

THE RAMBLER

THE SWOPE PARK MASONIC TEMPLE BODIES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2015 Number 3

October 2015



Master's Trestle Board Transition (Part 1)

WOW, What a year I had as your Worshipful Master of Swope Park Masonic Lodge for the 2014-2015 calendar year. Looking back to the day of my Installation it appeared to be a long and busy one ahead of me with many special events and numerous communications on our calendar. Could I follow through with my duties as Worshipful Master as I was installed to do. At that time I was unsure, but now I can say YES. I can and did, taking on my duties seriously and getting much help from the Masonic bodies to accomplish all proposed programs in a very positive manner which made me proud to serve you in my capacity as Worshipful Master.

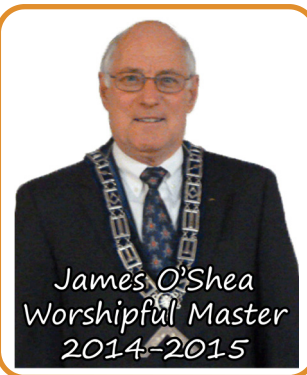
As I write my final trestle board the last year came and gone and now I prepare for my next office as Tiler, scheduled to be installed on October 3, 2015 at 3:00 pm at Swope Park Masonic Temple turning your Lodge over to our next WM with many new and exciting programs for you. Before I retire though, I want to highlight some special events that made my year the memorable one it was. Our Flag Retiring program in November was well attended on a cold, wintery evening having a larger than expected attendance for

such a patriotic service. Our Masonic Temple Family Christmas and Veterans Christmas visitation brought another large turnout from members of all bodies of our Lodge which showed great support for me. The Swope Park Masonic Picnic at Darter Park is one very special outing we had spending time in the pouring rain trying to cook the food under the canopy of several umbrellas. A big turnout of support bringing special food dishes to share and the youth enjoying some old time games when the sun finally came out to make it the special day it was. The MoChip / Bicycle Rodeo event was planned to be the real

highlight of my term with anticipated large turnouts due to a planned kite festival at Longview Community College on that day, but once again the weather played an important roll cancelling the kite festival and Bike Rodeo, but the heavy rains did not keep those special individuals away from the MoChip event. Once again a special time was shared by all. The Swope Park Masonic Blood Drive, an outreach project bringing the Community Blood Center of Kansas City into our Lodge Room and many persons giving of themselves by a blood donation. And lastly the outstanding dinner /

presentation by the Order of the Eastern Star #520 and the Chair of Remembrance Degree written by RWB Larry Cameron. Thank you again Eastern Star membership for providing your delicious meal for our Master Masons and Larry for giving me the opportunity to conduct this solemn and meaningful ceremony honoring our fallen brethren. Yes we did have many special events, all being well attended and also documented to share with the brethren throughout the State of Missouri by way of our Masonic publication, "The Rambler". Everyone shared what we were doing and comments were returned wanting to know more details. A special "thank you" to WB Justin Dryer for preparing each quarterly issue with your special skills as editor and for your redesign of our Masonic Birthday Card for the Brethren, another excellent feature shared by all of our Brethren on their special day, Their Birthday.

Two other special events occurred outside the Lodge, one of which happens once every One Hundred Years – the Rededication of the Cornerstone on our State Capitol Building in Columbia, MO. On July 3, 2015, having Masonic Brothers traveling from all corners of the state via bus and caravan



in procession to the Capitol steps for this important and memorial ceremony. On July 25, Masonic Youth Day was a special Day for our Youth Groups sharing and experiencing the day together at the Grand Lodge, Columbia MO and receiving special gift cards from their Masonic Families (see article within for more details).

During the year numerous special communications were held to confer new, young members into our lodge with special connections to the candidates i.e. JW Larry Alvis conferring and raising his two sons, Jeff and Tim and SD Kevin Sykes conferring an Enter Apprentice Degree.

As August 15 approached it was my obligation to complete the Grand Lodge Achievement Award for submission to our DDGM Kenny Best and I can inform you the total obtained in all four sections would not of been possible without everyone's help who participated during my year. Thank you to my Line

continued on page 8...



Swope Park #520 Serves Refreshments To Both Youth Groups



As one of the Chapter objectives this year the OES was challenged to lend support to our youth groups. When we approached both youth group leaders and suggested we provide refreshments prior to their meetings the idea was well received. So in August, ladies from the Eastern Star provided and served refreshments to Wm F. Kuhn Chapter, Order of DeMolay and Bethel #1, Job's Daughters International. It was evident that both groups enjoyed the food almost as much as the Eastern Star enjoyed being with the young men and women of our fraternity.

The OES is acutely aware that the DeMolay and Job's Daughters are the foundation for our future

and it gave us a great deal of pleasure to watch them work with such proficiency and skill during



their meetings.

At the Job's Daughters meeting, we were invited to sit on the floor with an officer for the evening. These young women did a superb job of presiding and conducting their meeting. Several Eastern Star members who had never attended a Bethel meeting before were

rightfully and duly impressed. After their business had been transacted a short time was set aside

for the officers to get to know their new OES friends sitting beside them so they could stand and share with the group. It was a fun and interesting meeting.

The DeMolay meeting was well attended, and again these fine young men presided at their meeting with precision

and a manner of decorum not often observed in today's youth. Not only was Eastern Star #520 visiting, but four Senior DeMolays originally from the Philippines and currently residing in Illinois were there as well. They had come to visit Kansas City especially to see where Dad Frank S. Land was buried and to visit the DeMolay International Headquarters. Luckily, Wm. F. Kuhn's meeting coincided with their travel schedule. Their comments were especially interesting and it was abundantly clear from their enthusiasm that DeMolay played a very significant role in their young lives and still does to this day.



Antonio Wesley Receives Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Degrees

Thursday, August 13, 2015 a special communication was scheduled for the obligation of Antonio Deon Wesley to be initiated into the Mysteries of Freemasonry as an Entered Apprentice. Bro. Kevin Sykes, SD obligated (for the first time) the EA degree and RWB David Coburn gave the lecture, section three and the charge by taking B Wesley to various locations within the Lodge room that corresponded with the lecture slide show. This was done to leave a lasting impression on the Brother instead of just watching the slides.

WM O'Shea congratulated the new Brother and made a special presentation to the lodge Secretary, RWB Kenny Best as it was his birthday, followed by a special song. At the close of the meeting the Brethren retired to Shotwell Hall where Mrs. Swope Park prepared a special birthday meal consisting of fried chicken, corn on the cob, baked beans, and cake and ice cream. A good time was had by all Brothers attending with congratulations shared to our newest EA, Brother Antonio Wesley.

Antonio Deon Wesley

was obligated to the Degree of Fellow Craft at a Special Communication on September 24, 2015. WB Melvin Tacke conferred the degree with the

assistance from RWB Glenn Burrows who provided the Lecture and Charge and RWB David Colburn giving the Letter "G".





Double Feature: A Day of Service (Part 1)



On Saturday morning, July 11, 2015 a representation from Swope Park Lodge and Order of Eastern Star left Swope Park Masonic Temple to assist Harvester's Food Pantry as an Outreach project. After viewing a short video introduction the group was taken to their assign-

ment for the morning; bagging potatoes from 50 pound bags into smaller 5 pound size in preparation for distribution to the community. It was a rewarding experience working together and knowing we were helping all those in need less fortunate to each of us.



Double Feature: A Day of Service (Part 2)

On July 11, 2015 after spending time at Harvesters with the Eastern Star, the Secretary told the brothers who had been in attendance at Harvesters about another charity event for Breast Cancer.

The Secretary knew it would be a rough and rugged road for the Broth-

ers to follow but knew they could rise to the occasion.

After convincing the Brothers to continue their charitable day, they went to Twin Peaks to support a car washing event where they were raising money for Breast Cancer.





Swope Park Lodge #617 Holds 104th Annual Installation of Officers

Worshipful Master: WB James Lowman
Senior Warden: Larry Alvis
Junior Warden: Kevin Sykes
Treasurer: RWB Gary Dryer
Secretary: RWB Kenny Best
Senior Deacon: Jody Hale
Junior Deacon: Bert Ward

Senior Steward: Daniel Best
Junior Steward: Clayton Stiff
Marshal: Mikhail Fetterolf
Chaplain: Mel Tacke
Tiler: WB James O'Shea
Musician: WB Albert McDowell





Master's Trestle Board Transition (Part 2)



Well, here we are again! Another Masonic year is starting, and Swope Park Lodge has hit the ground running in this new Masonic year.

During the 2014-2015 Masonic year lead by WB Jim O'Shea, our lodge flourished with many philanthropic and volunteer activities. Not to mention an incredible turnout at the Temple's holiday party that was put on in December (I was told later that it was the largest attended Masonic holiday party in the Kansas City Metro), a Masonic picnic, and many other family oriented activities hosted by the Swope Park Masonic Family.

On October 3rd, Swope Park Masonic Lodge held its 104th installation of officers at the Swope Park Masonic Temple. I was very pleased to see

the turnout we had for installation of the newly installed officers. All bodies at Swope Park were well represented! William F. Kuhn DeMolay started off the ceremony with a flag presentation, and flag ceremony presented by B Tim Alvis. The bible presentation was then performed by Job's Daughters Bethel #1.

The installation was performed by RWB Glenn Burrows as Installing Master, WB Brad Fowler as Installing Marshal, RWB Dan Sewing as Installing Senior Deacon, and RWB Larry Cameron as Installing Chaplain. The installation ceremony was performed flawlessly by the installing officers.

The food, treats, and sweets were provided and prepared by Connie Best, Rita Hanson, and other volunteers.

The 2015-2016 year at Swope Park will be no different than what we have done in the past year. We have many activities planned, there will be a continuation of the philanthropic volunteer work that our groups do which make a difference in the community. Getting outside of our walls is the key to doing great things in our Masonic family, and for those that need assistance with the obstacles that life can throw at us.

I, along with the officers and members of Swope Park Lodge, look forward to working with everyone inside and outside of the Masonic temple this year. Let's do some good on the way, and make a difference not only in our lives, but hopefully in the life of a stranger.

I also want to take this

moment to thank WB Justin Dryer who is the editor of the Rambler. WB Justin has taken the Rambler publication to a whole new level with his creativeness and the time he puts into it. Without the hard work and dedication that WB Justin has given to this publication that you are holding in your hands right now, it would not have reached the level of awesomeness it has reached at this point. Thank you WB Dryer!!!!

WB James Lowman
Worshipful Master
Swope Park Masonic Lodge #617

2015-2016



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The Passing of Sister Delores McChesney, Past Matron, Swope Park Chapter #520, Order of the Eastern Star



Sister Delores McChesney passed away on July 31, 2015 at the age of 89. Delores was initiated into Northeast Chapter #300 in 1955 and completed her Proficiency Examination in June of that year. Delores held the Star Point station of Ruth the following year. She subsequently held other offices until 1976 when she was elected Worthy Matron. In 1977 Delores was elected to serve as their Secretary, a position she occupied

through 1980.

In 1987 Northeast Chapter #300 consolidated with East Gate Chapter #367 and in 1991 Delores became a dual member with Orient Chapter #491 (then meeting at Swope Park temple). She later dropped her membership at East Gate and became a member of Swope Park #520 in 1998 through consolidation of chapters.

Delores has been the recipient of several Grand Chapter appointments: Grand Representative of New York in Missouri (one of the very few states that is under the direct jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter) in 1971; Grand Martha in 1981 and District Deputy Grand Matron in 1996.

In 2002, Delores presided as Worthy Matron of Joseph Chapter #63, her dual chapter at that time,

and served as the Star Point station of Ruth at Swope Park #520 until the time of her passing. She was a member of Eastern Star for over 60 years.

While still very active in both of her Chapters in the early 1990s, Sister Delores became a volunteer at the Masonic Home Western Unit in the ceramic department, and in 1999 became Chairman of the of the Volunteers. She remained a good and faithful volunteer at the Masonic Home Western Unit until it was sold, a total of 20 years.

OES services were conducted on August 11, 2015 at the Blue Ridge United Methodist Church in Kansas City. Those assisting with the service from Swope Park #520 were: Sister Lois Compton, Brother Larry Alvis, Sister Prudence Irwin-

Bennan, and Sisters Stella Turnquist, Rita Hanson, April White, Pat Neece, and Susan Boyd. The Chapter provided and served a meal at the Lodge for Sister Delores' family and friends following the service; then prior to the stated meeting draped it's Charter in an open ceremony so that family members and friends who were not Eastern Star members could observe.

Delores' favorite OES charity was ESTARL, Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership. Delores was very proud when grandson Chase was chosen to receive an ESTARL scholarship from the Grand Chapter and then a few years later got to hear him deliver the ESTARL Service message at our Grand Chapter session.



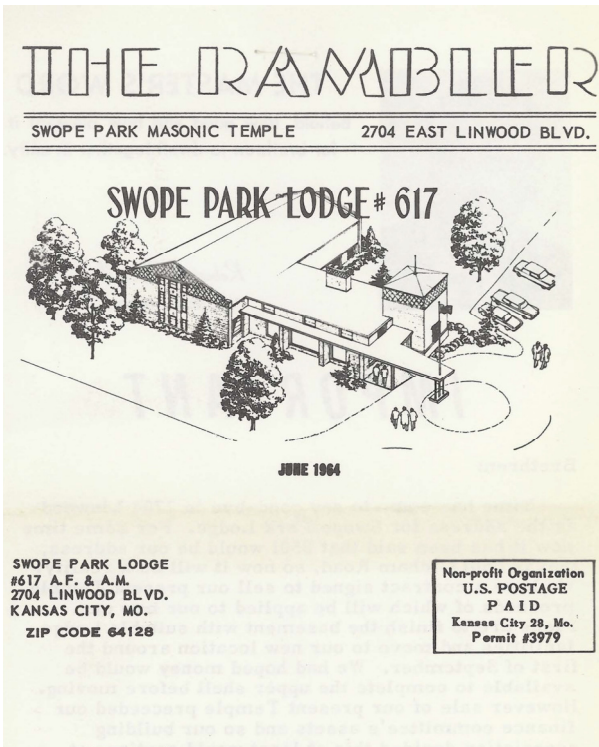
25 Year Pin Presented to Vern Hilliard

Vern Hilliard, a long time supporter of the Ararat Shrine Temple and member of Swope Park Lodge, was presented with his 25 year pin prior to a stated communication. Vern was presented with his pin by WB Jim O'Shea and was given an overview of his Masonic history by RWB Kenny Best. Vern's wife and family were present to celebrate this great occasion for any Master Mason. Vern is currently the Shrine Club Director at Ararat.





Clippings of The Rambler from June 1964



THE MASTER'S WORD

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Robert B. Nickell
Worshipful Master

IMPORTANT

Brethren:

Time has come to say good-bye to 2704 Linwood as the address for Swope Park Lodge. For some time now it has been said that 8501 would be our address, that is 8501 Oldham Road, so now it will be a reality! We have a contract signed to sell our present Temple, proceeds of which will be applied to our new one. Plans are to finish the basement with suitable Lodge facilities and move to our new location around the first of September. We had hoped money would be available to complete the upper shell before moving. However sale of our present Temple preceded our finance committee's assets and so our building association decided this at least would continue at the rate of income. Elsewhere in this news is a letter sent to all the out of town members. We need your support brethren so please read it! We are one of the progressive lodges in this city, so let us keep it that way.



Special Thanks to WB Albert McDowell

Swope Park Lodge would like to extend a special Masonic welcome and thank you to Albert McDowell, Past Master of Grandview Lodge #618 who shared his piano talents at the recent Master Mason degree for Mikhail D. Fetterolf. WB McDowell added greatly

to the ceremony by playing appropriate music during portions of the degree. Your songs brought more meaning to the words as everyone sang in unison. Thank WB McDowell for adding this special touch to our Masonic degree.



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
Phone: (913) 236-5311 Fax: (913) 236-6582





Grand Lodge News

During the last week of September of each year, fellow Master Masons travel from around the state of Missouri to Grand Lodge in Columbia, MO to participate in special meetings, Grand Lodge communications, presentations, changing of the Grand Lodge Officers, voting on new legislation, banquets and award presentations. This year a large representation of Master Masons from Swope Park Lodge #617 attended including WM

Jim O'Shea, WB James Lowman (WM elect), B Larry Alvis (SW elect), B Kevin Sykes (JW elect), B Robert Lee (Jr. Deacon elect), RWB Kenny Best (Secretary), Mrs. Swope Park - Connie Best, and lastly RWB Larry Cameron (retiring Chaplain). This year during the 194th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of the State of Missouri some 1,100 Master Masons from all over the state were in attendance. After the

Monday evening banquet the Grand Officers presented the awards to receptive Master Masons meeting the necessary requirements. This year Swope Park had the honor to again receive the "Safe Child Lodge" award from the Missouri Masonic Children's Foundation for holding a MoCHIP event during the Worshipful Master's year of office, the "Achievement Award of the Grand Lodge" whereby Swope Park met the standards of the

Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education for the year 2014-2015, and the Grand Lodge "Ten Year Achievement Award" by having earned ten consecutive annual achievement awards. The session was enjoyable and now we look forward to another year of Freemasonry having a new line of officers with improved programs and new leadership.



Master's Trestle Board (Part 1 Continued)

Officers for being there for me supporting my programs, assisting when asked, and being present during lodge meetings fulfilling your obligation to the lodge.

My year is coming to an end but before I leave my office many items still need addressing including a 3rd degree, 2nd degree, honoring a fallen brother, a past master's breakfast, Masonic tem-

ple garage sale and lastly Grand Lodge all which will be behind me when you receive this.

In closing, it has been a fantastic year for me and one which I will truly cherish. Thank you Swope

Park Masonic Lodge for allowing me this honor as your Worshipful Master.



From the West.....Who Will You Leave Out?

After the Installation of Officers for Swope Park Lodge #617, I began reflecting on the previous years and looking ahead to the next. I am extremely appreciative and in awe of those that have been in this position before me, as well as those that have been Master of the Lodge. The work, compassion and brotherhood extended to me have made my life more bearable and worthwhile. I consider myself lucky to have not only such a supportive family, but a tremendous Masonic family as well.

During the next year, I personally will struggle at times as we all do. I will be rushing to meetings as the work day still trudges on, forget little things due to the everyday duties of

maintaining a home and (most of all) spill coffee on myself as I make my way to events. If I show up with a stain on my clothes, I apologize now. But the best part of attending anything with my family (immediate or Masonic) is being accepted for who I am and what I am willing to do. The smiles on the warm faces will always be as a beacon from a light house, guiding my way to where I am supposed to be.

But one of the most important things we can do as a group is hand down our legacy. I was lucky enough to be raised in a house that taught Masonic lessons. From a Master Mason father and an Eastern Star mother, I have learned many of the ideas of our rituals with-

out even knowing it. Their example was more than enough to start a life of brotherly love, relief and truth. It was the push needed to get involved in DeMolay, and it was what drove me to want to be part of the greatest fraternity in the world.

It also inspired me to raise my children in the same manner. To give them the opportunity to see others reach out to help, to guide and to live. I believe it is what helped my children make the choice to be active in DeMolay and to join lodge. But that had to start somewhere. I know my father received the same upbringing that my children and I did. His father and mother were very active in their lodge and chapter. My mother

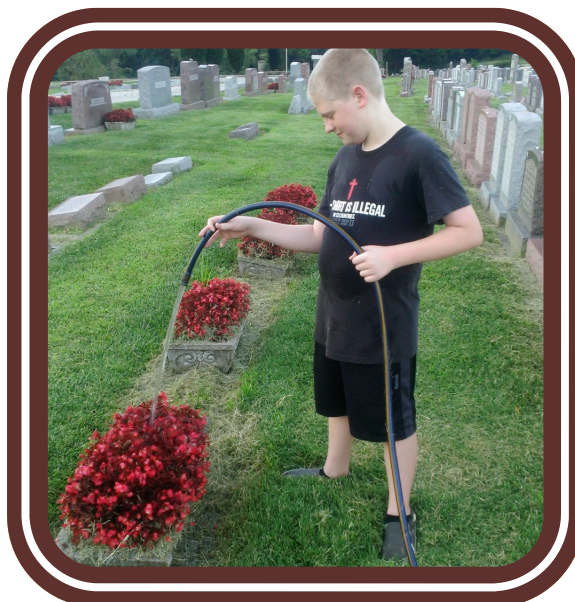
learned from his parents the importance of the teachings of both groups.

This is something we all can hand down to the "next generation." It doesn't have to be your immediate family, although that is probably the easiest way to start. Your actions and your attitude will always impress the ideas and teachings upon all you come in contact. Your simple handshake or smile will be noticed and appreciated. These are things we all can do, not only for each other but for everyone. You never know how it will affect someone's demeanor or change their life. So don't wait for the opportunity to present itself, start now! You never know who you will be leaving out...



Watering Flowers

The members of William F. Kuhn Chapter spent another summer working a great fundraising opportunity, watering the beautiful flowers at the Kehilath Israel Blue Ridge Cemetery. With busy summer schedules to work around and temperatures in the upper 90's, getting the job done wasn't easy but it was definitely worth it. This fundraiser is important to us not only for the money we



earn to help pay for our trip to the Missouri DeMolay State Conclave, but also for the time we spend working together outside the chapter room. I'd like to thank the staff of the Kehilath Israel Blue Ridge Cemetery for continuing to support our chapter and DeMolay.

William F. Kuhn Chapter
 Junior Councilor
 Jeffrey Sykes



Mikhail Fetterolf Receives Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees

Mikhail Dietrich Fetterolf was conferred to the second degree on July 23rd by WB Justin Dryer with lecture given by RWB David Colburn, Letter "G" by WB Dryer and Charge by RWB Colburn. Brother Fetterolf received a good degree by those attending and appreciated learning a little more about the

Fraternity.

At the second communication in the month of August, Mikhail returned for a special communication to receive his Master Mason Degree. Being a third degree, Brothers from eleven different lodges within the district showed up to support Mikhail, a member of Wil-

liam F. Kuhn DeMolay Chapter. RWB Larry Cameron conferred the degree, RWB Dennis Spears conferred the Second Section of the Third Degree, RWB Ken-ny Best performed the honorary raising, RWB David Colburn gave the MM Lecture with Section Three and RWB Glen

Burrows provided the Charge. At the end of the degree WM O'Shea took Mikhail around the lodge and introduced him to all the participants of the degree. Another enjoyable evening was had by all the Brethren in attendance. Congratulations Bro Fetterolf on obtaining this honor.

Right: Mikhail After Receiving His Fellow Craft Degree



Below: Mikhail and the Great Support Shown From Neighboring Lodges Within and Without the 18th Masonic District



Apologies and Corrections

As Editor of The Rambler, I would like to apologize for the tardiness of this issue. While I don't have an excuse, I would like to explain that the primary reason is due to the preparation my wife Deann and I have been working

on while expecting our first child, Macyn Rose Dryer. As many of the readers likely know, priorities shift when working to expand your family and I hope everyone understands.

Additionally, I would like to note that Gary Hanson was mistakenly identified with Lois Compton when the six gift cards were presented from Swope Park #520 to RWB Larry Cameron on June 25th in the article "Swope Park

Lodge #617 and Swope Park Chapter #520 Celebrate Great Evening of Honor and Remembrance." The article should have identified Richard Houston, Treasurer, with Lois.



DeMolay Activities



THE RAMBLER



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Email:
swope617@swopepark.org



SWOPE PARK TEMPLE MEETINGS DATE, TIME and CONTACTS

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Swope Park Lodge #617 AF&AM
Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:00 PM
Kenny Best, Secretary
Phone (816) 965-5261 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Westport Council Royal & Select Masters Nr 38
First Monday 7:30 PM
Roy Thomas, Secretary
Phone (816) 318-3939 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Job's Daughters Bethel # 1 and Jobie-2-Bees
Second and Fourth Mondays 7:30 PM
Heather Kemery
Phone (816) 560-2124 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Swope Park Order Eastern Star Chapter 520
Second Tuesday 7:30 PM
Rita Hansen, Secretary
Phone (816) 525-2681 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commandery of Knights Templar Nr 68
Third Tuesday 7:30 PM
Roy Thomas, Secretary
Phone (816) 318-3939 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• William F. Kuhn Chapter DeMolay
First and Third Thursdays 7:30 PM
Gary Dryer, Chapter Advisor
Phone (816) 763-9494 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harry D. Brown Jr. Chapter 284
First Monday 7:30 PM
Roy Thomas, Secretary
Phone (816) 318-3939 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul F Miller Memorial Study Club
Wednesdays 7:00 PM
Larry Cameron, Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Squires of the Round Table
First and Third Thursdays 7:00 PM
Kevin Sykes, Adult Advisor
Phone (816) 322-3485 |