



THE OKLAHOMA SCOTTISH RITE MASON

PUBLISHED BY THE GUTHRIE OKLAHOMA VALLEY

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY — SOUTHERN JURISDICTION — UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Number 2

September 2008

George Washington National Masonic Memorial Reunion to be held October 4-5, 2008!

“To inspire humanity through education, to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country.”

At first, it may seem unusual that a Scottish Rite reunion would make note of another Masonic building situated in another state. But the George Washington National Masonic Memorial is not just any Masonic building.

It was erected during the same period as the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple by 2 million American Masons as a memorial to George Washington, the Mason; the preeminent member of the fraternity.

George Seghars, Director of the Memorial; and Mark Tabbart, librarian, were both planning on attending the Guthrie fall reunion anyway; so we decided to pay tribute to the Memorial and solicit their help in making our reunion a success.

George will address the class



during the weekend about the Memorial itself and Tabbart, author of the highly acclaimed *American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities*, will be the keynote speaker at the banquet on Saturday evening. A wonderful exhibit of the Memorial will also be displayed in the temple atrium for the weekend.

The reunion begins with a candidate registration and reception on Friday evening, followed by an introduction to the Scottish Rite and the noted Knights of St. Andrews processional of squires.

Opening ceremonies are scheduled for 8:30 am, October 4th. The degree work will proceed throughout the weekend. The fall reunion will offer a good mix of degree conferrals

and education. Many members feel like the balance between ritual and learning makes the Guthrie fall reunions the most enjoyable of the year.

The degree teams are ready to go and we are very much looking forward to hosting the fall reunion. Mark your calendars now and pledge to spend some time with your 32° brothers on October 4-5!

The degree schedule is displayed below and continue on page 2. Passport degrees are the 4th, 7th, 17th and 20th degrees.

REUNION SCHEDULE Friday, October 3, 2008

Candidate Registration 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Candidate Reception 7:30 p.m.
Intro to the Scottish Rite Experience 8:00 p.m.
Knights of St Andrew Processional 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 4, 2008

Breakfast, Snack Bar7:00-8:00 a.m.
Registration of Candidates 7:30-8:00 a.m.
Election of Class Officers-Egyptian Rm 8:00 a.m.
Opening Ceremonies 8:30 a.m.
The Journey of the Master Mason/Introduction
to the Lodge of Perfection 9:30 a.m.
*4° Secret Master (Guthrie-Johnston) 10:00 a.m.
5° Perfect Master (Kay-Reuber) 10:40 a.m.
*7° Provost and Judge (Altus-King) 11:20 a.m.
8° Intendant of the Building (Cushing-Dunaway) .. 11:45 a.m.
Lunch, Snack Bar..... 12:05 p.m.
9°, 10° Elu of Nine, Fifteen (Okla City-Robison) 1:00 p.m.
13° Royal Arch of Solomon (Choctaw-Smith) 2:00 p.m.
14° Perfect Elu (Moore-Hanna) 2:55 p.m.
Obligation 4°-14° 3:45 p.m.
Q&A/Candidate Discussion-Egyptian Rm 3:55 p.m.
*17° Knight of the East & West (Duncan-Lewis)..... 4:45 p.m.
18° Knight Rose Croix (Okla City-Weed) 5:45 p.m.
Obligation 6:50 p.m.

Continued on Page 2



Mark Tabbart

**GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC
MEMORIAL REUNION
Continued from Page 1**

Saturday, October 4, 2008

**Banquet 7:00 p.m.
Keynote Address by
Mark Tabbart**

**Panel Discussion with Candidates
8:30 p.m.**

Sunday October 5, 2008

Breakfast, Snack Bar	6:30 a.m.
Commentary on Rose Croix and Intro to Council of Kadosh.....	7:00 a.m.
*20° Master of the Symbolic Lodge (Woodward-Logan).....	7:20 a.m.
George Washington National Masonic Memorial Presentation by George Seghars	8:15 a.m.
Ancient Mystery Traditions/Commentary on the 19-27th Degrees.....	8:55 a.m.
28° Knight Commander of the Temple (Enid-Heaton)	10:10 a.m.
Class Memorial.....	11:15 a.m.
Class Picture.....	11:30 a.m.
Lunch, Snack Bar.....	12:00 p.m.
30° Knight of Kadosh (OKC-Berry).....	1:00 p.m.
Obligation 19°-30°	1:55 p.m.
31° Initiate of the Egyptian Mysteries (Guthrie-Monroe).....	2:20 p.m.
32° Master of the Royal Secret (OKC-Dixon).....	3:40 p.m.
*Passport Degrees	



Top flight group at Scottish Rite Clay Pigeon Shoot held at Silverleaf Shotgun Sports in Guthrie on July 14: L-R, Jason Marshall, Dan Brown, Dean Monroe, Chris Sheehan, Mike Gillespie, Robert Cook, Shane Pate, Dan Foerster, and Robert Davis

Perpetual Membership Fee to Increase

The cost of a perpetual endowed membership in the Scottish Rite in Oklahoma will increase from \$600 to \$750, effective January 1, 2009. In a meeting held earlier in the summer with the Secretaries and Personal Representatives of the three Oklahoma Valleys, Inspector Jennings announced it was time we came more in line with what other Orients are charging for their perpetual memberships across the Southern Jurisdiction.

The current fee of \$600 was set by Supreme Council statute a few years ago as the minimum that could be charged for a permanent membership in any Valley. Since all money contributed to a perpetual membership is endowed, it doesn't take a genius to determine that a high annual rate of return is required for a perpetual membership to financially aid a Valley at the same rate annual dues payments do. In fact, in order to equate to the \$60 annual dues, a \$600 endowed gift would require a 10% annual return. Since it is a board policy that no principal can ever be removed from the Valley's perpetual membership fund, this particular fund is invested in bonds rather than equities. In today's economy, a 10% annual return with the degree of safety we desire for our endowed funds is hardly likely.

In announcing the fee increase, Inspector Jennings noted there are some

individuals in each Oklahoma Valley who are currently making payments toward a perpetual membership. He directed the administrators of the Valleys to grandfather such members so their \$600 principal would not increase under the new program.

The Guthrie Valley has been a strong supporter of perpetual memberships since the program was initially established in 1987. Today, the Valley has 2,336 perpetual members, representing 49.7% of the Valley's membership. It is important to note that 40% of the Valley's perpetual members are deceased. As this percentage increases over time, the benefits from the endowed fund also increase; making the perpetual membership program a stable and predictable source of future income for the Valley.

If you have been thinking about investing in a perpetual membership in the Valley of Guthrie, this fall would be an opportunity to save 20%. All that is required to become a perpetual member is that you be current in your dues when you make your payment to the perpetual fund. To participate, send a check in the amount of \$600 to the Guthrie Lodge of Perfection, PO Box 70, Guthrie, OK 73044 and mark your memo "PEM." If you prefer, you can also make 4 equal payments of \$150, beginning in September and running through December.



At the August Lodge of Perfection meeting, Oklahoma City Banker, Stephen Guerrero, was presented a certificate by Robert Davis, 33°, G.C., Valley Secretary, signed by Ronnie A. Seale, 33°, Grand Commander, SJ, AASR, for completion of the Master Craftsman Scottish Rite education program sponsored by the House of the Temple in Washington, DC. Brother Guerrero is the first Guthrie member to complete the program. Anyone can enroll at the Supreme Council website, <http://www.scottishrite.org/>. Take Scottish Rite Mason link and scroll down to Master Craftsman site.

Valley Masonic Education Programs Grow

When the Supreme Council announced the adoption of its strategic plan in the spring of 2006, each Valley in the Southern Jurisdiction was asked to develop its own Valley plan toward addressing the objectives outlined by the larger national plan. Not known to the Supreme Council at that time, Joseph C. Jennings, Jr., 33°, SGIG in Oklahoma, was already three years down the road with his own requirement of a Valley strategic plan for the Scottish Rite in Oklahoma.

Thus, when the House of the Temple requested a formal report be forwarded to them from the Guthrie Valley in October, 2006, asking what we intended to do in implementing the national plan, all that was necessary was let the ink dry on Inspector Jennings' previously approved plan and submit it to our national headquarters in Washington, DC.

That was the easy part. The one caution about planning is to make sure there is a next step; that the plan becomes something more than just a lonely document on a shelf which never gets used. Fortunately, the proof of any plan implementation is always in the action that comes from it.

We thought it may be worthwhile for our members to have an update on the Masonic education part of our national objectives and where the Guthrie Valley is in terms of accomplishment two years later. First, here is the Supreme Council's adopted objective for the Scottish Rite:

Fulfill the promise of additional Masonic knowledge through education and training.

The Guthrie Valley has always believed that the Scottish Rite is the college course in Masonic philosophy and understanding. More light in Masonry is the clearest and best way to brand what the Rite offers within the family of Freemasonry. We are strong in our conviction that when Master Masons come to the Rite, they fully expect to receive Masonic education beyond the lodge level. They hope to expand their knowledge and understanding of Masonry.

To this end, several programs have been implemented within the Valley.

1. Guthrie College of Consistory—a home study course through the degrees of the Scottish Rite. The course consists of multiple choice exams and

essays written on various themes and questions presented in syllabus form for each of the degrees. The Guthrie college program has expanded nationwide. Any Scottish Rite Mason can access the program. There are currently almost 800 members from 40 Orients and 10 countries enrolled in the Guthrie College of Consistory. An encrypted area of the Valley's website provides a file of over 200 essays about the degrees written by College members.

2. All 29 degrees of the Rite presented every year—it is a vain fantasy to expect someone to learn about the Scottish Rite if he never gets to witness at least a majority of the degrees. Due to the energetic and lasting commitment of over 400 of our members, the Guthrie Valley continues to confer all 29 degrees of the Rite in the spring reunion each year. This reunion is so popular that it is not unusual to have 50 to 100 out-of-state Masons in attendance.

3. Candidate and Member Reunion Education—during the fall reunion each year, fewer degrees are staged, but those conferred are strategically chosen for their overall significance to the theme of the Rite. Breakout sessions are held throughout the weekend for further degree explanations, dialogue, and contemplation of the teachings of the Rite.

4. Valley website—includes general information about the degrees and history of the Rite; along with informative and educational boards for knowledge sharing and member dialogue. One of the unique things about the Guthrie message boards is that idle chat and conversation is not permitted. People registered with our Boards are there to learn from others and share what they know.

5. Mentorship Program—the Valley has a peer to peer mentorship program whose purpose is to get candidates acquainted with members during Reunions and to offer those who want to participate in continuing education programs between reunions to become a part of the work of the com-

mittee. Quarterly feasts of reason are held which combines a formal dinner with academic conversation focused on the philosophic and esoteric nature of the Scottish Rite.

6. Traveling Library—members share their favorite choice of academic readings with each other during the course of the year and select times to discuss how their readings have improved their knowledge.

7. Beyond the Ritual—a monthly get together to discuss the meanings behind the ritual language of the Craft and Scottish Rite degrees.

8. Academic Essay Contest—an academic essay competition wherein a contemporary Masonic issue is brought up and contestants argue for or against the issue. Winners are chosen for the best arguments on both sides of the issue.

9. Panel Discussions—a new program for candidates being launched at the Fall 2008 Reunion which will offer a discussion over two or three specific Scottish Rite topics chosen and facilitated by a panel made up of mentors and adepts of the college.

10. Reunion Question/Answer Session—an informal gathering for members and candidates at the close of the evening entertainment on reunion Saturdays, facilitated by Dr. Tresner, Director of Work for the Valley. Open questions are taken on any subject relating to Freemasonry and its many associated themes.

As you can see, the Valley of Guthrie is working hard to expand the knowledge venue for our members. We take a lot of pride in promoting our most important purpose of continuing Masonic education. This work is only possible because of the love, dedication, and vision of the many member volunteers that make up the Guthrie Valley.

You can draw your own conclusions as to whether you think we are meeting the Supreme Council objectives in the area of education. And you are also welcome to bring your ideas to the table at any time to help us continue to be a dynamic force of scholarship for the family of Masonry in Oklahoma.

Assyrian Room Restoration Underway

Tim Heaton, our Guthrie Temple's building superintendent and resident restoration specialist, has been working all summer in the Assyrian room bringing back the depth and texture of its original decorative scheme. Located on the north end of the Atrium on the Temple's main floor, the Assyrian room is one of two remaining artistic rooms in the temple side of the building complex which has not seen a complete restoration.

The Crystal room was repainted sometime during the 1960s, but that work was not a true restoration. Considering the age of the temple, both rooms have held up remarkably well. The Assyrian room has essentially been untouched for 85 years. The paint is beginning to crack rather badly and a number of paint chips have begun to flake off from the ceiling and north wall. It was time for a facelift.

Heaton is repairing the plaster surface, restoring the fuel-burned peat look of the upper walls as well as the wood panels which extend to the floor. He is doing a complete restoration of the

decorative ceiling, beams, fireplace sphinxes, and the double-headed horse consoles which support the ceiling beams. One of the interesting features of this room is that the design motif Katharine Davidson planned for the artistic rug in the room matches that of the ceiling. Many who tour the building never notice that the rug is a mirror image of the ceiling.

Heaton, with the occasional assistance of another of our gifted members, Jack Rucker, has completed the restoration of all other artistic rooms in the temple since the Guthrie Valley launched its restoration program in 1993. Taking on a different room nearly every summer while the building is not being used by the fraternity or the public, Heaton has been able to



accomplish the restoration of 10 of the Temple's artistic rooms.

The work on the Assyrian room will be completed before the fall events are held in the Temple. So the next time you are in the building, be sure to drop in and check out the new look. It is a room which is 2,700 years old from a period architecture point of view.

While you're at it, give brother Heaton a pat on the back. We are fortunate to have his vast restoration knowledge available for our temple on a daily basis.

Historical Photos Needed for Grand Lodge Centennial

Next year marks the centennial year of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons for the state of Oklahoma. It will be a year of Masonic celebration and a chance to place Masonry in the public eye across the state. RW Richard Massad, Deputy Grand Master, has appointed a committee to plan centennial activities, festivals, and remembrances for the year and offer suggestions to lodges as to how they can be a participant.

One project for which Brother Massad has requested assistance is the creation of a pictorial history book on Masonry in Oklahoma. This will be a fully illustrated coffee table type book much on the same order as the popular "Valley of the Craftsmen," recently published by the Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction, and "Freemasonry: A Celebration of the Craft," published a few years ago in London.

What we need are many historical lodge-related photos from around the state. Massad has appointed Robert Davis and Jim Tresner to write the history and gather as much of the material as possible. We very much want to make this a pictorial history rather than a wordy narrative. We need black and white photos of old lodge buildings in Oklahoma, degree teams, important cornerstone layings, Grand Lodge delegates, founding Oklahoma Masons like Joseph Morrow, George Stidham, William Ross, Granville McPherson; and famous Oklahoma Masons of the 20th century.

Think about digging through your lodge archives for signed petitions from such men as Will Rogers, Robert S. Kerr and Carl Albert. We also want to include interesting and unique memorabilia from lodge archives and museums—items given to lodges over the years that are seemingly collecting dust, yet are truly one-of-a-kind items.

There will be pictures of the major philanthropies supported by Oklahoma Masons over the years, starting with the Masonic Homes.

Talk up the project with your long standing lodge members, do a search and discovery to find out what your lodge has that you think could definitely be included in our Oklahoma centennial Masonic history book. Then contact Jim Tresner at the Grand Lodge (405-282-3212) or Robert Davis at the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple (405-282-1281) so plans can be made to collect, photograph, or receive your special items.

Let's make Oklahoma's illustrated Masonic history something for which we can all be proud and enjoy together.

Frederick A. Daugherty, 33° Memorial Reunion



Row 1: From left - John Stahl, Class Director; Rustin Sparks, Class Chaplain; Michael Ray, Class Secretary; Robert F. Ray, Class Vice-President; David P. Ray, Class President; Joseph C. Jennings, Jr., 33°, SGIG in Oklahoma; Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33°, Personal Representative to the SGIG; Robert G. Davis, 33° G.C. General Secretary; John Logan, 33°; Steve Hanna, KCCH, Class Director; Richard Massad, 33°, Class Director.

Row 2: Jeff Pierce; Vinson Orr; Victor A. Davila; Eric Petre; Joe Hester; John Womack; Christopher T. Jones, Sr.; Paul D. Gilliam; Jack M. Montgomery; Cordell C. Brown; Charles Wesley Graham; Eric B. Potter.

Row 3: Joseph Harrison; Tyler Evans; Jon Hollowell; George Lanzidelle; Edwin Wood; Jon Sinon; Jason E. Marshall; Mike Croskey; Joe Marlan Rough; James C. Tisdale.

Row 4: Shaun Miller; Clay Thomasson; Delmer Butler; Jason Posson; James Barber; James Lee; Santana T. Jones.

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ORGAN CONCERT A HIGHLIGHT OF APRIL REUNION

Members and visitors alike enjoyed three days of fraternal fellowship during the Frederick A Daugherty 33° Memorial Reunion held in April.

30 new members were welcomed to the Guthrie Scottish Rite, and we performed courtesy work for candidates from the Tulsa Valley, the Ft Worth, Texas Valley and the Topeka, Kansas Valley.

Visitors from around the United States continue to visit our annual Spring Reunion, simply for the opportunity to see all 29 degrees in a single weekend. A notable visitor in April was Ill. Mitch Miller, SGIG in Alaska. Brethren from Kansas, Texas, Nebraska and



Milton Lewis, KCCH of Duncan and Gene Stephens of Oklahoma City received their 50 year patents and pins at the April Reunion from Inspector Jennings .

Washington were in attendance as well.

We were honored to welcome Mrs. Betsy Daugherty as our special guest on Saturday evening. Following a banquet in the Grand Ballroom, the Temple Organists, Charles Belknap, 33°, David Dillon, 33°, and Mark Caldwell, KCCH, each performed a selection of their favorite hymns and classical pieces.

Judge Daugherty and his wife Betsy donated the money to restore our Kimball instrument in 2000. It is one of only two concert organs the Kimball Company ever built, and is listed in the Encyclopedia of Historic Organs of America.



Masonic Charity Foundation Gift a Strategic Move for Freemasonry!

This past July, Oklahoma State University Foundation publicly announced a gift by the Masons of Oklahoma, through their Masonic Charity Foundation, in the amount of \$500,000 for an endowed faculty chair at the state's university to be administered through the Department of Arts and Sciences. The gift will open a wide range of academic research possibilities of particular interest to Freemasonry; including academic studies related to men, their organizational and social networks, their ethics, ideals, moral attitudes, important role models, family needs, and even studies relating to fundamental differences between the sexes.

Even among the most conservative financial minds in Oklahoma Masonry, the gift from the Masonic Foundation can be seen as a remarkably good business decision. After all, the gift has been matched dollar for dollar by Texas oil man, T. Boone Pickens. Then, because the Masonic Foundation made its decision at a time when the OSU Foundation was conducting its largest funds development program in school history, the Oklahoma Legislature committed to match both the Masons and Pickens' gifts dollar for dollar.

The result is that Oklahoma Masonry now has endowed a \$2 million Masonic Chair for Gender Studies at a nationally known university. A faculty endowed chair is one where the principal is never spent. Thus, research done through this new grant can be carried on into perpetuity.

This new educational direction is receiving accolades all over the country. Mark Tabbart, author of "American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities," has publicly stated that "every Grand Lodge in America should be considering the same thing. There is no question the academic world today is interested in Freemasonry. We should have a national network of academic studies taking place simultaneously."

The endowed gift will be administered through the OSU Center for Gender Studies. The reason this route was selected by the Foundation is that it allows interdepartmental studies to be performed around our broad fraternal interests. At

the minimum, the departments of sociology, psychology, history, and philosophy are expected to be involved in academic areas outlined by the gift.

In addition to helping many students learn much about men's interests in general, there are several other strategic goals associated with the program. First, academic research focusing on what Masonry teaches and how it impacts the lives of men and society can give much public credibility to the fraternity. It's akin to the old saying that an expert is someone with a briefcase who lives fifty mile away.

Freemasons can write books about Masonry until they run out of ink; but the public pays more attention to what people outside the fraternity write about us. The public perceives there is no built in bias with independent research. As an example, recent books written on the history of Freemasonry by academicians Jacob, Bullock and Stevenson, have been among the most popular books purchased by those within and outside of Masonry. Using academic research as a vehicle for communicating the values, interests, focus, and purpose of Freemasonry can go a long ways toward bringing our old fraternity into contemporary focus.

Some brethren have asked if a focus on gender studies means we will be required to spend money on women's issues. Not at all! The Center for Gender Studies is just that—a center for the study of men and women's issues. Obviously, our chair is directed toward the men's side of the program.

And there are many questions to be researched about men and fraternal purpose. For example, under organizational behavior and social networks for men, the following questions are important:

- How important is it for men to have regular association with other men?
- What is the history of the "Men's House," or private sanctuaries for men, and their evolution to the fraternal and social clubs of the 20th century?
- Why do fraternal societies exist and what role do they play in promoting male values, ethics and ideals?
- Is regular inter-generational contact needed to pass significant gender

qualities from one generation to another?

- Why is branding to a particular identity group a significant driver of male curiosity and participation? How does such branding serve healthy society purposes? When does it not?

Under the study of ethics, there are an almost unlimited number of questions Freemasons should be interested in:

- What is the situation with ethics and men? Why are ethics important to men?
- Do men need better instruction and more practical teaching venues in the area of personal ethics? Who teaches men about ethics?
- Can contemporary studies in principles and situational ethics help men to integrate accountability and responsibility into their sense of being men?

Fatherhood and role modeling are also especially important to Freemasons:

- What is male role modeling? Why is it important to men?
- What impact does the right kind of role modeling have on preservation of the family? Are there organizations whose focus is primarily on male role modeling?
- How important are men as role models to the family? In the community? In leadership roles?

You get the picture. Academic studies in these kinds of contemporary issues can greatly aid the fraternity in positioning itself to be seen as relevant in the eyes of young men, as well as educators, the community, the business world—and, indeed, the general public.

As Freemasons, we know that Freemasonry is a practical school offering timeless lessons in morals, ethics, sociality, role modeling, fraternalism and male bonding, self improvement and personal development across all generations of men. The problem is that the world doesn't know this. What people do know is that the above kinds of questions are important to the welfare of men, their families, and our society.

The Masonic Chair in Gender Studies will help the public figure out why Freemasonry relates to so many areas of men's lives. After all, our first interest has always been men.

694 Teachers—105 School Districts. WOW!!

Guthrie Clinic Celebrates Another Graduation

The summer teacher training program conducted by one of our favorite charities, the Payne Education Center, is once again behind us; and, as always, Scottish Rite Masons in Oklahoma can be proud to tell their friends Masons were responsible for getting proven phonics-based reading programs in the hands of 694 teachers working in 105 school districts across the state. That is a remarkable accomplishment!

We know the Payne Education Center programs work in teaching children to read, write and spell because each program used in training teachers has over 10 years of scientific and academic research behind it. In addition, the programs we sponsor have been field tested for over 20 years in Oklahoma, and elsewhere. Teachers use programs they know actually help them in the classroom. And Oklahoma teachers use the multi-sensory, phonics based curricula offered through the Center year after year. That's affirmation enough for our continuing financial support of this worthy cause.

To give you the impact in the Guthrie Valley alone, here is a list of schools who had teachers trained in these special phonics methods this year:

Alex	Amber-Pocasset	Anadarko
Binger-Oney	Bishop	Blanchard
Bridge Creek	Buffalo	Butner
Cache	Canute	Cashion
Central	Cheyenne	Chickasha
Cimarron	Cordell	Crescent
Crutcho	Darlington	Deer Creek
Depew	Drummond	Edmond
El Reno	Elk City	Enid
Fairview	Fletcher	Fort Cobb
Broxton	Friend	Gotebo
Grove	Hennessey	Lawton
Lexington	Lookeba-Sickles	Luther
Macomb	Medford	Meeker
Mid-Del	Moore	Mustang
Newcastle	Ninnekah	Norman
Oklahoma City	Paden	Perkins-Tryon
Piedmont	Pleasant Vale	Ponca City
Prague	Purcell	Putnam City
Riverside	Roff	Shawnee
Skiatook	Sterling	Stillwater
Strothers	Sulphur	Tonkawa
Tuttle	Wakita	Washington
Western Heights	Yukon	

Four Hundred and Eighty Six teachers representing 71 school districts within the Guthrie Valley received training, with many enrolled in more than one class. The Scottish Rite supports seven different instructional programs utilized by our teaching center partner.

And such assistance would not be possible without your generous donations to the work of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation. We are literally helping the future of thousands of Oklahoma children. Our work with the Payne Center gives us the tools to make a big difference in the lives of children. That's what Masonic Charity is all about!

This summer, the Guthrie Rite Care Language Clinic celebrated another important graduation. Jackson, a lively, bright and creative six year old has triumphed over his communication difficulties. Both his parents and clinician were in agreement that Jackson no longer needed to attend therapy! It's such a great feeling when a child leaves the clinic on these terms!

Jackson initially enrolled in therapy in September 2007 for remediation of a moderate stuttering disorder. Jackson's speech was riddled with many repetitions of sounds and words; and he was aware of his difficulties. Any communication problem is significant in the life of a child, but a stuttering disorder has



much more impact on a child's self esteem and can lead to social and emotional problems.

With wonderful support from his family, Jackson was taught ways to be a fluent speaker, which meant slowing his rate of speech, using an "easy" onset or start up when speaking, and believe it or not, learning to be a "good listener". But family involvement is crucial to any therapy that treats fluency disorders. The family must be willing to make changes in the child's home environment—changes that facilitate fluent speech. These include speech exercises practiced at home, along with changing communication habits and lifestyles in the home.

The most important thing is that Jackson has learned and is using the tools to speak without stuttering. The good news is that fluent speech now comes natural to him.

We congratulate Jackson and his family on a job well done! It's just another of thousands of similar celebrations which have been held in our RiteCare clinic since its inception in 1977.

To our members, thank you once again for your support. You have made a big difference in the life of a child.

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Mason

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Recent Additions to Temple Library

Those who have seen the gothic library in the Guthrie temple, with its ornate oak cabinet trim, ornamental plaster console carvings, and stunning gothic ceiling arches often marvel at the beauty of the room. But the true refinement of any library is not what we see on the surface, but what we find on the shelves.

Books make a library. And the Guthrie Temple has recently received two very nice collections.

When the Valley of Tulsa moved to their new building, there was not enough room in the newer space to include the library from its old temple. The Valley was kind enough to donate its library collection to the Valley of Guthrie so that readers of Masonic books could continue to enjoy the fruits of the Tulsa collection for generations to come. A special place has been created

in the Guthrie library to house the collection and a brass plate has been attached to the cabinets acknowledging this generous gift from the Tulsa Valley. We are pleased to add these books to our own Masonic collection and will take good care to see they are always preserved and kept in the name of our sister Valley in Oklahoma.

The second nice donation comes from one of our own members and a Guthrie Temple tour guide, Brother Tom Anthony. It is a hardbound collection of the Chronicles of Oklahoma, from the period 1923 to 1978. A retired high school coach and Oklahoma History teacher, Anthony received the books from Northwest Classen High School when he was a young teacher. The Oklahoma City school had an extra set in its own library and Tom acquired it. He commented the collection was an

invaluable aid in teaching students about Oklahoma.

The temple will strive to update Tom's collection by acquiring the volumes published from 1978 to the present. We will gladly take additional hardbound volumes if others reading this article would be willing to donate their own collection to our library. (We would particularly love to complete this valuable set.

The Chronicles have been published four times a year by the Oklahoma Historical Society since the series began in 1923. Contact the Temple at 405-282-1281 if you can help us complete the collection.

A big thank you goes out to the Valley of Tulsa and to Brother Anthony for these important contributions to the Guthrie Temple library.