

THE



OKLAHOMA

MASON

THE GRAND LODGE OF
ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE
OF OKLAHOMA

May 2022



M.W. Scott Vincent
Grand Master

Brethren, we have turned the page to a new chapter of Masonry (2022). I hope it finds all of you well and ready for masonic intercourse in your lodges, districts, and jurisdiction. I believe that the best and only place to start any endeavor is at its foundation. This effort is the reason the Ashlar Award Program was implemented. I am confident that if you will use this program in your lodges, there is no way it will fail. The only way that it will fail is the failure to use it.

The Ashlar Award is a program to enhance the experience for the Prospect or newly initiated, passed, and raised Mason. There are several goals of the program intended to educate these men on basic knowledge of Freemasonry. The program will give them a template of the essential pathway to start their Masonic Journey. Lastly, participating in this program will develop a HABIT of doing the basic fundamental practices needed to ensure success in their lodge experience.

A mentor should be assigned to the brothers upon their entrance into the lodge. This mentor is to assist and help the brothers to complete this program and assist them in all other areas and answer any questions that may arise. The mentor's goal should be to help these brothers increase their knowledge, improve themselves in Masonry, and make them their replacement at the end of the day.



The Grand Lodge
of
OKLAHOMA

This program consists of a mixture of educational booklets, required lodge attendance, ritual learning, and assisting in lodge programs and social events. The program is based on a point system in which the Brother must amass a minimum number of points to qualify for the award. This award will consist of a vintage certificate and Perfect Ashlar Lapel pin gold in color to be presented at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

The Mentor who has assisted the Brother from start to finish of the program will also receive the Silver Ashlar Award. This honor will be a Perfect Ashlar Lapel pin, silver in color, and awarded at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

Brothers, think outside the box on this also. You don't have to be a new mason to participate. Any Brother can use this as an educational portion of the lodge meeting or after-lodge event. These booklets are filled with good information that not only you can learn from but might provoke some discussion that will lead to a new idea altogether. The imagination only limits the possibilities. Your existing Brethren may take the course if they so desire. It is a good idea for them to know what is in this program, especially if they choose to become a mentor themselves.

One other advantage of this program is it accomplishes the fundamentals of creating a relationship with a future Brother, becoming a mentor to the new Brother, and helping educate the Brother all at the same time.

It is and will always be an honor and privilege to serve the craft of this great state.

TOGETHER WE
GROW - UNITED
WE STAND.

Jenks Lodge #497
Centennial
Cornerstone
February 26th



A few words from your Deputy Grand Master

2022 Oklahoma Masonic Fundraiser has Launched!

The new Masonic year has begun. We must remain focused on improving ourselves, our lodges, and our great Fraternity! One great way to raise funds for your lodge and awareness in our communities is to participate in the 3rd Annual Oklahoma Masonic Fundraiser.

This year's raffle is expanding the opportunities to win! Seventeen lucky winners will hear their names called to share over \$65,000 in prize money. The 2022 Oklahoma Masonic Fundraiser will raffle **two (2) Grand Prizes of \$25,000 each! Ten tickets will be drawn for a \$1000 gift card and five for \$500 gift cards.** The drawing will occur at our Annual Grand Lodge on November 11, 2022, during the open (public) session.



R.W. Glen Chaney

Deputy Grand Master

Tickets are \$20 each, and the cash incentive sent back to the lodges will depend on the total ticket sales. A lodge can get a return of \$5-\$7 back on each ticket, up to 35% of each ticket going back to your lodge. Every ticket sold gives money back to the lodge! For example, every eight (8) Brothers of a Lodge who sell just one (1) book of 25 tickets brings \$1100 back to that lodge for use at their discretion. Lodge return for ticket sales is:

1-100 tickets sold = \$5.00/ticket

101-200 tickets sold = \$5.50/ticket

201-300 tickets sold = \$6.00/ticket

301-349 tickets sold = \$6.50/ticket

350 - or more tickets sold = \$7.00/ticket

Prizes for the top three ticket sales in three categories of lodges are also available.

Lodges are divided into groups based on the number of members: 1-75 members, 76- 200 members, and 201 or more members. See official rules for prize amounts and regulations to qualify for these awards.

We also encourage lodges, orders, concordant bodies, clubs, and youth groups to consider purchasing tickets in the name of their organization for an opportunity to win some much-needed funds that would have lasting positive effects for lasting positive effects years to come.

All net proceeds of the M.:W.: Grand Lodge will be used in its' entirety to aid the Deputy Grand Master in the programming and execution of the 2023 budget for the Grand

Lodge of Oklahoma.

Let's all get involved in this cause to raise some much-needed funds. The need for positive exposure in the community is vital now, and this will provide a great way to talk to others about Masonry and the many charities we support.

Tickets are available through your lodge, any Fundraiser Committee Member, by emailing me directly at glenchaney7070@gmail.com or call the Grand Secretary at (405) 282-3213. Lodge Secretaries can contact me to request them at (580)583-3430 or by text message at the same number.

Fraternally and Respectfully,

Glen A. Chaney, Deputy Grand Master 2022



**Seiling Lodge #495
Seiling School Cornerstone**



2022 OKLAHOMA MASONIC FUNDRAISER

TICKETS

\$20

Up to 35% of all
Donations go
back to the local
lodge



11 NOVEMBER 2022



**2 - \$25,000.00 GRAND PRIZE
DRAWINGS**

**MUST BE 18
years or
older to Win**

**10- \$1000.00 Drawings
5- \$500.00 Drawings**

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

**Grand Lodge
Trustees NOT
Eligible to win**

17 CHANCES TO WIN!

LODGE PARTICIPATION INCENTIVES
Lodges will receive up to \$7 per ticket sold

SEE OFFICIAL FUNDRAISER RULES FOR DETAILS

LODGES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE (3) CATEGORIES –

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| DIVISION I | 1-75 Members |
| DIVISION II | 76 – 200 Members |
| DIVISION III | 201 – above Members |

TOP SELLING LODGE

\$5000.00 PRIZE

2nd TOP SELLING LODGE

\$1250.00 Prize

3rd TOP SELLING LODGE

\$1000.00 PRIZE

**Lodge WM, SW or JW MUST be present at the Grand
Lodge Annual Communication (12 Nov 2022) to be
eligible to receive the TOP SELLING incentive awards.**

A couple of thoughts from your Senior Grand Warden

As I write this, the month of May 2022 is almost gone. It also appears that the worst of the pandemic seems to be behind us. Our fraternity's activity and work appear to be on the road to getting back to normal. At least in my home lodge and those I have had the opportunity to visit, attendance is on the upswing. However, I do not believe that Lodge attendance will automatically return to pre-pandemic numbers. We must take positive steps to contact brothers not heard from in a while. Calling trees, email lists, and buddy systems are possibilities to encourage a return to Lodge proactively.



John Carter

Senior Grand Warden

In the appendant bodies, all three Scottish Rite Valleys held regular weekend reunions, and all three were well attended. In the York Rite, we could have the usual schedule of Oklahoma York Rite grand sessions.

As Lodges are also back at work, I have been impressed with the quality of the ritual work exhibited in the Lodges I have visited. I commend the officers of these Lodges for their efforts in learning and performing our opening and closing ritual. I appreciate the extra effort many brethren have put forth in the proper presentation of our ritual, especially after the extended time we could not meet due to the pandemic safeguards. I also believe of significant importance is the application of the words of our ritual to our lives. Every word in our work is there for a reason and is meant to be applied and lived out.

Many Lodges have resumed their weekly or monthly ritual practices. District Schools of Instruction have been held, and more are scheduled in many areas of the state. Degree work in the Lodges seems to be increasing. Lodges have also begun fundraising projects for the benefit of Lodge operations and good charitable causes.

Your Grand Lodge Officers have continued to be active. We have traveled to district meetings, fifty-year pin presentations, local Lodge fund raisers, and numerous other activities throughout the state.

Again, I hope that we have turned a corner and are on the path to normalcy in terms of society, travel, etc., and more importantly, back to better than normal – better than ever before, in the Lodges in our state. If I can be of service to you or your Lodge, please call on me.

John Carter, SGW

Keep the main thing the main thing.

Brotherhood: Do We Really Mean It?

by Dr. Jim Tresner

Sometimes the strangest things trigger memories. I was having my hair cut. I have to go to a beauty shop which also cuts men's hair, because it's about the only place in town where you can make an appointment and my schedule usually makes that necessary.

Many men get their hair cut there, so that part doesn't feel strange, but there is always a smell of ammonia and the arcane potions used in permanent waves.

The sound of hair dryers lulled in the background, and I probably dozed a bit. But when I opened my eyes and looked up into the mirror, for just a second, I saw not the young lady who was cutting my hair, but

Brother Claude Fox. And I blessed his memory, and wished I could go back.



Fox's Barber Shop in Enid was a real barber shop, something few of our younger Brethren have ever experienced. You took half a flight of stairs down from the sidewalk, and opened the door, where a little, spring-mounted bell rang, and it was another world. The wooden floor had long since lost its varnish, but it was polished to a patina by the leather soles of shoes and the constant sweeping of hair.

The barber's chairs were things of wonder, made of white porcelain and steel and red leather, and you knew you were a man on the day when Claude no longer had to put a board across the arms of the chair for you to sit on. There were the smells, strange, mysterious smells from tobacco and leather and bay rum and rose water and the dozens of bottles, all made of clear glass with long necks and black stoppers with little holes through which the barber could shake the mysterious liquids into his palm before rubbing them into your hair. They contained liquids which glittered like jewels, like rubies or emeralds or amethysts or topaz. And there was the smell of lather, and the

particular smell of a leather razor strop. The lather was whipped up in a mug with a brush. Claude bought a small black lather machine one day (you had to keep up with the times) but all his customers were glad when he went back to the mug and brush. In those days, even when you were a kid, the barber shaved the space between the top of your ears and the hairline.

And kids came in with their fathers, but you were expected to be a man while you were in the barber shop. For this was a man's country. Women simply didn't enter. It would have surprised me less to see an elephant walking down Independence Street than to see a woman walk into Fox's Barber Shop.

And I looked up, and saw myself in a mirror in the beauty shop, fifty years later, and my heart cried out for Brother Claude.

Because, and this is the point, there was brotherhood in that barber shop. It was as much a part of the background as the smells and the squeaking of the black cast iron ceiling fan, or the gurgle of the water fountain or the soft clatter of the black tin wire-handled dustpan into which the barbers swept the clippings after each haircut. Claude Fox had two other barbers working in the shop with him, and all of them were Masons. And so were many of the customers. Sometimes my Father and Grandfather and I would all go in for haircuts together. Grandad and Claude were both on the Garfield County Scottish Rite Rose Croix funeral team, And they would "run language" while Grandad got his hair cut. Conversation was almost always about the Lodge, and what it was doing or planning. And I learned early how to tell when a Reunion was coming up, because one or two days before, almost all the men I knew were in Claude's shop, getting trimmed to be ready. Two of the Degrees were staged by teams from Enid, and several men were on other teams as well. I took the Scottish Rite Degrees long and long before I took them in the Temple.

There was peace in that barber shop, and companionship, and perfect Brotherhood. These men trusted each other completely. It was many, many years afterward when I began to learn how much they had relied on each other, helped each other out, attended weddings together, celebrated births together, and bore the pall together. But I knew, even then, that it was special and real, and when these men called each other "Brother Jack." or "Brother Claude," or "Brother J.T.," in a half- teasing, half-sacred tone, I knew, somehow, that they meant it.

There are few places of Brotherhood today; few worlds which are reserved for men alone. I'm told that some athletic clubs are like that: for those of us who get our exercise bearing the pall for our friends who are health freaks, they might as well be on the moon.

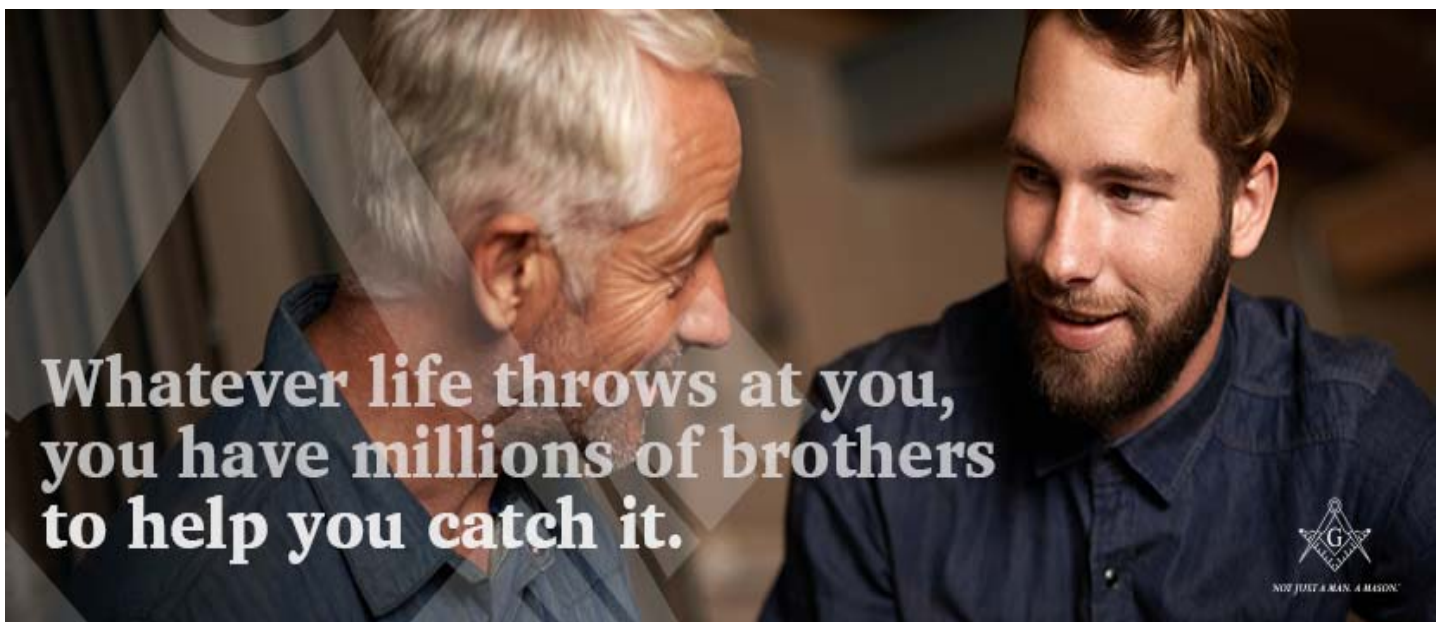
But Masonry is such a refuge.

I don't mean that women aren't allowed in the Temple. Many ladies attend the Reunion at Guthrie. We're glad to see them and we have special programs to encourage them. But they are not and cannot be part of the Brotherhood, any more than we can be part of the sisterhood of P.E.O.

We teach Brotherhood. But I sometimes wonder if we teach it to our younger members in such a way that they understand we really mean it. And, in some cases, I wonder if we really mean it.

I heard a Mason, the other day, dismiss the plight of another Mason by saying, "I didn't take him to raise." Oh yes, you did! We all did. We all took each other to raise. And if we lose that, we have lost everything. We must find a way to communicate to the new Mason, and to remind ourselves, that we must and will be there, no matter what. No matter how stupid a situation may be, no matter how childish we may think some reaction may be, no matter how angry we may become, no matter how tired of trying to help we may become, no matter how frustrated, or involved in our own affairs, or just simply weary we may be, we have promised to God and our Brethren that we will be there. If we lose sight of the reality that our job is to help each other, then all the promises of Brotherhood are simply a sham. If we are Brothers only when it is convenient, we are not Brothers. If we are willing to be Brothers when our Brother has some neat and clean problem, but ready to shun him if he should develop a problem with drugs or alcohol or the law, we have no claim to fraternalism. Any strangers from the street could do that.

But when it is real, Brotherhood is one of the most powerful, creative, healing and redemptive forces in the universe. It's up to us to make it real. It's up to us to mean it.





2022 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year



Moore Lodge #539 RGLO



Composite Lodge #107 RGLO— 3/8/2022

2022 FILINGS FOR GRAND LODGE OFFICE

In order of date received

| Office/Member | Date Filed |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN | |
| John R. Guinn | 12/29/2021 |
| Don H. Stanton | 03/28/2022 |
| GRAND SECRETARY | |
| Michael L. Dixon, PGM | 03/10/2022 |
| MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION | |
| Robert G. Davis, PGM | 01/07/2022 |
| Kane Smith | 02/14/2022 |
| Ronald J. Chambers, PGM | 03/09/2022 |
| Landon Blaine Jones | 03/21/2022 |
| Mark Wayne Condit | 03/21/2022 |
| MUSEUM AND LIBRARY BOARD | |
| Clyde H. Schoolfield, Jr | 01/05/2022 |
| Kenneth Sivard, Jr | 01/10/2022 |
| Steven E. Cox | 03/15/2022 |
| Rusty D. Henson | 03/23/2022 |
| Donnie G. Higginbotham | 03/24/2022 |
| Bryan J. Pumphrey | 03/29/2022 |
| Jay A. Wall | 03/30/2022 |
| Jim L. Seeger | 03/30/2022 |
| Robert Rolseth | 03/30/2022 |
| M. Logan Bryant | 03/31/2022 |

Lodges celebrating a major milestone

Shown in Charter Date/Alphabetic order

145 Years

Cherokee Lodge #10
Flint Lodge #11

130 Years

Chandler Lodge #58
Coronado Lodge #56
El Reno Lodge #50
Kingfisher Lodge #52
Murrow Lodge #49
Sunset Lodge #57
Will Rogers Lodge #53

125 Years

Altus Lodge #62
Cushing Lodge #111
Mangum Lodge #61
Wah-Shah-She Lodge #110
Ada Lodge #119
Hartshorne-Haileyville Lodge #122
Holdenville Lodge #123
Sallisaw Lodge #120
Staples Lodge #117
Stigler Lodge #121
Stratford Lodge #118

120 Years

Cashion Lodge #174
Elk City Lodge #182
Lawton Lodge #183
Mountain View Lodge #168
Woodward Lodge #189
Gene Autry Catoosa Lodge #185
Grove Lodge #187

115 Years

Clinton Lodge #339
Guymon Lodge #335
Hinton Lodge #313
Macomb Lodge #310
Oologah Lodge #343
Porum Lodge #351

110 Years

Britton Lodge #434
Oriental Lodge #430

105 Years

Amity Lodge #473

100 Years

Cyril Lodge #504
Garfield Lodge #501
Jenks Lodge #497
Red Fork-Brookside Lodge #505
Seiling Lodge #495
Trinity Lodge #502



Woodward Lodge #189—120 Yr Celebration

Words from The Craft

As I sit here relaxing after a wonderful weekend, I feel compelled to share a few thoughts. Those who know me know that I am an active Master Mason as well as an active member of our appendant bodies. And while one of those bodies is well known for its philanthropy which provides world-class orthopedic and burn care to children at no cost to them or their families, our love for children and community does not stop there!

Shriners are not the only appendant body that looks after our kids. Take, for example, the Scottish Rite. Through their support, local Rite Care Clinics impact the lives of children with speech and language disorders and learning disabilities.

Our Chapters support the Royal Arch Research Assistance through the York Rite, which focuses on central auditory processing disorders. Through this research, great strides have been made in understanding and developing treatments and therapies which can benefit anyone affected by this disorder, from children to the elderly.

The Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation (CMMRF) was incorporated in the State of Oklahoma on March 6, 1986. CMMRF fund research at Indiana University School of Medicine. Initial research focused on causes and a cure for atherosclerosis and associated complications. In later years, the study has implemented stem cell therapies to address various mature health issues, but not necessarily restricted to the adult population. This philanthropy has given grants equaling \$4,685,464 from 1974 to the present.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, incorporated in 1956, is a charity sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. Focused initially on needy patient care, on December 31, 2010, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation changed the Foundation's focus and adopted a new mission statement "to improve vision through research, education, and supporting access to care." The Foundation now only participates in direct patient care through the Seniors EyeCare Program in partnership with EyeCare America and the American Academy of Ophthalmology Foundation. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation benefits untold millions in generations to come through grants that support research and education. Our research dollars have helped develop new, non-surgical treatments for strabismus (crossed eyes). Since its inception, the Foundation has expended over \$164 million on research, patient care, and education.

Another great program run by the Knights Templar is the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Through this

program, ministers are sent on an educational and life-changing journey to the Holy Land at no cost to them or their congregations, and the Knights Templars pay all expenses.

But does charity and community involvement stop with these philanthropies? Of course not! Our local Masonic Lodges contribute tens of thousands of dollars annually with the assistance of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma. These funds assist individuals, local non-profits and charities, college scholarships, FFA, and many others.

I say all this to say while some may say, “it’s all about the kids,” I like to think that while we are great stewards of our children, we take a broader view and realize it’s all about ourselves and our fellow man.

Mark McFadden PM Muskogee Lodge No. 28



Drumright Lodge #468 Centennial Cornerstone



The Grand Lodge *of* OKLAHOMA



The Oklahoma Mason is a publication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma.

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