



THE OKLAHOMA SCOTTISH RITE MASONRY

PUBLISHED BY THE GUTHRIE OKLAHOMA VALLEY

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

Number 3

September 2009

“Horseshoe Road” to Perform at Temple on October 10

Get ready for a high energy, uplifting musical experience that blends captivating virtuosity and heartfelt sincerity to give you a remarkable evening of entertainment! On Saturday evening, October 10, at 7:30 p.m., one of Oklahoma’s most popular groups will be in concert in the Temple’s Main Auditorium. With an eclectic musical style ranging from Blues to Bluegrass, Gypsy Jazz to Western Swing, Country, Rock and Gospel, Horseshoe Road blends these into an earthy genre of music they call Heartland Acoustic. The group’s passion for music can be seen and felt in their performance.

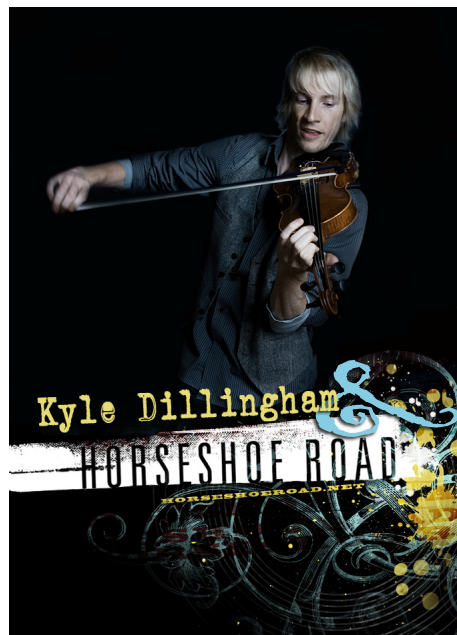
World renowned fiddle sensation, Oklahoma Musical Ambassador, and Enid native, Kyle Dillingham, heads the band. Kyle is one of Oklahoma’s most popular performers. He has performed in over 25 countries, which has electrified and energized audiences around the world. You will immediately recognize his unique artistry is clearly distinguishable and reflects a true mastery of the violin. He has had two featured performances on the Grand Ole Opry, has been on national television in China and has performed with Vince Gill, Jimmy Webb, Toby Keith, Byron Berline, and Joe Diffie, to name a few. When combined with guitarist, and bass, Horseshoe Road is truly a mesmerizing experience.

This will be the first time the band has played in the Main Auditorium of the Guthrie Temple, with its marvelous acoustics. In signing on for this special performance, Kyle said, “I can’t wait to

experience your beautiful performance venue. Our band is really thrilled to have this opportunity. There is no place like it!”

In 2008, Horseshoe Road completed a U.S. Embassy sponsored tour of Thailand, which commemorated the 175th anniversary of relations between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Thailand. It was the first time an American band had ever performed in four of the five cities they visited in Thailand.

Plan on bringing your spouse and friends to Guthrie on Saturday evening, October 10, for an extraordinary musical experience. The concert is open to the public and the cost is only \$5! Tickets can be purchased by calling the Temple at 405-282-1281. We’ll see you there!



October 10-11, 2009 Reunion Celebrates Bicentennial of Albert Pike’s Birth

Albert Pike, who served as the Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction from 1859 to 1891, and who is widely considered to be the intellectual genius and patriarch of the American Scottish Rite, was born on December 29, 1809. This year marks the bicentennial of his birth. The Guthrie Valley, with its long standing focus on the degree work that was so much a creation of Pike, would be remiss if it did not pay at least some tribute to the man who gave the Scottish Rite its value in the overall Masonic experience.

To kick off the Albert Pike Bicentennial Reunion, on Friday evening, October 9, a presentation honoring Pike is planned by Dr. Jim Tresner, 33°, Director of Work, as part of our pre-Reunion candidate’s introduction to the Scottish Rite. The program will be held in the Egyptian Room at 8:00 pm. Candidates may register on Friday evening. Members are also welcome to attend.

Pike was an attorney, explorer, teacher, Indian agent, Civil War Brigadier General for the Confederacy, newspaper editor, publisher, writer, poet, author, and Freemason. A Boston native, he left the northeast in 1831 to explore the west. After a trip to Taos, New Mexico, he made his way through Indian Territory and settled in at Little Rock,

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**Guthrie Scottish Rite
Albert Pike Bicentennial Reunion
October 10-11, 2009**

Friday, October 9, 2009

Candidate Registration 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Candidate Reception, 7:00 p.m.

Intro to the Scottish Rite Experience, 8:00 p.m.

Knights of St. Andrew Processional 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 10, 2009

Breakfast, Snack Bar..... 7:00 - 8:00 am
 Registration of Candidates..... 7:00 - 7:30 am
 Election of Class Officers 7:30 am
 Opening Ceremonies..... 8:00 am
 The Journey of the Master Mason/Intro.
 to the Lodge of Perfection..... 9:00 am
 4° Secret Master (Guthrie-Johnston) 9:30 am
 5° Perfect Master (Kay-Reuber) 10:20 am
 *6° Confidential Secretary (Crowder-OKC)... 11:00 am
 7° Provost and Judge (Altus-King)..... 11:30 am
Lunch—Snack Bar..... 12:00 pm
 9°, 10° Elu of the Nine, Fifteen, (Robison) ... 1:00 pm
 *13° Royal Arch of Solomon (Chetw-Smith).. 2:00 pm
 14° Perfect Elu (Moore-Hanna)..... 2:55 pm
 Obligation of the 14°..... 3:45 pm
 Important Elements of the Lodge of
 Perfection Journey (Egyptian Room)..... 4:00 pm
 18° Knight Rose Croix (OKC-Weed) 5:00 pm
 Obligation 6:10 pm

**Banquet
6:15 p.m.**

7:30 p.m.
 “Horseshoe Road” Concert
 Main Auditorium
 \$5.00
 Open to Public

Sunday, October 11, 2009

Breakfast, Snack Bar 6:30 am
 Commentary on the Rose Croix Journey and
 Introduction to the Council of Kadosh..... 7:00 am
 20° Master of the Symbolic Lodge
 (Woodward-Logan)..... 7:20 am
 24° Prince of the Tabernacle
 (W Cent Ok-Sheppard) 8:20 am
 Elements of Council of Kadosh Traditions..... 9:15 am
 *28° Knight Commander of the Temple
 (Enid/OKC-Heaton)..... 10:30 am
 Class Memorial..... 11:30 am
 Class Picture..... 11:45 am
Lunch—Snack Bar..... 12:00 pm
 29° Knight Commander of the Temple
 (Okla City-Ross)..... 1:00 pm
 30° Knight Kadosh (Okla City-Berry)..... 2:00 pm
 Obligations 19°-30° 3:00 pm
 *32° Master of the Royal Secret
 (OKC-Dixon)..... 3:20 pm

*Passport Degrees

Reunion...

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Arkansas, where he became a newspaper writer, and later owner of the Arkansas Advocate. He taught himself law, passed the bar, and then practiced law for the remainder of his life.

He joined the fraternity in 1850, became active in the York Rite, and received the 32° in 1853. He immediately became interested in all aspects of the Scottish Rite. His extraordinary interest and genius quickly became known and he was appointed to a committee to revise the Scottish Rite rituals. His work made the Rite a connected system of moral, religious and philosophical instruction. Pike was chiefly responsible for the ceremonial forms we practice in the Rite today.

The Reunion will begin with a Friday evening candidate reception at 6:30 p.m. Registration will also be open at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 10 for both members and candidates. Opening ceremonies will begin at 8:00 a.m. Degrees and education programs will be held throughout the day. Saturday will end with a banquet in the Legislative Hall at 6:15 p.m., followed by a concert featuring “Horseshoe Road” in the Main Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday degree work will kick off again at 7:00 a.m. Class pictures are scheduled just before lunch. The Reunion will conclude around 4:30 Sunday afternoon.

Come join us for a wonderful weekend of education, fellowship, fun, and growth.

**Master Craftsman II to be
launched in October!**



**SCOTTISH+RITE
MASTER+CRAFTSMAN+II**

The Supreme Council Master Craftsman program has been such a success that the Scottish Rite Research Society has rolled up its sleeves and created a second phase of the Scottish Rite education program, called Master Craftsman II. Those who have “graduated” in the MC I program will be eligible to enroll in the next program as early as October!

The Master Craftsman Program is a self study correspondence course, offered through the House of the Temple in Washington DC. The program is designed to challenge your knowledge of the Scottish Rite, its history, structure and organization, along with its deeply philosophical Masonic teachings.

The Valley of Guthrie congratulates the following six brothers who have completed the Master Craftsman Correspondence Program since our last report in April.

Matthew Swenson	Robert L. Carr
Reggie Grimes	Jerry Grizzle
Pete Loudon	Philip Moseley

This is no small accomplishment. By completing the six exams required in the first program, these brothers have demonstrated their commitment not only to Masonic education, but to the Scottish Rite as a whole. If you know one or more of these brothers, congratulate them the next time you see them! They have earned your accolades.

Just as promised to us when we began our Masonic journey, The Master Craftsman program is a progressive education in all aspects of the Rite. The MC II program will include multiple choice exams over all of the Degrees of the Rite, and will also include essay questions which will require additional research and thought. It promises to be a fun and challenging course in Masonic education. And you can be sure there will be another to follow after you complete the new correspondence course.

Thank you for your participation in Scottish Rite education. And good luck on your continuing journey to enlightenment.

Make your Inn reservations by email. Contact the Guthrie Innkeepers at:

reservations@guthrieinnkeeper.com

Give them your name and address, the dates you want to stay in the Inn, and any special needs you may have.

Don't have email, write:

The Innkeepers, PO Box 19652, Oklahoma City, OK 73144.

Assyrian Room to be Completed This Month

It has been a project that has taken two summers, but the Assyrian Room will be re-opened just in time for the fall Reunion. Our in-house artisan, Tim Heaton, has spent the summer on a scaffold, looking toward the heavens, hands above his head, as he painted literally thousands of details in the artistic ceiling panels which make the Assyrian canopy the most complex of all the artistic rooms in the Guthrie Temple.

The interior design represented in the room is of the period about 700 B.C. The chandeliers suspended from the ceiling, depicting the fire pots used in Assyrian homes for heating and cooking, are the only elements of the room which will not be touched with this restoration. The mottled upper walls, representing soot from the fire

pots, the wall sphinxes, the double-headed horse consoles supporting the ceiling beams, and the massive wood wainscoating in the room have all been totally restored to their original splendour.

The restoration project has had an added benefit, although likely seen as a disturbance by restorer Heaton. It has been a real education for the Temple tour guides, and the folk they bring through on their daily tours of the Temple's many artistic rooms. People seem fascinated by the many details and tedious work faced by restorers of ornamental plaster. Progress seems to move along at a snails pace. But as the weeks go by, the artistic accomplishment begins to pop out at you. As the project begins to reach its maturity, one can feel at least a sense

of what the original designers and painters must have felt as their imaginations were slowly unveiled into a magnificent statement of artistic color, skill and passion.

We can all be proud of the attention to detail Tim has given the Assyrian Room. As in most of the other rooms he has already restored, it will likely be his favorite room for awhile—at least until he does another.



2009 Essay Contest Deadline Nears

If you enjoy expressing your thoughts about contemporary Masonic issues and have a gift for writing, be sure and enter the Scottish Rite's 2009 Essay Contest. This year's topic asks your views on one of the fastest growing movements in American Masonry—the traditional lodge movement.

We'll explain more about traditional lodges in a moment. The specific question of this year's topic is: "How is Traditional Observance Freemasonry going to affect Masonry in Oklahoma and the United States?" The fun part of the Guthrie Valley's essay contest is that you can rant against or rave in favor of this topic! Here's what you do. Your essay should include enough research so that its content can effectively argue for or against the subject. A winner will be selected from each side of the argument! And the winning papers will receive a prize from the Valley including a free dues card for one year in the Guthrie Scottish Rite, a beautiful trophy to mark your achievement, and a Masonic book of your choice valued at less than \$25.

Each year, the essay topic is selected and judged by a panel of Scottish Rite Masons from the Valley's Mentorship Committee. This committee consists of a group of young members who have not been Scottish Rite Masons but a few years. The object is to get other Scottish Rite Masons involved in writing about and discussing important aspects of Masonry.

The deadline for essay submission this year is October 1. All essays must be emailed to colby.dick@gmail.com by that date.

To get you started on your path to participation this year, you need to know something about "traditional observance lodges." A Traditional Observance Lodge is a trade mark name given to lodges that are committed to a more serious and philosophical approach to Masonry. These lodges are particularly popular among the new generation of young men just entering the fraternity today, who are seeking the more spiritual, intellectual, and mystical side of Freemasonry.

The reason such lodges are called "traditional observance" lodges is that they mimic many of the practices of Freemasonry found in the older European lodges. They re-capture the traditional practices of 18th and 19th century lodges. Features include high quality ritual work, a limited membership of less than 50 members, a higher dues structure, Masonic education delivered at every meeting, and a formal dress code. The candidate working his way through the degrees is expected to wait longer between degrees, and to develop and present a paper about his understanding of each degree as part of his test of proficiency. Traditional Observance lodges always include a festive board, agape dinner, or banquet following every meeting. The idea is to combine strong ritual, excellent education, and a fine social evening each time the lodge members get together.

There ought to be plenty to cuss and discuss about this growing movement within our Masonic culture. You know what your lodge is like; and you know what you like or dislike about it. Now is your chance to give us your "two cents" worth regarding Traditional Observance Masonry. Remember—there are two winners—one 'fer it' and one 'agin it.' The winning essays will be announced at the fall Reunion of the Guthrie Valley.

“Education on the Rite Nite” Offers More Light in Masonry

When the Guthrie Valley kicked off its bi-monthly continuing Scottish Rite education program this past February, it's primary goal was to facilitate the Valley's commitment to one of the primary objectives of the Supreme Council's adopted strategic plan—that we “fulfill the promise of additional Masonic knowledge through education and training.”

We now have seven months of programs behind us for this year and the word on the street is that our new Scottish Rite education venue is being well received across the Valley. Bro. Ken Alcorn, Cushing, seldom misses one of these meetings. On the way back from a recent evening at Woodward lodge, Ken remarked, “these programs are extremely interesting and valuable. They get inside the degrees and reveal so much about the degrees that cannot be learned from only watching and hearing the words during our Reunions. It is worth my time to attend, regardless of how many miles we have to drive.” Bro. David Foley, Moore, agrees. “I think these programs are really fascinating. I always tell the guys at lodge that if they want to get into the real meat of the Scottish Rite, they should make these monthly meetings.”

The “Education on the Rite Nite” is held on the third Wednesday of each month in one of the Oklahoma City metro area lodges. Another evening is selected monthly at other locations across the Valley so that, over time, all members will have a convenient chance to participate. In addition, we have hosted the Valley's monthly Lodge of Perfection meetings at different locations away from Guthrie since June of this year. We have opted to include an education program at each of these meetings, as well.

The result is that, through the end of the current month, 17 such meetings will have been conducted in 2009. The agenda for each Education on the Rite

Nite program consists of the conferral of one of the Scottish Rite Degrees, a powerpoint presentation covering the hidden secrets and esoteric meanings of the Degree, and a group discussion of contemporary issues taught by the Degree. Each program begins at 7 p.m. and is concluded by 8:30 p.m.

All members can keep up with the program by checking the “Valley News” section of the Guthrie Valley's website at www.guthriescottishrite.org. It is updated each month to inform all members where the next program will be held.

After this month, there will only be 4 more education night programs scheduled for this year. All meetings are tyled and only 32° Masons are invited. If you have not yet made one of the Education on the Rite Nite meetings, make it a point to try it out. You will be fascinated by what you will learn.

09/3/09 - Moore Lodge #539
“The Knighthood Tradition”
(28°-30°)

09/9/09 - Coronado #56, Hennessey
“Duality-The Great Division of Nature” (24°)

9/16/09 - Hiram Lodge #494, OKC
“Prince Adept - The Supreme Degree - Why is it so Important?”
(27°)

10/21/09 - Bethany Lodge #529
10/29/09 - Frontier #48, Stillwater
“To What Should We be Inquisitive?” (31°)

11/18/09 - Midwest City #532
“The Royal Secret” (32°)

11/19/09 - Mt. Scott #540, Lawton
“Is the Scottish Rite a Religion?”
(15°-18°)

Annual dues will jump \$20 in 2010

By the time this newspaper makes it to your door, you will have already received notice that the annual dues to the Scottish Rite in all three Valleys in Oklahoma has increased to \$80 for the coming year. It likely comes as no surprise for our active members. But for those who aren't able to come to the Temple for Reunion and Lodge activities, a bit more explanation may be helpful.

First, it costs a lot of money to own Oklahoma's most beautiful building. The old legislative hall was erected in 1908, and was constructed in only 6 months. It's a remarkable building—but a century of wear has its price. The Temple was built in the 1920's. Representing the peak of the great cathedral building era in the fraternity, it is as grand as they come. But grandness means a lot of attention must be applied all the time. Restoration happens over and over again. If such attention is not given, there is only one result—a run down building that tells the world the Masons used to be important.

Whether we wish it or not, Guthrie has inherited a legacy which is ours to maintain during our own lifetimes. It is nothing less than an eternal obligation we owe those who have come before us. Everything we do in Masonry, we do, at least in part, for them.

Second, the Scottish Rite has another building in our national headquarters in Washington DC. In many respects, it is as grand as the Guthrie Temple. Every member also owns a part of that building. It was built during the same era as ours. This year, the Supreme Council has proposed an increase in the annual per capita tax we pay to help offset the rising costs of our national building. This statutory amendment will increase the per capita tax over the next five years

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Dues Cont.

from \$10 annually to \$20 annually. The Valleys in Oklahoma are no longer in a position to absorb the annual per capita tax on behalf of our members. We have no choice but to pass this along to each of you.

Third, the 2008-09 Recession has taken its toll on the fraternity. With our low membership, we depend more and more on investment returns to make up the difference between what we receive in dues income and what we pay out annually in overall costs for operations. It will take a while to regain what we have lost in earnings because of the international recession we are still experiencing. In fact, the dues each member individually pays only meets 32% of our annual cost obligations. This means the leadership of your Valley has been doing a really good job in helping our members share the burden every year. We can all be proud of that. And it is all the more reason to support the increase in dues at this time. We can all be thankful that more than 68% of costs of belonging to the Scottish Rite is being handled by prudent savings decisions over many years.

Finally, it never hurts to place what we pay in dues in the perspective of time. From 1923 until 1962, the Valley dues were only \$5. For the men who were paying \$5 back then, that was the equivalent of paying \$62 a year in today's money. Imagine the commitment that was for the members of that time! Belonging to the Scottish Rite would have been a high priority at that price. In 1970, dues were only \$15. But for the man paying \$15 in 1970, it was the same as paying \$84 today. Relatively speaking, then, our annual dues are still remarkably low compared with what our members paid in the past against the times in which they lived. Thank you for your continued support of the Guthrie Scottish Rite.

Grand Lodge Publishes History of Oklahoma Masonry

There have been only two histories written about Oklahoma Masonry in 166 years. And both were excellent. In Charles Creager's definitive work published by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in 1931 to celebrate 50 years of Masonry of Oklahoma's Grand Lodge era, the focus was on our beginnings--the chartering and movement westward of lodges from Indian Territory to the Texas Panhandle, the organization of the York and Scottish Rites in our jurisdiction—and the beginnings of the Masonic Home era.

Then in 1949, Fred Latham, Past Grand Secretary, authored a book entitled, "The Story of Oklahoma Masonry," which included a summary of Creager's previous work, but added an important synopsis of the administration of every Grand Master from 1874 to 1949.

This year, Grand Master Richard Massad, in commemoration of Oklahoma Masonry's centennial year, has commissioned another history. This one is styled Indians, Cowboys, Cornerstones, and Charities—A Centennial Celebration of Freemasonry in Oklahoma, and it may be the best yet.

Fully illustrated with over 600 photographs, the book is a 9" X 12" hard-bound coffee table style cloth cover edition with slipcover. Printed in a limited edition of only 500 copies, the book is the most colorful and comprehensive history of Oklahoma Masonry from 1848 to the present.

Sharing in the narrative duties were Jim Tresner, Grand Lodge staff, and Robert Davis, Guthrie Scottish Rite Secretary, both accomplished writers, authors and historians. The chapters ex-

plain the influence that Joseph Murrow, the father of Oklahoma Masonry, and Albert Pike, Territorial Scottish Rite leader, played in Oklahoma's fraternal beginnings. The saga of Freemasonry in the twin territories and the men who made a difference then is brought back to our consciousness. A special chapter deals with the statehood era and the framing of Oklahoma's Constitution, along with the Masons who were involved with the founding of our own state. Another chapter gives a "first person account" of the first day of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma.

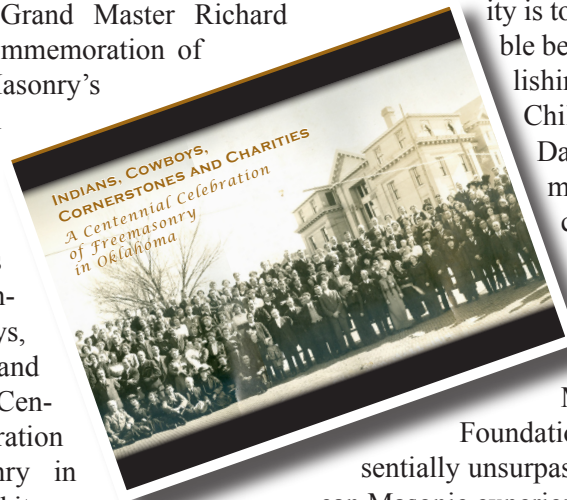
The story takes the reader through the first hundred years of our own Grand Lodge, and includes a complete history of the remarkable cornerstone tradition of our Oklahoma fraternity, written by Past Grand Master Bob Shipe. The story of

Oklahoma Masonic Charity is told, from the humble beginnings of establishing the Masonic Children's Home in Darlington to the millions of dollars currently expended each year in a host of charity programs sponsored by our Masonic Charity

Foundation which are essentially unsurpassed in the American Masonic experience.

The reader will enjoy accounts actually told by past residents of the Children's Home, and will take a visual tour through the many artifacts on display in the Grand Lodge Museum and Library. Finally, the reader is carried through a pictorial gallery of Oklahoma Masons who have made a difference in the world at large.

Again, only 500 copies of the book will ever be sold. Be sure and secure your copy today by contacting the Grand Lodge at 282-3212. The cost is \$50 + \$7.50 for shipping. The legacy is older than Oklahoma itself.



What Little Girls are Made of—That's Gena!

You remember the old saying “What are little girls made of? Sugar and spice and everything nice. That’s what little girls are made of.” When you have the pleasure of working with Genevieve, or Gena as we affectionately call her, you understand the meaning behind this familiar phrase. Gena is one of the many wonderful kids that grace the Guthrie Rite Care Language program every week. As much as we help her, Gena helps us. Her presence brightens up what otherwise might be considered a gloomy day. Upon her arrival at the clinic, Gena’s sweetness emerges. She always models her latest fashions, right down to the bows on her shoes. Her spice is evident in a spunky attitude about life in general. She loves telling jokes, especially those she’s created with her five year old mind.

Gena receives speech and language services on a weekly basis. She has attended the clinic for a little over a year. Initially, she came to us with severe speech and language problems. Her case was unusual, as she had early on

developed her own little sound system which was not typical of early childhood speech. The uniqueness of her speech, coupled with inconsistencies in speech production, made her case a particularly difficult one.

To her credit, Gena is a very hard worker. She and her family have always participated fully in the clinical experience and it shows! Today, Gena’s speech problems are mild in comparison to where they were a year ago and her language skills are improving as well. It’s a good thing too, because as a beginning kindergartner, having good speech and language skills is essential for early reading success.

Gena is also sponsored through our Rite Connection program. This program allows Masons to sponsor a child for three years. For a one time, tax deductible donation of \$500, any Mason or group of Masons can sponsor a child. This sponsorship allows us to individualize the child’s treatment through the purchase of necessary materials. In return, sponsors receive regular cor-



respondence via newsletters, cards, and drawings from the child and have the opportunity to meet with the family. At the end of the sponsorship, each sponsor receives a certificate of recognition and a book about the child and his/her family. In closing, think about this quote by Benjamin Disraeli: “The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches, but to reveal to him his own.”

And that is exactly what we do for these children each and every day. Thank you for your support!

Guthrie RiteCare Adds Speech Therapist to Ponca City Satellite Clinic

The Ponca City Satellite Rite Care Clinic has recently contracted with a new speech pathologist to oversee and deliver services to area preschoolers. The clinic welcomes Gineta Swanson, a respected professional and citizen of Ponca City. Ms. Swanson holds double certification in speech pathology and deaf education.

Gineta earned her Masters of Science degree in Speech Pathology from Oklahoma State University. She has vast experience in working with children and adults with communication disorders. Her work history includes both management and clinical responsibilities in numerous settings, including Enid, Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico, Stillwater and Ponca City.

Gineta currently is employed with Ponca City Public Schools as a speech pathologist and deaf education teacher. Among her many duties, she also teaches sign language and is an advisor for Project ECHO, which implements home programs for families with hearing impaired children.

We are fortunate to have Gineta on board where she will bring her extensive knowledge, experience and talents to our program in Ponca City. RiteCare services for children in Kay County will resume this fall!

If you are interested in learning more about the services offered by the Guthrie RiteCare program, please contact Ms. Nancy Wright, Guthrie RiteCare Director at 405-282-6484 or gritecare@sbcglobal.net.



Safeguarding Oklahoma's Finest Building While Preserving the Moral Fabric of America

If there is one building in Oklahoma that visibly embodies the meaning and heritage of Freemasonry, it is the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. Built prominently at the very center of Oklahoma's first state capital city, the Temple stands as a beacon for the people of our state that Freemasonry is alive and well among them. To have anything happen—anything at all—which would result in the loss of our beautiful landmark would be a devastating loss to Freemasonry.

Here is where each of us as members of one of America's most noted Masonic edifices plays such an important role. In Guthrie, we have a temple built to exemplify the best that Masonry represents—where morals, virtue, and good citizenship are taught and required. The teachings of the Rite offer time-honored messages of peace and goodwill. Our moral truths can benefit anyone. And we have always comprised, within our ranks, history's greatest role models as examples of wisdom and strength. The exterior architecture, stained glass, and lavish interiors of our building speaks volumes of the symbolism of Masonry.

Since none of us can predict what the Scottish Rite will look like a half century from now, it is up to each of us to ensure that the Guthrie Temple always remains in Masonic hands. The only way that can happen is to grow our building's own life insurance policy—the Guthrie Temple Endowment Fund. When money comes to the Temple and is deposited only in principal, with the earnings each year providing for the major repairs and continuing restoration of our national landmark building, then we don't have to worry about the size of our membership, or having the money to support future maintenance needs. As trustees together, we are able to guarantee that funds are available for a planned program of preservation.

In fact, the Guthrie Temple endowment is programmed into the very mission of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation; a 501c(3) charitable orga-

nization. In 1988, we received a letter ruling from the IRS making all contributions to temple preservation tax deductible.

This vehicle enables all supportive brothers, widows, and friends to make the tax-deductible contributions to insure that the generations of Americans who come after us will enjoy this monument to Freemasonry.

There are several ways you can help.

- **Cash gifts** in the form of checks, drafts and money orders to the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation. Gifts of cash are deductible up to 50% of the donor's adjusted gross income.

- A **Bequest** which directs a specific sum, a percentage, or a residual of your estate to the Scottish Rite Foundation. This can be in the form of cash, securities, life insurance, real estate and/or personal property. Your bequest can be made through a will or a living trust and should be directed to the "Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation." To include the Scottish Rite in your will or trust, contact your attorney to be sure your wishes are carried out as you intend.

- A **Charitable Lead Trust** provides income, either a percentage or a specified amount to the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation for a specific number of years. At the end of this period, the principle is returned to the donor or others who the donor has designated. There are significant tax advantages of this kind of trust. Ask your attorney about this valuable estate planning tool.

- A **Charitable Annuity** is a contract between a donor and the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation that guarantees you, or your beneficiary, regular, tax-free income payments for life in exchange for the irrevocable donation of an asset to our Foundation. You can specify whether you want an immediate annuity, with payment to begin not later than one year from the date of the gift, or a deferred gift annuity, from which payments are not to begin until

a specified future date.

- A **Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust** is a similar agreement where you can transfer cash or property to the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation and receive a certain percentage of the annual income from the property each year for a specified number of years. The donor gets the tax deduction for the value of the charitable remainder interest. Your attorney or accountant can explain the many tax advantages of this type of trust.

You can help us preserve the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple through investing in the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation. Whether contributing money or such valuable property as jewelry, works of art, coin collections, antiques, appreciated securities, or real estate, you can structure your estate to help preserve one of our nation's leading Masonic edifices, yield income tax savings, and care for your family.

The Guthrie Temple remains today as a center of social, business, educational, and fraternal programming in Oklahoma's original center of commerce. It has become a resource for educators throughout central Oklahoma and has been the site of hundreds of public tours, celebrations, and events.

Today, we stand at a crossroads in our history. It is imperative that every effort be made to insure the preservation of Oklahoma's most outstanding landmark. We need to do it for no other reason than we will be preserving a building that embodies the imagery and symbolism of the greatest force for good in the world.

We recommend above all else that you first have a prepared will to direct the proceeds of your estate where you wish them to be directed. Then, we respectfully request that you consider one of the vehicles named above in directing a portion of your estate's assets to the preservation of our beautiful Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple. Generations that follow you will thank you for your care and thoughtful insight in such a noble undertaking.

**The Oklahoma
Scottish Rite
Mason**

Official Publication of the
Ancient and Accepted
Scottish Rite of Freemasonry
Orient of Oklahoma

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SCOTTISH RITE BIENNIAL SESSION THIS OCTOBER

The Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, will hold its Biennial Session at the Capital Hilton in Washington DC on October 3-6, 2009. The session is held every two years for the purpose of adopting legislation which may come before the Council, reviewing and adopting the budgets of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, and announcing the priorities and plans for progress in the Scottish Rite over the next biennium.

One of the highlights of session is not only the introduction of the active and deputy members who serve on the Supreme Council, but the introduction of Scottish Rite and other Masonic leaders from around the world. It is always a delight to hear the opening oration of the Supreme Council, this year to be given by Ill. William Brunk, 33°, Grand Orator and SGIG

in North Carolina; followed by Grand Commander Ronnie Seale's allocation, providing a state of the union message in regard to the Rite.

The session begins on Sunday with the election of all Supreme Council officers and newly active members, a vespers service for all brethren and their wives, and a reception. The formal session of the Council will open on Monday morning, October 5th and will continue through two days, ending with a gala banquet and the Grand Commander's ball on Tuesday evening. The Scottish Rite Research Society will meet at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday for the purpose of delivering its annual luncheon lecture. This year, Alain Bernheim, 33°, the 2001 recipient of the Albert Gallatin Mackey Award for Excellence in Masonic Scholarship, will present a very interesting lecture. The event is open to all Scottish Rite Masons.

During the afternoon, the formal conferral ceremony of the 33° will be presented by the Alexandria, VA Scottish Rite conferral team on a group of 2009 recipients invited for the conferral from areas in close proximity to the District of Columbia Scottish Rite Temple. All men who have been nominated for both the KCCH and the 33° in the many Orients across the Southern Jurisdiction will also be confirmed by election during the session.

Ill. Joseph C. Jennings is the active member of Oklahoma who serves on the Supreme Council. He will be in attendance along with the Valley Personal Representatives and Valley Secretaries. We congratulate all those recipients of Supreme Council honors this year. The names will be published in the next issue of the Oklahoma Scottish Rite Mason.