

VOLUME LXVI

August-September, 1998

NUMBER 5

THE OKLAHOMA MASON

GUTHRIE, OKLA.



Farewell to a Worthy Brother.
See story, page 3



Grand Master Garry D. Odom and Robert G. Davis,
President of the Masonic Charity Foundation sign
historic agreement. See story, page 9



**Masonic support for charity and education has traveled a
long path. See story, page 4**

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August - September, 1998

110 YEARS of MASONIC CHARITY IN OKLAHOMA

Sometimes it is easier to see the development of a tradition if we look at it on a time line. The chronology of Masonic philanthropy shows an interesting story.

1888 - November 6th & 7th

Fourteenth Annual Communication of the **Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory**. A resolution was presented and adopted as follows:

Resolved, That a Special Commission be appointed to devise a plan for the systematic education of Masonic orphans, raise funds therefore, and secure a legal title to a suitable body of land on which to erect a Masonic Orphanage for the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory.

1889

Fifteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory. A report by M.W. Joseph Murrow that a letter had been sent to all the Lodges asking for contributions to the Home.

1898 - August 9th

Address by Grand Master James A. Scott to the Grand Lodge meeting at Vinita, stressing the importance of work on establishing the Children's Home.



The first children served at the Masonic orphanage

1900

Brother Henry Furman is made Financial Agent for the Home's Fund. The records of the Indian Territory Grand Lodge communications over the next several years show that he dedicated great amounts of time, personal sacrifice, and resources to the project. He seems to have single-handedly gotten the project off the ground.

February 13th and 14th

M.W. Brother William L. Eagleton in the Eighth Annual Communication of the **Oklahoma Territory Grand Lodge**, announces the need for a Home for widows and orphans, and suggests that it be financed by a per-capita tax on Members. The motion is adopted. Other resolutions provide that the Grand Secretary will collect and the Grand Treasurer will deposit the funds. A Board is appointed.

1902 - August

M.W. Henry Furman, G.M., reports to the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory on the progress in collecting the fund for the Home in Indian Territory. the Grand Master adds: *Can you, as a self-respecting Mason, see this work going on and take no part in it? The great secret of happiness in this life is to make others happy. If you have done so you know that this is true. If you have never tried to do so then indeed has your progress in Masonry been in vain and the labors of your Brethren in your behalf been for naught.* The Trustees of the Orphan's Home Fund made a report showing the fund at \$10,445.17.

1905 - August 8th and 9th

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge held in Tulsa, it is reported that the endowed fund of \$50,000 has been completed.

1907 - August 13th and 14th

Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory at South McAlester. At the Annual Communication, the Masonic Home Committee reports that no offers for the Home location have been made. An offer is then read from Atoka for a temporary location for the Home in an existing facility. The proposal includes an offer from the Eastern Star to charge a per-capita tax on its members to support the Home. The Grand Master then appointed the first Board of Control.



The First Masonic Home at Atoka

J. G. Ralls Atoka
William Busby McAlester
Henry M. Furman Ada
Lewis R. Nash Ft. Gibson

1908 - January 1st

Home opens, with Brother George C. Sanders as Superintendent

September

Mrs. Emma Telle named Matron in charge of the Home.

1909 - February 9th

The Oklahoma Territory Grand Lodge receives the report from Brother W. L. Eagleton that the \$50,000 endowment fund has been accomplished,

February 10th

The two Grand Lodges are united to form the **Grand Lodge of Oklahoma**.

A committee consisting of William Busby, Joseph Ralls and C. L. Reeder was appointed to find a permanent location for the Home.

May 18th

The Committee visits the "Darlington Reservation" and investigates the possibilities. They were greatly impressed by what they saw.

Later in that year

William Busby visits Washington and secures the introduction and passage of an Act of Congress which allows the Fraternity to purchase the Darlington property at the appraised value.

1910

At the Annual Communication, the report of the committee informs the Grand Lodge that the space at Darlington is ample for the present and future needs of the Home. There are several cottages which can be used for elderly Master Masons or their widows. They also announce their hope to build a college on the property.

May 10th

The Home is removed from Atoka to Darlington.

1913

The Grand Chapter, O.E.S., votes funds to build a chapel on the Darlington property.



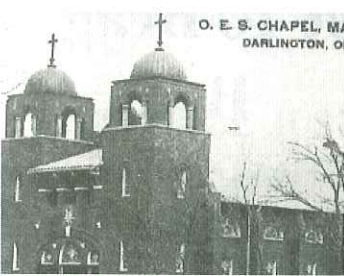
Boy's Dormitory, Darlington

1919

Grand Master O. Lonzo Conner suggests that there should be a separate Home for the



Girls Dormitory, Darlington



OES Chapel, Darlington

1920 - February 9th

At a meeting of the Home Board of Control, an offer is made by the Scottish Rite Consistory at Guthrie to allow the Grand Lodge to use the Guthrie property as the Home.

Materials are developed and sent to each of the Lodges, explaining the pros and cons of moving the Home. Each Lodge is instructed to make the information available to the members and to vote on whether or not to move the Home when it holds its annual election of officers. The results are to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge.

1921 - February 22nd

At the Annual Communication, a vote on moving the Home is taken. The results are: Guthrie - 876; Muskogee - 208; Darlington - 10; Norman - 1. It was then decided to make the vote unanimous in favor of Guthrie.

1922

Hawk and Parr, Architects, was selected as the firm to design the Children's Home, and later the Home for the Aged as well. Campbell and Price, of Oklahoma City, was selected as the contractor.

September 9th

The Home moves to Guthrie

1924 - February

Announcement is made of an agreement with the State of Oklahoma to sell the Darlington property to the state to be used for a hospital for the treatment of drug and liquor addicts.

1925 - February 24th

After commenting on how well the children in the Home are doing in Guthrie, Grand Master Henry S. Johnston commented on the importance of establishing a separate Home for the Aged rather than

continuing to house the two populations together.

The old people must be gotten out of the Home. Elderly men smoke and chew and swear and elderly men and elderly women both grouch and complain, and the very playfulness which makes a boy the delight of a parent, the sunbeam of a home, renders him an object of aversion to some elderly persons who are not related to the boy or interested in him, especially when his noise and play clashes with their past habits of life or the condition of nerves of the elderly persons.



The Guthrie Children's Home

1926

Work started on new Masonic Home for the Aged in Guthrie.

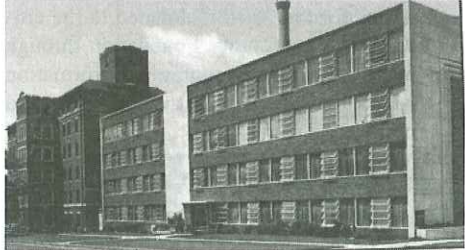
1927 - July

Masonic Home for the Aged is occupied. Brother William A. Hopkins and his wife are engaged to serve as managers of the facility.

1928 - February 15th

By motion made and passed by the Grand Lodge Session, the Home for the Aged is given the official name of the Charles L. Reeder Dormitory.

Also, a committee is formed to work with the Home Board of Control to create an outreach program to offer help and guidance to young men and women when they graduate from the Masonic Children's Home.



The old Guthrie Home for the Aged, with the newer 4-story annex in the foreground

1930 - February 12th

The Grand Lodge approves a motion directing the Incorporation of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, and authorizing it to receive and disburse funds and receive and dispose of property. Organization begins on July 9th. Lew Wentz is first President, Rufus Renfrew is first Secretary.

1931 - February 10th

A report is received by the Grand Lodge, documenting the establishment of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma in much the form it operates today. Membership in the Homes: Children's Home, 118; Home for the Elderly, 88.

1934

The Children's Home adds vocational training facilities; Masonic Print Shop established.

1935 - July 10th

Grand Master Joseph Drouot establishes the permanent endowment fund of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma

1936

Vocational Building erected at Children's Home by Royal Arch Masons.

1942

Assets of Masonic Charity Foundation exceed \$200,000.

1944 - June 21st

The Masonic cemetery at Darlington is removed to Guthrie.

1950 - 1954

Programs continue to expand at both facilities. The Children's Home adds additional vocational training; the Home for the Aged increases hospital and nursing-home services.

1955 - January 19th

Because additional space is needed for the Home for the Aged, ground is broken for a four-story Annex to the Home, together with a new Grand Lodge Building.

1957 - February 14th

On recommendation of Grand Master W. Ralph Howard, the Children's Home is opened to all children in need, regardless of Masonic affiliation.

1964

Assets of Masonic Charity Foundation pass \$5,000,000

1970 - February 12th

Due to changes in I.R.S. regulations, changes are made in the Articles of Incorporation of the Masonic Charity Foundation. The Grand Lodge Trustees ratify the changes. Serious discussion begins about the necessity of building a new Home for the Aged or completely remodeling the existing facilities.

1974 - February 14th

The Research and Development Committee of the Grand Lodge formally recommends that a new Home for the Aged be constructed. Further, as changes in the state's foster children program have reduced the need for the Children's Home, and there are now only 10 children being served, they recommend that the Home be

(110 Years of Masonic Charity in Oklahoma Cont. from page 5)

closed and the children be cared for in an alternative facility.

1975 - February 12th

The Grand Lodge votes to build a new Home for the Aged in Guthrie.



The new Masonic Home

1978

With only three children remaining in the Children's Home, the Home is closed and the children placed in foster homes.

March 13th

Members are moved from the old Home for the Aged to the new Home.

1979 - October 1st

All charitable activity of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma is transferred to the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma. Assets of the Foundation exceed \$13,000,000. First professional office with full staff is established. Prior to this time, the Secretaries had worked from their own homes or offices and without the assistance of staff.

1983

The Lodge Matching Fund Program is established to help local Lodges meet the charitable needs of their communities. The Foundation's first computer is purchased. With programming developed in-house, the computer serves the Homes, the Foundation, and the Grand Lodge. Remote terminals add to the efficiency of the program.



Matching Funds help Lodges make a difference

1984

The Foundation adopts a professionally-designed, governmentally approved retirement plan for its nearly 100 employees. Also, the Foundation builds a new wing on the Home for the Aged to house a new laundry, storage facilities for Members,

and a mechanical shop. The Masonic Charity Foundation joins the with Oklahoma Grand Lodge in supporting the National Hospital Visitation Program of the Masonic Service Association. Through this effort, hospital counselors are currently in service in both U.S. Veteran's Hospitals and in some state Veterans Hospitals.

1985

The "Partners in Prevention" program in conjunction with Prevent Blindness Oklahoma is established whereby local Lodges assist with screening for vision problems in school children and the elderly.

1990

Ground is broken for the permanent offices of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma.

1991

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma establishes the Masonic Leadership Institute for the purposes of developing programs in Masonic training and education.

May 25th

Cornerstone of the Foundation's offices is laid.

1993

Support of OETA begins. Foundation matches funds and accumulates the totals, working with OETA to make sure the funds are credited toward our sponsorships.

1994

Oklahoma Masonry, through the Charity Foundation, becomes a major supporter of the Oklahoma State Teacher of the Year program.

1995

Charity Foundation serves and processing agent from Masonic contributions from around the world to help victims of the Murrah building Bombing. The old 6-story Home for the Aged is donated to the citizens of Logan County. Foundation, through Matching Funds, encourages the formation of local partnerships between Lodges and other organizations.



The Partnership with the State Dept. of Education lets us reward students for excellence

1996

Assets of Charity Foundation reach \$34.8 million. Teacher of the Year program strengthened.

1998 - July 11

Grand Lodge Trustees and Foundation Board sign agreement transferring remaining charitable and educational activities to the Foundation.

Not To Brag, But...



...for a fairly small state, Oklahoma has a number of national leaders of Masonic organizations at the moment. We thought you might like to know (not so you can boast to Masons from other states, of course--no Mason would do that--but just so you could feel the quiet, warm glow of superiority).

Most Illustrious Joe R. Manning, Jr., PGM, business manager of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, was recently installed as the Grand Sovereign of the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders, United States of America, Mexico and the Philippines. The Red Cross of Constantine is an Order in the York Rite tradition, with limited membership by invitation.

Worshipful Brother Robert G. Davis, General Secretary of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Bodies is International President of the International Philalethes Society, the largest Masonic Research Society in the world. He is also a member of the Steering Committee of the Masonic Information Center in Silver Spring, Maryland, and a deputy of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay. He is also the only Mason, not a Past Grand Master, to be awarded the Paul Horne Medal for Masonic Service by the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Most Eminent Kenneth D. Buckley is Grand Master General of the Convent General, Knight of the York Cross of Honour. To become a KYCH one must have served as the state head of each of the York Rite Bodies. To become the Grand Master General of the national organization is, then, a distinctive honor which indicates a life of Masonic service.

Congratulations to all these Brethren!

The Lodge & The Oklahoma Mason

How to get stuff in the Magazine

It's easy to get announcements and other material in The Oklahoma Mason!

Like any magazine, we are looking for good material all the time. We make a specialty of telling the world what Lodges are doing. You don't have to be a writer, we'll be happy to work from a set of notes and make a story from it.

THERE ARE JUST A FEW RESTRAINTS YOU NEED TO BE AWARE OF.

TIME & DEADLINES

It takes more lead time than you might think, because of the constraints of typesetting, printing, etc.

Generally speaking here are the deadlines.

to be in this issue	we need it by
February-March	January 12
April-May	March 12
June-July	May 12
August-September	July 12
October-November	September 12
December-January	November 12

Those deadlines are necessary because we must get the materials to the printer on the 20th of the month to get a publication date near the first of the following month. (Sometimes we have to delay an issue because of needed information. The issues before and after Grand Lodge are often late because of the dates and information involved. Being only two or three days late to the printer can result in a two-week delay in the actual delivery of the magazine.)



AS AN EXAMPLE:

If you want a notice about a Lodge fund-raising dinner to be held on November 18, we need information in the

offices of the Oklahoma Mason no later than September 12th.

WHAT CAN YOU PUT IN THE MAGAZINE?

- ☺ Announcements of Lodge fund-raisers, dinners, contests, tournaments, trips, etc.
- ☺ Stories about Lodge charitable and/or educational events and activities. Partnerships, etc.
- ☺ Stories about special Degrees
- ☺ Just about anything else of interest to Masons.

Photographs are always welcome. They can be color or black and white, but they need to have good contrast and be clear in order to reproduce.

WHAT DO WE NOT PRINT?

- ☹ Photographs and stories about 50-year pin presentations (there are just too many, instead, we list all the recipients once a year)
- ☹ Photographs of Lodge officer installations (again, there are just too many of them)
- ☹ Stories which attack people.
- ☹☹ Stories and photographs about someone being initiated, passed or raised, unless you include a piece of paper, signed by the person, in which he gives permission for the story to be run. This is in accordance with a resolution adopted a couple of years ago at Grand Lodge.

HOW IT WORKS

If you send in a notice about an upcoming Lodge event, the date is put in the Masonic Calendar and the notice appears in Notes & Notices. If you send in a story about a charitable or educational activity, it usually appears in The Craft in the World. If you send in a story about a Lodge activity, it usually appears in From the Quarry. If

you send in a story about something the Lodge has done to help a fellow Mason, it usually appears in To Be a Brother.

HOW TO SEND IT IN

Mail the information to
The Oklahoma Mason
P.O. Box 1019
Guthrie, OK 73044

If you prefer, you can fax it to (405) 282-3244 (PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR ORIGINAL IS CLEAR AND SHARP. Don't try to fax something written in pencil on grey paper, for example. DO NOT TRY TO FAX PHOTOGRAPHS.)

Please don't send in photographs you need to have back. They go through lots of hands and we can't promise they will get back to you.

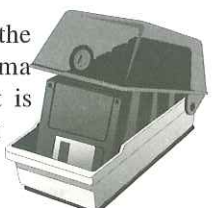
PLEASE SEND IN INFORMATION BY MAIL OR FAX<DO NOT CALL IN A STORY OR ANNOUNCEMENT> To do so is to rely on the memory of the Editor, a broken reed indeed.

WHEN WILL IT BE IN?

That depends on the space available. Some issues - the issue in which those available for Grand Lodge office are announced, the issue in which resolutions are printed, and the issue in which 50-year pins are announced - can be very tight on space. In that case, announcements of events will be printed, but stories about charitable or other activity may be held for the next issue.

IF YOU WANT TO WRITE AN ARTICLE power to you! We'll be happy to take a look at it. We also reserve the right to edit it, primarily as a matter of space (500 words is pushing the maximum length). It's fine to explore ideas, but don't attack. Unless it's intended to be humorous, articles along the lines of "those no-good bums in the lodge next door" won't make publication.

The magazine is the magazine of Oklahoma Masonry. Your input is more than welcome, it is essential.



FROM THE QUARRY

NOTES FROM AND ABOUT THE MASONIC FAMILY

Grand Master Garry D. Odom presented a plaque to Brother Melvin Miller to commemorate Brother Miller's 75 years in Masonry. Born in 1901, Brother Miller is a member of Pilgrim-Rock Lodge in Tulsa.



From Tyson Gutherless, Recipient of a Grand Lodge Scholarship "Dear Grand Lodge of Oklahoma: I would just like to thank you for your interests in the future of your community. Your scholarship is greatly appreciated and will be used to further my education and give back to the community what it has given to me. The Masonic Lodge is a leader among organizations and I feel all organizations should look up to the Lodge as a great example of leadership and community involvement. Thank you, Tyson Gutherless"

From Poteau Lodge # 46 From June 19 to the 4th of July, members of Poteau Lodge manned

their fireworks stand, raising money for the Lodge's charitable projects. As the photograph shows, it was a first-class stand, well-constructed and decorated.



"We feel fortunate to have been able to run a discounted price fireworks stand this year," said Jimmy Akins, Master of the Lodge. "Our reduced price family packs were a real bargain, plus the profit comes back to the people of the county, doubled. [the funds are used for charitable projects and matched through the Charity Foundation. ed.] Where else can people support charitable causes, and do it by having a safe, fun holiday enjoying fireworks? Everyone came out a winner."

From Bethany Lodge # 529 The Brethren of Bethany Lodge have formed the Fellowcraft Club. The Fellowcraft Club is composed of

members of Bethany Lodge, their families, friends, and children. The purpose is fellowship, and anyone is welcome to attend. The club meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturday mornings at the lodge. The meetings are at 10:00 AM and feature breakfast.



The club also takes trips together, most recently attending the Azalea Festival at Muskogee. It is a fine idea, Brethren. Fellowship is an essential part of Masonry and you're doing a good job.

SHARE WHAT YOUR LODGE IS DOING TO PROMOTE FELLOWSHIP. BETHANY LODGE HAS THE FELLOWCRAFT CLUE, EDMOND LODGE HAS AN OPEN BREAKFAST ON ALTERNATE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY MORNINGS--WRITE TO US AND TELL US WHAT YOUR LODGE IS DOING SO WE CAN SHARE IT. WRITE TO FELLOWSHIP, THE OKLAHOMA MASON, BOX 1019, GUTHRIE, OK 73044



The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION of OKLAHOMA

A Historic Partnership Gets Stronger!

Masonry is fraternalism, education and charity.

In the 1700's, all three were purely local, with the local Lodge responsible for care of elderly and infirm Masons and their families. The disadvantage was that if economic hard times hit an area, the Lodges were often unable to meet the burden. Not long after the establishment of the Grand Lodge system, Grand Lodges started charity funds for the relief of distressed Brethren and their widows.

Masonic Charity in Oklahoma has a long and active history (see article entitled 110 Years of Masonic Charity in Oklahoma). We are fortunate in having the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, a separate organization, as required by tax law, with a strong endowed fund. Other states are struggling to create such endowed funds now. It is an uphill battle, and all Oklahoma Masons can be thankful that our Masonic forefathers had the vision to create the fund many years ago.

In 1979, the charitable activities of the Grand Lodge were transferred to the Foundation, a reasonable thing to do in view of the fact that the Foundation had the resources for--and the legal and moral mission of--charity and educational activities.

Now, in an agreement signed by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma and the Board of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma on July 11, 1998, the few education activities which have developed in the interim have been transferred to the Foundation.

The transfer strengthens both groups. It will save the Grand Lodge both staff time and money. It will allow the Charity Foundation to more fully carry out their mission and protect their tax status. Such endowed funds have come under increasing regulation from the IRS in recent years. They must be able to prove that their funds come from a wide range of sources (which is one reason that contributions to the Foundation, no matter how small, are important--it proves that many people are contributing) and be disbursed for a variety of charitable and educational purposes.

The transfer is truly a win-win situation.



Grand Master M W Garry D. Odom and Robert G. Davis, President of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, sign the historic agreement

WHAT WAS TRANSFERRED?

The annual contribution to the Payne Education Foundation (\$1,000 annually). The Payne Education Foundation is an Oklahoma not-for-profit organization training teachers in techniques to help children with reading disabilities. The Grand Lodge is one of several corporations which supports the work of the Payne Foundation. It has already resulted in thousands of Oklahoma teachers being able to help children learn to read. Since reading problems are one of the most severe childhood disorders, the contribution makes a major difference for Oklahoma children.

The Awards for Arts Excellence (\$5,000 annually). This program is one of the important elements of our partnership with the State Department of Education. It provides excellent exposure for the fraternity across the state and helps encourage young people in the arts.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial contribution (\$500 annually). The Memorial is one of the most important Masonic memorials in the United States. It not only commemorates George Washington's Masonic membership, and tells the story of Masonry to hundreds of thousands of people each year, it also contains a first-rate Masonic library which offers extensive programs of Masonic education on the Internet. Any Oklahoma Mason can tap into that resource and learn from it.

The Youth Trust Funds (\$6,000 annually). Each year, the Grand Lodge has given \$2,000 to the Trust Funds of DeMolay, Rainbow and Job's Daughters. The contribution, to be made by the Charity Foundation, helps build an endowment from which the Youth Groups can fund their operations.

The Masonic Service Association Hospital Services Donation (\$4,000 annually). Few Oklahoma Masons know about the MSA's Hospital Services program, and yet it makes a big difference in the lives of men and women across the United States. The program allows Service Representatives of the MSA to maintain an office in the Veterans Administration Hospitals. There they visit Veterans who are Masons both in those and other hospitals, make sure that they are being cared for, provide some of the minor comforts which the hospitals do not provide, and generally look after their welfare. It is a

small contribution to help the Masons who gave so much to their country.

The Masonic Service Association dues (\$2,200 annually). The MSA not only runs the hospital visitation program, they do many other things to help Masonry. Every Lodge in Oklahoma receives the "Short Talk Bulletin" each month, which contains excellent Masonic information and can be used for Lodge programs, etc. The MSA also serves as a clearing house for information about Masonry in the United States. It performs a vital service to all Masons.

The Youth Scholarships (annual amount varies) This program provides college scholarships to high school and college students who are members of the Masonic Youth Orders. The program, along with the educational endowment fund which supports it, was transferred to the Foundation for investment and administration.

The Senior Essay and Student of Today Awards (\$6,000 annually). These are some of the best-know programs in Oklahoma. The Senior Essay Contest provides prizes for the best essays written by high school seniors across the state. The Student of Today awards recognize outstanding students for their achievements.

WHAT CHANGES AS FAR AS MASONSON, LODGES, AND THE PUBLIC ARE CONCERNED?

Very little. The Masonic Charity Foundation has always chosen to remain "transparent" to the non-

Masonic world. That is why, in the Matching Funds Program, for example, the contribution is always made in the name of the Lodge, not the name of the Charity Foundation. The Foundation does not want the "credit," believing that the credit should go to Lodges or, in the case of Grand Lodge programs, to the Grand Lodge. It will continue to work that way. The Grand Master will continue to present the Awards in the Arts Excellence program, for example, even though the Foundation will be funding the program. Lodges will be asked to send names for Student of Today Awards and essays directly to the Foundation for processing, but the changes will be minimal. A full set of notes for Lodges and Lodge Secretaries will be prepared and sent out. It will not mean more work.

And it is important to note that the Agreement calls for full consultation and agreement between the Foundation and the Grand Lodge. One group can't just change things without agreement from the other. As we said above, it's a win-win agreement.

We're happy to announce this historic agreement which will do so much to strengthen Masonry in Oklahoma.



Join Masons and Friends Across America on a Specially Planned Hawaii Travel Event!



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Join fellow Masons and their families on a specially planned travel program to Hawaii offered during the 1999 Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America.

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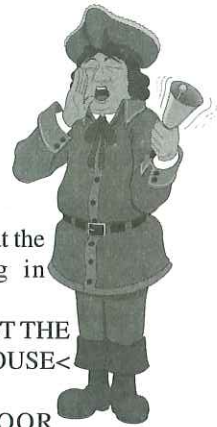
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Notes and Notices



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 5-STATE MASONIC FELLOWSHIP---GUYMON--- AUGUST 14-15

Masons from Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Colorado and New Mexico will meet in Guymon, Oklahoma on August 14 and 15 for a weekend of fun and fellowship. Guymon Lodge # 335 is serving as the host for the event--the first time it has been held in Oklahoma. The registration fee (\$30 for Masons, \$15 for their ladies) covers a special table lodge banquet and other events. Motel rooms are available.

Masons' Schedule

Friday, August 14

12:00-6:00pm Registration at Methodist Family Enrichment Center
6:30pm Banquet/Table Lodge, Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 15

8:00am Continental Breakfast
10:00am Open Lodge, Guymon # 335
10:00-11:30am Welcomes, Introductions, Talks by representative of the Grand Lodges
11:30-2:00pm Hamburger Feed
2:00pm Master Mason Degree by Oklahoma Indian Degree Team
7:00pm Banquet/BBQ

Ladies' Schedule

Friday, August 14

12:00-6:00pm Registration
6:30pm Banquet/Table Lodge
Saturday, August 15
8:00-10:00am Continental Breakfast
10:00am Museum trip to Goodwell
12:00 Luncheon, Christian Church
1:00-3:00pm "Dubs" Bridge, Christian Church
3:00-5:00pm Shopping on your own
7:00pm Banquet/BBQ

Make reservations by sending your name, address, phone number, and check for the Registration Fee to Guymon Lodge # 335, Bill L'Roy, 215 NE 18th, Guymon 73942. For motel rooms, contact Ambassador Inn (1-800-338-3301), Best Western Townsman (1-800-245-0335) or Super 8 of Guymon (580-338-0507). Contact Brother L'Roy for additional information.

AND A SPECIAL, FIRST-EVER SCOTTISH RITE EVENT ON AUGUST 16

Following the 5-State Masonic Fellowship, on Sunday, August 16, the Guthrie Scot-

tish Rite Temple will hold its first ever Reunion outside the Temple. The 1-day Reunion will be held in Guymon, at the Guymon Community Theatre. Degree teams, candidates, and Scottish Rite Masons from the 5-state area will be there, to make it a very special day. Scottish Rite Masons are welcome to attend and bring their candidates, and there will be activities for the Ladies. For more information, contact Robert G. Davis, General Secretary of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Bodies, at 405-282-1281

REUNION SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 16

7:00am Registration
7:30am Class Organization
8:00am Opening Ceremonies
12:00-1:15pm Lunch at Guymon Lodge
5:00pm Adjournment

LADIES' REUNION SCHEDULE

10:00am Coffee and Rolls
11:00am Devotional
(Church of your choice)
12:00 Luncheon
1:00pm Tour of the Temple on video
2:00-3:30pm Conversation
with the Ladies on Freemasonry
3:30pm Reception

HOME ENERGY DAY WAS A SUCCESS!! Thanks to the Lodges and individual Masons across Oklahoma, the partnership with the Salvation Army to raise funds to help the needy pay energy bills raised substantial funds. The amounts are still being totaled as we send this issue to press, BUT SO FAR, WITH ONLY 1/3 OF THE AREAS TOTALED, THE AMOUNT IS ALREADY GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT FOR THE ENTIRE STATE LAST YEAR! . The Grand Master has asked The Oklahoma Mason to express his personal appreciation to those who participated. Special commendation goes to the Lawton area, which raised \$10 in 1997 and \$5,000 this year. That's what we call an increase! Even in those few instances where we had more volunteers than work, the fact that you showed up and were willing to make a difference reflects well on the fraternity. Congratulations, Brethren!

1998 RITUAL COMPETITION -

2nd Round [for winners of Round 1]
- September 12-Eastgate (Tulsa); October 3-Siloam (OKC).

Finals - October 10, at the Grand Lodge Building in Guthrie.

DON'T FORGET THE STATE-WIDE OPEN HOUSE< AUGUST 22.

SPECIAL OUTDOOR MM° TO BE HELD AT THE HOLY CITY

Most Oklahomans know of the Holy City, a construction of native rock "sets" in the Wichita Mountains Wild Life Refuge area near Lawton. For many years it has been the location of the annual Easter Morning Sunrise Service. Now, Mt. Scott Lodge # 540 of Lawton is hosting a Master Mason Degree in this beautiful setting. The event will be held on September 19th, beginning at 5:30 PM. All Master Masons are invited, but you are requested to RSVP to aid in planning food for the BBQ which will be served. Call 580-355-5400 or 580-529-2348 by September 7th. Take I44 west toward Lawton, take exit #45 "Medicine Park Exit" and take highway 49 west into the Wichita Mt. wildlife refuge. Follow the posted signs to the Holy City.

THERE'S HOT AIR IN ALBUQUERQUE - and the Grand Lodge of New Mexico is planning a special event. Each October, the city of Albuquerque is host to the largest hot air balloon fiesta in the world. The event this year is scheduled October 3 through October 11, and will attract more than a million participants and spectators.

The balloon fiesta park is located within District 6 of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, and Temple Lodge #6 is located within 3 miles of the park itself. On Tuesday, October 8, District 6 will open Lodge at 7:30 pm at Temple Lodge. They plan to open on the E.A. Degree and initiate an E.A. at that time.

All Freemasons who will be in the Albuquerque area at that time are cordially invited to attend the meeting. This will provide an opportunity for New Mexico Masons to offer hospitality in friendship and brotherly love to their Brothers from about the county and around the world.

Oklahoma Masons are cordially invited to attend. Contact Temple Lodge #6, 3801 Osuna, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109 (Telephone/FAX 505-344-8033)



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The Craft in the World

Albert Pike Lodge # 162 held its annual Academic Excellence Banquet in the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple in May. The Banquet honored the 69 Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors who had a 4.0 grade-point average. The students and their parents were not only treated to a steak banquet, but each student received a beautiful trophy from the Lodge. Roger Webb, Ph.D., President of the University of Central Oklahoma, was the speaker. In all, more than 350 were in attendance.



Jet Lodge # 438 presented a check to the Timberlake Swimming Pool Committee, matching funds raised at an annual dinner to benefit the pool. In an article in the local paper, Jessie Reinhart, speaking for the pool committee, said: "there are the Masons from the local Jet Lodge that were there when we planned the dinner, were there the day before to scrub the floor and set up the tables, were there to help when we served the dinner, and were there to clean up after the dinner. And today, they are here with more than their physical help. They're here with their financial help! And we are so appreciative of that. One might expect that when a group wants to be a co-sponsor that they would want to share in half of the proceeds. This isn't the case with the Masons. Instead they want to be part of the project as a whole--planning, working, and

then contributing a matching amount raised in the community. Thanks so much!" Well said! and Well done!



Guthrie Lodge # 35 has been very active. The Lodge was recently given an endowed fund by Mr. and Mrs. William Dodd of Jacksonville, Florida, the purpose of which is to provide scholarships to Guthrie High School Seniors. William Dodd, Bert Wheeler and Rodney Clark are seen standing behind the recipients, Justin Dill and April Williams.

The Lodge also presented Student of Today awards to Tonilynn Blagowsky and Bobby Long of Guthrie Upper Elementary School.

Perry Lodge # 78 held a presentation ceremony for scholarship recipients. The Lodge has a long history of awarding scholarships, and this year increased their recipients to 11. The Guest speaker was R.W. Senior Grand Warden Robert Shipe. The recipients were Maranda Sheets, Melissa Boone, Lee Ann Ritthaler, Cheryloe Leach, Shellynn Kelly, Rocky D. Warren, Justin D. Boone, Jeremy Dunn, James D. Boone, Levi Jackson, and Trey Yost.



Stroud Lodge # 142 was recognized in the local newspaper when they presented books to the Stroud Public Library. The Lodge donated all the books which part of Grand Master Odom's "Top Ten Masonic Books" program. Glen Clayton, Bill Halle, Sr., Frank Kuekendall and Vernon Handley were shown making the presentation.



(To Be A Brother Cont. from page 3)



The Oklahoma Mason

Our thanks to the Brethren of both Lodges.

FROM THE MASONIC HOME

The Members of the Home have been active this past couple of months, although the outside temperatures have skyrocketed to 100+ degrees for several days.

The Home welcomed Brother Carl Schickendanz as a new resident in June. He is a member of Ponca Lodge # 83 in Ponca City.

During the month of June several Members of the Home went on a tour of the local lakes and an ostrich farm. They ended up at Braum's for some cooling ice cream before returning to the Home. A trip to the movies to see "The Horse Whisperer" was very entertaining, and on another occasion Pizza Hut was enjoyed for a break in routine.

In July the Members celebrated the Fourth with picture taking and lots of Red, White and Blue. On the 7th everyone en-

joyed "Popsicle Day" at the Home. There was a summer fashion show and a late-night drive-in movie (6 Days & 7 Nights).

The District 14 Ice Cream Social will be held on July 28th at the Home. This is always a special time for the Members.

The heat is on, but we can always look forward to the cooling days of Fall! Remember to come visit the Home; you are always welcome!

Tommy Johnston, Administrator



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GRAND MASTER'S ITINERARY

AUGUST

1	1:00 pm	Guthrie, Jurisprudence Meeting (CLOSED)
1	7:00 pm	Mosholabubbee, District Meeting (OPEN)
6	6:30 pm	Tishomingo, Planned Giving Seminar (OPEN)
8	7:00 am	Day Lodge, Reception of Grand Lodge Officers (CLOSED)
8	6:30 pm	Calera, Rededication on the 100th Anniversary (OPEN)
11	7:00 pm	Sand Springs, 50-Year Pins (OPEN)
14-15		5-State Fellowship, Guymon (OPEN)
22		Statewide Open House
25	7:00 pm	Ardmore, Planned Giving Seminar (OPEN)
29	8:00 am	Guthrie, Trustee Meeting (CLOSED)
29		Myrtle, Annual Fish Fry
29	6:30 pm	Planned Giving Seminar, Lindsay (OPEN)

SEPTEMBER

3	6:30 pm	Catoosa, Reception of Grand Lodge Officers (OPEN)
5	7:00 pm	Goodwater, Grand Master's Visit (OPEN)
8	6:30 pm	Eastgate Lodge, Reception of Grand Lodge Officers (OPEN)
10-12		Southwest Masonic Conference, Guthrie
14	6:30 pm	Myrtle Lodge, Planned Giving Seminar (OPEN)
17	5:30-6-7 pm	Midwest City, Cornerstone, Sr. Citizens Center (OPEN)
19	7:00 pm	Idabel, MM Basketball Game (OPEN)

24	7:00 pm	Lone Grove, Planned Giving Seminar (OPEN)
26	8:00 am	Guthrie, Scottish Rite Reunion (CLOSED)
26	9:00 am	Guthrie, Trustee Meeting (CLOSED)
26	7:00 pm	Wilburton, Planned Giving Seminar (OPEN)

OCTOBER

2-3		Tulsa, KYCH
10	9:30 am	Guthrie, Ritual Finals
16	12-1-2	Catoosa, Cornerstone on Middle School (OPEN)
16	3:00 pm	Catoosa, Cornerstone on High School (OPEN)
16	6:30 pm	Petroleum Lodge, Reception of Grand Lodge Officers (CLOSED)
17		State Wide Fishing Tournament
18		Guthrie, OES Grand Chapter
20		Claremore, 50-Year Pins (OPEN)
24	8:00 am	McAlester, Scottish Rite Reunion (CLOSED)
24	11:00 am	Tahlequah, 150 Year Celebration
27	7:30 pm	Myrtle Lodge, Homecoming (CLOSED)
31	8:00 am	Tulsa, Scottish Rite Reunion (CLOSED)
31	12-1-2	Meeker, Cornerstone on a Gymnasium (OPEN)

NOVEMBER

6-7-8		Guthrie, Grand School
9-10		Guthrie, Grand Lodge

MASONIC CALENDAR

August 1, Ritual Competition, Round 1, Yukon Lodge 9:30 AM SEE NOTES & NOTICES

August 14-15, Red Cross of Constantine Triad, Tulsa

AUGUST 14-15, FIVE STATE FELLOWSHIP celebration, Guymon, with Masons from the Five State Area

August 16, Guthrie Scottish Rite 1-day Reunion, Guymon OK. SEE NOTES AND NOTICES

AUGUST 22, ALL MASONIC STATE-WIDE OPEN HOUSE

August 24, St. Luke Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, McAlester S/R Temple

August 29, Order of High Priesthood, Sword & Trowel, Past Commanders Association

August 29, St. Omer Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, OKC, Bricktown Ball Park

September 12, York Rite, Field Day, Woodward 8:00 AM

September 12, Ritual Competition, Round 2, Tulsa, Eastgate Lodge

September 14, York Rite, Mark Master Degree, Ponca City, 7:00 PM

September 18-19, York Rite SW Conference and South Central Regional, Shreveport

September 19, Outdoor MM Degree at Holy City near Lawton, 5:30 SEE NOTES AND NOTICES

September 26-27, Guthrie Scottish Rite Reunion

September 24, Planned Giving Seminar, Lone Grove Lodge, 7:00 PM

September 28, York Rite Past and Most Excellent Degrees, Ponca City, 7:00 PM

October 1-3, York Rite, Tulsa Covent General Annual Conclave KYCH

October 3, Ritual Competition, Round 2, Siloam Lodge, OKC 9:30 AM

October 10, Finals, Ritual Competition 9:30 AM Grand Lodge Building, Guthrie

October 10, Quarterly Meeting, Masonic Charity Foundation, 1:30 PM Guthrie Masonic Home

October 12, York Rite, Royal Arch Degree, Ponca City, 7:00 PM

OCTOBER 17, STATE-WIDE MASONIC FISHING TOURNAMENT

October 18-21, Eastern Star Grand Chapter, Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple

October 24-25, McAlester Scottish Rite Reunion

October 31-November 1, Tulsa Scottish Rite Reunion

November 6-8, Grand School, Grand Lodge Building, Guthrie

November 9-10, ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, GRAND LODGE OF OKLAHOMA

December 19, Tri-Youth Dance, Guthrie

December 27, Grand Master's Homecoming, Myrtle Lodgen

1999

March 20-21, Scottish Rite Reunion, McAlester

March 27-28, Scottish Rite Reunion, Tulsa

April 16-18, Scottish Rite Reunion, Guthrie

June 3-6, United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, 127th Annual Assembly, Tulsa

September, Mid-Year Meeting, International Philalethes Society

October 16-17, Scottish Rite Reunion, McAlester

Please send notices of events to the Oklahoma Mason, care of the Grand Secretary, so that they may be included in the Calendar. Also see Grand Master's Itinerary.

1998 SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION

Aug. 8 & 9 - "Tough Sch." OK Lodge (#4) Atoka, Ok (BGLM Aug. 7, 6 p.m. Atoka, OK)

Aug. 15 - Lodge Sch.-Daylight #542 Tulsa-Wallis

Sept. 5-Lodge Sch. -Sayre #195-Robertson

Sept. 11, 12-Dist. #29-McLoud #126-Adair

Sept. 10, 11, 12-Dist. #23-Tulledaga #201 Henryetta-Rimmer

Sept. 18 & 19-Diest. #35-Pauls Valley #6-Adair

Sept. 19 & 20-Dist. #11-Owasso #545-Wallis

Sept. 17, 18, 19-Dist. #37-Kingston #287-Barnicoat

Sept. 26-Lodge School-Newkirk #88-Wallis

Oct. 17 & 18-Lodge School-Jones City #537-Frisbie

Nov. 6, 7, 8-GRAND SCHOOL-GRAND LODGE Nov. 9, 10, 1998

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OKLAHOMA MASON
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