadosh in 2008. He is Director of the 7<sup>o</sup> team and Director of Supernumeraries. A member of the Altus York Rite Bodies, he has served as Grand Principle Sojourner, Grand Scribe, Grand King, Grand High Priest, and District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council.

He is a member of India Shrine Temple and the Altus Shrine Club. He is a member of Altus Chapter

#49, Order of the Eastern Star and has served as Worthy Patron. A member of the Altus Court #33, Order of the Amaranth, he has served as Royal Patron. He is also a member of the Philaethes Society, the Texas Lodge of Research, the Royal Order of Scotland, Allied Masonic Degrees, and Tinker Chapter #43, National Sojourners. He has served as President of the Altus Lions Club, Chairman and Assistant Scout Master of Troop 212, Altus and President of the Electronics Instructors Association.

In answer to the question Why do you seek this office? Brother King wrote: *To lead the Lodges and Craft by serving the Lodges and Craft.*

In answer to the question What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge Officer? He wrote: *To do the job I was elected to do to the best of my ability.* Brother King has received the Order of the Arrow from the Boy Scouts and several military service medals.

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to Brother King.

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## **Up-Coming Events You Won't Want to Miss**

### **TRI-STATE DEGREE CONFERRAL - OCTOBER 19 & 20**

This is a first for Oklahoma. Brethren from New Mexico and South Carolina are coming to Guthrie. New Mexico will perform the Fellowcraft Degree according to their ritual, and South Carolina will present the Entered Apprentice Degree according to South Carolinian ritual. Then the Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Team will present the Master Mason Degree. The Degrees will be staged in the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. All Master Masons welcome. There is no fee for the event.

**Friday, October 19 - 7:00 P.M. Entered Apprentice Degree followed by fellowship**  
**Saturday, October 20 10:00 A.M. Fellowcraft Degree 1:30 P.M. Master Mason Degree**  
**Evening - those who wish will go to Bricktown**

### **DEDICATION AT THE WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL MUSEUM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>**

Brother Will Rogers is the most famous Oklahoman and Oklahoma Mason who has ever lived. At 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Grand Lodge will dedicate a memorial engraved stone tablet at the Will Rogers Museum in Claremore, Oklahoma. I hope many Oklahoma Masons will be able to attend the event, which will be followed by a tour of the Museum.



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## **GRAND MASTER — GRAND LECTURER SPECIAL SCHOOL**

A special School of Instruction will be held at the Grand Lodge building in Guthrie on the Thursday and Friday before Grand Lodge. The school will start at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and run until 9:00 P.M. that evening. School will resume at 9:00 A.M. on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup>, and end at noon so that participants can go to the Scottish Rite Temple for the opening of the Friday afternoon Session.

This is a great opportunity to check out for your "C" and "A" Certificate cards for 2013.



# Available for Election to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma

**Ronald J. Chambers** is the Senior Grand Warden of Oklahoma. He lives in Broken Arrow. He is retired from American Airlines, where he specialized in non-destructive testing inspection. He subsequently started a sold a pest control business and a small engine repair business.

He has served on the Education Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Matching Funds and Promises Matter Committees of the Charity Foundation. He is a member of Delta Lodge #425, which he served as Worshipful Master in 1987 and where he has served as Treasurer since 2003.

In answer to the question What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation? he wrote: *Leadership and business experience, the desire to see that we can be of service not only to our Lodges and members but also to our communities as well.*

In answer to the question How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? he wrote: *By giving our Lodges an opportunity to become a more visible part of our communities.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to R.:W.: Brother Chambers.

**Robert G. Davis** lives in Guthrie, Oklahoma. He is well known as a Masonic speaker and researcher, and the author of the book *Understanding Manhood in America*. He works as the General Secretary of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. He is Past Master of Garfield Lodge #501, Albert Pike Lodge #162, and Guildhall Lodge #553.

He is the Secretary of the Charity Foundation and has helped in the development of every program the Foundation currently has.

In charitable/non-profit experience outside the Fraternity he is Past President of the Lions Club, Past President of the Guthrie Education Foundation, served two terms on the Guthrie City Council, is Past President of the Enid Arts and Humanities Council among many other activities.

In answer to the question What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation? he wrote: *A long track of leadership experience with the Foundation, the fraternity, and many other community organizations; a good spokesperson for Masonic charities; and a genuine concern for the benevolent obligations we have to our members and their families. I am a strong advocate of worthy public and private partnerships with our charitable causes.*

In answer to the question How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? he wrote: *I firmly believe it to be the best public voice for Oklahoma Masonry because of its high visibility and public partnerships. I also believe it represents to our members, their wives and widows, the tangible benefit of care and relief whenever these needs arise. I want the Foundation to grow and expand its wonderful mission and service to Oklahoma Masons.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to W.: Brother Davis.

**Richard E. Massad** lives in Oklahoma City. He is Past Grand Master of the State of Oklahoma. He is a business manager with Diffie Motor Cars.

He is a member of Oklahoma City Lodge #36 (which he served as Worshipful Master in 1983), McAlester Lodge #550, and India Lodge #551.

In answer to the question How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? he wrote: *Continue to increase funds to members and their families through Lodge charitable work, increase funds for scholarships, increase availability to matching funds amounts to Lodges, authorize partnering with our Appendant Bodies and the Lodges.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to W.: Brother Massad.

The question does not apply to M.:W.: Brother Massad.

**Lanny R. Sander** served as Grand Master of the State of Oklahoma in 2000. He is a farmer/rancher in Seiling, Oklahoma, where he operated over 1,250 acres of range and farm land. He has bred and acquired a herd of registered Beefmaster cattle, some of whom have been recognized as breed trait leaders.

In charitable/non-profit experience outside the Fraternity, he is a past Seiling City Councilman, past Member of the Seiling Community Hospital Board, and past Member and Deacon of the First Christian Church Board.

He is a member of Seiling Lodge #495, India Lodge #551, Watonga Lodge #552, Ringwood Lodge #554, Coronado Lodge #56, and Woodward Lodge #189. He served Seiling Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1968 and 1970 and as Secretary from 2001 to the present.

In answer to the question What strengths of experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation? he wrote: *The experience gained from managing my farm and ranch for 55 years along with the years of representing the Craft at Grand Lodge and as Executive Commissioner of the Masonic Service Association of North America.*

In answer to the question How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? he wrote: *By assisting local Lodges with programs to promote Masonry in their communities and continue and expand those programs that spotlight the many Masonic Charities supported by the Masonic Charity Foundation.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to M.:W.: Brother Sander.

**E. Keith Liles** served as Grand Master of Oklahoma in 2003. He lives in Oklahoma City. He is retired from Gulfstream AeroSpace, Inc.

He is a member of Westwood Lodge #512, Myrtle Lodge #145, India Lodge #551 and Mustang Lodge #407. He served Westwood Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1968 and India Lodge as Worshipful Master in 2009.

In answer to the question What strengths of experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation? he wrote: *50 years in Masonic Fraternity and past Secretary of a Lodge and being a Past Grand Master in 2003. And to represent the Masons of Oklahoma.*

In answer to the question How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma? he wrote: *By understanding our Masonic Family's needs and assisting needs and to help them to overcome their problems.*

According to legislation passed in 2007, candidates for office must answer this question: "If you have ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry, provide the following information [dates of suspension and reinstatement]." The question does not apply to M.:W.: Brother Liles.

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*The Grand Lodge session will be the last opportunity to buy one of Kimberly Rogers' pins. Net proceeds benefit cancer research. \$10*



## Resolutions to be Voted Upon at Grand Lodge

The Masonic Law of Oklahoma is changed by Resolutions, submitted by the members of the Craft and adopted by vote at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication. A 2/3 majority vote is required for adoption. Because the Resolutions are intended to amend a legal document, they are written in language which can be a little confusing. Because of that, for many years it has been the tradition to print a “simple English” version in *The Oklahoma Mason Magazine*.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The versions printed here are for convenience only, the actual language of the Resolutions, printed in the Yellow Book, sent to the Lodges and distributed to everyone attending Grand Lodge, has legal force. Also, these descriptions are not intended to be advocacy for or against any Resolution and should not be so considered.

**RESOLUTION #1** deals with candidates for Masonic office (not candidates for the Degrees of Masonry). Currently, it is against our law for anyone to campaign for office by handing out brochures, hanging posters, etc. This Resolution adds using electronic media to the forbidden campaign practices. [Amends Section 201]

**RESOLUTION #2** deals with the number of members necessary to open and do business. There is considerable confusion on the question and this Resolution simplifies the language and process, requiring 7 Master Masons if Lodge membership is 100 or more; 5 Master Masons if Lodge membership is 50 to 99; and 4 Master Masons if Lodge membership is less than 50. [Amends Section U306]

**RESOLUTION #3** addresses the question of Masonic titles for past officers and their limitations (one should not introduce themselves as Past Junior Steward of the Lodge, for example). [Expands and clarifies Section 215.]

**RESOLUTION #4** prohibits any Lodge from displaying any type of political sign on its premises or allowing any political function to take place on its premises. The prohibition does not forbid a Lodge from being used as an official government polling place.

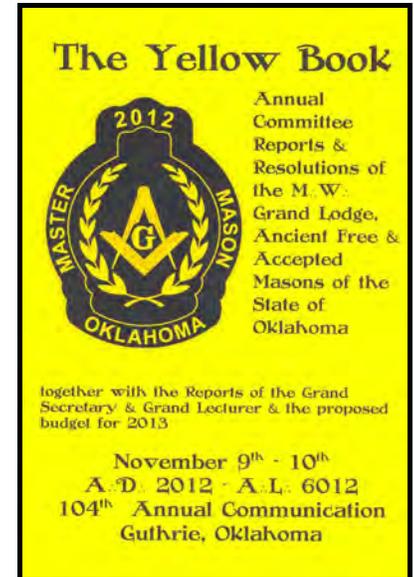
**RESOLUTION #5** would allow the Lodge to do business in any Degree, so that Entered Apprentices and/or Fellowcrafts can attend the meetings. [Amends Section U 308.]

**RESOLUTION #6** relates to the monthly report which Lodge Secretaries send to the Grand Lodge. The Resolution provides that the report only needs to be sent in quarterly, unless there is membership activity in a given month—in which case it should be reported that month. [Amends Section 608 B]

**RESOLUTIONS #7A, 7B, 7C** In places, the language in the Constitution and Code confuses the terms “annual dues” and “per capita.” These Resolutions correct the language in those places. The correction only changes the language, it does not change the way anything actually works. [Amends Section 501, Section 502, and Section 503]

**RESOLUTION #8** Specifies that the Grand Master cannot give a dispensation for a Lodge to confer more than 2 Degrees on a candidate in the same calendar day. [Amends Section U 414.]

**RESOLUTION #9** Currently, if a Brother who is not a member of your Lodge wants to visit your Lodge,



he cannot do so if any member of your Lodge, present at the meeting, objects. If such an objection is made, the Worshipful Master must exclude the visitor. The Resolution would remove the right to object to the presence of the visitor. [Amends Section U 313.]

**RESOLUTION #10** Clarifies, but does not change, the means of dividing the interest income on Perpetual memberships between the Lodge and the Grand Lodge. [Amends Section 502]

**RESOLUTION #11** Moves the filing deadline date for those wishing to run for the Charity Foundation to the same deadline date as for those wishing to run for Grand Lodge office. [Amends Section 706.]

**RESOLUTION #12** Adds "To file all local, state, or federal governmental reports." to the description of the duties of the Treasurer. [Amends Section U 223 C.]

**RESOLUTION #13** Prohibits the use of any electronic communications device in open Lodge, unless it is needed for lodge business, instruction, or education. [new section]

**RESOLUTION #14** Moves the date of Grand School to just before Grand Lodge. [Amends Article IV, Section 402.]

**RESOLUTION #15** Clarifies that a 28-day waiting period does not apply to applications for affiliation. [Amends Section U 405.]

**RESOLUTION #16** Eliminates the 6-month waiting period between the date of a Master Mason Degree and the time the man can petition the concordant or androgynous Bodies. [Amends Section 805.]



*"Fighting Hunger...  
Feeding Hope"™*



## Feeding the Hungry – We Made a Difference

Grand Master Rogers continued Grand Master Almy's support of the Food Banks of Oklahoma. Lodges raised funds, they were matched by the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, and the money was donated to the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma or the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma, depending on the location of the Lodge. In that way, the funds donated helped the local area of the Lodge.

94 Lodges participated, raising a total of \$33,840 with Matching Funds. The largest donation came from Akdar Lodge #555—\$1,629.00. Guildhall #553 made the largest per capita donation of \$16.67 per member.



An exciting part of the program was participation in the Ride Against Childhood Hunger sponsored by Channel 9 television. It featured a motorcycle ride from Oklahoma City to Stillwater. Advertisizing for the ride included the Square & Compasses and a note that the Freemasons were sponsors of the Ride.

There were 280 riders, and 18 Masons including several Grand Lodge officers.

It was a great time for a great cause.

# How to Attend Grand Lodge

Any Oklahoma Master Mason is Welcome to Attend Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge meets Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, starting with an open program at 1:00 PM. There will be educational break-out sessions after that meeting.

Friday Evening at 6:00 is the Banquet in Honor of the Grand Master, hosted by the Museum & Library of the Grand Lodge. Tickets are \$25. See the box below. After the Banquet there will be an Awards and



Masonic law isn't set in stone. Resolutions to amend the law are voted on at Grand Lodge

Recognition open meeting in the Auditorium. The Youth Orders will be honored, people will bring greetings, and the Oklahoma Medal of Honor recipients will be announced. You can register for Grand Lodge starting 10:00 AM Friday morning at the Temple, or Saturday morning if you wish.

Grand Lodge will open at 8:30 AM on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> in the Auditorium. Only Master Masons with credentials or proxies can speak in debate or vote, but all MASTER MASONS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. Voting for officers will begin at 7:00 AM in the Ballroom of the Temple and close at 10:00 AM. Voting on resolutions during the session. Apron required—paper aprons will be on sale in the Atrium.

The session will adjourn in the afternoon, and resume at 6:00 PM for the Installation of the 2013 Officers. Installation is open and all are welcome to attend.



Join us Friday Evening for the Museum & Library Banquet in Honor of the Grand Master

Order tickets for \$25 each by sending check (payable to Grand Lodge of Oklahoma) cash, or money order to P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044

Tickets will be held for you to pick up at the Scottish Rite Temple on Friday



FRONTIER LODGE #48  
 IN ANTICIPATION OF HIS ELECTION &  
 INSTALLATION AS  
 MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER  
 OF THE M.:W.: GRAND LODGE  
 AF&AM OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
 CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE  
 APRON PRESENTATION CEREMONY  
 HONORING OUR DISTINGUISHED  
 BROTHER  
**BRADLEY RICKELMAN**  
 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2012  
 2:30 PM  
 SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE AUDITORIUM  
 GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

To reserve a room in the Inn at the Temple for Friday night—Cost is \$10 Reserve a room by e-mailing the Innkeepers at [innkeep@att.net](mailto:innkeep@att.net)

# GUTHRIE

# MUSKOGEE

## A Tale of Two Cities

The cover of this issue tells the story. In the Grand Master's Chance to Advance program, 722 new Master Masons were raised on May 12 in Guthrie, and 503 new Master Masons were raised on September 15 in Muskogee. Every bit as exciting, at each Conferral there were more Master Masons there to assist and participate than there were new Masons raised. It was a time of great fellowship and fraternalism!



The auditorium at the Guthrie Temple was filled!

As you can see, it took a ton of paperwork, lots of sweat, and even more determination, but thanks to planning and everyone's cooperation, both Conferrals went smoothly. Here are a few interesting facts.



Candidates and Members in the Atrium

Brethren flew in to Oklahoma to complete their degrees from New York, Tennessee, North Carolina, and four from Texas.

At the Guthrie Conferral, the "oldest" Entered Apprentice had received the Degree in 1974. At the Muskogee Conferral, the "oldest" Entered Apprentice had received the Degree in 1972.

2,400 meals were prepared and served.

Candidates came from 199 different towns.

### Lodges with 20 Candidates or More

- Mustang Lodge - 61 Candidates
- India Lodge - 36 Candidates
- Miami Lodge - 30 Candidates
- Owasso Lodge - 27 Candidates
- Siloam Lodge - 25 Candidates
- Muskogee Lodge - 22 Candidates



Lots of paper work

- Akdar Lodge - 39 Candidates
- Allen Lodge - 32 Candidates
- Pilgrim-Rock Lodge - 28 Candidates
- Wilburton Lodge - 27 Candidates
- Will Rogers Lodge - 24 Candidates
- Catoosa Lodge - 22 Candidates
- Moore Lodge - 20 Candidates



"Lodging" for the day.



**"We had a GREAT time!"**





**"I'M BUSTER BROWN, I LIVE IN A SHOE;  
THAT'S MY DOG TIG; LOOK FOR HIM IN THERE, TOO."**

Those of us old enough can remember the young boy's voice on the radio, followed by "plunk your magic twanger, Froggie" —whereupon a twanging sound was heard and Froggie the Gremlin appeared. Buster Brown entertained generations of kids, while Buster Brown shoes shod many young feet. But not everyone knows that there were several "real" Buster Browns (young men, usually short in stature) who played the part at fairs, store promotions, and parades across the United States).

In other words, not everyone knows about Brother Ansley.

William Edmond Ansley was born in 1888 and died in Hugo, Oklahoma, in 1972. Only 42 inches tall, he played the part of Buster Brown from 1908 until his retirement in 1935. Known as "The World's Smallest Mason" he was a devoted member of Hugo Lodge. In the photograph, the Lodge is loaning the Grand Master a group photo including Brother Ansley for display in the Grand Lodge museum. The other photos show the front and back of his tombstone, carved in the shape of a shoe. As it says on the back of the stone, "He was quite a character."

