



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 1

March 2009

It's a New Century for Oklahoma Masonry!

On February 10, 1909, some 1400 Masons of the State of Oklahoma, consisting of what was then known as the Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory Grand Jurisdictions, met in convention at 2:00 p.m. at the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple for the purpose of adopting the constitution and by-laws of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma. Before the sun set on that day, the first Grand Lodge in the 46th state had elected and installed its officers.

It was a momentous day. It was the first time in the history of American Freemasonry that 3 Grand Lodges had separately and legally been established by a convention of lodges within the same geographic area. It ended an era of territorial Masonry that collectively sired 400 constituent lodges over a 35 year span.

This heritage will be a part of the theme of our upcoming Spring Reunion, appropriately named "*Oklahoma A.F.&A.M.—A New Century*" Reunion. Like the Guthrie Scottish Rite itself, established in Oklahoma Territory 13 years prior to Grand Lodge, the Spring Reunion scheduled for April 3-5, 2009, will actually predate the statewide celebration of Oklahoma Masonry to be observed on May 31 in Guthrie.

This gives us a chance to reflect on our own past, promote the upcoming celebration of Masonry in Oklahoma by being a part of its planning, and rejoice in the new century of Masonry which lies in front of all of us. The theme of the Guthrie Scottish Reunion will be to reflect on the best of our past, consider the needs of the present, and plan for the type of Masonry we want to experience in the future. That's the kind of speculation that should prove to be fun, thoughtful, and retrospective for all true students of Masonry in our state.

The programs and exhibits scheduled for our Scottish Rite weekend will attempt to blend the best traditions of our older generation of members with the technologically driven culture of the young men enter-

ing our fraternity in this new century. It will surprise you how many things these generations now have in common. We should be able to capitalize on this to form the Masonic experience for the next few decades.

The Reunion activities will kick off on Thursday evening with pre-registration and an introduction to the Scottish Rite for our candidates. Opening ceremonies will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, April 3, in the main auditorium.

Major Ed Pulido to be Guest Speaker on Saturday Night

You won't want to miss our Saturday evening program at 7:30 p.m. on April 5th. Retired Major Ed Pulido, who lost a leg in Iraq in 2004, will tell us his personal story through a powerful powerpoint presentation while introducing us to the *Folds of Honor* foundation, a non-profit group he now works with that raises money to send the spouses and families of those who have fallen or been wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan to college.

All Americans would benefit by hearing his story alone; but his enthusiasm for what has been accomplished in Iraq, his gratitude for the overall American support of the military, and his high respect for others who are heroes to him makes for a warm and captivating event. This is a story about a young man whose life was changed in an instant by a roadside bombing in Iraq. It is a story of how a group of professional golfers have joined together to help families who have been directly impacted by war.

Join us for a heartwarming evening that will give you a different perspective of the men and women who serve in our military overseas.



“OKLAHOMA AF&AM – A NEW CENTURY”

REUNION

April 3-5, 2009

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Lodge of Perfection Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Candidate Registration 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Candidate Reception 6:30 p.m.
Intro to the Scottish Rite Experience 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 3, 2009

Registration of Candidates..... 7:00-7:30 a.m.
Class Introduction to Scottish Rite 7:30-8:00 a.m.
Opening Ceremonies..... 8:00 a.m.
Introduction to the Degrees..... 8:45 a.m.
4° Secret Master (Guthrie-Johnston)..... 8:55 a.m.
*5° Perfect Master (Kay-Reuber)..... 9:45 a.m.
6° Confidential Secretary (Ok City-Crowder)..... 10:25 a.m.
7° Provost and Judge (Altus-King)..... 10:55 a.m.
8° Intendant of the Building (Cushing-Dunaway)..... 11:35 a.m.

Lunch 12:00 p.m.

9°, 10° Elu of Nine, Fifteen (Okla City-Robison)..... 1:00 p.m.
11° Elu of the Twelve (Okla City-Robison)..... 1:40 p.m.
12° Master Architect (Edmond-Wall)..... 2:20 p.m.
13° Royal Arch of Solomon (Choctaw-Smith)..... 3:20 p.m.
14° Perfect Elu (Del City-Warmath)..... 4:15 p.m.
Obligation 4°-14°..... 5:05 p.m.
15° Knight of the East (Lawton-Zura)..... 5:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Discussion: Current Trends in Masonry
Scavenger Hunt
Pool Tourney
Knights of St Andrew Processional

Saturday, April 4, 2009

Breakfast 6:00 a.m.

16° Prince of Jerusalem (Okla City-Robison)..... 7:00 a.m.
17° Knight of the East & West (Duncan-Lewis)..... 7:55 a.m.
*18° Knight Rose Croix (Okla City-Weed)..... 9:00 a.m.
Obligation 15°-18°..... 10:10 a.m.
19° Grand Pontiff (Okla City-Minshall)..... 10:30 a.m.
20° Master of the Symbolic Lodge
(Woodward-Logan)..... 11:25 a.m.

Lunch 12:00 p.m.

*21° Noachite or Prussian Knight
(Lawton-McKenzie)..... 1:15 p.m.
22° Prince of Libanus (Kay County-Snyder)..... 2:10 p.m.
23° Chief of the Tabernacle (Yukon-Smith)..... 2:40 p.m.
24° Prince of the Tabernacle
(West Central-Sheppard)..... 3:25 p.m.
25° Sufi Master (West Ok-Freas)..... 4:25 p.m.
26° Prince of Mercy (Stillwater-Graumann)..... 5:10 p.m.

Banquet 6:00 p.m.

Entertainment

Sunday, April 5, 2009

Breakfast 7:00 a.m.

*27° Prince Adept (SW Okla-Hardin)..... 7:30 a.m.
28° Knight Commander of the Temple
(Enid-Heaton)..... 8:20 a.m.
29° Scottish Knight of St. Andrew
(OKC-Brown)..... 9:40 a.m.
30° Knight of Kadosh (OKC-Berry)..... 10:40 a.m.
Obligation 19°-30°..... 11:40 a.m.
Class Memorial..... 11:45 a.m.

Lunch 12:00 p.m.

Class Picture..... 1:00 p.m.
31° Initiate of the Egyptian Mysteries
(Guthrie-Monroe)..... 1:15 p.m.
32° Master of the Royal Secret (OKC-Dixon)..... 2:40 p.m.

***Passport Degrees**

There Is Room in the Inn!

Chalk it up to misfortune, or opportunity which rises out of recessionary times, but most of the sleeping rooms in the old legislative hall will once again be available for Scottish Rite Reunions, Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter! That is, at least for a while. Those planning on staying at the Temple for the upcoming Guthrie Scottish Rite Reunion can make reservations with the Temple Innkeepers at any time.

The challenges we have faced in our efforts to use tax credits to restore the old legislative hall have been exacerbated with the present economic recession. The result is that it seems unlikely we will have the money raised during this year to begin construction of the \$12 million restoration project. This has created the necessity to determine if there was any feasible way we might make the old 1908 building at least temporarily habitable during Masonic functions.

There have been three major (and growing) problems associated with the utilization of the old brown brick building situated along the east side of the Temple property. One has been in the delivery of clear water to the hotel bathrooms and sinks. Century old pipes generate rust in the supply lines. The rust then, not only discolors the water, but also plugs up shower facilities, sinks, and toilets. The result is, with time, most of our lavatories have become un-usable. In addition, the air infiltration around the many windows in the building causes an enormous amount of heat loss during the winter, resulting in heating bills which sometime exceed \$17,000 during our coldest winter months. During recessionary times, the heating bill becomes a significant factor in whether or not we can balance each year's budget.

The easiest solution is simply to mothball the building until all of its issues can be resolved.

But the Guthrie Valley is com-

prised of a large geographic area. To make the trip to our Reunions is not like driving from one side of a metro area to the other. It is often a matter of hours. It is a great convenience when our reunion workers can stay in the building for the weekend. Everyone knows this is what gives Guthrie such an eclectic retreat environment. Faced with the permanent closure of our 1908 hall, and the possible impact this might have on our active volunteer pool, the Advisory Conference has taken a hard look at alternatives.

Fortunately, our building maintenance superintendent, Tim Heaton, has been studying these same problems over the past year. The bottom line is that our building maintenance department has figured out a way to temporarily resolve the water supply problem and reduce the cost of heating the old legislative hall until we can get the funds raised to do the total restoration which ultimately must be done to save the old building. The Advisory Conference has voted to expend funds for these recommended improvements.

Not all rooms will be available. And sinks will no longer be usable in the individual sleeping rooms. But those who love to stay in the temple will once again have clear, clean water accessible to them and a warm bed. Hey...some of our hard liners say that's better than a tent. After all, it's only for a couple of nights.

The Inn is still in business!

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.

2009 OFFICERS OF THE GUTHRIE SCOTTISH RITE

The annual election and installation of the officers of the four Guthrie Scottish Rite Bodies was held on Thursday, January 15, 2009, in the Blue Room of the Temple. Illustrious Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33°, Personal Representative of the SGIG in Oklahoma installed all officers, administering the charges and obligations as prescribed in the ceremonial forms of the Rite.

The newly installed Masters of the Guthrie Lodges are:



Jay Wall, KCCH
Venerable
Master

Richard
Kerr, 32°
Wise Master



Glenn Kinsley,
KCCH
Commander of
Kadosh

Jim McKinney,
KCCH
Master of Kadosh



2009 Lodge of Perfection Officers

Senior Warden..... David Tennison
Junior Warden Glen McCall
Orator Philip L. Moseley
Treasurer Jon G. Gumerson, 33°
Almoner Bert Wheeler, KCCH
Secretary Robert G. Davis, 33° G. C.
Prelate J. Dennis Smith, KCCH
Master of Ceremonies Burke McCrory
Expert A. Dean Monroe
Asst. Expert Michael Gillespie
Captain of Hosts Gaylord Z. Thomas
Tyler Bronnie Campbell

2009 Chapter Rose Croix Officers

Senior Warden..... Jimmy D. Hartzell, 33°
Junior Warden Michael Hampton, KCCH
Orator Jack Painter, KCCH
Master of Ceremonies John Barnhart, KCCH
Expert Woodrow Morehouse
Asst. Expert Jack Randall
Standard Bearer Dana Clark, KCCH
Guardian Temple Gerald Stegall
Tyler Bronnie Campbell

2009 Council of Kadosh Officers

First Lt. Commander..... Michael Zura, KCCH
Second Lt. Commander..... Ed Becerra, KCCH
Chancellor Mitchel Witt
Orator Russell Freas, KCCH
Turcoplier..... Michael Blevins, KCCH
First Deacon Michael Witt
Second Deacon Derek Bullock
Bearer of the White Standard Jim Jon Carr
Bearer of the Beauseant..... Clarence Grigsby, Jr.
Bearer of the Black Standard David Shore
Lt. of the Guard..... Tim Israel
Tyler Bronnie Campbell

2009 Consistory

Prior Gene McKelvey, 33°
Preceptor Bill McNeil, 33°
Chancellor W. Jim Cloud, KCCH
Minister of State..... Tom Young, KCCH
Prelate John Kirkland
Marshal of Ceremonies John M. Sloan
Expert John Robison, 33°
Asst. Expert Michael Rose
Captain of the Guard Ronald J. Minshall, KCCH
Tyler Bronnie Campbell

“Education on the Rite Nite” – Join Us!

The Guthrie College of the Consistory, in association with our Valley’s degree teams, has launched a new program this month which promises to be both informative and engaging. Styled the *Education on the Rite Nite*, the new program is designed to offer an in-depth study of the Scottish Rite degrees; one degree and one night at a time. These monthly *Rite Nite* programs will occur on the third Wednesday and will be conducted in lodges across the Oklahoma City Metro area. A parallel program will take place each month in other lodges across the Valley.

The first meeting was held on February 18th and hosted by Siloam Lodge, with the conferral of the 6° by the Oklahoma City team. The esoteric aspects of the

degree were presented, including such things as the grips, words and signs which are not usually given when the degrees are presented at our bi-annual reunions. An added powerpoint presentation revealed some of the hidden secrets imbedded in the symbols of the degree. A good discussion followed where participants focused on contemporary applications of the degree’s lessons. It was an evening of education, involvement, and good fellowship; which is one of the hallmarks of the Scottish Rite.

The complete schedule for the year is included in this issue of the *Oklahoma Scottish Rite Mason*, along with the topic to be discussed each month. In announcing the *Rite Nite* program, Robert Davis, 33°, G.C., Valley

General Secretary, stated; “This is expected to be a multi-year venture since there are so many different topics which can be discussed in the Scottish Rite. As long as there is interest among our members, we are happy to present more education in Masonry.”

Topics to be covered include the history, government and degrees of the Rite, major themes of the Rite, explanations of degree symbols, colors, numbers, and the communication of signs and words. Question/answer sessions about the Rite, and discussions of questions covered in the Supreme Council’s Master Craftsman series, as well as the Guthrie College of the Consistory. The major emphasis of the *Rite Nite* program is to encourage and facilitate discussion about the teachings of the Scottish Rite and how we apply the many lessons to our contemporary lives.

All meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. and run about an hour in length. Check out the monthly schedule published in these pages and mark your calendar to attend as many of the programs as is convenient to you. All 32° Masons are invited to participate in this new and exciting opportunity to learn more about Masonry.

“EDUCATION ON THE RITE NITE” 2009

2/18/09	“8 Hidden Secrets” (6°)	Siloam Lodge #276
3/18/09	“The Major Themes of the Rite”	Amity Lodge #473
3/24/09	“The Key to the Mysteries” (4°)	Guthrie Lodge #35
4/15/09	“The Elu Principle. What is it?” (9°-11°)	Okla City Lodge #36
4/29/09	“The Mystical Ascent” (5°)	Ponca Lodge #83
5/20/09	“Is the True Word in Masonry Still Lost?” (14°)	Myrtle Lodge #145
5/28/09	“Oh! To Be Judged Like We Judge!” (7°)	Altus Lodge #62
6/04/09	Regional Lodge of Perfection Meeting “The Tools of the Architect” (12°)	Edmond Lodge #37
6/16/09	“The Temple in Society” (8°)	Cushing Lodge #111
6/17/09	“The Nine Arches of Enoch” (13°)	Britton Lodge #434
7/02/09	Regional Lodge of Perfection Meeting “The Mysteries of the Druse” (25°)	Elk City Lodge #182
7/15/09	“The Rose Croix Tradition” (18°)	Mustang Lodge #407
8/06/09	Regional Lodge of Perfection Meeting “Tracing Board or Kaleidoscope?” (20°)	Woodward Lodge #189
8/19/09	“The Ancient Mysteries” (23°)	Yukon Lodge #90
9/03/09	Regional Lodge of Perfection Meeting “The Knighthood Tradition” (28°-30°)	Moore Lodge #539
9/09/09	“Duality-The Great Division of Nature” (24°)	Coronado Lodge #56
9/16/09	“Prince Adept – The Supreme Degree – Why Is It So Important?” (27°)	Hiram Lodge #494
10/21/09	“To What Should We Be Inquisitive?” (31°)	Bethany Lodge #529
10/29/09	“To What Should We Be Inquisitive?” (31°)	Frontier Lodge #48
11/18/09	“The Royal Secret” (32°)	Midwest City #532
11/19/09	“Is The Scottish Rite A Religion?” (15°-18°)	Mt. Scott Lodge #540

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.



**GUTHRIE SCOTTISH RITE REUNION
George Washington Masonic Memorial
October 4, 5, 2008**

From Left, Row 1: John Stahl, KCCH, Class Director; Ronald Lowell, Class Chaplain; Robert Burnett, Class Secretary/Treasurer; Larry Duran, Class Vice-President; Lloyd Ray, Class President; Joseph C. Jennings, Jr., 33°, SGIG in Oklahoma; Joe R. Manning, 33°, Personal Representative of the SGIG; Robert G. Davis, 33° G.C., General Secretary; Kent Callahan, KCCH, Class Director; Richard Massad, 33°, Class Director.
 Row 2: Benny R. McReynolds; Donald R. Himes; Caleb Finch; Gale Garvin; Charles E. Renfro; Boone L Davidson; Robert E. Rattan; Phillip E. Rattan; Matthew G. Copple; David Hayes.
 Row 3: Gregory Myers; Bryan Bozell; Steven Bozell; Richard Johnson; Daniel Brown; Robert Bassett; Michael Yarbrow; Robert Bateman; Leman Wayne Harris; Tope Ogunyomi.
 Row 4: Mark Luttrell; Jacob Hansen; Shannon D. Davila; John S. Signorelli; Christopher Harrell; Hector Wasdin; Stacy Reddig; Mike Williams; Brandon Crumm.
 Row 5: Leon Hutcherson; K. Steven Rowley; Hollis Davis; Chad Lee; Billy Cox; Adam Blais; Bill Kennedy; Kody Meder; Mark Alan Ray; Lane Folds.
 © Copyrighted Photograph by Jerry L. Cornelius, 32° KCCH - Tulsa, Oklahoma

George Washington Masonic Memorial Recognized at October 2008 Reunion

Generally our reunions are named for past Scottish Rite notables or significant events in Oklahoma and Masonic history. But this past fall, the Guthrie Valley took the unusual path of paying tribute to another historically significant Masonic edifice in America.

Masonic Education is the enduring theme of our fall classes. We simply expanded on that premise by offering an opportunity for everyone in attendance to hear and view the story of the George Washington National Masonic Memorial, located in Alexandria, VA.

George Seghars, Director of the Memorial, addressed the class with the historical story of the Memorial.

Mark Tabbart, Memorial Librarian and author of the highly acclaimed *American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities* was the keynote speaker at the banquet on Saturday evening.

For more information on the Memorial, visit their website at:

www.gwmemorial.org



50 YEAR BRETHREN HONORED

42 Guthrie Valley brethren were recognized during 2008 for having reached the exalted status of "50 Year Member". Robert Boulware, pictured above center, and Carl Young, above right, accepted an invitation to the special luncheon honoring 50 year members during the October reunion. Each received their 50 year pin and certificate, a Perpetual Membership purchased in their name by the Guthrie Lodge of Perfection and the opportunity to wear the "Blue Cap". Congratulations! The luncheon is hosted by Inspector Jennings at each reunion and all newly eligible brethren are personally invited to attend. We look forward to honoring more brethren in 2009.

Masonic Charity Foundation Announces \$1 Million Gift for Alzheimer's Research

The Oklahoma Masonic Charity Foundation announced this month that it will donate \$1 million to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation to help build and equip an Alzheimer's Disease Laboratory on the medical foundation's property in Oklahoma City. Ken House, President of the Masonic Foundation, remarked that "there's hardly a person in our state who has not had a family member, or someone they know, who has been devastated by this tragic and crippling illness. Our own fraternity has its share of members whose productive lives have been shortened because of this awful disease. We are proud to assist the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in their cutting edge efforts to find workable treatments for this terrible malady."

The gift comes at a landmark time for the OMRF, which is currently embarking on the largest expansion of research space in the foundation's

62-year history. It recently acquired the Keys Speech and Hearing building from the University of Oklahoma. That property was situated in the middle of the medical foundation's research campus. The acquisition will enable the foundation to build an 8-story research tower which is scheduled to be ready for occupancy by 2011. The new facility will provide over 200,000 square feet of new laboratory space and facilities. Funding for the construction of the tower has already been secured.

The Masonic Foundation's grant will construct and equip one of the 8 floors of the new tower to be dedicated to Alzheimer's research. The floor will be named the "Masonic Charity Foundation Alzheimer's Disease Laboratory." The Masons' funding will not only provide scientific equipment necessary for scientists to focus their efforts on understanding the cellular processes which lead to the development of Alzheimer's,

it will offer recruitment packages for attracting new scientists, salaries for technical assistants, and laboratory supplies essential to Alzheimer's research.

This is a public/private partnership of magnificent proportion. With the building of the new research tower, the Masons will be partnering with the state of Oklahoma through the state's Opportunity Fund, along with many of the largest corporate and family foundations in Oklahoma. Our collective dream is to be able to add to the already remarkable achievements being made by the Medical Research Foundation in the field of Alzheimer's research. Together, we will be aiding and attracting some of the best scientists in the country to explore new techniques for treating a disease that steals the memories—and ultimately the lives—of more than 4 million people in the United States every year.

That's a dream worth owning.

Valley Chairman Receives Brotherly Donation from OKC Masons



The officers of the Society standing left to right are: Steve Guerrero 32°, Valley Chairman Joe R Manning, Jr. 33°, Bill McNeil 33°, Gene McKelvey 33° and Joe Goenaga 32°

The officers of the Central Oklahoma Scottish Rite Society Chapter presented \$1000 to the Guthrie Lodge of Perfection in support of its operating needs at the January meeting of the Lodge.

The Society Chapter is made up of all Scottish Rite Masons residing in Oklahoma County, and portions of Cleveland, Logan and Canadian Counties.

The gift was unique because the Society is a social club rather than a charitable arm of the Rite.

Brother Steve Guerrero presented an additional gift to the Lodge of Perfection, offering 8 suite tickets with valet parking to an OKC Thunder's game. Members in attendance at the Lodge meeting donated \$800 for the opportunity to enjoy the use of the tickets. Thank you Brother Steve!

Rebekah's Christmas Surprise

Meet Rebekah, a sweet young girl of 11 who loves horses and everything about them. Rebekah is currently a client of the Guthrie Rite Care Language Clinic. In early childhood, Rebekah suffered with spinal meningitis which caused a seizure disorder. Rebekah did not begin speaking until the age of four. Rebekah also has learning disabilities and problems with integrating and processing sensory information.

For three years, with the support of her family, Rebekah has faithfully attended language and reading therapy at the clinic. Together with the family, her clinician helped to design and implement an effective treatment program for her language and learning difficulties. Initially, Rebekah showed problems in expressive reasoning, taking another person's perspective, vocabulary, figurative language and following and participating in conversation. These are all classic signs of a language learning difficulty.

Today, Rebekah's language skills are where they should be. Through the help of the Scottish Rite, she has been able to

overcome most of her language differences and has "broadened" her view of the world by making better judgments and taking part in meaningful conversations. Words/concepts no longer sound "foreign" to her. She also has become quite an avid reader! Her favorite subject: Horses.

In fact, part of Rebekah's amazing progress is due to her extraordinary love of animals, especially horses. She has learned all about them; their care, their habits and many riding techniques. Rebekah has proven herself responsible enough to own her own horse, so on Christmas morning, her family blindfolded her, placed her in the car and took her out to the riding stables where Sammy, her newest and best companion, was waiting for her. Rebekah would say that this was her best gift ever. Her parents believe too that the Scottish Rite has given Rebekah a great gift, one that will last a lifetime.

"There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man." Winston Churchill



Steve Guerrero of Norman was recently presented his Scottish Rite Master Craftsman Certificate and Pin by Secretary Robert Davis, 33° G.C. Brother Guerrero was the first Guthrie Valley member to complete the Master Craftsman program. Since its inception, the following Guthrie brethren have also completed the program:

Steve Guerrero, Norman
Chris Sheehan, Guthrie
James A. Koontz, Jenks
Mark Wallace, currently serving in Iraq
Robert G. Davis, Guthrie
Dustin J. Colegrove, Enid
Raymond G. Vanzant, Shawnee
Gaylord Z. Thomas, Guthrie
Jason E. Marshall, Chickasha

The Master Craftsman Education Program is offered by Supreme Council and is available for purchase from their website, www.scottishrite.org



SCOTTISH + RITE
MASTER + CRAFTSMAN

**The Oklahoma
Scottish Rite
Mason**

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

ROBERT G. DAVIS, 33° G.C.
Editor

PUBLICATION OFFICE
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
P.O. Box 70
Guthrie Oklahoma 73044
(405) 282-1281
gsrite@sbcglobal.net

S.G.I.G. IN OKLAHOMA
JOSEPH C. JENNINGS, 33°
Valley of Guthrie
INSPECTOR GENERAL

ADVISORY CONFERENCE

Joe R. Manning, Jr., 33° Chairman
Robert G. Davis, 33° GC Secretary
Charles L. Stuckey, 33° Member
B.F. Rowland, Jr., 33° Member
John L. Logan, 33° Member

GUTHRIE SCOTTISH RITE
CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

Michael Wiggins, 33° President

ORIENT OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 70
GUTHRIE, OK 73044

Non-Profit
Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.1
GUTHRIE, OK

Top of the Year Giving Helps Lodge of Perfection!

A very generous thing happened to the Guthrie Lodge of Perfection during the first three weeks of this year. And most of our Guthrie Scottish Rite members never even knew about it.

The perpetual members of the Valley responded in force to a quiet request from our General Secretary for their help in balancing the Lodge of Perfection budget this year. The result was that our perpetual members donated almost \$27,000 to the Lodge of Perfection in just three weeks! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The reason for this unusual "top of the year" request was clear enough. With the loss in equity income the Valley suffered last year due to the recession, the income projections for 2009 from dues alone were not adequate to cover

the expected operational costs of the Valley for the current year. The request for help was made only to our perpetual members because of the income gap that currently exists between the earnings on our perpetual membership fund and the dues currently paid by our dues paying members. This year, it is a short term matter of equity. We simply made a straight forward request to our perpetual members that they send the Guthrie Lodge of Perfection the same amount of money that all other members annually pay for dues, less what was earned last year on their endowed membership.

For 2009, this difference came to \$32. We asked the perpetual members to help fill the gap by sending the Lodge of Perfection this amount.

Of course, this gap is expected

to a degree. A gap between what regular members give in dues each year and what is earned from the perpetual endowment will always exist until all perpetual members pass to that house not made with hands. Perpetual memberships are a long term investment benefit to the Valley. In reality, during the lifetime of our perpetual members, this gap is subsidized by those who have already passed; and from the normal earnings from the reserve fund in the lodge. In good years, the individual member never notices. But this year, the gap was too large to let stand.

The Valley is proud to report that nearly 500 perpetual members stepped up to the plate this year to do their fair share to support the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple and the Valley's important programs.

Thank you once again!