



The  
**klahoma Mason**  
The Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma

**SEPTEMBER 2018**



**M.:W.: James Tracy Tresner II M.:o.:H.:**

**1941 - 2018**

**THE OKLAHOMA MASON**  
**SEPTEMBER 2018**

From Page 1:

## **M.:W.: James Tracy Tresner II M.:o.:H.:**

*It Is To Single Men ... That All The Great Works Of Man Are Owing. --Albert Pike*

There are only a few organizational men in each generation who make the kind of impact that changes the way the rest of us respond to that organization's purpose and direction. Dr. Jim Tresner was one such man. His simple and profound love for Freemasonry inspired almost every man who knew him to make a study of Freemasonry a lifelong experience. He understood Freemasonry as a way of life, and his greatest hope in men was that they would feel the same.

He was internationally known as a Masonic author, writer, speaker and scholar. But every Brother who was personally acquainted with Jim was simply proud to call him our Brother. We can only wish that more of us could approach the understanding of servant leadership that seemed just to come naturally for Jim every day of his life. We can be assured our fraternity has been made better because of him.

James Tracy Tresner II (Jim) was born November 11th, 1941 in Enid, to Margaret and Jack Tresner, and passed away on Thursday, July 12th, 2018. He attended grade school through high school in the Enid public school system. He attended several colleges and earned three Bachelor's degrees, two Masters degrees, and a PhD in Business Communications.

Following college, Jim spent a few years as a Professor at Connors State College, and then became the Chief Underwriter of his family insurance company.

Dr. Tresner joined the youth group of the fraternity, Sir Galahad Chapter, Order of DeMolay, at the age of 12 while living in Enid. He became a member of the Masonic fraternity in 1963 in Garfield #501 in Enid. He was asked to move to Guthrie in 1987 to use his considerable skills on behalf of the fraternity. He was appointed a consultant to the Oklahoma Grand Lodge, the Oklahoma Masonic Charity Foundation, the Scottish Rite in Oklahoma, and the House of the Temple, the national Scottish Rite headquarters in Washington, DC. He was the book review editor of the *Scottish Rite Journal*, the national organ of the Scottish Rite, and was a recipient of the 33°, Grand Cross, the highest honor the Rite can give to a Scottish Rite Mason. Dr. Tresner also served on the steering committee of the Masonic Information Center of the United States and was recently named an emeritus member of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Research Society. He was a long-time member of Mensa, and was elected a Blue Friar by the Society of Masonic authors worldwide in 1999.

In Oklahoma, he also belonged to the York Rite Bodies, and the Oklahoma Lodge of Research. He was appointed the Director of the Work for the Guthrie Scottish Rite soon after he arrived in Guthrie, and continued in that role until his death. Through his own community theatre and teaching experience, he brought an understanding of the theatre form of education to a level unsurpassed in the fraternity.

He served as the Worshipful Master of Albert Pike #162 in Guthrie in 1995, and was honored with 50 years of service to Masonry, in Garfield #501, in 2013. In 1996, he was awarded the Oklahoma Medal of Honor, the highest honor a member can receive in Oklahoma Masonry. He had the rare distinction of being named the first Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma in 2015. At the time of his passing, he was the editor of the Oklahoma Mason and the Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, and was chairman of the Masonic Education Committee, and Publicity and Public Relations Committee, and was a member of the Publications Committee.

Brother Tresner was laid to rest beside his parents in the Memorial Park Cemetery in Enid.

***"To live in the hearts of men is to never die."***

**From the Grand Master  
M.W. C. W. "Corky" Grigsby, Jr.**



My Brethren,

I'm sure you all have heard me talk, or read in this magazine, about being our Brother's Keeper, and in my last article, I wrote about the phrase, "My Brother," and the significance of the word "Brother." I wrote that "Brother," to me, meant the adoption of a man into my inner circle of friendship by a moral and spiritual tie.

On July 12th, Oklahoma Masonry lost a true Brother, and I lost a true friend and mentor, when Most Worshipful Dr. Jim Tresner was called "to that House not made with Hands..." Brother Tresner truly embodied the term "Brother," in that he lived and practiced the true tenants of Brotherhood. He taught me more about how to be a Brother than I could possibly explain in words. He was a truly selfless man, and strived to teach everyone he came into contact with what it meant to be a Brother.

I will miss our long, rambling conversations. He was always wise enough to listen, and usually had a story that would relate to what I had talked to him about. He was a great asset to our Fraternity and to our Grand Lodge.

If Dr. Tresner could have had one wish, I believe it would have been for all Masons, everywhere, to strive to put into practice those tenants of Brotherhood: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. That is how he lived every day. He loved his Brothers; he was a counselor and mentor to many. He was generous; when a Brother had a need, he would find a way to see that need filled. He was a true Mason.

As I strive to be My Brother's Keeper, I will try my best to emulate his example. As I travel about our great state to visit you and your Lodges, I have seen these tenants put into real practice. Our Brothers are helping each other more and more every day. Not just financially, but by talking to each other more often. By teaching our newer Brothers. By learning from our more experienced Brothers. By working together to make each other's lives better.

And, Brethren, that's what being My Brother's Keeper is all about!

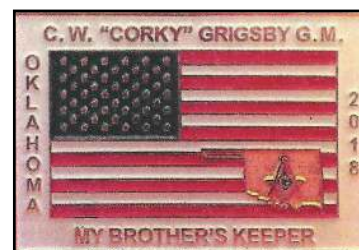
I also want to remind you of some important events coming up. Grand School of Instruction will be November 7, 8, and 9, 2018, at the Grand Lodge building. We all know how important it is to know the Work, and I encourage you to participate.

Grand Lodge Session will begin November 9, with the open program and banquet. Get your Museum and Library Banquet tickets early!

Grand Lodge will officially open on Saturday, November 10. We have a lot of business to get through and some very important Resolutions to ballot on. Please discuss the Resolutions in Lodge, send your Masters and Wardens, and vote for the good of Masonry in Oklahoma!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

**C. W. "Corky" Grigsby, Jr.**  
Grand Master



**From the Deputy Grand Master  
R. W. Mike Dixon**

The days are getting shorter and our weather is beginning to change. Fall is just around the corner which means our 2018 Grand Lodge session will be here before we know it.

To make it easier to attend Grand Lodge and by a vote of the Craft, as represented at a Grand Lodge session a few years ago, the open session will be on Friday afternoon followed by the Oklahoma Masonic Library and Museum's annual banquet honoring Grand Master Grigsby. All the business matters are now conducted in a one-day Tyled session on the second Saturday of November each year. Yet, every year there are several lodges which do not have a single registered voting delegate in attendance and many of those Lodges have not sent a single registered delegate in several years.



The obligations which we each promised to keep when we were installed as officers in our lodges, require us as elected officers to attend Grand Lodge. In rough numbers, we normally have approximately 600 plus votes carried by 450 to 500 registered delegates at Grand Lodge. Our Constitution and Code provides that any Master Mason may carry the proxy for those officers who, for one reason or another, are unable to attend Grand Lodge.

We are all concerned about attendance and participation at our Lodge meetings. I, for one, believe in leadership by example and what better way to set an example of participation to your Lodge members than by you, as Lodge officers, attending Grand Lodge.

We have 219 Lodges in Oklahoma and each has a Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden, each with a vote at Grand Lodge. That's a minimum of 657 eligible votes that could be cast. I would venture to say that most Lodges have one, two or more Past Masters who also have one vote each. This leads me to think that at any given Grand Lodge Session we could easily have a thousand or more registered votes.

We as Grand Lodge officers take our direction from you, the members of the Craft. We work diligently at following your direction. Some of the most important issues affecting Masonry in our state are up for consideration at every Grand Lodge session. If you are one of those officers who has family, work or other serious matters which prevent you from attending Grand Lodge, give your proxy to one of your Master Masons. Let them be part of the discussion and broaden the debate on these very important issues. Let's work towards reaching that goal of a thousand registered delegates at the up-coming Grand Session.

It should be mentioned that any Master Mason can attend the Tyled Grand Lodge session, you don't have to be a voting delegate! This is a great opportunity to see how your Grand Lodge operates and how the legislative process works. It is also a great opportunity to get to know your Grand Lodge officers, if you don't already know them, and to share your ideas and thoughts with them. I think you will find that we are eager to hear what you have to say.

Let's not forget about Grand School, which will be the Wednesday through noon Friday before Grand Lodge. This a great time to work on Ritual, catch up with old friends and make some new friends. I look forward to seeing each of you in Guthrie in November. *Masonry in Oklahoma needs you, lets fill the house!*

**Mike Dixon  
Deputy Grand Master**

*more especially...*



*...to circumscribe and keep our passions within due bounds with all mankind, but more especially a brother Mason.*

**From the Senior Grand Warden  
R.W. Bob Peters**

**BEING THERE**

It has been a great year so far, and a pleasure to serve as your Senior Grand Warden. One of my favorite duties is visiting the lodges around the state, and hearing about the things your lodges are doing in your communities.

I must say, time flies when you're having fun. In a couple of months it will be time to gather again for Grand School and the annual Grand Lodge Communication, renew old friendships, make new ones, and take care of the business of this great fraternity.



When I visit the lodges, I usually ask about the attendance at your lodge meetings. The answer is almost always the same. It seems that whether the lodge has 30 or 300 members, there are only about 7 to 10 members who are actively involved. In most cases, this is less than 10 percent of the lodge membership. These are the Brothers who are investing their time and abilities to support masonry. They are the ones that are dedicated to making things better in their communities.

It is the duty of every Master Mason to do his part to help his lodge be the best that it can be. This can only be accomplished by attending lodge and supporting the officers and other members in the activities with which your lodge is involved. The future of masonry in your communities, and its ability to help with your local schools and other worthwhile community projects, depends on your dedication and support of your lodge. I know you have heard the old cliché, *“Masonry is like a bank account, you only get out of it what you put in it.”* In other words, if you aren't there, you can't make a difference.

Attendance at Grand Lodge is no exception. Here are some facts that I found interesting. Each lodge is given three votes to cast on the business at Grand Lodge: the Worshipful Master, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden. Every Past Master also gets a vote, and there are approximately 4,050 Past Masters in Oklahoma.

In 2015, when the Grand Lodge session opened to conduct business, there were 183 lodges represented out of 221 total lodges, with 535 Master Masons present. Those members, in person or carrying proxies, cast 838 votes.

In 2016, the numbers were 181 lodges represented out of 221, with 537 Master Masons who cast 853 votes.

In 2017, there were 184 lodges represented out of 219, with 506 Master Masons casting 739 votes.

Two things concern me about these numbers. In 2017, there were 35 lodges that had no representation at Grand Lodge. Secondly, less than 15% of the voting members of Grand Lodge attended to cast votes that affect all 19,000 members. Decisions made at Grand Lodge affect the future of our fraternity in Oklahoma.

I'm not sure why we have such a low turnout. The auditorium will hold approximately 2,000 people, so that's not the issue. Maybe we have grown too accustomed to “letting 'ole George' do it.” Whatever the reason, it's up to you and me to fix it.

**Continued on page 6 ➡**

As officers of our Lodge, we promised “a regular attendance on the Committees and Communications of the Grand Lodge on receiving proper notice” and “to support the Constitution and Laws.” It is our duty to attend and vote for the good of Masonry in our Grand Lodge, and Masonry in our Great State.

It is also your duty as a Master Mason to make sure that the three votes that your lodge is entitled to are represented at Grand Lodge in November. If you are a sitting officer, bring your credential to Grand Lodge and vote. If you are unable to attend, think about signing your proxy over to a Master Mason in your lodge who has never attended, and let him come and experience Grand Lodge. If you are a Past Master, I urge you to come to Grand Lodge and support it with your presence and your vote.

There are several important resolutions to be voted on this year at Grand Lodge. Wouldn't it be great to have at least 1,000 Master Masons in attendance? I believe it's possible, so start making plans to attend this year's session. I look forward to seeing YOU there.

If you haven't already done so, save these dates on your calendar:

**Grand School: November 7, 8 and 9  
Grand Lodge: Saturday, November 10**

Check with your lodge Secretary or the Grand Lodge web-site for upcoming details.

May Peace and Harmony Prevail,

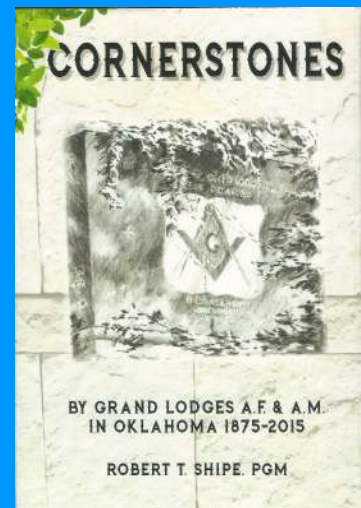
**Bob Peters**  
**Senior Grand Warden**

### **Collector's Item**

A REMARKABLE book has been given to the Grand Lodge for the Building Fund by M.: W.: Robert Shipe.

It is the greatest thing since sliced bread and every Lodge needs one. Here's why:

1. The Cornerstones book is a collector's item as it contains all the cornerstones laid by the Grand Lodge from 1875 - 2015.
2. Its benefit to Masons and your Lodge is inestimable as it documents the image of the town Lodge and and fraternity in a highly favorable light.
3. This book will build the image of the fraternity immediately among the brethren (and the men in town you seek as members) of your Lodge.
4. Its benefit to the Lodge documents the history of its cornerstone laying role while promoting the image of the fraternity in a way that none other ever has.



All funds received go into the Grand Lodge Building Fund. As your Grand Secretary, I hope you will check it out, then promote its purchase throughout the District as a collector's item for the Lodges and brethren. A copy as a gift to your local town Library would certainly enhance its availability to the people.

*M.: W.: Bobby Laws PGM*

**From the Junior Grand Warden  
R. W. Robert G. Davis**

Brethren:

Summer is almost behind us and this often means our Masonic activities will soon be increasing with the return of cooler seasons. These activities usually mean fundraisers for the lodge, school recognitions, community activities, and a return to our focus as fraternal men. As busy as we may be as a lodge, there are few things more gratifying than the fraternal bonds we have with each other.

One of Oklahoma's favorite Masons, Will Rogers, gave a speech shortly before he made his fateful flight to Alaska. It turns out it was one of the most important words of wisdom he ever shared. He was asked how one can attain success. He responded; "If you want to be successful, it is just this simple--"

"Know what you are doing."  
"Love what you are doing."  
"And believe in what you are doing."



There is indeed no substitute for knowledge. In our schooling, our occupations, our marriage, our experiences, there is simply nothing that can top acquiring knowledge. School is never out for the person who wants to succeed. There is no saturation point; no retiring from the movement of time.

The same is true for lodges. Every generation of men brings something different to our fraternal experience. We live in a culture of change. What worked for our lodge brothers 70 years ago will not work today. We must not forget that knowledge doubles every five years. This means that we must be constantly moving forward if we want to create a Masonry that will meet the needs of those who are joining us today. It is their world, even more than ours; for they will carry the torch long after we are gone.

Part of knowing what we are doing, then, is acknowledging that we are, in fact, doing things differently in our lodges today than did our fathers and grandfathers. If we are to distinguish ourselves from the rest of the community, we must be so special that today's men will notice.

After all, what are we all working for? We are working to grow gentlemen; to awaken the next generation of men to their own path of spiritual and personal improvement. We are their bridge builders. If we know what we are doing, and believe it is important, the best way to express our love for our knowledge and effort is to impress on our new brothers that everything we do; we are doing for them.

With Love to All,

*Robert Davis*  
*Junior Grand Warden*



**Grand Master's Banquet**  
**Honoring M.:W.: C. W. "Corky" Grigsby, Jr.**  
**Benefiting The Grand Lodge Library and Museum**

**Friday, November 9, 2018, 6:30 p.m.**

**Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple Ballroom.**

**Tickets are \$35 each if purchased before October 29;  
\$45 thereafter.**



**Purchase from the Grand Lodge,  
PO Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044. Or call (405)282-3212.  
Checks or Credit Cards accepted.**

**2018 Candidates for Office**

Grand Master  
Mike Dixon (Unopposed)

Deputy Grand Master  
Bob Peters (Unopposed)

Senior Grand Warden  
Robert G. Davis (Unopposed)

Junior Grand Warden  
R. "Scott" Vincent  
Andrew Bridgewater

Grand Treasurer  
David G. David (Unopposed)

Grand Secretary  
Bobby Laws (Unopposed)

Grand Lecturer  
Bill Crisler  
Ronald E. Wray



**Candidates for Charity Foundation**

Mark up to three (3) boxes. The Brethren receiving the most, second and third most votes will be elected to a full 5-year term.

Matthew Cargill

Daniel Brown

B. F. Rowland, Jr.

Jack Painter

Yates Canipe



**From the Grand Lecturer  
R. W. Ronald E. Wray**

**Greetings, My Brethren All:**

As I write this article, we have just completed the 27th Annual "Tough School" school of instruction, held at Oklahoma Lodge #4 in Atoka. We had a very good crowd this year, and it could be due to the fact the leaders of the Sacred White Buffalo voted to move the date they held their ceremonies so it wouldn't coincide with the school of instruction. I also believe we have seen more attendance at the Sacred White Buffalo this year, as well.

The Basic Blue program is going well, even though we got off to a slow start due to the new qualifications for this year. This won't happen next year, as the qualifications are already in place, and we will be ready to go in November.

It's hard to think that in a few weeks, we will be holding Grand School of Instruction, on November 7, 8, and 9, 2018, at the Grand Lodge building in Guthrie. This is always a great time, having three Lodge rooms working at the same time. Remember, there is always something to do at Grand School, working in the degrees, going over lectures, or checking out for your "A" or "C" cards.

I look forward to seeing you there, and I'll always have time to visit with you on any concerns you may have.

Fraternally,

*Ronald E. Wray,  
Grand Lecturer*



## **Grand School of Instruction November 7, 8, 9, 2018**

**Come and check out on your certificate and visit with old friends, step into one of the degree rooms and brush up on your floor work.**

**Also, don't forget you may spend the night at the Scottish Rite Inn. Brothers, please take advantage of this, we rent the inn for your use. Rooms cost \$10 per night.**

**You can reserve a room by sending an e-mail to the Innkeepers at [innkeep@att.net](mailto:innkeep@att.net) or write to them at The Innkeepers, P.O. Box 534, Wheatland, OK 73097. The inn will be available on Wednesday night thru Friday. Grand School will start at 9:00 a.m. and run till 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, and till noon on Friday.**

**The Certificate Lecturers' meeting and memorial will be Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the Master's room.**

## Available for Election - Junior Grand Warden

The information here is taken from the materials filed with the Grand Lodge.

### R. "Scott" Vincent

R. "Scott" Vincent and his wife, Nancy, live in Arnett, Oklahoma. He is a retired business owner and operates a farm and ranch.



In answer to the question "Why do you seek this Office?" Brother Vincent wrote: *"As I have been observing our Fraternity over the past few years, I have noticed that Masonry is coming to a crossroad. With the knowledge I have gained by owning and operating my own Service Station and Convenience Store business for the past 38 years along with my farming and ranching practice which I am currently still operating, I feel that I am qualified to assist with the guidance and recommitment of our Fraternity by bringing it back to the way it was when my Father and Grandfather were Masons. With all of us working together to attain one goal, we will be able to ensure a strong and stable future for our children and grandchildren to come."*

In answer to the question "What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge Officer?" Brother Vincent wrote: *"I would like to regain the commitment of the Grand Lodge to the Craft and in return the same commitment to the Craft to the Grand Lodge. I would also like to help make our Fraternity more efficient in membership, financial independence with transparency."*

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. Brother Vincent has neither been suspended or expelled.

### Andrew T. Bridgewater

Andrew T. Bridgewater and his wife, Elaine, live in Sallisaw, Oklahoma. He is employed by the City of Sallisaw as an Inmate Coordinator.



In answer to the question "Why do you seek this Office?" Brother Bridgewater wrote: *"For the Good of Masonry."*

In answer to the question "What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge Officer?" Brother Bridgewater wrote: *"Help our Fraternity."*

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. Brother Bridgewater has neither been suspended or expelled.



## Available for Election - Grand Lecturer

The information here is taken from the materials filed with the Grand Lodge.

### Bill D. Crisler

Bill D. Crisler lives in Piedmont, Oklahoma. He is retired from Bridgestone - Firestone, Inc. He has held an "A" Certificate for twenty-five plus years.



In answer to the question "Why do you seek this Office?" Brother Crisler wrote: *"I wish to improve the performance of the rituals in the State of Oklahoma."*

In answer to the question "What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge Officer?" Brother Crisler wrote: *"My goals are to increase participation in schools. I also want to encourage C & A Certificates to improve the performance of the rituals."*

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. Brother Crisler has neither been suspended or expelled.

### Ronald E. Wray

Ronald E. Wray and his wife, Tammie, live in Hitchcock, Oklahoma. He is employed by Blaine County as a Heavy Equipment Operator.



In answer to the question "Why do you seek this Office?" Brother Wray wrote: *"I enjoy working with the craft in the ritual and seeing new men learn this work. I have held this office for nine years and have tried to live up to the standard of the great men who have held it before me. I still have more to offer."*

In answer to the question "What goals would you like to attain as a Grand Lodge Officer?" Brother Wray wrote: *"To get more A & C Lecturers. Add some new levels of lecturers. Put more emphasis on floor work. Hold more Lodge Schools."*

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. Brother Wray has neither been suspended or expelled.

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



The information here is taken from the materials filed with the Grand Lodge. Brethren are listed in the order in which their filings were received.

**Matthew T. Cargill** and his wife, Ashley, live in Bixby, Oklahoma with their four children. He is the General Secretary of the Tulsa Scottish Rite Bodies, having served in that position for five years. He is a member of the Alumni Board of Trustees of Sigma Phi Epsilon (Oklahoma State University) - partner philanthropies with Youth Aids and Big Brothers/Big Sisters. He was Initiated in 2006, Passed and Raised in 2007, in Perry #78. He is affiliated with several Lodges, with Veritas #556 being his primary Lodge, having served as Worshipful Master in 2012. He has also served as Worshipful Master of Vitruvian #557 in 2016 and 2017.

In answer to the question "What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?" W. Brother Cargill wrote: I bring experience as a Trustee of the Tulsa Scottish Rite Charitable and Educational Foundation (TSR-CEF) for five years, maintaining the high standards of our philanthropic operations. As General Secretary, I have implemented new policies, including HIPAA compliance, off-site digital retention, and expansion into Tele-Therapy Practice for clients who cannot travel. I have fostered new partnerships between TSR-CEF and Northeastern Oklahoma State University in their Speech Pathology Programs. I have also worked to assist Brethren in need from our Fraternal Assistance fund, and the general public through our Almoner's fund. From a financial accountability aspect, I have worked closely with our Investment Committee and our Investors, both in stocks and in mortgage-backed securities, to determine the best planning policies that will benefit the long-term goals of the Rite and the TSR-CEF.

In answer to the question "How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma?" he wrote: The Foundation serves our Brethren very well through the Blue Lodge programs, which solidifies our duties of Brotherly Love and Relief. Continuing these programs, as well as working to develop new ideas, is the best way we can continue to help. In serving the general public through the public schools, Boy Scouts of America, OETA, FFA, etc., the Foundation is not only able to assist those groups, but to also publicize the Fraternity in a positive light, possibly drawing the attention of men who could be interested in the Craft.

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. W. Brother Cargill has neither been suspended nor expelled.

**Daniel S. Brown** and his wife, Barbara, live in Geronimo, Oklahoma, where he has been employed with Sutherland Lumber Company for thirteen years, as the Customer Relations and Personnel Manager. He is a retired U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major. He is a member of several Lodges, his home Lodge being Triangle Lodge #548, where he was Initiated, Passed, and Raised in 2002. He has held several offices in the Lodges, serving as Worshipful Master of Triangle #548 in 2004 and 2006, of Lawton Lodge #183 in 2008, and Cache Valley Lodge #530 in 2014, 2015, and 2016.

In answer to the question "What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?" W. Brother Brown wrote: I have a good understanding of the needs of rural Oklahoma and rural schools.

In answer to the question "How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma?" he wrote: Continue current programs for primary school to assist students in preparing for a higher education.

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. W. Brother Brown has neither been suspended nor expelled.

Continued On Page 12 ➡➔

**Bedford Forrest Rowland, Jr.** and his wife, Marcia, live in Altus, Oklahoma. He is retired, after serving for 14 years as the Campus Director for Southwest Technology Center. While working there, he helped to develop the Aviation and Aerospace Program the U.S. Air Force named "The Grow Your Own Mechanic" that received the "Hammer Award" from the Vice-President, for reinventing government in 2000. He is a 2010 recipient of the Masonic Teacher of Today Award, and received the "You Made A Difference" Award in 2011 from Southwest Technology Center. He was Initiated in 1977, Passed and Raised in 1978, in Altus Lodge #62, serving as Worshipful Master in 1983. He served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Master in 1987, 1988, 1999, and 2000, and on the Public Schools Committee for many years since 1990. He is currently a member of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma's Board of Directors, serving on the Education and Finance Committees. Outside of Freemasonry, he is a Past President of the Altus Kiwanis Club, and currently chairs the Kiwanis Scholarship Committee; is a Board Member of the Southwest Technology Center Foundation; is a Board Member of the Altus Airport Advisory Board; and is a past Council Member of the Altus City Council.

In answer to the question "What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?" W. Brother Rowland wrote: I co-owned and operated a successful business for fourteen years before entering upon my twenty-nine year career in public education, which included eighteen years in administration. In addition to my professional experience, my leadership positions in the previously listed non-profit organizations, all combine to provide me the experience to make informed judgments regarding policy and budget issues. My practical experience as a serving Lodge Secretary also gives me insight into how local Lodges can best utilize MCFO programs.

In answer to the question "How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma?" he wrote: As a Lodge Secretary, it has been my experience that the MCFO is fast to respond, and very accessible to the Fraternity on all matters, and it is my belief that the MCFO should continue to keep that reputation. The MCFO should continue the great programs, such as Promises Matter, Matching Funds, and support for Vizavance, always remembering the needs of our own members.

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. W. Brother Rowland has neither been suspended nor expelled.

**Jack Painter** and his wife, Kathy, live in Hennessey, Oklahoma. He has been self-employed as a Real Estate Broker with Warner and Associates Real Estate for ten years, and is a farmer. He is a member of the National Association of Realtors, and the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association. He is a member of several Lodges, his home Lodge being Coronado #56, where he served as Worshipful Master in 1993, and is currently the Secretary, serving in that office since 1998. He also served as Worshipful Master of Ringwood Lodge #554 in 2003. He is a 2015 Oklahoma Medal of Honor recipient.

In answer to the question "What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?" W. Brother Painter wrote: Attend all meetings and be engaged. Past experience serving on other boards and understanding how a board works.

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 do what they are doing and growing the base of the Foundation so it can do more.

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. W. Brother Painter has neither been suspended nor expelled.

**Yates Canipe** and his wife, Martha Sue, live in Durant, Oklahoma. He is retired, having been the President of Straightforward, Inc., for thirty years. He is retired from the U.S. Air Force, where he achieved the rank of Major. He was Initiated, Passed, and Raised at Caddo #3 in 2010, where he served as Worshipful Master in 2013, and is currently the Treasurer. He affiliated with Bokchito #253 in 2013, and served as Worshipful Master in 2014 and 2015, and is currently the Secretary.

In answer to the question "What strengths or experience do you feel you can bring to the Masonic Charity Foundation?" W. Brother Canipe wrote: I have owned and/or operated several companies specializing in data

Continued On Page 13 

management industries. I was an instructor at SOSU, teaching Business Statistics, Data Analysis for Managers, and Business Information Management, among other courses. I also taught graduate courses in Meteorology at Creighton University, Omaha, NE.

In answer to the question “How do you feel the Masonic Charity Foundation can best serve the Masonic Fraternity in Oklahoma?” he wrote: By being good stewards of Foundation funds and promoting all Masonic principles.

Legislation passed on November 12, 2007, requires that the Brother disclose if he has ever been suspended or expelled from a Lodge or from Freemasonry. W.: Brother Canipe has neither been suspended nor expelled.

## Resolutions to be voted on at Grand Lodge Simple English Version

### **Resolution 1 A - C**

Amends Section 201, 302, and 304, respectively, to allow for electronic voting devices to be used in place of paper ballots, while still keeping the option of paper. Resolution 1-C also allows more time for delegate registration, and changes the time and place to vote for Grand Lodge officers and Charity Foundation board members into the auditorium, rather than in the ballroom.

### **Resolution 2**

Amends Section 502 to increase the per capita. Per capita would increase to \$15.00 per non-perpetual member, per year, beginning January 1, 2020, \$20.00 per year beginning in 2021, and \$25.00 in 2022.

### **Resolution 3**

Amends Section 502 D: Assessments. Each candidate is assessed a \$15.00 fee that is a distinct contribution to the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, and a \$2.00 assessment that goes to the Grand Lodge general fund. This would reverse the donations, so that the Charity Foundation gets \$2.00, and the Grand Lodge gets \$15.00

### **Resolution 4**

Adds a Section 903, which limits the ability of members to amend the Masonic Law of Oklahoma by not allowing a resolution on a topic to be re-introduced if defeated until two years have passed.

### **Resolution 5**

Adds a Section U903 which limits the ability of members to amend the Masonic Law of Oklahoma by not allowing a resolution on a topic to be re-introduced if defeated until two years have passed.

### **Resolution 6**

Amends Section 201 paragraph 2, and would make the \$100.00 filing fee non- refundable. Currently, if a delegate files for Grand office, he may have the filing fee refunded if he does not win, but receives ten percent of the votes cast.

### **Resolution 7**

Amends Section 706 paragraph 1, and would make the \$100.00 filing fee non- refundable. Currently, if a delegate files for Grand office, he may have the filing fee refunded if he does not win, but receives ten percent of the votes cast.

### **Resolution 8**

Amends Section U308 (Order of Business) by switching E. Reading of the Constitution and Laws, Uniform Code, and Trial Code and F. Balloting Upon Petitions for Degrees and Applications for Affiliation.

### **Resolution 9**

Amends Section U310, Reading the Constitution and Laws, and Uniform Code by removing the phrase “frequently”.

# **The Oklahoma Mason**

**A Publication of**

**The M.:W.: Grand Lodge of A.:F.: & A.:M.:  
of the State of Oklahoma**

**PO Box 1019**

**Guthrie, OK 73044**

**[www.gloklahoma.com](http://www.gloklahoma.com)**



## ***In This Issue:***

- From the Grand Master .....Pg 3*
- Deputy Grand Master.....Pg 4*
- Senior Grand Warden .....Pg 5*
- Junior Grand Warden .....Pg 7*
- Grand Master's Banquet .....Pg 8*
- Grand Lecturer .....Pg 9*
- Grand School.....Pg 9*
- Available for Election ..Pg 10, 11, 12*
- 2018 Resolutions.....Pg 13*



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

**@GLofOklahoma**

or on the web at

**[www.gloklahoma.com](http://www.gloklahoma.com)**