

May 8, 2026, #149

Dear Brethren and Friends,

Special Announcements:

The Rainbow Girls are collecting supplies for the unhoused in our community. They are asking for donations of toothpaste, hairbrushes, feminine hygiene products, hair ties, toothpaste, deodorant, travel sized soap, shampoo, and conditioner. There is a box at the lodge to place the donations. Please make sure all items are travel size.

Sickness & Distress:

Continued prayers for W: Jim Parham is back at Ignite Medical Resort. Best time to visit is after 1 pm. Please let his wife April know you are coming. If you need her phone number, please contact a lodge officer.

4th Annual Masonic Jamboree has been moved from Saturday, June 13 to Saturday, July 11, 2026. Still at Chandler Park. Please mark your calendars.

My Ramblings by W: Scott A. MacDonald © 2026

I Have a Confession

I just recently turned 70. That is amazing to me. I look back and wonder where the time went.

This birthday is a time for reflection. I must admit I have some regrets about my life. In the grand scheme of things, these are not earth shattering, but things I think about.

1. I should have been more intentional with my family. Writing notes, sending encouragement messages, saying "I love you" more often.
2. I should have modeled compassion, patience and understanding more for my family.
3. I should have been more positive in my life and said encouraging things to everyone.
4. I should have stayed home more. I traveled a lot with my jobs. In reflection, that was a mistake.
5. I placed too much worth and identification on my job. Once I am no longer able to work, my employer will forget about me in a week and replace me in a month. Most of my work "friends" will never call me after I am gone.
6. I should have taken my family on more vacations. I was always too busy to plan significant time away.
7. I should have realized that there are only a few people in the world that truly cared about my wellbeing. Those are the people I should have spent my time with.
8. I should have used all of my paid time off at work. I never took it all. Who did that help?
9. I should have read more books. I used to love to read science fiction. I haven't really done that in a long time.
10. I should have read the Bible more.
11. I should have prayed more.
12. I should have lived more boldly and taken more risks.
13. I should have been myself, not what others wanted.

Now, don't get me wrong. I've had a wonderful life. I have family that loves me. Masonic Brothers who love me. I'm healthy. I have kids who are contributing members of society. I have a wife who loves me and has stood by me for 49 years. So, life is definitely good. But.....

"I've got a bad case of the 3:00 am guilts - you know, when you lie in bed awake and replay all those things you didn't do right? Because, as we all know, nothing solves insomnia like a nice warm glass of regret, depression and self-loathing." — D.D. Barant, Dying Bites

"One of the greatest regrets in life is being what others would want you to be, rather than being yourself." — Shannon L. Alder

"There was a long hard time when I kept far from me the remembrance of what I had thrown away when I was quite ignorant of its worth." — Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

"Maybe all one can do is hope to end up with the right regrets." — Arthur Miller, The Ride Down Mt. Morgan

Lord, guide us through life so that we have no regrets in the end. In His name I pray. Amen.

Lodge Calendar

May 12 (Tuesday) – Fellowcraft Degree. Dinner at 6 pm, degree to follow.

May 19 (Tuesday) - Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6 pm, lodge at 7 pm.

May 26 (Tuesday) – Master Mason Degree. Dinner at 6 pm, degree to follow.

July 11 (Saturday) – 4th Annual Masonic Jamboree. 10 am to 3 pm. Location is Chandler Park, 6500 W 21st St, Tulsa, OK 74107. Masons, family and friends are welcome. No charge. Lots of activities for adults and children.

Grand Lodge Activities – Open to the Public

May 20 (Wednesday) – 50-year pin presentation at Red-Fork Masonic Lodge, 1030 W 51st St., Tulsa

See you at Lodge!

Sincerely,

W.: Scott A. MacDonald, Treasurer and Membership Calling Chairman

PS – I will be posting the weekly newsletter on our website at <https://ba-mason.org/newsletter>

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