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THE SWOPE PARK MASONIC TEMPLE BODIES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2016 Number 3

July 2016

SWOPEPARK.ORG



Master's Trestle Board

I'm actually writing this one while in Kansas City...

Well what can I say... we are almost through the year. This will be the third Rambler article I have written out of four. Needless to say we can all agree my writing skills are atrocious. By the fourth Rambler I'm going to owe WB Justin Dryer a lot of drinks...

While writing this, I calculated that we have approximately 43 days until elections of officers for 2016-2017 year (08/11/16), 94 days until the new line of officers is installed (10/01/16), and only six meetings left until Grand Lodge (9/25/16 -9/26/16). There is not a lot of time left. Swope Park Lodge has accomplished many of the goals we set forth this year; visiting other lodges, tweaking bylaws, restructuring the building board, completing projects around the building, etc.

We also have many more things coming up before the end of the term. WB O'Shea is putting on the flag retirement ceremony again this year on July 6, RWB Larry Cameron will be putting on the Chair of Remembrance Ceremony again this year on August 25, and at least two more projects which are in the works, but at this time we do not have definite dates.

If it wasn't for the great line of officers that Swope has, none of this would have been possible. I was informed that the new committee we started this year called the "Health and Viability" committee just had their first meeting. They informed the lodge that

they are already planning and working on some things for next year. I personally cannot wait to see what they come up with.

I cannot say the same thing for my "Twin Peaks Outreach Program" lead by RWB Kenny Best... I might be taking new nominations for the chairman position for this committee before the next Rambler comes out...

I know that it is summertime and this is normally the time of year when attendance drops off a bit for lodges around the state. People have summer trips, family vacations, family reunions, weddings, kids summer events, camping, lake time, etc... We understand everyone needs a break now and then. No matter what your summer holds, please be safe and

By WB James Lowman



have all the fun you can squeeze into this summer.

As always if there is anything Swope Park Lodge can do for you, feel free to contact myself or the lodge secretary RWB Kenny Best (He will have more time, his committee chair responsibility might be freeing up soon).

Fraternally yours,

W.B. James Lowman Worshipful Master Swope Park Lodge #617 2015-2016



Newest Master Mason



At their regular communication on April 14, 2016 B Quentin E. Woodrome requested his membership be transferred from Eastgate Lodge #630 to Swope Park Lodge #617.

B Woodrome was investigated by RWB Larry Cameron and WB Albert McDowell. Both of these brothers were very knowledgeable of his history and association with Scouts as well as the Order of DeMolay, and with this knowledge highly recommended him for membership in Swope Park.

A written ballot was taken among those present and by unanimous vote of the By WB Jim O'Shea

brethren B Woodrome was elected as the newest Master Mason to the Lodge.

A congratulations and hearty welcome goes out to B Woodrome from the Swope Park family. We are happy to have you in our lodge!



Conclave 2016

By B Larry Alvis

William F Kuhn Chapter attended Missouri Conclave 2016 over Memorial Day Weekend. During the Friday through Monday session eleven boys competed in various sports and ritual competi-

tions and renewed friendships with others from across the state. Competing is done in four different categories; Junior Division (ages 12-15), Senior Division (ages 16-21), Championship Division (State Officer for two years or winning a 1st place trophy in Senior Division two years in a row) and Team Ritual. A complete listing of trophies won is below. On top of all the trophies, Jeffrey Sykes won the Master Ritualist in Junior Division which is awarded to the best overall Ritualist in their division.

An excellent time was had by all. Now to start practicing for next year...

Individual Ritual Competition	Place	Name
1st Preceptor Junior Division	1st Place	Jeffery Sykes
1st Preceptor Senior Division	2nd Place	Tim Alvis
2nd Preceptor Junior Division	3rd Place	Jeffery Sykes
3rd Preceptor Junior Division	3rd Place	Jeffery Sykes
4th Preceptor Junior Division	2nd Place	Jeffery Sykes
5th Preceptor Junior Division	3rd Place	Jeffery Sykes
5th Preceptor Senior Division	2nd Place	Tim Alvis
6th Preceptor Senior Division	3rd Place	Tim Alvis
Senior Deacon Junior Division	2nd Place	Avery Paskiewicz
Obligations Junior Division	1st Place	Jeffery Sykes
Magnificent Seven Junior Division	1st Place	Jeffery Sykes
Magnificent Seven Championship Division	3rd Place	Wolf Wheeler
Master Councilor - Chapter Proficiency Senior Division	2nd Place	Tim Alvis
Master Councilor Initiation Senior Division	3rd Place	Tim Alvis
Master Councilor - Fourth Section Junior Division	1st Place	Jeffery Sykes
Flower Talk Senior Division	1st Place	Tim Alvis
Flower Talk Senior Division	3rd Place	Jacob Hampton
Master Ritualist Junior Division	1st Place	Jeffery Sykes
Team Ritual Competition	Place	Name
Majority Service	2nd Place	Tim Alvis, Wolf Wheeler, Jeffrey Sykes,
Individual Sports Competition	Place	Name
Mile Run Junior Division	2nd Place	Jeffery Sykes
Mile Run Senior Division	2nd Place	Nick Collins
Team Sports Competition	Place	Name
Tug of War Senior Division	1st Place	Tim Alvis, Jacob Hampton, Emmanuel Childs, John Eckart, Wolf Wheeler
Volleyball	3rd Place	Everyone in the Chapter
4 x 100 Relay	2nd Place	Wolf Wheeler, Emmanuel Childs, Nick Col-

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Conclave: From the Eyes of a Sweetheart

By Victoria Cahoon

With a suitcase and purse in hand I was ready to take on Conclave. Arriving in Jefferson City I was excited but nervous at the same time, in a new place surrounded by new people. But little did I know I would get a million times more closer with my chapter, see some old friends and meet some more amazing people.

Saturday was a full day, mixed with different types of competition. The day started with Team Ritual and Preceptors Competition. Everyone was helping each other out and practicing for the next event. In the afternoon was one of my favorite memories of Conclave, sports. More specifically volleyball. Cheering the team on and watching them get 3rd place was amazing and honestly my favorite memory.

The next morning waking up bright and early at 5:30 am was hard but worth it. I was excited for

track and field and also the dodgeball games that would come later on in the day. We won a few trophies in track but unfortunately not in dodgeball. Both were still fun to watch and cheer for. The Hall of Fame banquet was fun to see everyone all dressed up, and even more fun to see some of the boys in the chapter win special awards and scholarships. The dance afterwards tired me out. Don't get me wrong, it's

definitely another one of my favorite memories. Dancing to some of the classic songs, seeing everyone relax before the weekend was over and the new week began, the dance places as one of the top moments of Conclave. But one of the reasons I really loved Conclave was having the opportunity to get to know everyone from William F. Kuhn a lot better and I'm so grateful to have been able to experience that.



Moving the Needle of DeMolay

By Jeffrey Sykes

As a society, we change our lifestyles in order to keep up with time and technology and keep ourselves involved with our peers, but the question is, what does DeMolay need to do in order to keep up with the technology of today, increase involvement with DeMolay International (DI), and overall. move our needle? The clues to answer this guestion are buried deep in the soil, and can be hard to find, so today we will dig up these clues and explain what they mean. So let's get our shovels and start digging.

As we start digging, we find our first clue. It says "Super Public." This will help answer the first part of our question, "Keeping up with time and technology." What does; "Super Public" mean. Well it means, getting our name out there and letting people know who we are and

what an amazing organization DeMolav is. We want it to be that when you say DeMolay, people won't ask, "What DeMolay is." We want everyone to say, "Oh my son is in DeMolay," or, "I'm an advisor of DeMolay," or even, "I'm in DeMolay." In order to do this, we need every member of DeMolay to commit to putting our name out there. Each boy needs the help of their parents and advisors and commit to getting our name out there. We need to have advertisements. and one of the best ways we can advertise, is ourselves. If each boy gets out and helps in their community, people are going to notice and there actions will be an advertisement in itself. So if we go "super public, we can get our name out there and move the needle and allow everyone a chance to see this great organization in action.

Now we start to dig again but this time, a little deeper. We find our next clue and it says, "Technology". This will also help answer the first part of our question. Now when the word technology is said, what is the first thing you think of? You probably think about your phones or a major company like, "Apple" or, "Samsung," like. and there's a big reason for this. As a nation, our technology is advancing faster than ever. Major companies are coming out with the new best thing and people buy it, and people are using the new not the old. As an organization we need to also advance and make our organization more accessible for people, but also make it appealing to the people. One way is by a commercial on television. If we put a commercial on a well watched channel, many people around the world can see

it and this will attract them. Another way is by making an app or game to attract the younger crowd. Technology is a huge part of today's society and it plays a very large role in moving our needle as it is so common amongst the people, and if we want to get our names out there, technology is something that will help tremendously.

Now we continue digging and we start to get deeper and deeper when finally we find our next clue. It says, "DeMolay Internahelps tional." This us answer the second part of our question," Increase involvement with DeMolay International. Now DeMolay International is a huge part of our organization and we need to keep involved with them, but it's not always the easiest thing to get ahold of them. So a solution to this is creating an





Moving the Needle of DeMolay (continued)

By Jeffrey Sykes

app or website that only DeMolays can get onto that will allow us to get contact information for all the people at DeMolay International but also provide an open chat room for all DeMolays to further the communication from Chapter to Chapter, Chapter to Executive Officer, and Chapter to DI. This will increase our involvement with DI because it allows everyone to communicate and allows us all to have the ability to contact specific people for a private conversation. This will allow all DeMolays to be able to contact DI as well as other DeMolays whenever they need to, and will really help our organization.

So we continue digging again, deeper, and deeper, and deeper. We find our next clue and it says, "Goals". This will help answer our entire question and is the most vital part of our dig. Now the word Goals means, that we as an organization need to have goals. We can't do anything until we set a goal. If you want to achieve something, the first thing you do is tell vourself," I want to achieve (Fill in the blank)" and you set a goal. But we can't just set the goal, we need to work towards it and achieve it because if we don't set a goal, nothing is going to happen, also if we set a goal and never strive to achieve it, the same will

happen and our organization will fail. We need to be able to set and achieve our goals in order to move the needle and if we want to do anything the other answers said, this answer is the key to do it. Without Goals, nothing will happen and our amazing organization will die out.

So we start digging again but this time we hit bedrock that says," Turn Around" so we turn around and head back up, but as we are going back to the surface, we see each spot where we found our clues and are reminded what each of them mean. "Super Public", allows us to share our organization with the pub-

lic, "Technology", allows others to access our organization easier and attracts more people, "DeMolay International", gives us an increased involvement with them and other DeMolays, and finally, "Goals", gives us the opportunity to do all of the other things. Now we're at the top and have all the answers, but we have two options, we can keep these clues to ourselves and not tell anyone, or we can go put these clues on display and share them with everyone. The choice is yours, which will you choose?



Eastern Star #520

The Officers, members and permanent pro-tems at Swope Park Chapter #520 got together on June 14th for a group photo. The regular installation of officers took place in October 2015.

Pictured left to right are: Virginia Robbins, Pro-tem Organist (belongs to Blue Springs Chapter #428); April White, Associate Conductress; Prudence Irwin-Brennan (partially hidden), Ruth; Terry Scarborough, Warder; Bobbie Stone, Organist; Larry Alvis, Worthy Patron; Barbara Stillman, Treasurer; Stella Turnquist, Worthy Matron; Sherri Ewing; Frances Banks, Adah; Alby Shipman,

By Barbara Stillman

Electa; Rita Hanson, Secretary; Deb Merrick, Conductress; Jayna Barron, Chaplain; Ed Culver, Associate Patron; Pat Neece, Martha; and John Stillman, Sentinel.





Bethel #1 Report

Grand Session for Bethel #1 was a huge success. We had seven girls attend and a good time was had by all. We would like to sincerely thank our Swope Park Lodge Masons and Eastern Star who donated money to help send this many girls! The hardest part was trying to get all seven of them together for a picture!

List of winners from Grand Session:

Breanna Wood

2nd Place for 4th Messenger and she was selected as Grand Representative for South Dakota

Fiona Mayden

3rd Place for Chaplain

Skylar Lautzenhiser

1st Place for her Violin Solo and 3rd Place for painting

Amelia Roller

2nd Place for Misc. craft

Megan Kemery

2nd Place Essay & 3rd Place Photo Art

Mikayla Zans

1st Place Chaplain, 3rd Place Poetry, 2nd Place Misc. Craft, 3rd Place drawing and 1st Place sewing

Megan Kemery also re-

ceived the Grand Commandry of Knights Templar Youth Award! Congratulations Megan and thanks to those who nominated her for this award! I only wish she would have been present to receive it (she didn't ar-

This is an extremely great group of girls. They are active and involved in lots of activities outside of school and still attend many events and meetings around the city. I'm proud to work with them!

rive until Friday).

Bethel 1 will be collecting aluminum cans again this year, with all proceeds going to H.I.K.E. (Hearing Impaired Kids Endow**By Heather Kemery**

ment). This is the Job's Daughters International Charity. Missouri Job's Daughters made over \$10,000 last year to go to this worthy cause. It is my mission this year to make sure that Bethel 1 is doing its part. Let's collect some cans!!

Megan Kemery was installed June 13th to her second term as Honored Queen. Her charity for this term is Harvesters. She plans to have our girls go to Harvesters one weekend and volunteer. We plan to put a box out in the lobby to collect canned goods for Harvesters, we would love for anyone that is able to, to donate!





Masonic Youth Day 2016

The annual Masonic Youth Day for 2016 will be held on August 6, 2016 at the Grand Lodge complex in Columbia, MO. On this day we will witness the gathering of our youth from our trio of Masonic sponsored youth groups for a day of fun and games, and of course lots of food! The kids really have a lot of fun and also look forward to renewing distant friendships. The Grand Lodge of Missouri hosts and funds this important day for our youth and the Grand Lodge Masonic Youth Committee charged with overseeing this event and together with our Masonic youth

leaders plan the day's activities.

In the past, the funding for this event has always been adequate to cover all aspects of this annual event. Last year during the planning sessions for this event, the Committee discovered that the money budgeted by the Grand Lodge for this event, which was the same amount as the prior year, would not cover all of the expenses. The increase in the cost of food had risen considerably from the past year and the Youth Committee started looking for ways to eliminate costs. The one item we zeroed in on was the gift card drawings that have always been a high point of this event. The committee decided to try and not eliminate this item, by appealing to the O.E.S. with raising those funds Masonic District. results from the lodges, O.E.S. and individuals were overwhelming and our Masonic youth really enjoyed the results.

After the Masonic Youth Day was over, we have heard from other Masonic groups and individuals whom I was not able to contact, stating that they would have donated if

By RWB Larry Cameron

they had known of our need. Now is the time to make your donations. Please make all checks payable to "Swope Park brethren of our lodges Lodge #617" and in the and our sisters of the lower left hand corner I was charged under MEMO write "Missouri Masonic Youth and was able to do so Day" and mail them to primarily within the 18th me. We are hoping to The raise \$1,800.00 this year and your help will be greatly appreciated. Any unused funds will remain in the checking account for use next year.

> All donors will receive an 8 1/2" x 11" Certificate of Appreciation, signed by our Grand Master, MWB Brent Stewart.



Lodge Workday

On June 11, 2016 RWB Kenny Best served breakfast prior to beginning a work day at the lodge. RWB Kenny Best installed new parking lot lights with the assistance of B Wayne Grantham from Ivanhoe Lodge. B Grantham deserves our heartfelt thanks as he provided a bucket truck for this project which saved the building board a lot of money. RWB Larry Cameron redesigned the entrance light and raised it up to provide

better lighting at the entrance. WB James Lowman, B Larry Alvis, and the Master Councilor of William F. Kuhn DeMolay Emmanuel Childs cleaned out the area around the air conditioners and resealed the **By RWB Kenny Best**

glass block windows that were leaking. Rita Hanson and several Jobies did some cleaning in the storage area.

Thank you to all who assisted.





Swope Park Chapter Joins William F. Kuhn For Initiation and Refreshments

By Barbara Stillman

Several of the members from Swope Park Chapter #520 were pleased to join William F. Kuhn DeMolay and the Swope Park Squires Manor for their meetings on the evening of June 16, 2016. We had the pleasure of seeing William F. Kuhn grow by two new members as Tim Alvis, Past Master Councilor, gave the Initiatory Degree Obligation to the candidates. The Eastern Star ladies served 'Walking Tacos', cookies and lemonade in

Shotwell Hall following the meetings where we all enjoyed the food and fellowship.





Congratulations and Welcome

By WB Jim O'Shea

A special night occurred at Swope Park Masonic Lodge #617 on May 26 with the conferring of an Entered Apprentice Degree on Christopher A. Young as the newest Freemason to the Craft and becoming a Masonic Brother. JW Kevin Sykes, obligated B Young in near perfect fashion and WB Albert McDowell gave the EA Lecture and Charge in a special way that kept the intense interest of the Brethren. Visiting Breth-

ren from KC #220, Country Club, Lee's Summit, and Rising Star Lodges joined Swope Park to support the evening degree with many filling the chairs. KC #220 also had five members available to take back the traveling gavel. At the close of the evening's business the Brethren retired to Shotwell Hall for a feast of Chili, Ham and Beans with all the trimmings and special chocolate desserts. A great turnout of

support made for a super evening of Masonic fellowship.

Welcome B Young to Swope Park Lodge #617 and congratulations on receiving your Entered Apprentice Degree. You have made an excellent decision in your life and we wish you the best as you continue your journey in the Blue Lodge obtaining the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees in the next few months. Will see you again soon and enjoy your summer.



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Swope Park Chapter #520 Happenings

By Barbara Stillman

On June 14, 2016, prior to their stated meeting, Swope Park Chapter #520 honored the men of Swope Park with a meal and program including a tribute to our military in honor of Flag Day. Everyone attending received a small American Flag. In lieu of favors to our honored guests, the Chapter gave monetary donations as follows (from left to right, top to bottom).

Larry Cameron is shown

accepting the donation for the 2016 Masonic Youth Day from Worthy Matron Stella Turnquist.

Kevin Sykes is shown accepting the donation for the kitchen fund on behalf of the Swope Park Temple Board from Worthy Patron and Senior Warden Larry Alvis.

Andrew Sykes is shown accepting the donation for the Swope Park Manor Squires from Secretary

and Past Grand Matron Pictured center is CJ who Rita Hanson. Pictured center is CJ who sang an Armed Forces

The donation for the robe fund to William F. Kuhn was presented by Secretary and Past Grand Matron Rita Hanson, Advisor. Pictured with Rita from left to right are other William F. Kuhn members and advisors: Andrew Sykes, Kevin Sykes, Ed Culver, Wolf Wheeler, Nick Collins, Larry Alvis, and Connie Best.

Pictured center is CJ who sang an Armed Forces medley honoring each branch of our military services at the conclusion of the program. He is flanked by his mom Larinda Reach and his grandmother Virginia Robbins (both of Blue Springs Chapter #428). Virginia accompanied CJ on the piano and is Swope Park's permanent pro-tem Organist.



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Thank You

Sometimes your programs are overlooked by even those performing those programs but are recognized by others for the vital service they provide.

WB Ben Pagel, a long time Brother who was not

a member of Swope Park Lodge #617 but who was a faithful attendee of all events held by Swope Park and who recently passed away believed so much in what we do that he reached out to the lodge by way of his widow, Mrs. Ruby Pagel. Ruby gave a check for \$250 to RWB Larry Cameron to assist Swope Park Lodge's Veterans Christmas Gift Program. RWB Larry Cameron presented that check on behalf of WB Ben Pagel to

By RWB Kenny Best

the master WB James Lowman. Ben's widow Ruby told RWB Cameron that it was one of Ben's last requests to assist this great program.

Thank you once again WB Ben and Ruby.



Dinner and a Movie

Several lodges within the district came out to support Swope Park Lodge's Dinner and a Movie on Friday evening, April 8, 2016. Representation from Sheffield Lodge #625, Ivanhoe Lodge #446, Kansas City Lodge #220, Swope Park Chapter #520 Order of Eastern Star, and host lodge Swope Park supported the event with lodge brothers and their special dates. The evening began with a delicious meal of breaded cutlets, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, rolls, a delicious sheet cake, and beverages, all prepared by RWB Kenny Best, RWB Larry Cameron and Worshipful Master James Lowman in Shotwell Hall. The wonderful meal was followed by the movie, "The Freemason" shown in the Lodge Room. WM By WB Jim O'Shea

Lowman thanked everyone who attended and the evening was enjoyed by all, with monies collected for the event going to the Building Fund for Lodge improvements.







Senior DeMolay Assist in Opening William F. Kuhn Chapter

At the April 21,2016 De-Molay meeting several Senior DeMolays came to open and close the chapter to give the current members a most detailed explanation of the correct method of procedure. The age range of the senior DeMolay was from 21 years of age to 78 years young, but the connection

By RWB Kenny Best

between active and Senior DeMolays was a wonderful thing to see.



Swope Park Lodge #617 teams with Southwood Elementary School

By RWB Kenny Best

B Larry Alvis and RWB Kenny Best met with first grade teachers Ms. Laura Homan and Ms. Leigh-Duewell of Southwood Elementary School in Raytown Missouri. B Alvis and RWB Best and the first grade teachers, with the blessing of Principal Dr. Cathy Miller, will

start the reading program during the 2016 and 2017 school year.

Ms. Holman and Ms. Duewell will conduct the program by choosing the appropriate book for each individual student. After reading the book assigned, they will need to give a report on the book

to the teachers, and if the teachers are satisfied that the student has read the book their name will be placed in a drawing for a new bicycle provided by Swope Park Lodge.

There will be a drawing in December and April and the lodge will present the winner with their new hike

The lodge hopes that not only will we contribute to more young people finding joy in reading, but also bringing Freemasonry to a positive light in their parents' eyes.



Honor Flight

Honor Flight KC is a special event for veterans to travel to Washington D.C. for a day to experience the memorials representing their time of service in serving our country. Not being a veteran of any military campaign, I would never have thought of being able to experience anything like this event. That is until I received a call from B Homer "Gene" Sheridan asking me if I

would be his "guardian" for a day experiencing the Honor Flight trip to Washington D.C. B Sheridan is a member of Independence Lodge #76, Scottish Rite, and photographer for Ararat Shrine Temple.

The date was scheduled for Flag Day, June 14, 2016 starting at 4:00 am and concluding at KCI airport around 10:00 pm. It was one long, busy, and exciting day visiting

the World War II Memorial, Washington Monument, Korean, Vietnam, Lincoln, Marine, and Air Force Memorials. We also went to Arlington National Cemetery and witnessed the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The day concluded by passing the Pentagon on our way to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport where we

departed back home to family and friends. This was a memorable experience for myself, my host—Korean Vietnam Air Force Veteran Sherdian, and the 57 other veterans, guardians, and Honor Flight staff that joined us. Thank you Brother Gene Sheridan and Irene for giving me this opportunity to share with Gene as his Honor Flight guard-

ian.

By WB Jim O'Shea



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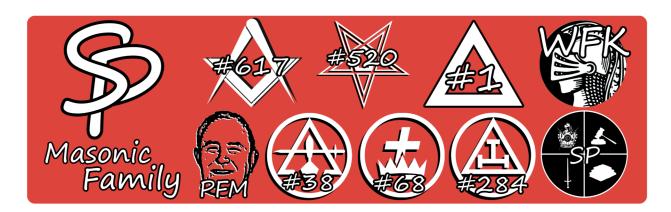
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Email: swope617@swopepark.org



SWOPE PARK TEMPLE MEETINGS DATE, TIME and CONTACTS

- Swope Park Lodge #617 AF&AM
 - Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:00 PM Kenny Best, Secretary Phone (816) 965-5261
- Swope Park Order Eastern Star Chapter 520
 Second Tuesday 7:30 PM
 Rita Hansen, Secretary
 Phone (816) 525-2681
- 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
 Larry Cameron, Director

Job's Daughters Bethel # 1 and Jobie-2-Bees
 Second and Fourth Mandaux 7/20 PM

Second and Fourth Mondays 7:30 PM Heather Kemery Phone (816) 560-2124

- 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