

THE

OKLAHOMA



MASON

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

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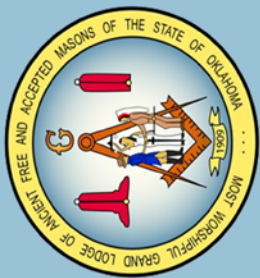
December 2021



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The Grand Lodge
of
OKLAHOMA



Scott Vincent
Grand Master 2022

Words from your Grand Master

I would like to take this time to first and above all, give thanks and praise to my creator for the blessings that he has bestowed on my family and me these last five years that I have served the craft of this great state. Second, I would like to thank my wife and family for the support they have shown and given during this time. Last, thank you to the craft for your confidence and support.

When I became involved in the Grand Lodge, my first thought was that I should never forget the very basic fundamentals that make up any endeavor that one is involved in. Today that statement has not changed. The basics of any endeavor we choose to pursue will always be the most solid foundation that we can build on. By looking back on the articles that I have submitted, I know that there is one topic that I have always made a comment or reference to - attitude is the essential factor that can and will make the difference in success or failure.

Brothers, I ask each one of you to check your attitude. Be honest with yourself; not one of us has the perfect attitude. There is one example that comes to mind that my wife and I used in our business. When anyone came through the door of our business, our basic goal was that they were not leaving unless they had a smile on their face. The reasoning behind this one simple gesture is a smile will always make one's day just a little better.

Brothers, our goal this year is to put that smile on everyone we come in contact with. This is the best impression we leave with anyone. I read an article that a past Grand Master wrote saying there were three R's in masonry: Ritual, Rules, and Responsibility. The responsibility to ourselves is we should endeavor to improve ourselves not only in our masonic walk, but in all areas of our lives, to our brothers by setting an example for each to follow, and to the profane in that they see nothing that will cause them to have a derogatory thought towards the fraternity.

The basic beginning of this action is simply having a positive attitude. The first question to ask yourself is, "Am I acting as an asset or a liability to the situation in which I am involved?" The answer to this question determines the direction of your path. We do not have to agree on all the situations that come before us, but we have to respect one's opinion without malice.

In my travels around the state, I have noticed that there is a pattern of self-centeredness that is becoming the norm. Brothers, in my opinion, this must stop if masonry is going to survive. You may have noticed the mission statement I have used, TOGETHER WE GROW UNITED WE STAND, in all my correspondence, it means just what it implies. Brothers, we need to find a way to grow together, or we are going to fail alone!

In closing, I am asking you, my brothers, to examine yourself, take inventory of the heart, and recommit to becoming a part of the solution of turning our great fraternity toward the opening scene of success.

TOGETHER WE GROW UNITED WE STAND.

Scott Vincent GM



Choose Your Words Carefully

By

RW Glen Chaney

It is such an honor to serve you and our Oklahoma jurisdiction as Deputy Grand Master. It is a humbling experience and I look forward to seeing all of you on our Masonic paths in 2022.

At the start of each Masonic year, we elect and appoint a new set of Officers for each lodge. It is the hope of these Officers to lead their respective lodges in improving themselves, strengthening the bonds of Brotherhood and serving others in the Fraternity and the community through fundraising.

Fundraisers are so important to our Fraternity and to the outreach that we provide to the many great causes and efforts across our state. They are some of the best ways we connect with the public and a great portion of what the public sees from our Masonic Fraternity. Surveys have shown that 88-92% of potential members found charitable efforts as well as the image of philanthropy important to them. We should be driven to succeed in these areas to support and encourage their interest in joining us in our fraternity and truly making a difference in our State.

The way we communicate these fundraisers outside of the Fraternity is one area that we need to focus on as it provides opportunity to build trust in our communities and accomplish the fundraising goals. As we know, we are somewhat skilled at raising money from inside the Masonic organizations, but when it comes to raising money outside of our lodges and Districts, we struggle. A vast majority of the public has little knowledge of blue lodge Masonry and the philanthropic nature of our constituent lodges until they are approached to give to a cause. We are continuously trying to improve our brand and as we do, we must be aware that how we speak of a fundraiser is very important in guiding the outcome of the effort.

When we speak of an effort, we say things like we are “trying to raise” or that we “hope to raise X amount of dollars.” In this case, we are more likely to get a “*Good Luck*” instead of a few dollars to the cause itself. But if we try something different, if we convey the effort to non-Masons with the goals in mind, we may experience better outcomes. Instead of saying, “*hey we are holding a fundraiser..*” try “*Hey, did you hear what the Masons are doing?*” Then tell them how it is going to help others and what a great cause it is. I am willing



Glen Chaney
Deputy Grand Master

to bet we get more buy in and support for the cause. By saying that we “*are*” doing and we “*are raising*” tells them we are committed to that outcome and focused on the efforts it will take to achieve it.

For example, “Have you heard what the Masons ***are doing***? They ***are raising*** a thousand dollars for the Jones family who lost their car in an accident. *The Masonic lodge is* helping to replace it so they can get back on their feet and get to work. They ***are*** doing this by holding a benefit luncheon. I have some tickets, would you like to help and be a part of it? They can use every dollar they can get.”

Our choice of words play an important part in how we are perceived and what action the person perceiving us will take next. A strong principle of team leadership is to focus on and be committed to, not only the process but the ***outcome*** as well. Instead of saying they will “try” to raise \$1000, we should be saying they “will” raise \$1000. Be committed to that outcome that we set out to accomplish. Believe there is nothing that can keep you from achieving that goal. Masonry is local. Affecting our local communities with much needed charitable funds to worthy causes is where we will experience the greatest rewards. Let us all make sure we are painting the right picture with our words that move our communities to be part of the help we will give.

Always remember that what we say and ***how we say it*** are equally important. This applies to just about everything in Masonry.... our ritual, our conversations with new candidates and the wise, caring counsel we give to another Brother. Choose your words carefully My Brothers, for they are the legacy of our intentions.



A Few Thoughts

By

RW John Carter

My Brethren, I humbly thank you for the honor and privilege of serving your Grand Lodge in the coming year as Senior Grand Warden. I thank and appreciate the brethren who attended Grand Lodge sessions to conduct the important business of your Grand Lodge. To M^W Robert G. Davis, now Past Grand Master, I thank you for your leadership in the past year and for the opportunity to be a part of the group of men who served with you. To M^W Scott Vincent, I look forward to the coming year and the positive impact the men who serve with you will have on our fraternity.

Masonry has been a life-changing process for me. I am grateful for the many Masonic mentors, past and present, who have guided my fraternal experience. Those in the present (in addition to those previously mentioned above) are too numerous to mention. However, through the misty eyes of memory, I can still see men such as Hastings Savage and Bobby Crook: sitting in Lodge with them, being taught the esoteric language, observing their impact on other men, and seeing how they handled the everyday problems of life.

The influence and example of men such as these live on with me long past their time on this earth. They taught me much in word and deed, so many valuable lessons, both inside the Lodge and out.

In the Lodge, from them I learned the importance of ritual, not just the correct words, but understanding the meaning and moral lessons which the correct words taught. More importantly, to apply those lessons to my life and be the kind of man I needed and wanted to be. I learned brotherly love and affection as they greeted all who came through the Lodge room door. I learned the value of hearing others' points of view and opinions and common courtesy as I heard them discuss and debate issues in the Lodge.

Outside the Lodge, these men exemplified and taught integrity, honesty, charity, tenacity, humor, and how much of our successful life experiences are dependent on a positive attitude.



John Carter
Senior Grand Warden

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A Heartfelt Thanks
from
RW James R. Roderick

My Brethren,

I wish to thank each of you for the opportunity and honor to serve our Craft. With this next year and those to come, I am looking forward to the exciting advancements that I believe our Grand Line will be making. My interest in making myself available at this time was based on what I feel the brothers directly ahead of me in this line are wanting to accomplish. I simply wanted to be a part of that team and offer what I could to their growth plans by shoring up our foundation, improving financial stability, and providing genuine service to the Craft. From the new Ashlar Award program to assisting lodges in any way possible, I have great hope and faith this Grand Line will provide the service the Craft deserves. Regardless of the titles or aprons worn, when we act upon the level, working together as one, with the same goals, nothing can stop Oklahoma masonry.

My earnest goal is that we all work together to secure the future of this unique and honorable fraternity for the generations to come. I genuinely believe that we can accomplish anything with a statewide band of brothers working together as one.

After all, we are OKLAHOMA MASONS!

Respectfully at your service,

James R. Roderick
Junior Grand Warden



James R. Roderick
Junior Grand Warden



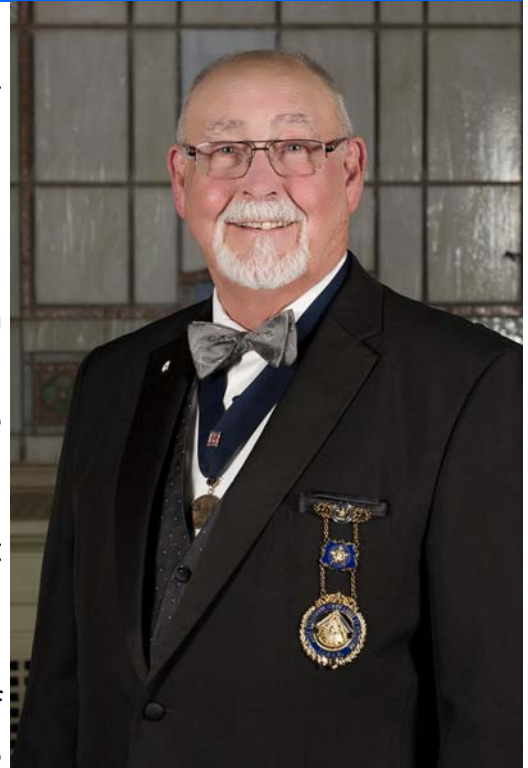
The Grand Lodge
of
OKLAHOMA

To the Craft of Oklahoma
by
MW Bob Peters

I am grateful to all of you for allowing me to serve as Grand Lecturer. There is no way to fill the shoes of my predecessor, *R.: W.: Ronnie Wray* and I'm not going to try, but I will do my best to carry on the high standards he set forth and make myself available to you at any time.

Brother Wray worked tirelessly to perpetuate and maintain the ritual work of this Grand Jurisdiction. He will be missed in the capacity of Grand Lecturer, but he will continue to be available as Grand Lecturer Emeritus.

In my opinion, the ritual of Oklahoma is one of the most informative and complete works of any jurisdiction. Each degree's floor work and language is designed and written to show each candidate the importance and meaning of masonry. In putting on our degrees, we must demonstrate not only our ability to memorize the language but also our floor work. Each degree not only needs to sound good but should also look good.



MW Bob Peters
Grand Lecturer

I look forward to working with you at the upcoming district and regional schools across our state.

The Ironman in Yukon,
Master Builder in Broken Arrow,
Tough School in Atoka,
Cowboy Boot Camp in Sands Springs
Cornerstone Academy in Lawton.
Another regional school is being planned for Shawnee.

I urge you to attend at least one of the schools in your area.
For the Good,

Bob

2021 Medal of Honor Winners

Dan Brown

Dan lives with his wife Barbara in Geronimo, OK, where he serves on the city council. He was raised to the sublimed degree of Master Mason, 25 July 2002 at Triangle Lodge #548. He is a member of Triangle #548, Lawton #183, Mt Scott #540, Apache #223, and Cache Valley #530. He has served in numerous offices in his lodges, culminating in his serving as Worshipful Master of Triangle #548 in 2004 and 2006, Worshipful Master of Lawton #183 in 2008, and Worshipful Master of Cache Valley #530 in 2014, 2015, and 2016. Dan served as District Deputy Grand Master for District #34 during 2017 and 2018. He is also the Director of the Great Plains Blue Lodge Degree Team. He is a Certificate lecturer.

Dan is a member of India Shrine and is currently serving as an Ambassador. He is a member of the Lawton Ft Sill Shrine Club. He is a Past President of the club and is presently serving as the club Secretary. He is also a member of the Duncan Shrine Club, the Altus Shrine Club, and the SWOKIES.

Dan is a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Guthrie. He is a member of KCCH and Director of the 29th degree, Asst. Director of the 21st-degree team and member of the 15th degree.

Dan is a member of Lawton York rite Bodies. Where he has served in numerous offices. He is a Past High Priest of Chapter # 44, Past Illustrious Master of Council # 21, and a Past Commander of Commandery #12.

Dan is also a Member of Ft Sill Sojourners. He was awarded the Oklahoma Masonic Medal of Honor on 18 October 2018.

John Logan

John Logan is a 37-year member of Woodward 189, serving as WM in 1989. He is also a member of Edmond 37 and Guildhall 553, serving as Treasurer since 2015. Logan has served the Grand Lodge in numerous appointed officer and committee positions, including the Museum & Library board from 2008-2020.

Logan is a 33° member of the Guthrie Scottish Rite and has served on its Advisory Conference

since 1999.

Logan is also an active member of the York Rite and served as Grand Commander, Grand Illustrious Master, and Grand High Priest. Currently, he serves Convent General KYCH as the Personal Representative for District 12, the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons as the Regional Deputy General Grand Master – South Central Region, and the Intendent General in Oklahoma for the Red Cross of Constantine.

Professionally, Logan is the Executive Director of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma. He and his wife Diane reside in Edmond.

Cecil Walker

Cecil Walker and his wife, Kim have been married for 41 years. Cecil and Kim have 3 children, Michael of Washington D.C., Ryan of Oklahoma City and Erin of Edmond and are blessed with 3 grandsons, Tyson, Oliver and Carson.

Cecil is a Past Master of Albert Pike Lodge #162, 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason, York Rite Mason, Prince of Peace Conclave Red Cross of Constantine, Grand Executive Committee Member International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, recipient of the DeMolay Legion of Honor and Honorary DeMolay Degree.

Continued Thoughts of John Carter

Then, as I negotiated the everyday struggles of life, I was taught true brotherhood by these men who took a sincere interest in my life situations. They did so by simple actions like inviting me to lunch, or to their home, or lending an ear to let me vent, or just an encouraging word amid the struggles of a tough day (or week or month) at work. Now, I am more fully cognizant of not only what they were teaching me, but the real lesson is that I am to do as they had done; be to others as they had been to me. That, above all, is my heartfelt desire.

I look forward to the coming year.

John Carter

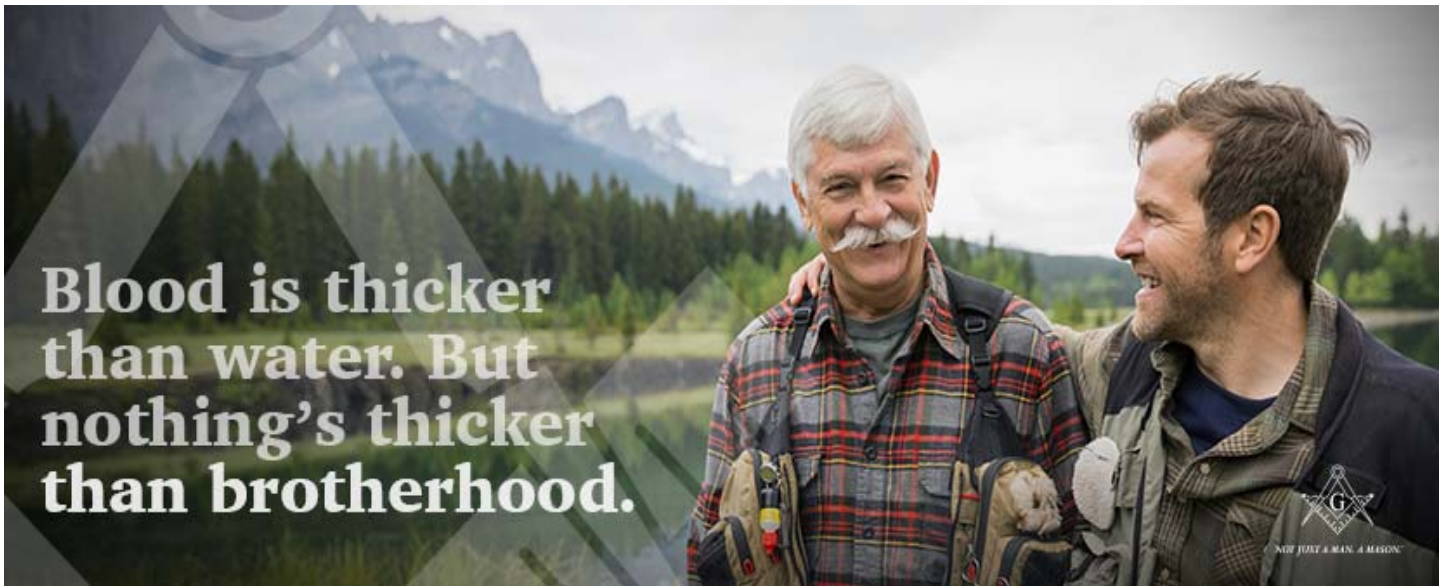


GRAND VIEW

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The Grand Lodge *of* OKLAHOMA



**Blood is thicker
than water. But
nothing's thicker
than brotherhood.**

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