



eDouble Eagle

News our Members can use from the Wichita Scottish Rite

Calendar (current on the Web Site)

[Up-to-date Wichita Scottish Rite calendar web site!](#)

Contact Us

Office Hours:

M-F 8:00 AM to Noon (except holidays – web site calendar)

Office Phone:

316-263-4218

E-Mails:

PR: [Ron](#)

DotW: [Bob](#)

Gen Sec: [Tony](#)

Asst Sec: [Dan](#)

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Plans

The current plans are posted on [Wichita Scottish Rite Plans](#)

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August 2019

Upcoming Events

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Elmo Lodge: 1st Tuesday Monthly

– check the calendar for meals at 6:00 PM

– meeting at 7:00 PM

Knights of Saint Andrew: 1st Wednesday 7:00 PM

Coffee and Donuts, Tuesday 8:00 AM Weekly

Honors Men Meeting: 5th Mondays 7:00 PM

Fall Reunion: 11 and 12 October

Honors Investiture Events: 22 and 23 November

Orient of Kansas Statewide Conferral – 23 and 24 October 2020 in Salina, KS – Stay tuned for details!

Hot Items

- The [Wichita Scottish Rite Web Site](#) is operational!
- The Rose Croix Calling Team will be calling YOU! Please talk with them, they ARE NOT cold-callers!
- We need Communicators, WebMasters and Editors for our communications committees! Contact Dan@wichitascottishrite.org to get involved!

State of the Valley

R. Ron Van Etten, 33, Personal Representative

Brethren,

For those who do not know me, I am Ron Van Etten. In April Illustrious Hugh Gill, III, 33°, SGIG in the Orient of Kansas appointed me to the position of Personal Representative in the Valley of Wichita. I was very pleased to accept the position and will do my best to serve the brothers of the Wichita Scottish Rite and the fraternity. Prior to accepting this position, I was a Trustee and Director of the Work. In order to accept the position of PR I felt it necessary to resign from those positions. I have appointed Illustrious Brother Warren Rensner, DDS, 33 to fill my unexpired term as Trustee. I have also appointed Brother Bob Talbott, KCCH, 33° Elect as the Director of Work. Both have been dedicated to Masonry and the Scottish Rite for a long time and I know they will do a great job for us.

We have also hired Dan Anderson as the Assistant General Secretary. Dan's function is to help get us caught up on a lot of paperwork and administrative clean up that needs to be done. He is also making numerous phone calls in order to update our membership records.

On another front I would like to give everyone an update on where we are with the building. I am sure you all know that the building was sold in February to a group called TempleLive. They are in the entertainment business and plan on doing various shows in the building. They are still in the process of deciding what changes they need to make to accomplish that task.

The Scottish Rite offices remain where they have been for decades. Part of the contract with TempleLive is that they will provide us with office space on the north end of the second floor of the building. So far that has not happened, but the process is evolving. There is still a lot of "stuff" on the second floor that they need to move prior the new offices being built. We have sorted through the items we needed to keep, i.e. costumes, props, etc. in order to put on our degree work and the honor ceremonies.

We are also in the ongoing process of determining what our income and expenses will be now that we no longer have the burden of taking care of the 'event venue' business.

My Brothers, we have spent so much time the last several years on building issues that the fraternal issues have taken a back seat. We are trying to remedy that situation. If any of you have ideas on ways we can improve fraternal relations, please let me know. I would very much like to visit with you. I can be reached at ron@wichitascottishrite.org or 316-259-3632.

Fraternally
Ron Van Etten, 33°
Personal Representative

General Secretary
Tony Nelzen, 33

Brothers,

I have been asked to write a short article each month for

the newsletter. I will assure you that they will be short.

I had a chance to peek at the article that Brother Ron Van Etten wrote for this month before I started to write mine. I whole-heartedly agree with Ron. We now have a great opportunity. The weight of figuring out how to pay ever-climbing utility bills and repairs is now gone for the next 10 years. That doesn't mean we don't have to plan for year 11 and beyond. The Wichita Scottish Rite can now focus on members, building membership, and what our role in the community will be.

With the sale of the building I am now the facilities manager for the new owners, TempleLive Wichita. That job is a full time one. I am continuing as General Secretary but with the help of Brother Dan Anderson, 32° as Assistant General Secretary. We will be tag-teaming some of the responsibilities which include attending Scottish Rite Club meetings. If any of you are interested in going to any meeting or event with us just call the office. The Scottish Rite is a fraternity and it needs everyone to make it work.

Tony Nelzen, 33°
General Secretary

Director of the Work

Fall Reunion and Honors Conferral

Fall is coming quickly upon us and with it a very busy time for the Wichita Scottish Rite. From a Degree and Ceremonial standpoint there are two key events that everyone should have on their calendars.

The **Fall 2019 Wichita Scottish Rite Reunion** is scheduled for Friday evening October 11th and Saturday October 12th, 2019 in the auditorium of the Scottish Rite Center. Cast and crew have been notified *however we still have both speaking and non-speaking parts available. We can always use assistance with wardrobe, cast check-in and Director Assistants. Each and every role in the Reunion is crucial to bringing the Scottish Rite Masonic Experience to the new Brothers and I pray you would consider continuing or even expanding your current involvement in the upcoming Reunion.*

The Biennial, **Statewide Honors Conferral** is scheduled for Saturday November 23, 2019 at the Wichita Scottish Rite auditorium. There will be a Reception Friday evening November 22, 2019 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm at the Wichita Scottish Rite Center, as there have been in recent years.

Check your e-mail and the next issue of the Double Eagle newsletter for detailed schedules for both of these events.

Two parting thoughts:

1) I hear some Brothers infer (if not outright say) that they don't understand the Scottish Rite degrees they have taken and are not sure where they fit in. There is only one way to resolve that – get involved. If you are unable or unwilling to participate in the degrees, then attending to witness and understand the beauty in

these degrees is the key to learning the Rite and how you can become an integral part.

2) As Brother Kevin Crowley has relocated, the Wichita Scottish Rite is now without an official organist. If you are interested or know of anyone who is, please contact me or the Scottish Rite office.

Bob Talbott, 32° KCCH
Director of the Work

The Sojourner's Corner

Introduction

I am Dan Anderson, originally from Montana and came to Wichita, by a very circuitous route, from Colorado 12 years ago as a Project Manager at Spirit. I have since retired from the US Army. Yes, I am a Colorado Mason - still! I am active in Pyramid #451, Kansas Lodge of Research, Hutchinson York Rite, and Wichita Scottish Rite (and a few others!). And as Brother Charlie Hill, I am at Cowtown Museum presenting Masonry to about 10,000 visitors per year.

Masonry to me is a fraternal body who learn, study, teach and execute a set of ethics, morals and philosophy using a peculiar school of symbols types and archetypes. As a group we influence ALL [family, friends, business associates and community] around us through our actions, words and deeds.

As Wichita Scottish Rite Masons, I see our mission to act as a cohesive, effective organization to use the lessons of Scottish Rite Freemasonry to influence our community in a positive manner for the betterment of all citizens.

We are not a building. Ask the brothers of the Hutchinson Scottish Rite Club.

I am a student and teacher of symbology in Blue Lodge. I have written two published essays which are linked [here \(2018\)](#) and [here \(2019\)](#). This may help you understand where I am coming from.

I wrote the WSR and Rose Croix Plans for 2019-2021 - yes, it is hard to read (maybe worse than Morals and Dogma!) but there is a LOT of business planning in there! And challenge! Blame the Army for my writing style! Send me your comments and suggestions - and acceptance of the challenge to make these plans come to life!

I was 'rewarded' as the new Assistant Secretary and Plan Manager! Some of my initial goals are to rebuild the WSR Web Site, establish and maintain the RC Calling Team, updating the Sentinel database, revitalize the eDouble Eagle, and make ConstantContact (our automated e-mail distribution system) start working for us - the members! When I get the Calling Team, Web Site and eDouble Eagle functioning I will be transitioning these to WSR Committees (yup, see the WSR Plan!).

As SW of Rose Croix I am developing the Internal Communication Committee. The Calling Team is being built. The Newsletter Team will be getting the eDouble Eagle. We desperately need volunteers interested in calling and newsletter work! Yes, we can teach those willing to learn! And 'Thank you!' to our two Calling Team members - Br. Nate Nelzen and Br. Charlie Belew, please talk to them when they call!

Dan Anderson, 32°
Assistant General Secretary
SW Wichita Rose Croix
Sojourner

Monthly Article

[19th Century Scottish Rite Answers for the 21st Century -
4th Degree](#)

Foreword

I want to see what our Rite says about what we face in 'today's' problems and situations. I also want to make this a long-running series. Someday, maybe, it will become a book. Therefore, we can call this a serialized book in the tradition of many of our Masonic scholars. Today I am just a student searching for Light and the Word, sharing what I find.

There are MANY articles and books written that expound on this question. However, I want to limit my initial discourse to allow others to bring their view, experience and expertise into what I hope is a long-running dialogue. I welcome those insights!

Therefore, I have purposely limited MY initial sources to:

- "Magnum Opus" by Albert Pike, written about 1857; Electronic Book edition information: "Magnum Opus" by Albert Pike, 33°; Sovereign Grand Commander, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, USA; distributed by LostWord (www.lostword.com); e-book edition published by Cornerstone Book Publishers (www.cornerstonepublishers.com), Lafayette, LA; Copyright 2004 by Cornerstone Book Publishers; All Rights Reserved; ISBN: 1-887560-33-5.
- "Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry" by Albert Pike; initially published by L. H. Jenkins Dec 31, 1871. I have used a digital copy of a book published 1873 available from Google Books at <https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=cMtJAAAAMAAJ> accessed on 11 August 2019.
- "Clausen's Commentaries on Morals and Dogma" by Henry C. Clausen, 33°; Sovereign Grand Commander, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, USA; sixth printing March 1985; LCCCN 74-81092.
- "A Bridge to Light" by Rex R. Hutchens, 32° KCCH; The Supreme Council, 33° Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Southern Jurisdiction United States of America; 1988; LCCCN: 88-63345.

Remember, these are ideas I found in the degrees! As with all Masonic degrees, there is so much more to learn, to ponder, to discuss and to share. The strength of Masonry is in that intellectual, ethical, moral and philosophical journey with other Brothers! I hope this may be a light to show each of you a path of study and contemplation, returning often to the sources - the Scottish Rite Degrees.

The Fourth Degree - Secret Master

From "Magnum Opus"

The symbology of the Lodge is subtle, but as always very deep. The letter "Z" is introduced. In the Sanctum Sanctorum sits King Solomon and Adonhiram, the sole Warden. There are no tools, since this degree is immediately after the death of Grand Master Hiram. The brothers wear mourning aprons and gloves.

Opening:

In opening King Solomon states "... in our sorrow we must not forget the demands of duty."^[1] The Lessons are "Secrecy, Obedience and Fidelity."^[2] Although the Master is the leader, he is still equal to all other Masons and in the eyes of God. Life, and our duty to others still living, demands that we continue to do our duties in all situations - even the most trying.

Reception:

Secrets, or confidences, must be kept or honor lost - relates to today's social media, mass communication. Do not worship any image - such as money or fame. Do not use foul language. Honor your promises. Follow the commandments of your Faith. A Secret Master's duty is to work. That Masonic work may not be rewarded to him, but it will be to others.

Presentation:

Duty leads to Truth. Continue your journey for the Lost Word. You are on the right path to do your duty, find Truth, and with it, the Lost Word. Darkness of the soul, error and ignorance are the enemies of Light and Knowledge. Workmen are on equal to all men, no matter what rank. Prepare to command by learning to obey. The contest in every man's soul is between Light and Darkness, Good and Evil, Truth and Error. All men struggle with these. Masonry's aim is to aid Brothers to win that fight - to gain and spread Light, to do Good as he sees it, and to seek and speak Truth to all power. Energy, perseverance, honest intentions and pure motivations will overcome all obstacles.

Lecture:

"Knowledge is the most genuine and real of human treasures ..." [3]. In knowledge's Light, men and their souls grow to true maturity, influencing and enriching those who follow. Books are the vehicles of our thoughts and ideas through all time. Those who record their thoughts are echoed to all who read those books, and those who reference them, through all time. To learn, and then to teach what is learned is noble and the worthiest work of mankind. Do good - in work, deed, thought, study, writing, conversation. Do not expect a reward of any kind for yourself. You may not be there or even alive when that good is harvested. Someone will harvest that good, and grow better because of it. Secrecy of rituals and recognitions are imperative for many reasons, but especially to help identify imposters who want our assistance improperly. Laws emanating from and protecting the People are the most just, and must be supported. Unjust laws emanate from the mob or from a despotic power of any kind. They are contrary to the laws of our Religious Faith, and restrict rights of man, free thought, free speech, or free conscience. Those laws are to be rejected and changed. Do not let the mob mentality or 'group think' or fad influence your conscience. Conscience "... must be taught by God, conducted by reason, made operative by discourse, assisted by choice, instructed by laws and sober principles." [4] Mankind's implementation of imperfect justice and equality in an imperfect world lead to good but imperfect laws. The best we can hope for in this situation is "... law for the greatest good for the greatest number." [5] Those who do not follow their Masonic Oaths will probably be "... false to his family, his friend, his country, and his God." [6] Fides servanda est - "Faith must be observed. An agent must not violate the confidence reposed in him [or her]." [7] [8] Keeping your word is a primary duty at all times. The priorities in life are to your God, your family, your friends, your country, and (finally) to Masonry. Masonry is multifaceted and meets many needs. There is not just one flavor of Masonry. It provides support for all age groups, economic strata, nations, and faiths.

Closing

Our duties include charity and benevolence. We are to care for the sick, the widow and the orphan.

Albert Pike - "Morals and Dogma"

Pike starts out pointing out that the allegories presented in the first three degrees may seem rude, incomplete and confusing for many reasons. More study is required to understand those lessons. The Scottish Rite degrees are a step to build on that ancient foundation. There are many sources that must be used to understand

Freemasonry - this book is not the source book, but essentially a study guide! Masons must "... read, study, reflect, digest and discriminate"[9]. To emphasize this, Pike states "Knowledge is the most genuine and real of human treasures; for it is Light, as Ignorance is Darkness." [10]

Recording our knowledge in print (books, articles, etc. on paper or in electrons) is more likely to make our name and influence last for decades if not centuries. [11] To learn is necessary for a noble soul, to teach that knowledge is the culmination of a good life. [12]

"To attain the truth, and to serve our fellows, our country, and mankind - this is the noblest destiny of man." If you are not ready to devote your life to this objective do not go any further. Scottish Rite Masonry is not for everyone. It is hard work - in so many ways. [13]

Keep the secrets of Masonry and Masons. That secrecy will protect you from imposters' demands, destructive rumor mongering, and illegitimate laws.

Man's laws are imperfect in justice and judgment. The best of man's laws support the greatest good for the majority.

Keep your word, especially to God.

"Fides servanda est : Faith plighted is ever to be kept ..." [14]. Be faithful to your family in all relationships, to your friends, to your country, and to Masonry.

Masonry has many facets supporting many needs of all men.

"A Freemason, therefore, should be a man of honor and of conscience, preferring his duty to everything beside, even to his life; independent in his opinions, and of good morals; submissive to the laws, devoted to humanity, to his country, to his family; kind and indulgent to his brethren, friend of all virtuous men, and ready to assist his fellows by all means in his power." [15]

"Clausen's Commentaries"

Truth and knowledge are the most genuine of treasure which are to be guarded by secrecy, obedience and fidelity which are emphasized.

King Solomon follows Masonic duty by first burying Grand Master Hiram's body, then completing the Temple, and finally judging the assassins. The example of Sir William Osler [16] is presented to bring the lessons into focus. Then we are challenged with powerful questions of existence emphasizing the immortality of the soul.

"A Bridge to Light"

Hutchens highlights the duties, lessons and important symbols and adds a critical reflection about leadership. We are introduced to the Kabalah and the letter "Z". The emphasis is that this is the foundation degree of the Scottish Rite system. We have passed from the Square of earthly things to the Compasses representing spiritual things. We are teased with concepts from Pythagorean Numerology, Dualism, the Ra religion of Egypt and the Kabalah. Then the demands of leadership and command are introduced and the requirements of study, silence, obedience and fidelity are echoed and emphasized.

Personal Comment - analysis and editorial

- Duty is the core of Masonry. It must never be neglected. It is often quiet, mundane, and unrecognized but must always be done to the best of our ability.
- Secrecy protects us from gossiping and imposters - including cowans. Cowans are all who do not use the cement of Brotherly Love, whether they have gone through our degrees or not. And imposters today are as visible as ever! Wearing Masonic jewelry because it is pretty or because 'Grandpa wore it' are examples. Claiming membership in a clandestine organization such as the Grand Lodge of Co-Masonry in Larkspur, CO is another. Lack of secrecy, which is the spreading of personal and/or confidential information by 'loose talk' to those do not need or deserve that information, is destructive. It is often tinged with ignorance, malice

and hatred. It is gossip mongering and rumor spreading. The violation of secrecy is un-masonic conduct.

- The subtly presented act of passing from the Square to the Compasses also leads us to many deeper concepts. We move from the Masculine to Feminine concepts, from Building to Creating, from 'what is' to 'what will be'. We must remember that Creation demands the complementary Destruction. We are moving from the alluded incomplete Blue Lodge degrees into the building on that foundation of a new, miraculous creation. Some brain cells may get hurt, and long hours will be spent in studying and teaching our Art.
- There is equality in Masonry. The exemplar in my experience is Br. Darren Kellerman, the Past Grand Master of Kansas who gently insists on being introduced as "Brother".
- Good work is often quiet and productive, but builds the foundation for great works and events by others.
- Learning and study lead to teaching and writing which in turn lead to the closest we can be to immortality in this world.
- Keep your word - in all things.
- There is the question of Adoniram - is this one character, or two? Or is there a third Adoniram?!? Further research leads to the concept of Adoniram being two words - 'Adon' meaning 'Lord' and Hyram! There is more to study here!
- Clausen's questions of existential lead to an answer of what we are. Hutchins and Pike tell us where we are going and start us on that road of knowledge and growth. Do you agree with these views?
- There is a continuity of ideas in our four sources. This is impressive since one was written after the Morgan Affair and before the American Civil War when division was growing in the USA, one was written after that Civil War and Reconstruction, one was written in the social chaos of 1970's America, and one written at the end of the re-building and re-evaluation period of American history. These were all periods of social change in the Southern Jurisdiction when Masonry was the most needed. Can you feel a shift from personal study and interspection to group instruction by (stamp my foot) emphasizing the answers, resulting in less personal involvement with more mass direction?
- Masons, in order to grow and thrive, must have a Masonic job! Give a Mason a job (title) with nothing to do but 'sit in the corner' as see how long he stays active - let alone a member!!!! Far too often we give lofty titles and leave the 'real job' to the Secretary!!!! How unfair and destructive to ALL, INCLUDING THE ORGANIZATION! That is why so many of our organizations are dead or dying - the officers 'sit in the chair' and get the title while the secretary 'runs' it all.

[1] Magnum Opus page 2

[2] Magnum Opus page 2

[3] Magnum Opus page 9

[4] Magnum Opus page 11.

[5] Magnum Opus page 11.

[6] Magnum Opus page 11.

[7] Black, Henry Campbell. A Law Dictionary. Containing Definitions of the Terms and Phrases of American and English Jurisprudence, Ancient and Modern. And Including the Principal Terms of International, Constitutional, Ecclesiastical and Commercial Law, and Medical Jurisprudence, with a Collection of Legal Maxims, Numerous Select Titles from the Roman, Modern Civil, Scotch, French, Spanish, and Mexican Law, and Other Foreign Systems, and a Table of Abbreviations. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing, 1910. 1314 pp. Reprinted 1995; https://books.google.com/books?id=PNQgVoT2_aQC&pg=PA495&lpg=PA495&dq=#v=onepage&q&f=false [11 August 2019]; page 495.

[8] Black's Law Dictionary, 7th Ed, Bryan A. Garner; <https://books.google.com/books?id=rKpXDwAAQBAJ&pg=PA1637&lpg=PA1637#v=onepage&q&f=false>; [11 August 2019]; page 1637.

[9] Morals and Dogma page 107.

[10] Morals and Dogma page 107.

[11] Morals and Dogma pages 107-108.

[12] Morals and Dogma pages 108-109.

[13] Morals and Dogma page 109.

[14] Morals and Dogma page 112.

[15] Morals and Dogma page 113.

[16] Wikipedia [Sorry, I don't often use Wikipedia as a source but there are SO MANY sources within this Wikipedia article that I needed to include it to get a sense of what Clausen was relating to!]; William Osler; "Sir William Osler, 1st Baronet, FRS FRCP (/ˈɒzlər/; July 12, 1849 - December 29, 1919) was a Canadian physician and one of the four founding professors of Johns Hopkins Hospital. Osler created the first residency program for specialty training of physicians, and he was the first to bring medical students out of the lecture hall for bedside clinical training.[1] He has frequently been described as the Father of Modern Medicine and one of the "greatest diagnosticians ever to wield a stethoscope".[2][3] Osler was a person of many interests, who in addition to being a physician, was a bibliophile, historian, author, and renowned practical joker. One of his achievements was the founding of the History of Medicine Society (previously section) of the Royal Society of Medicine, London.[4]"; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Osler; 14 Aug 2019.

The Historian's Corner

DID YOU KNOW?

A time line of events at the Wichita Scottish Rite Center, Part 3

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This will be a continuation of events in the history of the Wichita Scottish Rite. Unless otherwise noted, the notes for the events listed have come from Elmo Lodge of Perfection No. 9 Meeting Minutes.

(General note) In May of 1898, the new restoration of the old Y.M.C.A. building for Scottish Rite use is completed and dedication ceremonies are held coinciding with the May 23, 24, 25, 26 "Temple Dedication" reunion class. About \$12,000.00 is spent to remodel the original Y.M.C.A. building including interior arrangement of rooms, stage, scenery, auditorium, costumes, decorations, and furnishings. The auditorium seated about 300. The auditorium was located in the area where the present Lodge Room and adjoining Lounge are located, with the stage on the south side of the room along the wall where the Master's chair is presently situated. The original Y.M.C.A. gymnasium was located in the area where the present Office is located and had a running/walking track around the perimeter. The floor of the gymnasium was the basement floor of the building, and the ceiling was the present ceiling of the office area. A new first floor was added in this area to make the floor for the office area. *(Wichita Eagle, Sunday, May 15, 1898 page 11)* Long article about the new Scottish Rite temple, now receiving the finishing touches. To the original expenditure of \$75,000 by the Y.M.C.A. in erecting this building in 1887-90, the Scottish Rite bodies have added about \$12,000 for interior re-arrangement and furnishings since they acquired the property last January 1.

(Wichita Beacon, Sunday, May 21, 1898 page 5) Albert Pike Lodge No. 303 held its first meeting in the new Scottish Rite Cathedral last night. The Lodge meets in the Egyptian Room. *(At that time the Egyptian room was smaller, being two rooms with a wall and double door splitting the room at where the present columns are located. The north room was called the Egyptian room and the south room was called the Turkish room. The Turkish room was used as a candidate lounge for both Albert Pike Lodge and Wichita Consistory. See picture at end of article.)*

In November 1901, a committee was appointed and empowered to negotiate a purchase of the 75' immediately north of the Temple. In December 1901, the committee reported that they were able to secure it at a purchase price of \$3,500.00, The Trustees were then ordered to close the deal. The purchase was completed on

November 4, 1902.

In September 1902, a resolution was made to appoint a committee to procure a set of plans and specifications for use in improvements, modifications, and new furnishings of the Temple, or additions thereto. In June 1905, on motion, a committee was appointed to procure plans and specifications and an estimate of the cost for completing alterations and renovations to the Temple necessary to give the Scottish Rite Bodies of Wichita the finest Temple in the West.

(Wichita Eagle, Friday, December 6, 1901 page 5.) The Scottish Rite consistory yesterday purchased the three lots just north of present building from W. R. Tucker for \$3,750. On the rear part a \$10,000 addition will be built to enlarge the auditorium and stage and the banquet hall.

(Wichita Eagle, Sunday, October 12, 1902 page 4.) Early in the spring the \$20,000 addition planned by the Scottish Rite Masons will be put up. Mr. Elbert Dumont is architect. The addition will be the same number of stories and will occupy the lot to the north of the present structure at Topeka and 1st street. The east line of the addition will be a continuation of the east line of the present building. It will be finished in the same style as the original, a tower being put on the northeast corner. *(If this tower was to mimic the tower at the southeast corner it was never built.)*

In November 1903, a motion carried to draw an order of \$10,200.00 to Presbyterian Board of Relief for Disabled Ministers of Philadelphia, paying off the balance of the Principal of the Mortgage held by them on this building, and interest to January 1904, with a request that the mortgage be released.

In April 1906, the committee that had been appointed to investigate remodeling and redecorating of the present Temple reported that they felt it unwise to alter the Temple at this time. On April 10, 1906, at a special meeting called for the purpose, it was unanimously voted to build a new addition to the North side of the original building and remodel the existing Temple to suit the new conditions. Alteration of the existing Temple to conform to plans submitted from Bro. Elbert Dumont were rejected, and a new addition was proposed to consist of a dining hall, kitchen, auditorium, wardrobe room, and pipe organ. A committee of 9 members were appointed to consult with architects for the new addition.

In May 1906, it was agreed to employ Architect Charles Thompson of Little Rock, Arkansas and Architect C.W. Lewis of Wichita to draw up plans and specifications for the proposed major addition to the building. *(Henry Wallenstein, Jr., another prominent figure in the Wichita Consistory, had numerous inputs to the architects on room arrangements, furnishings, and finishes for the new addition.)* In September of 1906, plans and specifications, completed by the Architects, were accepted by the general membership and the committee was instructed to advertise for bids and proceed with the construction.

(Wichita Eagle, Tuesday, November 13, 1906 page 6.) The Scottish Rite Masons will hold groundbreaking ceremonies today for the new addition to their present temple at Topeka and 1st street to cost \$100,000. *(J. Giles Smith was appointed to "throw" the first shovel of dirt at the new Temple addition groundbreaking. See picture at end of article. Bro. Smith was a prominent Wichita Scottish Rite member. See his history at the end of this article.)* Addition will front 75 feet on Topeka, and entire building when complete will be 150 feet by 150 feet.

This will cover the next part in the series of time periods. With the next article, we have a detailed 1908 newspaper article that describes the new addition to the building, giving us insight on original room arrangements and furnishings.

References:

Elmo Lodge of Perfection No. 9 meeting minutes.

"A Brief History of the Scottish Rite Bodies in Wichita Kansas", published in the Double Eagle, August 1944.

City abstracts and other miscellaneous archive material.

"To Shine in Use, A Centennial Celebration of the Scottish Rite in Wichita, Kansas", published in 1987 for the Wichita Scottish Rite.

Notes from the Wichita Eagle and Wichita Beacon are from the Tihen Collection of the Special Collections and University Archives - Wichita State University Libraries

J. Giles Smith

(Most information from the Wichita Daily Beacon, January 13, 1906)

J. Giles Smith was born in 1849 and came to Wichita from Indianapolis, IN in 1887. Although very active over the years in the Wichita Scottish Rite, and a prominent figure around the building, not much can be found as to the dates of his Masonic history, other than he was a charter member of Albert Pike Lodge No. 303 and a 33⁰ Inspector General, Honorary, of the Wichita Scottish Rite. Most other information has been lost to history.

Mr. Smith was for several years in the plumbing business. Later he was an agent for the New York Life Insurance Co. He was also very active in the real estate business around the area and owned considerable property on at that time the east part of Wichita near Chisolm Creek. Mr. Smith also served several terms on the Wichita City Council. He was involved in the promotion of the Municipal Gas Well on the north part of the City.

Mr. Smith was known as the "Father of Scottish Rite Masonry" in Wichita. Not long after moving to Wichita, Mr. Smith convened a meeting on May 21, 1887 for the purpose of organizing a Lodge of Perfection, with E.T. Carr, Inspector General in Kansas, meeting with the Brethren. There were twelve charter members present: Jeremiah S. Cole, John L. Boyd, John W. Shultz, Salmon T. Tuttle, Charles Balance, Robert H. Smith, Oliver P. Hood, J. Giles Smith, Harry C. Gager, John T. Sargent, Samuel H. Horner, and Edward Goldberg. The inaugural meeting of Elmo Lodge of Perfection was held on June 28, 1887.

Mr. Smith was the first Scottish Rite Mason in the Wichita Valley to be coroneted a 33⁰ Inspector General, Honorary. He was also for a time the Deputy Inspector General for the Valley of Wichita.

Mr. Smith died on January 13, 1906 at the age of 57. He left a wife, son, and Daughter.



Turkish Room south of Egyptian Room. Door at right leads into Egyptian Room and door at left leads into the hall.



**1908 Addition Groundbreaking Ceremony. "November
13th, 1906 – J. Giles Smith 33⁰ throwing the first
shovel of dirt A. & A. Scottish Rite Wichita Kas."**

Wichita Scottish Rite | 316-263-4218

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