

THE RAMBLER

THE SWOPE PARK MASONIC TEMPLE BODIES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2013 Number 2

Spring Issue

April –June 2013

SWOPEPARK.ORG

Master's Trestle Board

Brethren, on June 8th we had a successful work day with eight brothers in attendance (Dave Irwin, Gary Dryer, Larry Cameron, Ken Best, Bob James, Jim Lowman, Jeff Engle, and myself). Also present were several daughters and adults from Bethel #1 who dusted the windowsills in the entry and provided lunch during breaks from their preparations for Grand Session later in June. The following tasks were completed before the brothers called it a day: Windows resealed

(lodge and dining room), faucet replaced, minor roof repairs, PA system adjusted and issues resolved, guttering cleaned out, and parking lot motion detectors installed.

Congratulations to William F. Kuhn DeMolay which received Chapter of the Year honors at Conclave in May for the third year in a row and four out of the last five years. A special thanks to the brothers who work tirelessly to support this important youth group.

Brothers, the lodge con-

tinues to add new members and some of the best degree work in the area will continue on a regular basis during our regular meetings. Study club continues to be held on Wednesday nights between 7:00PM and 9:00PM for those who would like to expand their knowledge of the ritual.

Also please keep August 24th open on your calendar as our Secretary is planning a special event on that day, more information will be provided as it becomes available.



Fraternally yours

Ed Culver

Worshipful Master

Swope Park Lodge #617

Remembering our Senior Warden, RWB Paul Miller



Right Worshipful Brother Miller
Senior Warden Swope Park Lodge
District Deputy Grand Lecturer of
the 18th Masonic District

Paul F. Miller, 73, Senior Warden of Swope Park Lodge #617 and District Deputy Grand Lecturer of the 18th Masonic District, passed away on April 27, 2013.

A visitation was held on April 30, 2013 at Floral Hills with a very large and saddened group of family, friends, and brothers.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 1, 2013.

WB Charles Farris, WB Larry Cameron, Brothers Jim Lowman and Jeff Engle of Swope Park Lodge along with many other members from Kan-

sas City traveled to Bristow, Oklahoma to pay their final respects to RWB Paul Miller.

They joined with the family and friends at the Trinity Baptist Church for a luncheon cooked and served by the church members. A service of remembrance was conducted by Rev. John Tidwell before retiring to Magnolia Memorial Gardens for the Masonic graveside service.

RWB Ron Chambers, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma AF & AM, conducted a beautiful Ma-

sonic service with the closing prayer by Rev. Tidwell. RWB Paul Miller was interred in his final resting place with honor and dignity befitting of a worthy brother.

Paul is survived by his wife, Helen; 4 children, Channiel, Angela, Kelley, Lori; 8 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren, as well as many family and friends.



Charles Farris Receives Lewis and Clark Award



Charles Farris, Past High Priest in the Harry D Brown Jr Chapter 284 of Royal Arch Mason's, was awarded the Lewis and Clark Award at the Grand Session for the Missouri York Rite on May 15th,

This award is presented each year during the Grand Session. It is awarded to Companions who have demonstrated service above and be-

yond the call of duty. Eligibility is not limited to officers or those who excel in ritual. Companions who work behind the scenes are just as eligible. In fact it is encouraged to look outside the officers for deserving candidates.

Excellent Companion Farris' work with MoCHIP, ritual and mentoring new members in all of the bod-

ies he is a member of was cited in the request for the award. The present High Priest of the Royal Arch Chapter, Mark Schmidt, accepted the award on EC Farris' behalf and presented it to him during the regular monthly Chapter meeting on July 3rd, 2013. A very nice award for a very deserving Mason.

Mark Schmidt

**Swope Park Chapter #520
Order of Eastern Star
invites all members to attend
the August 13th meeting
where they will
be initiating a new member!**



William F. Kuhn DeMolay News



Wm. F Kuhn Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and Swope Park Manor, Squires of the Round Table, attended Missouri DeMolay State Conclave over Memorial Day Weekend. As usual, the boys

performed beyond expectations in ritual, sports and attitude.

Nine DeMolays and one Squire came home with eight ritual trophies and two sports trophies. Congratulations to Tim Alvis, Christopher Anderson, Jacob Hampton, Tyler Walden, Wolf Wheeler and Squire Jeff Sykes on trophies won for outstanding ritual work. One team trophy was won in Tug-of-War and Jeff Sykes won a trophy in the Frisbee Toss.

Wm. F Kuhn Chapter also won Chapter of the Year for the third year in a row

(fourth out of five years). This is not only due to the hard work the boys have put forth in reaching out to the community, but also to the support we receive from the entire Masonic family at Swope Park as well as the other local lodges and appendant bodies. Without this support, the boys could not learn to grow and give as much as they do.

On June 20, Wm. F Kuhn an initiation for Jeff Sykes which was supported by visiting Carondelet Chapter from St. Louis area.

On July 13, an Installation of Officers will be held.

Congrats to Jeff Alvis (Master Councilor – Elect), Jacob Hampton (Senior Councilor – Elect) and Wolf Wheeler (Junior Councilor – Elect), we are looking forward to a promising term of growth.

Also, a special thanks to Dad Kenny Best and Dad Gary Dryer for your continued support and dedication. You have seen many young men go through the doors of the Chapter, and had a very positive influence in their life while helping them to become better citizens and better men.

Larry Alvis

Swope Park Chapter 520 OES News

Swope Park Chapter and East Gate Chapter joined in an Honor Night for Sister Jane Withers, Grand Representative of Sao Paulo and Sister Dorothy Tapscott, District Deputy Grand Matron of the 11th District. It was a fun night as we gathered to honor these two special members.

Thanks to our Masonic Brothers for the installation of the new sound system. We appreciate the work you put into getting this installed.

Our May 14th meeting the sisters, Job's Daughters, Rainbow for Girls and wives of the Master Masons were invited to a dinner before the chapter meeting. This was prepared by our Worthy Patron, Ken Best and as-

sisted by his wife Connie. It was a delicious meal (Those who missed Connie's baked apples missed a real treat). We adjourned to the Chapter room for introduction of the guests and DeMolay Jacob Hampton honored us with the Flower Talk.

Our June 11th meeting, Worthy Matron Rita Hanson invited the members of Swope Park Lodge #617, the Wm. F. Kuhn DeMolay and Squires to be our guests for supper. Again Connie Best assisted with the food preparation. We adjourned to the Chapter room for introduction of the guests. DeMolay Tyler Walden honored us with the Father's Tribute.

We did not have an April meeting due to the fu-

neral of Mary Ann Browning. We will have Friendship Night July 9th. This will start with a carry in salad supper at 6:15 p.m. We hope many members will be in attendance.

July 19th we will have the District Reception at Independence Temple. Districts 7 and 11 will be together again this year. We will be honoring the Grand Family and all appointments in the two districts. The reception is casual, with dinner being served at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to this open reception.

We were pleased to receive two petitions for membership at our June meeting. If investigations are completed we will ballot on them at the July meeting.

Sept. 10th we will elect chapter officers to serve in 2014. Installation of officers is planned for Saturday, November 16th at 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Grand Chapter will be October 13-16. Anyone planning to attend should get the schedule and registration forms from Lois Patten, Secretary.

Lois Patten, Secretary



Visit us at either location!

Lenexa

In the Country Hill Center
(SW Corner of 87th & Lackman Road)
15117 W. 87th St. Parkway
Lenexa, KS 66219

Phone: (913) 492-1604 Fax: (913) 492-6229

Prairie Village

In the Prairie Village Shops
(Tomahawk & Mission Road)
3917 Prairie Lane
Prairie Village, KS 66208

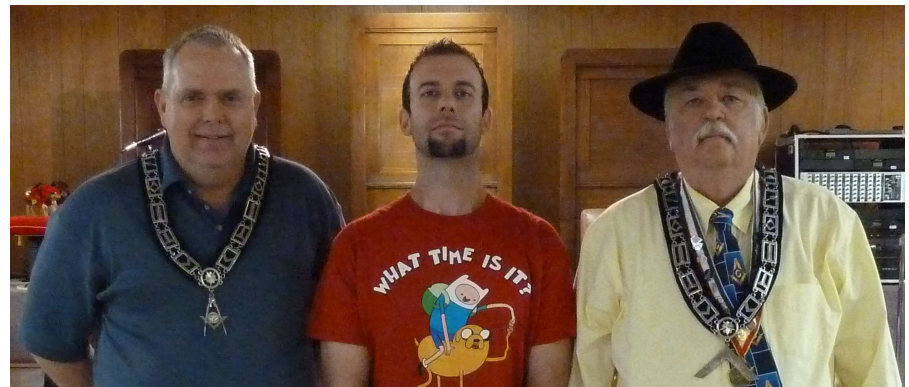
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Fresh Faces

Please welcome our newest brethren to Swope Park Lodge #617, Jody Lee Hale and Bradley Adam Nejdli.

Jody, featured at top became an Entered Apprentice on February 28th, 2013, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on March 28th, 2013, and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 9th, 2013 with RWB Larry Cameron conferring the degree and WB Mel Tache performing King Solomon.

Brad, featured at bottom left with B Mark Schmidt

and first line signer B Thomas Schmidt, became an Entered Apprentice on April 25th, 2013 and was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on June 13th, 2013 with WB Charlie Farris conferring the degree and B Jeff Engle performing the Letter G and charge.

We welcome these new brethren and hope to see them continue seeking more light in Freemasonry. They have been very enthusiastic about the order and will be great additions to the lodge.

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 your submission in The Rambler's box in the vestibule outside the lodge room, or email to WB Justin Dryer at justind@modemolay.org. We reach over 400 households.

York Rite of Missouri Grand Session

The Missouri York Rite bodies held their Grand Session May 15 to 18 2013. This took place at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. For those who have not attended a session at this hotel, it is downtown and just three blocks from the Capital Building.

May 15th was the Royal Arch Chapter Session. Right Excellent Companion Roy Thomas and Companion Mark Schmidt were our Chapter representatives at this session. Part of the day's session involved the election for next year's Grand Officers, and for reviewing and voting on changes recommend through the jurisprudence committee. The Grand line was voted to advance and add one new officer to the end of the line. Our own chapter's Right Excellent Companion Roy Thomas was elevated to the position of Grand King for the ensuing year. This puts him in line to be the Grand High Priest for the following year. Congratulations to Right Excellent Compan-

ion Thomas. We also have a member that received the Lewis and Clark Award. This will be covered under a separate article. Companion Schmidt was also initiated into the Order of the High Priesthood as part of the Chapter day's activities.

May 16th was dedicated to the Cryptic Masonic order. Again elections and jurisprudence was the main focus of the day. The difference in this day from the prior day was the ladies of the Cryptic Grand Officers hosted a snack room and activities for the wife's in attendance. Again our representatives were Roy Thomas and Mark Schmidt. The evening was finished off with a dinner and a play. They put on what is called the Captivity Play. This play tells the story of how Israel was put into bondage and taken to Babylon. If you are a member of the York Rite and have not seen this yet, you really need to go and see this play.

Friday the 17th was dedi-

cated to the Knights Templar. The line was again advanced on a vote and jurisprudence was again covered and votes taken. The opening was in full form and was outstanding to watch. The sword movements for those participating were well done. Also covered during this day was the drill competition schedule for Saturday. The Westport Commandery did not have a team in this competition, but there is hope by next year we can compete at the entry level.

At the end of each day's session there was the open installation of the officers that had been duly elected. The best part of these three days for me personally was to meet and converse with Brothers from all over the state. We also had some somber moments with attendee's becoming ill and having to go to the hospital. There was one of the members of the Grand Chapter Line that was still in the hospital when I left on Friday afternoon. Others had been

released. We also shared the hotel with three collegiate ladies softball teams that were playing in a regional playoff. They asked a lot of questions about who we were and what we were doing there.

One of the main goals of all three of the incoming Grand leadership is recruitment of new members. We need to grow the York Rite. There was also concern expressed in conversations out of session that there is a greying of the York Rite. So while we look at recruitment to strengthen the Missouri York Rite, we also are to look at the younger members in the Blue Lodge as the future foundation of the Missouri York Rite. So I put it out there to the members of Swope Park Lodge #617, if you are not a member of our York Rite body, why aren't you? We meet in the Swope Park Temple.

Mark Schmidt

RWB Dennis Spears, DDGL

District Deputy Grand Lecturer

Eighteenth Masonic District AF&AM of Missouri

Phone: (816) 468-5674



THE RAMBLER



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Email:
swope617@swopepark.org



WB Gary Dryer, escorted by Bethel #1's Polly Zumwalt, was installed as Associate Grand Guardian

Job's Daughters Bethel #1 News

Congratulations to WB Gary Dryer, Past Associate Bethel Guardian of Bethel #1 and Past Master of Swope Park Lodge #617 on being elected and installed as Associate Grand Guardian of the Grand Guardian Council for Missouri Job's Daughters for 2013-2014.

Congratulations also to WB Kenny Best, Associate Bethel Guardian of Bethel #1 and Past

Master of Swope Park Lodge #617 on being elected and installed as Grand Outer Guard of the Grand Guardian Council for Missouri Job's Daughters.

This dedication and commitment from these men exemplifies the support that the Swope Park Masonic Family has for the youth groups.



WB Kenny Best, escorted by Bethel #1's Megan Kemery, was installed as Grand Outer Guard

SWOPE PARK TEMPLE MEETINGS DATE, TIME and CONTACTS

..# **Swope Park Lodge #617 AF&AM**

Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:30 PM
Kenny Best, Secretary
Phone (816) 965-5261

..# **Swope Park Order Eastern Star Chapter 520**

Second Tuesday 7:30 PM
Lois Patton, Secretary
Phone (816) 318-9808

..# **Harry D. Brown Jr. Chapter 284**

First Monday 7:30 PM
Roy Thomas, Secretary
Phone (816) 318-3939

..# **Westport Council Royal & Select Masters Nr 38**

First Monday 7:30 PM
Roy Thomas, Secretary
Phone (816) 318-3939

..# **Commandery of Knights Templar Nr 68**

Third Tuesday 7:30 PM
Roy Thomas, Secretary
Phone (816) 318-3939

..# **Swope Park Temple Study Club**

Wednesdays 7:00 PM
Dennis Spears, DDGL & Coach
Phone (816) 468-5674

..# **Job's Daughters Bethel #1 and Jobie-2-Bees**

Second and Fourth Mondays 7:30 PM
Rita Hanson
Phone (816) 525-2681

..# **William F. Kuhn Chapter DeMolay**

First and Third Thursdays 7:30 PM
Gary Dryer, Chapter Advisor
Phone (816) 763-9494

..# **Squires of the Round Table**

First and Third Thursdays 7:00 PM
Kevin Sykes, Adult Advisor
Phone (816) 322-3485