

THE RAMBLER

THE SWOPE PARK MASONIC TEMPLE BODIES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2014 Number 3

July—December 2014

Double Issue

SWOPEPARK.ORG



Meet the Newly Installed Officers of Swope Park Lodge #617 and Eastern Star Chapter #520



Front Row: Bro Uriel Payan, Junior Steward; Bro Roy Gutierrez, Marshal; Bro Larry Alvis, Junior Warden; James O'Shea, Worshipful Master; WB James Lowman, Senior Warden; RWB Glen Burrows, Installing Master; Bro Jody Hale, Junior Deacon;
Back Row: RWB Gary Dryer, Treasurer; Bro Mark Martinez, Senior Steward; Bro Kevin Sykes, Senior Deacon; WB Ben Pagel, Installing Chaplain; RWB Kenny Best, Secretary; WB Jeff Engle, Tiler
Not Pictured: WB Mel Tacke, Chaplain; RWB Larry Cameron, Installing Marshal; WB Charles Farris, Installing Senior Deacon



Front Row: Sister Delores McChesney, Ruth; Sister Marilyn Houston, Organist; Sister Pat Neece, Martha; Sister Suzan Boyd, Electa; Sister Lois Compton, Worthy Matron; Brother Larry Alvis, Worthy Patron; Sister Jean Vantellman, Warder; Sister Alby Shipman, Marshal; Sister Jane Withers, Associate Matron
2nd Row: Sister Prudence Irwin-Brennan, Chaplain; Sister Frances Banks, Adah; Brother Richard Houston, Treasurer; Sister Barbara Stillman, Conductress; Sister Deb Merrick, Associate Conductress; Brother Ed Culver, Associate Patron
3rd Row: Sister April White, Esther; and Brother John Stillman, Sentinel.



Remembering Lois Patten, Longtime Member of Swope Park Chapter #520 and Swope Park Family



Lois Patten, a 50+ year member of Eastern Star and Secretary of Swope Park Chapter No. 520, passed

away November 27, 2014, at age 78.

Throughout her life, Lois was involved in various activities. She square danced, taught at a school, and worked for

the I.R.S. Lois and her husband Brad took many trips together...to Alaska, Japan, through the Panama Canal and many Elderhostel trips and cruises. They loved to travel and see new things. Lois was involved in numerous organizations, serving each one as an advisor or in service – such as acting counsel on her neighborhood Parish Council,

hostess of her church Huddle Group, Coordinating Secretary of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and at times, radio personality on the Raymore Foxwood Springs community radio station. For more than 15 years Lois served Swope Park Chapter as an outstanding Secretary, as well as an assortment of offices in various Eastern

Star clubs. All who knew and loved Lois will agree that she put a lot of work into doing tasks to the best of her ability. She never backed down from a challenge and often volunteered to help. A long line of friends and family are missing her. I for one feel my life was enriched by her presence.

April White, Granddaughter



Swope Park Chapter #520 News

We have lost several members of the Order, our Chapter and relatives of members. We are sorry to report the passing of Sister Marge Carney, Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Faylene Wood, Sister Louise Renfro, Sister Jeanne Parker and Sister Lois Patten, Secretary of Swope Park Chapter #520 since 2006. OES members Sister Susan Boyd lost her husband and Sister Francis Banks lost her mother.

Congratulations to Sister Holly Johnson, a dual member of Golden Gate #58, on her election and installation as Worthy

Matron of Golden Gate for the coming year.

Swope Park Chapter purchased a stone in the courtyard at the Masonic Complex in memory of Sister Geraldine Mollander, Past Grand Matron from our Chapter. She gave many years of dedicated service to various Masonic orders, including serving on the Masonic Home Advisory board for nine years.

Grand Chapter was held October 12th-15th in Columbia. Among the many important issues to be considered, the increase in per capita passed. Per

capita funds are used to support the Missouri Grand Chapter and the International Headquarters of Eastern Star located in Washington D.C.

Swope Park Chapter participated in another food collection that was delivered to Hope Network which serves the Raytown area.

On October 21st we celebrated the 90th Birthday of Swope Park #520 with a pot luck dinner. The Past Matrons and Past Patrons were honored at this time.

The Swope Park mem-

bers in attendance at the Swope Park Masonic Family Christmas Party in December reported having had an outstanding time. The food was wonderful and plentiful. Santa's visit was a hit with the young and old alike.

A brochure is available at the Lodge telling about Eastern Star and our Chapter. Ask any OES member for more copies to share with family and friends. Monthly handouts are available for OES members at each meeting outlining coming events and other important information.

Lenexa

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

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(Tomahawk & Mission Road)
3917 Prairie Lane
Prairie Village, KS 66208
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Swope Park Lodge #617 Holds 103rd Annual Installation of Officers

On Saturday, October 4, 2014 WB Jim O'Shea was installed as Worshipful Master of Swope Park Lodge #617 with his line of elected and appointed Officers. WB Jeff Engle began the ceremony by having the members of William F. Kuhn Chapter Order of DeMolay present the colors followed by members of Job's Daughters Bethel #1 performing the Bible Ceremony. Installing Senior Deacon WB Charles Farris then presented the installing officers consisting of RWB Glenn Burrows, Installing Master; RWB Larry Cameron, Installing Marshall; and WB Ben Pagel, Installing Chaplain. WM Jim O'Shea had the

honor of the Arch of Steel presented by Wm F. Kuhn Chapter as he approached his station in the East. Following the installation of officers by RWB Glenn Burrows, family members and guests were introduced. WB Jeff Engle was then presented a Lodge Lifetime Membership from Swope Park Lodge #617 members for having a great year as Master and a pictorial collage of many of the events / degrees he conferred during the year was presented by the new Master, Jim O'Shea. WB Jeff Engle presented the new Master with the Masters Lapel Pin and a Hat and gavel he received during his term as

Master. WB Jim O'Shea also presented appreciation gifts to the four installing officers, and cards of appreciation to the members of William F. Kuhn DeMolay and Jobs Daughters, Bethel #1. WB Jim also received cards of appreciation from them. WB Jim O'Shea's closing remarks included a story about his journey in Freemasonry from receiving his petition, through his degree work and now having the honor of serving Swope Park Lodge #617 as their Worshipful Master for the 2014 - 2015 year. Within his remarks a schedule of events planned for the year was also given. He stressed that this year

would be one where all the bodies of Swope Park Lodge #617 would share together with the planned activities. The benediction was given by WB Ben Pagel and the ceremony concluded. Following the installation the Officers and guests retired to Shotwell Hall for refreshments prepared by Mrs. Swope Park, Connie Best and Rita Hanson consisting of finger sandwiches, coleslaw, potato salad, relish trays, fruit salad, chips, iced tea, lemonade, fruit punch and a large white/chocolate cake for dessert. Everyone enjoyed the ceremony and the meal that followed.





Swope Park #520 Installation of Officers

Swope Park Chapter No. 520, O.E.S., officers for 2015 enjoyed a grand beginning as they were installed by the Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Cinda Reeder, and her Escort/Husband, Brother Mike, on November 22 in a beautiful installation program that included an unusual Bible ceremony written by Sister Delores McChesney featuring 11th District 2015 Worthy Matrons and a special American Flag Ceremony by members of William. F. Kuhn DeMolay. Adding

to the joy of the day, the Worthy Grand Matron honored Swope Park Chapter and the junior Past Matron, Deb Merrick, by offering Deb the Grand Representative appointment of Tennessee.

In the left photo below:

Sister Virginia Robbins, Grand Organist, Blue Springs Chapter No. 428, serving as Installing Grand Organist; Sister Carolyn Wells, Past Matron, Oak Grove Chapter No. 407, serving as In-

stalling Chaplain; Sister Cinda Reeder, Worthy Grand Matron, serving as Installing Grand Matron; Sister Lois Compton, 2015 Worthy Matron of Swope Park Chapter No. 520; Brother Lawrence (Larry) Alvis, 2015 Worthy Patron; Brother J. Mike Reeder, Escort and Husband of the WGM, Blue Springs Chapter No. 428, serving as Installing Grand Patron; Sister Suzy Williams-Umstead, District Deputy Grand Matron of the 11th District, serving as Floral

Marshal; and Sister Rita J. Hanson, PGM, Swope Park Chapter No. 520, serving as Installing Grand Marshal.

In the right photo below:

Newly installed Worthy Patron, Brother Larry Alvis, presenting gavel to Worthy Matron, Sister Lois Compton, during the installation of 2015 officers of Swope Park Chapter No. 520, O.E.S.

Lois Compton, Worthy Matron and Larry Alvis, Worthy Patron



Annual Gift Bag Preparation and Delivery to Kansas City Veteran's Hospital

On December 19, 2014 Swope Park Masonic family gathered at the lodge to assemble 100 gift bags for the Kansas City Veteran's Hospital located on Linwood Boulevard in Kansas City Missouri.

30 different people from Swope Park Lodge #617, Swope Park Chapter #520 OES, William F. Kuhn DeMolay, Bethel #1 Job's Daughters and Harry D. Brown Jr Chapter Royal Arch Masons were there to arrange socks, and stocking hats.



These cheery faces greeted each of the Veteran's Hospital patients and delivered what many said would be their only Christmas gift.

Toothbrushes with Swope Park Lodges name on them were also added to the bags and were kindly donated by Brother Dr. Robert Nelson, a dentist

who also advertises in our Rambler. Finally, several pieces of fruit and other small items of need were added to the bags destined for the Veterans.

On December 20 the vehicles were loaded with the bags and hand delivered to each veteran at the hospital. Once again we were greatly appreciated by the Veterans there and several remarked this was the only Christmas gift they would receive this year.

Everyone who participated remarked how wonderful it felt to put a smile on a Veteran's face.

Kenny Best



Filial Love: What is Home?

I've come from what some might call a broken home while others might call it a paradise. I would call it home. It's just what I'm used to.

When I first joined DeMolay at the age of twelve, my mother had left my home for a man she'd met on the internet only a few months before. At first when I was introduced to DeMolay, it was a little difficult for me to grasp and understand the absolute and unconditional love for my mother. I was so pent up with anger and confusion that I wouldn't get over it for another few years. I couldn't understand why I would love someone who hurt me so badly. I could never understand why at night I was so sad and missed my mother so much. I didn't want to understand it. I just wanted it to go away.

It wasn't until a year or

two later when I finally started to understand a few things. The first on this enlightenment was that my mother didn't mean to hurt me. She loved me very much. It was only a short while later when I realized that I should love my mother, as she does love me, if for no other reason than that she is my mother. I also learned that it does not only apply to your mother and father, but also anyone who has been significantly influential in your life.

I carry a high respect for not only my father but the advisors in my chapter. I like to think that a lot of the most useful techniques that I use inside and outside of the chapter room come from Dad Kenny Best. I like to think of him as sort of a mentor who has helped me greatly understand not only my own potential, but

the potential of anyone and everyone who has ambition, drive, desire, and an idea. He played a major part of me wanting to become a leader instead of being a follower forever.

I also want to mention my grandmother, who has unconditionally loved me and helped me in times of trouble and need, as she would do any human being. I saw her talking with a friend who had recently gone through some very difficult struggles. Her friend who had recently lost a husband and needed someone to talk with and help her through these extremely difficult and troubling times; a friend that she could count on without hesitation or selfish desire. I love my grandmother for many, many reasons, but this is the most recent that stood out to me and that I took to heart.

As for my mother, I can say that I have learned very much from her. She helped me pass the protected years of child and boy. She cared for me during the entirely dependent years of infancy and the scarcely less dependent years of childhood. She has loved me and my brother all of our lives. She just shows it in her own little special way.

What I suppose I'm trying to explain is that no matter how far from love and care you are, you can always find someone to care for you, someone to help guide you through the dark and lead you toward the light in life. No matter what environment you come from – a broken family, a loving and caring family, a family that only half loves—you can find someone to help you. No matter what, you can always find a home.

Tim Alvis

Robert L. Nelson DDS

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Flag Ceremony Held to Honor and Retire Many Flags

On November 12, 2014 Swope Park Lodge held a Flag Retirement ceremony. There were over 60 people who braved the 23 degree weather to attend. Several in attendance had no association with the lodge.

Most of the events were

held inside due to the cold. The Girl Scouts lead the ceremony with the assistance of the Ruskin High School Marine Corps Junior ROTC Color Guard who presented the flag. Tim Alvis, Master Councilor of William F. Kuhn DeMolay

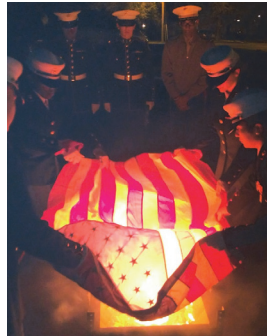
gave a very moving tribute to the flag.

Everyone filed out of the lodge and many took part in retiring flags large and small, including a POW MIA by veterans in attendance.

Following the event there

was soup and dessert served in Shotwell Hall along with some wonderful fellowship.

Worshipful Master Jim O'Shea is commended on the great job he did on coordinating this event and making it a special night for everyone.



William F. Kuhn Sends Three to DeMolay Leadership Summit

The annual DeMolay Leadership Summit (DLS) was held in July in Jefferson City, Missouri at the Capital Plaza Hotel. Formerly called Leadership Training Camp, the five day summit hosted young men from across the state as well as a few visitors from Oklahoma, the International Master Councilor and International Congress Secretary. This year William F. Kuhn Chapter had three of its members in attendance, who were involved in several workshops and



William F. Kuhn's attendees, Jacob Hampton, Kevin Sykes, and Wolf Wheeler

seminars as well as some team building exercises. Many of the activities were recorded and some were even featured in a live webcast.

The Leadership Summit was also a good opportu-

nity for the members to have some fun while learning leadership skills. Everyone got to take a hike to the Capitol Building and the Courthouse for a tour. The group later went to the Jefferson City water park for a pool

party. The advisors in attendance put on a Ritual Competition that was judged by the young men who were there. After several rounds of elimination, Jeffrey Sykes of William F. Kuhn Chapter was voted "Best Ritualist" by his peers and was presented with the Ritual Championship Award. The DeMolay Leadership Summit was over before everyone knew it, but all came home with lots of new ideas that and look forward to sharing with the chapter.

Jeffrey Sykes



Annual Swope Park Christmas Party Brings Family, Friends Together and Raises Money for Great Cause

Connie Best and Rita Hanson organized the annual Swope Park Masonic Family Christmas Party with the help of so many others. The evening started with an all you can eat soup and chili dinner sponsored by William F. Kuhn DeMolay. There were over 95 people in attendance which made the dining room very crowded but as people enjoyed not only the food but the great fellowship they rotated through Shotwell Hall and then upstairs to the lodge room. William F. Kuhn's Junior Councilor Emanuel Childs presented a check from William F. Kuhn of \$111.00 as their donation to the building board.

Brother Joe (aka Santa Claus) Lowe entertained all the children as they told Santa all the wonderful things they wanted for Christmas. Our emcee for the evening WB James Lowman took charge of the talent show. The first up were Faith and Fiona, two young Jobies who sang beautifully. They were followed by a display of hula hoop talent by Jobie Haile who kept the hoops spinning on her arms and legs. A DeMolay, Jeffrey Sykes then kept everyone spellbound with his card tricks. The "Pointer Sisters," Madison, Emma, and Hanna followed Jeffrey by singing and dancing to Shake it Off. WM James O'Shea played Christmas

music on his Sax while everyone sang along. The talent show was topped off by a skit "Who's The Master?" a comedic tribute to the classic Abbott & Costello routine and performed by RWB Larry Cameron and RWB Kenny Best.

Following the talent show there was a live auction and RWB Larry Cameron served as auctioneer. A silent auction was also held throughout the event, which along with the live action drew in over \$2,500.00. This money was raised and presented to the building board in order to help maintain the building.

There was also a fun Christmas sweater con-

test along with a cookie competition which to the delight of many had several entries and were all delicious.

The drawing for the Veteran's Gift program was held with Brother Joe Lowe winning the grand prize of a large flat screen TV. WM James O'Shea thanked everyone for their participation and everyone then slowly proceeded to leave at 9:00 PM.

What a great night for the fraternity, a special thank you to the members of Swope Park OES for their assistance and to all family and friends who attended.

Kenny Best





Swope Park Lodge #617 Bylaws Changes

On August 14, 2014, the Officers and members of Swope Park Lodge # 617 voted to make the following changes to the Bylaws of your lodge.

ARTICLE II, MEETINGS, SECTION 1, REGULAR MEETINGS were changed to allow the lodge to vote to cancel a stated communication if it falls within a plus or minus 5 day time frame from Memorial Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. This vote must take place on the prior communication before the holiday.

ARTICLE II, HOUR, SECTION 2, HOUR were changed for regular communications to start from 7:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

ARTICLE IV, DUTIES OF OFFICERS, SECTION 2, TREASURER were changed as follows:

Old sub paragraph (g) was deleted in its entirety and the new sub paragraphs (g) and (h) were added as follows:

(g) Ensure that the lodge files the IRS Tax Form 990 during the month of January of each year.

(h) The Treasurer during the performance of his duties may be reimbursed for out of pocket ex-

penses plus mileage at the current IRS rate allowed for Charitable Work mileage, by submitting receipts and a mileage statement to the lodge for their consideration.

ARTICLE IV, DUTIES OF OFFICERS, SECTION 3, SECRETARY. Sub paragraph (m) was amended to read:

The Secretary during the performance of his duties, except for attending Grand Lodge, may be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses plus mileage at the current IRS rate allowed for Charitable Work mileage, by submitting receipts and a mileage statement to the lodge for their consideration.

ARTICLE V, BOARDS, SECTION 2, DUTIES. This section was deleted in its entirety.

ARTICLE VII, PETITIONS AND FEES, SECTION 2, FEES was amended to increase the cost for the degrees from \$100.00 to \$125.00

ARTICLE VIII, DUES, SECTION 1, AMOUNT was amended and now reads as follows:

Dues for this Lodge shall be \$46.00 per annum for FY2015, and shall in-

crease by \$3.00 per annum for FY2016 (\$49.00), FY2017 (\$52.00), FY2018 (\$55.00) and FY2019 (\$58.00). The Per Capita Tax and any other special assessments for each year by the Grand Lodge shall be added and the total increased to the next higher whole dollar figure and shall be required from each member unless remitted by a vote of the lodge hereafter provided.

ARTICLE VIII, DUES, SECTION 4, MULTIPLE MEMBERSHIPS. This is a new section and was added for the convenience and education of the brethren and reads as follows:

Any member of this lodge by Multiple Membership cannot have their dues remitted. Only lodges of "original membership" may remit members dues and report as such on the yearly Grand Lodge Report. (See G.L. Bylaws, Section 18.020)

Suspension for non-payment of dues in any lodges of which a multiple member holds membership will terminate their membership in ALL lodges in the Grand Jurisdiction of Missouri. (See G.L. Bylaws, Section 17.150)

ARTICLE IX, MASTER'S JEWEL, SECTION 1, MASTER'S JEWEL is amended to read:

On completion of the Worshipful Master's term and by a majority vote of the members present, the membership may furnish him with an appropriate token as a Past Master Jewel, the cost of which is not to exceed \$150.00. This jewel is to be paid for by the brethren, apart and separate from lodge funds.

One other feature has been added throughout the lodge Bylaws. Any Lodge Bylaw Section also refers to the Grand Lodge Bylaw from which it is based on. This makes it very convenient for the reader to see where and why a particular Lodge Bylaw is written.

RWB Lawrence S. Cameron

Chairman, Bylaws Committee

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Boy Scouts Help Improve Lodge

For many years, the building has been maintained by members of the Swope Park Masonic Family. Recently, this maintenance has been assisted by members of Boy Scout Troop 550, sponsored by One Spirit United Methodist Church of Raytown. Each boy who is planning to earn the rank of Eagle Scout must select, plan and complete a project which not only will show leadership, but also gives back to the community through a not-for-profit organization or a municipality.

Spencer Eubank selected as his Eagle Project to clean and paint in Shotwell Hall and the kitchen. Spencer had an excess of 280 hours involved in the planning and execution of this project with the assistance of 18 workers. This

project was approved by WM Jeff Engle and under the guidance of RWB Kenny Best. The entire project took two week-ends in August to complete, but what a difference it made! This helped to bring back life to a room which everyone uses and allowed for a "cheerful hue" (the name of the color picked) to exhume from all.

Tim Alvis (a dual member between Boy Scout Troop 550 and Wm. F Kuhn DeMolay) selected as his Eagle project to repaint the rod iron on the windows, place and paint the parking blocks and paint the front door into the building. Tim had in excess of 120 hours in the planning and execution of this project with the assistance of 9 workers. This project was approved by

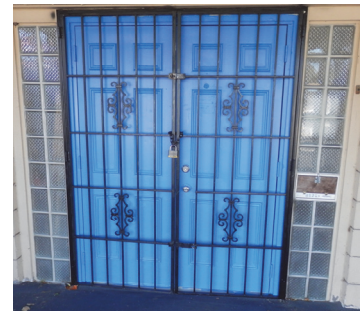
WM Jeff Engle and under the direction of RWB Kenny Best. The entire project took two days in October to complete, but allowed all to find their way into the lodge with a smile on their face.

Spencer Eubank received his Eagle Award in September of this year. Tim is still in the process of finishing some merit badges before completing all the requirements for his.

The Swope Park family congratulates Spencer and Tim on their efforts to attain their Eagle Scout and thanks them for their support in energizing the



Among the many improvements was a fresh coat of paint on the walls of the kitchen, dining room, and on the front door.



building for all to enjoy.
Larry Alvis



Poker Run Helps DeMolay and Job's Daughters Raise Money



On September 13, 2014 William F. Kuhn DeMolay and Bethel #1 Job's Daughters held a poker run to help raise money

for each to attend their respective state functions. The ride took the participants from the lodge to Truman Road to Blue

Springs and through Lake Jacomo with a very interesting lunch stop at Twin Peaks and finally back to the lodge.

The weather couldn't be better for the day and if you followed the route and looked for the DeMolay and Jobies stationed along the road you could get free tickets for a drawing for gas cards.

It was a fun event for all and the winners received \$25.00 gas cards from QuikTrip. The lucky winners were as follows:

1. Deb Merrick
2. Connie Best
3. Beca Richie
4. Roger Anderson (worst hand)



Swope Park Lodge Keeps Up With Degree Work



Swope Park Lodge #617 has once again been keeping busy with degree work.

On August 7th, Gary Andrew Pfister was received into the lodge as an Entered Apprentice. The severe storm that was passing over didn't keep a sufficient number of Brothers away to open the lodge as stated, with the degree work following. RWB Larry Cameron conferred the degree, WB Jeff Engle gave the lecture and B Clayton Stiff gave the Charge. A special thank you also goes out to the four visiting Brothers who attended and assisted with the degree work.

On September 10th, B Robert L. Ward was obligated in the first degree by WB James Lowman with RWB Dave Coburn giving the Lecture and Charge.

On Thursday, September

11th, B Gary Pfister received his Fellowcraft Degree and was obligated by WB Charles Farris with RWB Dave Coburn giving him the Lecture, Letter "G" and Charge.

On August 15th, with Swope Park Lodge's Election of Officers for year 2014-2015 planned, a Special Communication was held to pass Bro Joe Lowe to the Degree of Fellowcraft. WB Charlie Farris conferred his degree, WB Jeff Engle gave the lecture and Charge and WB Justin Dryer provided the Letter "G."

On September 25th, RWB Larry Cameron raised Brother Joe Lowe, with WB Jeff Engle providing the lecture and charge.

On October 1st, B Robert "Bert" Lee Ward was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. Assisting with the degree were WB Mel

Tacke who obligated the degree, RWB Glenn Burrows giving the lecture and WM Jeff Engle giving the Charge and Letter "G." Due to being a Study Club evening, this special communication had assistance from various other Lodges including KC #220, Ivanhoe #446, Sheffield #625, Alpha #659, Independence #76, and Raytown #391.

An Entered Apprentice degree was performed for Sheffield Lodge #625 on B Jerry Don Cox during the Paul Frank Miller Study Club on October 8th, and a Master Mason degree on B Gary Pfister during a Special Communication on October 9th. Jerry was obligated by WB Cecil Wagers with the lecture and Letter "G" given by RWB Glenn Burrows and the Charge by WB Jeff Engle. B Pfister was obligated by WB Charles Farris, raised by

WB Jeff Engle, lecture and section three by RWB Dave Coburn, and Charge by WB Jeff Engle.

On October 23rd, Swope Park had a special communication to raise Brother Robert "Bert" Lee Ward to the degree of Master Mason. RWB Larry Cameron conferred his degree and RWB Dave Coburn assisted with the lecture and Charge. Many of the Brethren assisting in his degree were from visiting Lodges, including the East Gate Travelers Club.

Swope Park Lodge would like to thank all those who have assisted with the degree work throughout the year. Your attendance and participation is greatly appreciated, not only from the brethren of the lodge but also by the candidates who received much more meaningful degrees due to your support.



Top: Gary Pfister with RWB Dave Coburn

Bert Ward with WB James Lowman and RWB Dave Coburn

Joe Lowe with RWB Larry Cameron and WB Jeff Engle

Bert Ward with RWB Larry Cameron, RWB Dave Coburn, and WB James O'Shea

Bottom: Gary Pfister with WB Jeff Engle, RWB Larry Cameron, and B Clayton Stiff

Joe Lowe with WBs Jeff Engle, Charlie Farris, and Justin Dryer

Jerry Don Cox with RWB Glenn Burrows, WB Cecil Wagers, and WB Jeff Engle

Gary Pfister with RWB Dave Coburn, WB James O'Shea and WB Jeff Engle



York Rite News

It has been a very busy end of the year for the Westport York Rite Bodies that meet at the Swope Park Lodge. Elections started in August

with the Harry D. Brown Jr Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Elections were followed up with the open installation in October. The Westport Cryptic

Council then held its Elections with their open installation in November. The election of officers for the Westport Com-

mandery that were to take place in December were delayed until January due to lack of attendance. The following are the elected officers for the ensuing year.



Harry D. Brown Jr Chapter #284

- High Priest - Thomas Schmidt
- King - Will Jennens
- Scribe - Scott Filkins
- Recorder - Roy Thomas
- Treasurer - Timothy Holmes

Westport Cryptic Council #38

- Illustrious Master - Mel Tacke
- Deputy Master - Mark Schmidt
- Principal Conductor of the Work - Thomas Schmidt
- Recorder - Roy Thomas
- Treasurer - Timothy Holmes



Swope Park Judges Raytown South Debate Tournament

Swope Park Lodge #617 assisted Raytown South High School for the 4th year in a row with their debate tournament.

WB James O'Shea, B Larry Alvis, B Clayton Stiff, and RWB Kenny

Best listened and judged the debates on December 12th and 13th, 2014.

The Debate started Friday night at 3:30 PM and lasted until 9:30 PM and then resumed at 8:00 AM on Saturday.

The most interesting and forcefully debated subject was whether public or private prison was best. All the young people did an outstanding job of presenting their positions on the subject.

All the students and teachers were very appreciative of the members of Swope Park for their contributions of time and effort.



Brother Clayton Stiff Receives Prestigious Employee of the Month Recognition

On October 31, 2014, several members of Swope Park Lodge #617 journeyed to Research Hospital to help B Clayton Stiff celebrate being selected as employee of the month.

B Clayton was surprised to have so many in attendance to witness the presentation and share in his accompaniment.



Left: Clayton with his plaque commemorating his achievement

Right: B Clayton Stiff surrounded by RWB Kenny Best, Connie Best, RWB Larry Cameron, and WB Jim O'Shea.

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 justinwdryer@gmail.com. We reach over 400 households.

THE RAMBLER



8521 Oldham Rd K.C. MO.
PO Box Nr 35313
Kansas City, MO 64134

Email:
swope617@swopepark.org



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
- **Paul F Miller Memorial Study Club**
Wednesdays 7:00 PM
Jeff Engle, Director
- **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