

The Swope Park Masonic Temple Bodies Quarterly Newsletter

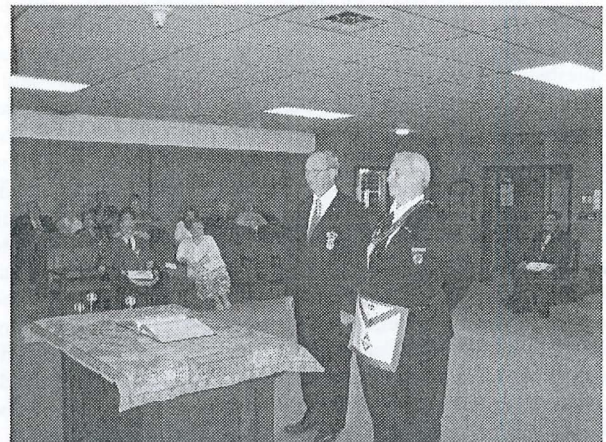
SWOPE PARK LODGE CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

WB Charles A. Farris, Master



(June 5th) Swope Park Lodge held an open lodge event to celebrate its 100th year, which began when Park Lodge A. F. & A. M. was instituted at the Swope Park Schoolhouse located at 61st and Jackson Avenue at 8 o'clock Friday evening, June 16, 1911. The celebration began with the William F. Kuhn DeMolay Chapter presenting the colors of our nation in a flag ceremony and WM **Charles Farris** leading the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, RWB **Paul Miller**, DDGL of the Eighteenth Masonic District of Missouri and Senior Deacon, opened the Holy Bible upon the altar. Then RWB **Lawrence Cameron**, Chaplain, gave the invocation. The Worshipful Master then welcomed visiting dignitaries, members of our appendant bodies and lodge officers. RWB Miller then escorted the Grand Lodges officers to the altar. They are (from right to left): Deputy Grand Master RWB **John Hess**, Grand Secretary RWB **Ronald Miller**, Junior Grand Steward RWB **Ronald Jones** and Grand Chaplain RWB **Thomas Truman**. WM Farris presented each of them with a Swope Park Centennial Lapel Pin.

RWB Miller (right in photo to the right) then escorted Most Worshipful Brother **Gail S. Turner**, (left in photo) the Grand Master of Missouri A. F. & A. M. to the altar. WB Farris rapped up the Brethren in attendance and the Grand Honors were given. MWB Turner was then presented a Swope Park Lodge Centennial Lapel Pin by our Worshipful Master and escorted to the East.



Next on the agenda was a brief history of Swope Park lodge presented by RWB **Larry Cameron** (left), our senior living Past Master. (1978)



Our lodge finally received its charter dated September 28, 1911; as Park Lodge continued to meet at the Swope Park Schoolhouse. It was soon becoming apparent to the brethren that meeting in a single story frame building with a lot of windows was not conducive to a Masonic Lodge. Brother Dalglish, the lodges first Treasurer, owned a grocery store at 6704 Cleveland and lived in the second story above it. He also owned a number of rental houses in the area and the brethren started asking him to move into one of them so the lodge could rent the second story. He finally relented and the brethren started to work remodeling the second story for use as a Masonic Lodge. The first meeting was held November 1, 1911 at Dalglish Hall, 6704 Cleveland. At this meeting, Park Lodge Number 617 A.F.& A.M.

was constituted was constituted with their new Charter and Dalglish Hall was consecrated and dedicated.

Peace and harmony prevailed during subsequent meetings at this location until a severe fire at 3:30 am, on August 5, 1913, destroyed the building so extensively that Lodge had to be held at Ivanhoe Temple, located at 33rd and Woodland, until the hall could be repaired. The last meeting at Ivanhoe Temple was held October 15, 1913, with the lodge relocating back to Dalglish Hall.

At a stated meeting October 12, 1922 of Park Lodge 617, the following resolutions were adopted: "Resolved that we hereby petition the Grand Lodge to permit the changing of the name PARK Lodge to SWOPE PARK Lodge number 617 for the following reasons: (1) That it will settle all questions as to location. (2) That we have a community lodge and reside in the Swope Park District. (3) That the Lodge was originally asked to be chartered as Swope Park Lodge. (4) That the members of Park Lodge are just about to erect a new temple and they desire to have the name carved in stone to be laid as an arch in this temple. (5) That this lodge is located on Swope Park Boulevard, and it is directly across the street from the third largest park in the United States, and (6) That this name is not in honor of any individual, but merely that of location only. This petition was signed in due form by the Worshipful Master and Secretary under the seal of the lodge. Furthermore, the change was recommended by the District Deputy Grand Master for the 22nd District. On page 135 of the 1922 proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Missouri is printed: "**We recommend that the petition be granted and that the name of this lodge be changed from Park Lodge no. 617 to Swope Park Lodge no. 617.**" The effective date of the change is October 17, 1922. The Lodge minutes of October 25, 1923 give the following account pertaining to the laying of the corner stone in the new Temple: "**...on motion the following REPORT OF LAYING OF CORNERSTONE OF OUR NEW TEMPLE at 60th street and Swope Parkway was incorporated in the minutes of the meeting.**" At 3:00 PM in the afternoon of Tuesday, October 16, 1923 the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri

then in session in annual communication at the Masonic Temple at Ninth and Harrison Streets, Kansas City, Missouri and having suspended labor for that purpose—repaired to the site of the NEW TEMPLE being erected by Swope Park Lodge #617 at 60th and Swope Parkway and with full Masonic Ceremony laid the cornerstone at the building. Swope Park Lodge moved from 6704 Cleveland into their newly erected temple at 60th and Swope Parkway on October 4, 1926. The lodge continued to meet at this location for the next eighteen years. The lodge barely survived financially, the Great Depression, but World War II struck the final blow. The lodge was forced to sell the building and Swope Park Lodge moved from the 60th and Swope Parkway location to 1115 East 47th Street on September 2, 1944. The lodge subsequently purchased a large residence at 2704 Linwood Boulevard, remodeled it and moved to this location on August 4, 1949.

On May 11, 1961, the question was raised as to when the lodge was instituted. It was ascertained that the Charter was dated September 28, 1911, and this being the 50th year of existence, it was suggested that a proper celebration be held near that date. The committee made arrangements for the occasion and a banquet was served in the Ivanhoe Temple on Linwood and Park at 6:30 pm on September 30, 1961. MWB Robert Mann, Grand Master was the principal speaker. WB Herman Tribue, PM 1957, was the Master of Ceremonies. Dinner was \$ 2.50 per plate.

On April 26, 1962 a motion was made and seconded to exercise the lodge's option to purchase property at 85th and Oldham road subject to obtaining Grand Lodge permission. The motion carried with an 18 to 8 vote. The lodge was fortunate to have Brother Walter S. Jennings, an attorney, as a member of our lodge. Brother Jennings supervised all our legal matters and made numerous trips to City Hall without remuneration, ensuring the paperwork was correct and properly filed with the city. Brother Jennings passed away June 6, 1971 and will be long remembered by Swope Park Lodge for a job well done. WM George Shores reported the last meeting at the recently sold Linwood location would occur the fourth Thursday, 1963. During this period, there existed within the Lodge an organization called the RAMBLER Club, no doubt the origin of the name of our newsletter. This group of Swope Park Masons sponsored a bowling team and held fund raisers for the benefit of the new temple building fund, as evidenced by the announcement of an upcoming fish fry in the September 1963 Rambler. WM Shores announced the building construction proposal had been submitted to the Grand Lodge Building Committee and permission requested to proceed. The ground breaking ceremony was held at 4:00 PM, October 6, 1963. Since our building at 2704 Linwood Boulevard was sold, it was necessary for the lodge to become a tenant temporarily at Northeast Masonic Temple, 141 Van Brunt Blvd. During the summer of 1964, Brother Hollis Lancaster headed a Finance Committee asking the members to fill out a pledge card and use a payment book to submit funds on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis over the next three years to pay for the new lodge. The lot and construction to date, consisting of the basement walls and foundation, were paid for, but the committee needed to raise an additional \$ 50,000 to complete construction of the new Temple. WB Robert Nickell was Master during 1964 and expressed hope that monies would be available to complete the upper shell before moving in. However, in September 1964, falling short of their goal and desiring to avoid debt and proceed as funds were available, the Building Board Association elected to finish the lower section and use it for the Lodge room. In February, 1965, Clifford I. Carter, WM, announced dues were raised to \$ 25 per year due to insufficient contributions to the building fund. In December, 1965, WM Carter announced the exterior work was complete and the interior work was progressing rapidly. The seating and platforms in the East and West were in place and the sideline seats were donated by Durwood Theatres, thanks to the generosity of Stanley Durwood. Anyone wishing his name plaque on a seat was urged to submit a check in the amount of \$15. Brethren who labored in and about the temple were listed and included in the archives for the corner stone as members of the Century Club. Many past and future Worshipful Masters appear on the list: WB Cliff Carter, WB Ray Hamilton, WB Bill McBride, WB Harold Baker, WB Vivian Gibson, WB Bill Martin, WB Bob Hamilton, WB Bill Gray, WB J.C. Taylor, WB George Shores, WB L. Verne Holic, WB Herb Dickey, WB Homer Kunz, WB Otto Kunz, WB Walt Quimette, WB J. Kohler Wolfe, WB Wayne Quimette, WB Fred Harris, WB Al Meyers, WB Oren Masoner, WB Dean Werner, WB Kenneth Peck, WB Karl Breggs, WB Earl Blackman, WB Bill Chrietzberg, WB Bob Nickell, WB Marvin Helm, WB Hollis Lancaster, WB Jim Mitchener, WB Willard Mace, WB Alpha Duncan, WB Bob Robertson, WB Sam Gash, WB Ray Lingo, WB H. McCarthy, WB C.R McClasky, WB J.R. Smith, WB Jim Carter, WB Dick Cauthon, WB Frank Bunch, WB Joe Bowman and RWB Warder M. Shotwell-Chief Expeditor. The installation of 1966 officers, January 8, 1966 and the Stated Convocation on January 13, 1966 were held at the Northeast Temple.

Finally, the dedication Ceremony for the new temple was announced for Thursday, January 20, 1966. Swope Park Lodge was opened in special communication for the purpose of dedicating our new temple at 8501 Oldham road. WB Harold W. Baker, author and researcher of this lodge history was Worshipful Master. The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Martin B. Dickenson, officiated with RWB W. Hugh McLaughlin assisting. Our first stated meeting in our present temple was held on January 27, 1966.

In October, 1968, WM William Martin proudly announced the mortgage was paid off and the temple debt free. The mortgage was executed December 20, 1965 in the amount of \$ 25,000 with City National Bank & Trust Company. This was a ten year mortgage and was retired in less than three years. The president of the Building Association, Brother Warder Shotwell announced there would be a cornerstone laying ceremony on November 9, 1968. The cornerstone laying ceremony, under the direction of Most Worshipful Brother Martin B. Dickenson, was held as scheduled, and after the cornerstone was safely secured in the Northeast corner of the Lodge building, the burning of the mortgage took place. It was surely a gala event. Afterwards the brethren, their ladies and families assembled in the Lodge room, where an inspiring message was delivered by Right Worshipful Brother Lewis C. (Wes) Cook.

In March, 1969, WM Warder Shotwell announced annual dues were reduced from \$ 25 to \$ 15 per year, since the building was paid for and the lodge debt free. Several up grades of lodge equipment were undertaken, in particular, a newly installed door knocker on the outer door of the Lodge room. 1970 kicked off with positive comments by WM Robert Hamilton. He announced that DDGM Emil P. Bayerl commended Swope Park Lodge on being number one in holding Grand Lodge Certificates. WM Hamilton also commented on the new wall paneling and ceiling tiles in the lodge room and the new square and compass design on the floor in the lobby. The paneling was done by WB William Martin, building custodian, assisted by Bro. Ken Peck. Brother Senior Steward, Al Regan (WM 1974) did the beautiful tile wall downstairs in the banquet room.

Following RWB Cameron's presentation, WB Farris introduced his line officers, all who were in attendance except for the Junior Deacon and Junior Steward. Shown, photo to the right, front row left to right, WB **Jim Payne**, Tiler, WB **Gary Dryer**, Treasurer, Bro. **Jim Lowman**, Senior Steward, Bro. **Justin Dryer**, Senior Warden, WB **Charles Farris**, Master and RWB **Larry Cameron**, Chaplain. Back Row, left to right, Bro. **Ed Culver**, Junior Warden, WB **Ken Best**, Secretary, RWB **Paul Miller**, Senior Deacon and DDGL and RWB **Dan Sewing**, DDGM Eighteenth Masonic district.

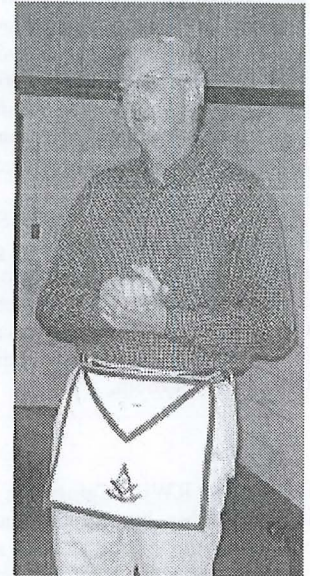


WM Farris then opened the floor for anyone to make a few comments concerning their association with Swope Park Lodge. EC **Roy Thomas**, (left photo) Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Missouri Grand Principal Sojourner and Secretary/Recorder of the York Rite bodies who meet at Swope Park Temple spoke of how welcome the Lodge made the York Rite Bodies when they moved into the temple. He said the spirit of brotherly love and friendship runs deep and sincere within this lodge. Sister **Lois Patton**, (right photo) Past Worthy Matron and Secretary of Swope Park Order Eastern Star Chapter 520 spoke of the cooperation, mutual assistance and sense of Masonic family that exists between the OES and Blue Lodge at Swope Park temple.





Reiterating this theme and referring to the 2002 merger of York Lodge 563 in 2003, RWB **Jack Clark**, (left) PM York Lodge and **WB Bob Harman**, (right) PM both York and Swope Park lodges, spoke of the ease of the lodges merger due to the members practicing the tenants of fraternity through the interaction of brethren coming together to become one lodge.



Our youth groups were well represented with Sister **Jayna Walden**, (left) Job's Daughter's Bethel Number One Advisor, who spoke of the ongoing support of the Bethel by the Masons of Swope Park Lodge. Brother **Trevor Keller**, (right) PFC US Army, who was home on leave from his assignment in Monterey California, stood and spoke of the positive impact the Order of DeMolay had on his life and attributed it to the dedication of the Masonic Advisors who guide the young men of the William F. Kuhn Chapter DeMolay. After the completion of comments from the members and guests, Worshipful Master Farris introduced Most Worshipful Brother Gail S. Turner, the Grand Master of Missouri A. F. & A. M. for his remarks.



MWB Turner complimented the lodge for its many accomplishments over the years and most especially, for the Masonic spirit and practice of the tenants of the fraternity as evidenced by comments from the previous speakers. He spoke of the connectivity of Masonry and how, over the centuries, up to the present day, it's tenants were practiced by many historical figures and made a difference in the world. He challenged us to continue practicing them to harmonize and enrich our lives and make a difference in the world we live in.

At the conclusion of his remarks, WM Farris thanked the Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, visiting brethren and guests and asked RWB Cameron to give the benediction. RWB Paul Miller closed the bible and everyone retired to Shotwell hall for a barbecued brisket dinner with cake for desert. The young ladies of Job's Daughter's Bethel One assisted in serving the buffet style. The Centennial Committee of RWB Larry Cameron, WB Kenny Best and WB Charles Farris, were responsible for procuring the meal and its trimmings.

The Rambler is the official quarterly newsletter published for Swope Park Masonic Temple Appendant bodies to communicate the activities of the organizations meeting there. Articles and photos are earnestly solicited. Please place in The Rambler's box in the vestibule outside the lodge room We reach 425 households.

REGIONAL SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION



RWB **Randy Jones**, Grand Lecturer, conducted a Regional School of Instruction May 21st. at the Lodge. Before starting, WM **Charles Farris** (above) presented him with a Swope Park Lodge anniversary Centennial lapel pin.

Regional Grand Lecturer (Region C) RWB **Glen Burrows** and RWB **Paul Miller**, DDFL of the Eighteenth Masonic District assisted RWB Jones as we worked on the second section of the third degree.

We had a good turn out of brethren from the district lodges and Swope Park was well represented by the majority of the line officers. We had a "Round Robin" ritual contest when ten brethren sat in a circle and went through the EA proficiency. Each participant asked and answered the questions and the exercise continued around the circle, eliminating brethren as mistakes were made. After several rounds, one brother remained as the winner-RWB **Larry Cameron**. RWB Cameron received the Ritual Award Medal in recognition of the accomplishment. The judges were RWB Burrows, RWB Miller and RWB **Jim Spencer**, Past Grand Lecturer.

The festivities began with a biscuit and gravy breakfast prepared by Chef WB **Ken Best**. We took an intermission for lunch at 11:30 for spaghetti and meatballs entrée with sauce prepared by WB Ken Best and RWB Larry Cameron.. Many thanks to Sister **Jayna Walden**, Bethel Nr. One Guardian, along with the Job's Daughters and DeMolay members who assisted in presenting the meal and cleaning up afterward. Also assisting in the kitchen were WB **George Wilson**, PM '92, WB **Frank Chester**, PM '94 and WB **Mike Luellen**, PM '09. Thanks brethren! Great to have a group of Swope Park PM's who always come out and work in the Lodge and downstairs.

Brethren- especially you newer and local lodge members- come out and participate in our various lodge functions to get more out of your membership.

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE



Pictured above, left to right, Bro. **Mark Schmidt**, Bro. **Thomas Schmidt**, WB **Ken Best** and RWB **Paul Miller**. DDGL.

(May 26) Following a long Masonic tradition in his family, Brother **Thomas Anthony Durbin Schmidt** was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry and made an Entered Apprentice. WB **Ken Best** obligated him and RWB **Paul Miller** gave him the lecture and charge. Bro. Thomas' father, Bro. **Mark Schmidt**, is a member of Swope Park Lodge. His grandfather, **Oswald Goodwin Schmidt**, was a member of McPherson Kansas Lodge Nr. 172, hence, Bro. Thomas Schmidt is a LEWIS as defined in many English and American jurisdictions. The definition of such, is that of the first born son of a MM. Brother Thomas Schmidt is also an active member of Wm. F. Kuhn DeMolay and has served in the line as Treasurer.

SWOPE PARK CHAPTER 520 Order of the Eastern Star

We have enjoyed the fellowship shared in the friendship nights. We were pleased to have 72 attend our friendship night. Future meeting nights are July 12th, August 9th and September 13th. We will have election of officers at the September meeting.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Marilyn Palmer** who passed away April 22, 2011. She had served Country Club Chapter as Worthy Matron.

Congratulations to Worthy Matron, **Holly Johnson**. The Worthy Grand Matron honored her with the appointment of Grand Representative of Utah in Missouri. Plans will be made for a reception in her honor when the Worthy Grand Matron gives us a date for this event.

Congratulations to **Rebecca Culver** who graduated from college.

We regret that we had to suspend seven members for non-payment of dues. If their dues are paid by the end of the year they will be automatically reinstated.

We were surprised to learn that the Masonic Home of Missouri Board of Directors decided to sell the Masonic Home Assisted Living Facility in Kansas City. The new owners are Americare Corporation. We are waiting to learn the impact this sale will have on our membership.

Lois Patten, Secretary.

IT WAS JUST A LITTLE LODGE-ROOM

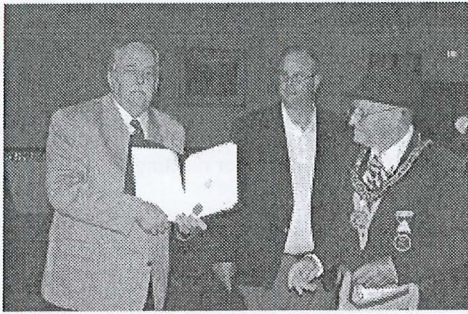
Just a quiet little lodge-room, but a mighty force for good;
With it's loyal band of members learning more of brotherhood;
Striving, stumbling, but progressing down a pathway toward the right;
Just a humble bunch of plain folks, reaching, seeking for the light.

Just a quiet little lodge-room. How it stirs the heart and soul
With the thrill of great endeavor toward the common goal;
With each pledge of faith and courage to maintain the forward fight,
On the road that leads them onward, ever onward to the light!

Anonymous

Source: A MASONIC THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY OF THE YEAR
By WB *Alphonse Cerza*, Transactions of the Missouri Lodge of Research 1971 volume No. 28

ROYAL ARCH MASONS



Shown above, EC High Priest **Charles Farris** receiving the new Charter from MECGHP **Christopher McLemore**.

(May 19th) First item on the agenda at the Grand Chapter annual meeting held in Jefferson City was the issuance of a charter by the Grand High Priest to the newly formed Harry D. Brown chapter 284 Royal Arch Masons.

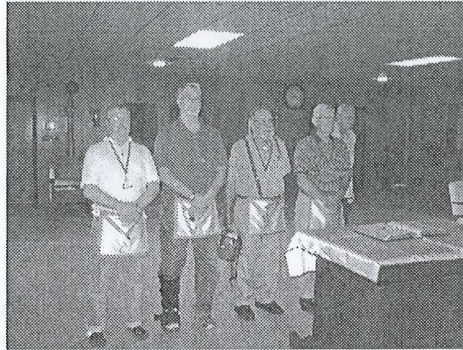
Attending to surrender the old Wm F Kuhn Charter and receive the new Harry D. Brown Jr. Charter were EC Farris, PHP **Steve Anderson**, GCofH **Roy Thomas** and C. **Jim Payne**.

With the approved merger of William F. Kuhn chapter 139 and Grandview chapter 145 RAM, the Harry D. Brown, Jr. Chapter 284 RAM was created. Both chapters met at Swope Park Masonic Temple, Kansas City Missouri. The newly merged and renamed chapter has a membership of 84 Companions. The most active members are also active in their respective Blue lodges and the revitalized RAM chapter expects to bring several more brethren to further light in the York Rite in the upcoming months and to re-ignite Chapter participation in ritual and degree work. Officers for the Chapter are: **Charles Farris** HP; **Tom Holmes** King; **Jim Payne** Scribe; **Tim Holmes** Treasurer; **Charles Girten** Capt. Host; **Bill Rogers** PS; **Melvin Tacke** Royal Arch Captain; **Frank Chester** M3V; **Mark Schmidt** M2V; **Mike Lundeen** M1V; **Christopher Duncan** Chaplain and **Kenneth Best** Sentinel.

Harry D. Brown, Jr. was a 62 year member of the York Rite bodies, a Knight York Council of Honor, who served as Excellent High Priest in the William F. Kuhn chapter RAM, Illustrious Master in the Cryptic Masons and Commander of the Knights Templar. An excellent ritualist and dedicated York Rite Mason. He passed away in January 2011.



HARRY D. BROWN JR CHAPTER 284 R.A.M. INSTALLATION AND INAUGURAL MEETING



Photo, left to right, installation of Master 1st Veil, Comp **Mike Lundeen**, Master 2nd Veil, Comp. **Mark Schmidt**, Master 3rd Veil, ECPHP **Frank Chester** and Royal Arch Captain, ECPHP **Melvin Tacke**. ECPHP **Jack Clark**, Installing Marshal, far right. Due to technical difficulties, the photos of the other installed officers were not available. Installing Master was ECGPS **Roy Thomas**.

(June 6) The newly chartered Harry D. Brown Jr. Royal Arch Chapter number 284 held it's first meeting and installation of officers. Officers for the balance of this Masonic year are: High Priest, ECHP **Charles Farris**, King, ECPHP **Tom Holmes**, Scribe, Comp. **Jim Payne**, Treasurer, Comp. **Tim Holmes**, Secretary, ECGPS **Roy Thomas**, Captain of the Host, **Charles Girten**, Principal Sojourner, ECPHP **William Rogers**, Royal Arch Captain, ECPHP **Melvin Tacke** Master 3rd Veil, ECPHP **Frank Chester**, Master 2nd Veil, Comp. **Mark Schmidt**, Master 1st Veil, Comp **Mike Lundeen**, Sentinel, ECPHP **Ken Best Sr.** and Chaplain, Comp. **Chris Duncan**. The inaugural meeting was well attended with fifteen (15) Companions. All chairs were filled along with Companions, ECPHP's **Jack Clark**, **Mike Luellen** and **Steve Anderson** on the sideline.



William F. Kuhn Chapter

Order of DeMolay

MISSOURI DEMOLAY ADVISOR OF THE YEAR



WB Kenny Best Chairman of William F. Kuhn Chapter Order of DeMolay was chosen as the 2011 recipient of the Advisor of the year award following in the footsteps of **WB Gary Dryer** who received this award several years ago. This is a fine testament to Swope Park Lodge and to all its members.

Hearty CONGRATULATION from your Lodge Brethren for this well deserved honor! -Editor

WILLIAM. F. KUHN ORDER OF DEMOLAY

On Friday June 3, William F. Kuhn boys Helped set up the Relay for Life run at Avila Collage on Holmes road. They spent the entire day setting up tables, signs and everything that was needed of them.

On Saturday June 5 at the Scottish Rite building the assisted the Masons with the Military stand down to help homeless Veterans with directions to the various areas of supplies.

It seems these boys are always willing to help.



MASTER'S

TRESTLE BOARD

WB Charles Farris

This will be my last article in the Rambler as Master of Swope Park Lodge. It has been a year of ups and downs, but fortunately, the ups have outnumbered the downs by a considerable number.

On the upside, the family atmosphere I wanted to continue and strengthen in the Temple has continued. We may not have always agreed on the outcome of some of the obstacles we have encountered, but we have accepted those outcomes with grace and dignity. To our Sisters of the Eastern Star, our younger brothers and sisters of the DeMolay and Job's Daughters, I thank you for your involvement in the events that have taken place at the lodge and wish all of you continued growth and success in your Masonic endeavors.

Our charity work with the Veteran's Hospital, ReStart Program and City Union Mission at Christmas was a huge success. I hope that we will continue to work, and increase our participation with these groups in the future. Brother Larry Alvis and WB Mike Luellen will be co-chairmen of the Veteran's Committee this year. I thank them for stepping up and volunteering for this noble cause. More information on tickets for the fundraiser will be forthcoming in the next Rambler.

One of the downsides this past year has been the lack of new members joining the lodge. Our degree work is decidedly down from last year. Although we did initiate three new members for Kansas City Lodge #220 in November, 2010, Swope Park has only conferred one 3rd Degree and two 1st Degrees since the beginning of my term as Master. I hope that this trend will reverse itself and new members will be plentiful in the years to come.

On the upside, our Study Club is strong. We have been averaging at least 10 members per session. I extend my most sincere thanks to RWB Paul Miller, 18th Masonic District DDGL, for his perseverance in coaching those who attend on Wednesday nights. I feel that RWB Miller's Study Club is the biggest reason for Swope Park's excellent proficiency in Masonic Ritual.

In April, Swope Park Lodge sponsored its first Chance-to-Advance (C2A) Class. A total of 16 Entered Apprentices were Passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft, then Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The lodge received numerous laudatory comments from RWB John Hess, Deputy Grand Master of Missouri; RWB Glenn Burrows, Regional Grand Lecturer (Region C); RWB Dan Sewing, 18th Masonic District DDGM; and RWB Paul Miller, 18th Masonic District DDGL, for the way the class was conducted. My sincere thanks to the officers of Swope Park Lodge for making this C2A class a memorable event.

Swope Park Lodge also welcomed three new York Rite Bodies in March of this year. Grandview Chapter Royal Arch Masons #145; Westport Council #38 and Westport Commandery #68. Since their arrival, Grandview RAM and William F. Kuhn RAM have merged and became the Harry D. Brown Jr. Chapter Royal Arch Masons #284. This merger will strengthen the Royal Arch presence in the Temple and along with the Council and Commandery will make York Rite a stronger presence as well. The new chapter was named after WB Harry D. Brown, Past Master 1954, who passed away in January of this year.

It was my privilege to be Master during Swope Park Lodge's 100th Anniversary. I thank MWM Gail S. Turner, Grand Master; RWB John Hess, Deputy Grand Master; RWB Ronald Miller, Grand Secretary; RWB Ron Jones, Grand Junior Steward; and RWB Thomas Truman, Grand Chaplain, for taking time from their busy schedules to attend our celebration. Their attendance was greatly appreciated and made the day extra special.

My congratulations to WB Kenny Best on his selection as DeMolay Advisor of the Year. WB Kenny devotes many hours to these young men and is most worthy of this honor.

I must also congratulate WB Jim Payne for his tireless efforts as editor of "The Rambler" for the past 7 years. What started out as a one page newsletter has become a publication that is one of the best, if not the best, in the state of Missouri. Thank you for the many hours you have given to make "The Rambler" what it is today.

One of the final events for this year will be a MOChip event on August 13th. It will be held at the same location as the past two years, but the school has changed its name. The new name is Hickman Mills Junior High School. The event will begin at 11:30 AM and finish at 3:30 PM. Volunteers are needed. A new requirement this year is that we have a Volunteer List to provide before we even go to the school. It is not a requirement to be there all day. A few hours will suffice. Last year we had approximately 25 volunteers and it worked out really well. Please make room for a couple of hours on Saturday, August 13th to make this last event of the year a success.

Finally, I to all of the brethren who were there when I needed them, THANK YOU. Whether it had to do with opening or closing the lodge, the ritual, conferring a degree, working in the kitchen or working on projects outside of the lodge, you know who you are. May you continue to support the upcoming Master and those that follow. I vow to do the same.

It has been an honor to serve as your Master for this past year. Thanks to all for bestowing that privilege on me and thank you for your support and guidance.

As Always, Yours in Faith

Charlie

SWOPE PARK LODGE

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The Lyricist Series

Closer Than Ever

June 17—July 17, 2011

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the songwriting team who gave us Baby, Starting Here, Starting Now and Big

Two For the Show:

Great Partnerships of Stage and Song

Noël and Gertie

September 23—October 23, 2011

A witty and moving play with music about the friendship of stage luminaries Noël Coward
and Gertrude Lawrence

Christmas in Song

November 18—December 24, 2011

Our annual musical cabaret revue in celebration of the season

My Romance

The Songs of Rodgers and Hart

January 20—February 19, 2012

A cabaret tribute to the partnership that gave us "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered,"
"Blue Moon" and "Isn't It Romantic?"

Make Someone Happy

The Songs of Comden and Green

March 2—April 1, 2012

Celebrate classic stage and film musical scores (On the Town, Bells Are Ringing) by Betty
Comden and Adolf Green

Life Is a Cabaret

The Songs of Kander and Ebb

April 20—May 20, 2012

A razzle dazzle cabaret revue of songs from Cabaret, Chicago, New York, New York and
more

Pete 'n' Keely

June 1—July 1, 2012

A hilarious musical spoof chock full of American standards ("Fever," "Lover," "But
Beautiful") and eye-popping costumes

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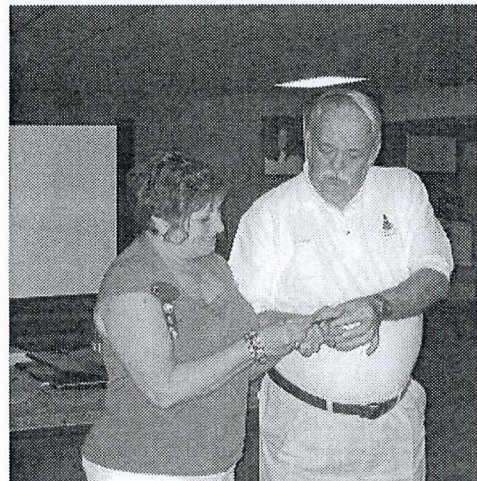


MASONIC HOME/OUTREACH PRESENTATION



(April 14) Mrs. **Shannon Findley**, Masonic Home PR Assistant (left), made another excellent presentation on the Masonic Home/Out Reach Program in open lodge to members of Swope Park Temple appendant bodies and guests. She began by asking, "what do you think of when the Masonic Home Program is mentioned?" "Several in the audience answered, "The old folks home.". She replied, "This is the usual perception. However, the Masonic Home/Out reach Program is much more than that- it assists all ages". She gave an excellent video presentation which showed young children, middle aged and elderly persons, people who received medical, dental, hearing and dental assistance in varying degrees. The Masonic Home in Kansas City is an integral part of the program, but most senior Masons, Easter Star and their spouses receive assistance closer to home statewide though the Out Reach Program. An average of 165 Masonic affiliated people obtain one time assistance and an average of 42 receive monthly assistance though the program. Of those receiving assistance, 58 % are OES members and widows of masons. Missouri Masons through the

Grand Lodge, spend an average of \$ 1.2 million annually supporting the Masonic Home/OutReach Program. Due to the current national economic conditions, participation in the program has increased for 14% of statewide Masonic membership two years ago to 14 % last year and 19% this year. The program also has a Widows Program with over 5,000 ladies statewide listed on file. Missouri Masonic Widows are given a wallet card which lists their husband's Blue Lodge information and other pertinent data. Widows also receive a pin and invitation to attend an annual Widows Luncheon. For more information on the program, contact Brother **Jim O'Shea**, Masonic Home Liaison at 816-520-5393 or WB **Ken Best**, Lodge Secretary at 816-965-5261. Brethren of the Swope Park Masonic Temple bodies and Sisters of the Swope Park OES Chapter 520- keep up to date and informed on the benefits available to you though the Masonic Home/Out reach Program. You may need it some day or perhaps you know of some one who now needs assistance. At the conclusion of the program, shown to the right, WB **Charles Farris** presented Mrs. Findley with one of our Lodge Centennial souvenir ball point pens as a token of our appreciation for her making the program presentation.



If you would like an application for the Outreach Services program you may contact the Masonic Home of Missouri Corporate office at 1-800-434-9804 and speak with the Outreach Services Coordinator.

SWOPE PARK TEMPLE MASONIC BODIES MEETINGS DATE, TIME and CONTACTS

Swope Park Lodge Nr 617 AF & AM Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:30 PM Ken Best, Secretary phone 965 5261
 Swope Park Order Eastern Star Chapter 520 Second Tuesday each month 7:30 PM Lois Patton, Secretary phone 318-9808
 Job's Daughters Bethel Nr 1 and Jobie-2-Bees Second and Fourth Mondays 7:30 PM Jayna Walden, Bethel Guardian phone 645 0544
 Wm F. Kuhn Chapter DeMolay First and Third Thursdays 7:30 PM Gary Dryer, Chapter Advisor Phone 763 9494
 Squires of the Round Table First and Third Thursdays 7:30 PM Tammy Laughlin, Adult Advisor phone 304 2353
 Harry D. Brown Jr. Chapter 284 First Monday 7:30 PM Roy Thomas, Secretary phone 318-3939
 Westport Council Royal & Select Masters Nr 38 First Monday 7:30 PM Roy Thomas, Secretary phone 318-3939
 Commandery of Knights Templar Nr 68 Third Tuesday 7:30 PM Roy Thomas, Secretary phone 318-3939
 SWOPE PARK TEMPLE STUDY CLUB Wednesdays 7:30 PM Paul Miller, DDGL & Coach Phone 886 0066

Swope Park Masonic Temple
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If you would like an application for the Outreach Service program,
you may contact the Missouri Home of Masons Corporate Office at
1-214-424-7804 and speak with the Outreach Services Coordinator.

