

THE RAMBLER



The Newsletter of
SWOPE PARK MASONIC LODGE # 617 AF & AM

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October-December 2005

Our 94th year

Constituted November 1, 1911

WM Gary Dryer, Master WB Don Hurlbert, Secretary PM RWB Larry Cameron Treasurer PM
Senior Warden WB Sergio Martinez PM Junior Warden Kenneth Best
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Swope Park Lodge Honors Life Long Members



WB Harry Brown (left) received his Sixty-year Grand Lodge Jewel from WM Bob Harman (right) at the August 11, 2005 meeting. WB Brown was raised July 28, 1945. He was Master of the Lodge in 1954, a record year for raising Master Masons in Swope Park Lodge. WB Harry is still very active in our Lodge serving as Chaplain and guiding us in our ritual work.

The Master's Trestle Board



WM Gary Dryer

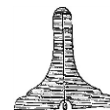
It seems such a short journey since I joined the lodge 15 years ago to become a DeMolay advisor. I became active in the lodge four years ago, and suddenly, here I am in the East! Installation was a memorable event sharing the night with my brothers, all that've helped me through out the past few years. I want to say "Thank you" to all who attended and helped make "my night" so special. The year ahead will be challenging, however, I will do my best to meet that challenge as Master of Swope Park Lodge. We shall work together to increase membership, and strengthen that bridge between the Blue Lodge and DeMolay through interaction, cooperation, and adoption. We shall work to improve our ritual and degree work. We shall bring in young new members whom our older members can teach and help become good Masons, and better men. These are just a few of the things we must do in order for our Lodge to flourish in the ensuing years to come. As we set up committees to accomplish our goals, I encourage all of you who can to come out and get involved. Become a working part of the proceedings. One cannot move a mountain alone, but as a group we can make a difference in the world we live in. I am ready and willing to do my part. I know with
(continued, page 2 column 1)



The Lodge presented Brothers James Cummins (left) Kenneth Hyatt (center) and Larry Maple (right) their Fifty Year Grand Lodge jewels and certificates at an open meeting July 28, 2005. Their wives and other family members were in attendance and a special cake with ice cream served afterward. Bro. Cummings was raised May 22, 1954, Bro. Hyatt April 28, 1955 and Bro. Maple January 18, 1955. WM Bob Harman made the presentations on behalf of the Grand Master of Missouri.

From The West

Senior Warden's message
WB Sergio Martinez, PM



I have been asked to write an article for *The Rambler*. I have seen a lot of changes in my tour of duty as a Mason (Past Master in 1992) have set on different chairs several time and now I will be seating in the West for the second time), some are good and some not so good. You see, Brethren, I take my oaths and obligations very seriously. I know that since I joined the greatest, the oldest and the most wonderful fraternity in the world, it has made me a much better person to serve my community, my friends and family. For now I'm involved in church activities, I'm involved in neighborhood clean-ups, I'm involved in helping senior citizens. I drive them to and from the store or doctor appointments. Brethren, you need to get involved in your lodge. You need to make time for other things besides sitting home and viewing T.V. It's a wonderful feeling to know you do make a difference. Come and take your place at your Lodge. Become a Lodge Officer. Have a say so on whom to help next. Help plan activities for your family, your friends.
(continued, page 2 column 2)

(The Master's Trestle Board, continued)

the help received thus far, and anticipate in the future, we will make a difference. We all joined the Masonic family for one reason or another. We all took the same obligations believing in the same principals, which when put into practice; have a positive effect in the way we live our lives. Make this year your time to rekindle that flame and get involved. There is not enough space in this article to give due thanks to all the brethren who've helped me thus far, but I wish to give special thanks to WB Robert Harmon who served the past two years as our Master. He is now working in Iraq helping that nation develop and keeping masonry alive in that part of the world. Robert was a true friend and brother to me as I went thru the chairs. Let's keep him in our thoughts and prayers. Thank you one and all.

Gary W. Dryer Worshipful Master

(From the West, continued)

After all isn't this the reason you joined the Masons- to help the community, to help our Masonic Home and our Senior citizens? Don't just be a card carrying Mason, be a proud Mason, one who cares and is willing to do something about it. Take charge of your Masonic Life and take care of your Lodge Obligations. Believe me Brethren, its a great feeling, if you follow and do what you promised during your initiation into the Masonic fraternity. The offer to go through your 2nd and 3rd degree is still open (going through the 2nd and 3rd degree the customary way is nothing at all like it was when you went on the one day to advance) to all who want it. All you have to do is call. That feeling of belonging to something great is waiting for you and it only comes to you if you take time and call. Experience the ritual that only comes by participating. Call now. The phone number is 816-763-0875 ask for Marty Martinez

Masonic
Milestones



In Memoriam

October Masonic Anniversaries

		Raised	Years
Edward	Miller	10-29-36	69
Glen	Stuart	10-07-52	53
Lewis	Robb	10-07-54	51
Everett	Bozarth	10-17-57	48
John	Shollenberger	10-03-57	48
Glenn	Borchers	10-01-59	46
Kenneth	Bollinger	10-14-71	34
Edward	Welch	10-28-71	34
Eric	Peterson	10-03-72	33
James	Starke	10-12-72	33
Ernest	Bell	10-08-73	32
Leon	Jones	10-22-73	32
Harold	Martin	10-10-74	31
John	Kennedy	10-28-86	19
Daniel	Bishop	10-27-88	17
Charles	Lewis	10-16-99	6

November Masonic Anniversaries

		Raised	Years
Marion	Bybee	11-27-49	56
Harley	Ladd	11-15-49	56
Martin	Baier	11-07-50	55
Harvey	Johnson	11-20-52	53
Willis	Baker	11-01-56	49
Beatty	Barnes	11-14-63	42
Wm	Frazier	11-05-63	42
Jack	Clark	11-15-66	39
Stephen	Morgan	11-14-68	37
William	Groll	11-11-82	23
George	Behnke	11-21-92	13
Mark	Foster	11-21-92	13
Jack	Reeder	11-26-92	13

December Masonic Anniversaries

		Raised	Years
Clarence	McCalister	12-16-47	58
Franklin	Whiting	12-16-48	57
Clyde	Rayburn	12-15-55	50
Frank	Chester	12-16-76	29
John	Waggoner	12-27-79	26
Donald	Monroe	12-11-80	25
Oren	Woods	12-10-81	24
Howard	Elsloo	12-11-86	19

Clyde "George" Manley
Born November 21, 1918
Raised March 26, 1990
Passed away August 2, 2005

James Antonio Rich
Born February 9, 1926
Raised January 30, 1959
Passed away August 6, 2005

Shirley A. Bell, of North Fort Myers, FL, passed away on Wednesday, October 5, 2005. Shirley was the wife of WB Glenn Bell (PM 1998 and daughter of RWB Warder Shotwell, PM 1969 and Past DDGM 72-73



Entered Apprentice initiated

Steve Hill became a member of Swope Park Lodge at the stated meeting Thursday, September 8. The degree was conferred by WM Harry Brown in the East assisted by WB Mel Tacke, SW; RWB Jack Clark JW; Bro. Jim Payne SD, WB Ken Scott JD, WB Gary Barron SS, Bro. Ken Best, JS WB Frank Chester was Chaplain and WB John Arterburn, was Marshal. Tiler was WB Warren Weston. The EA Lecture and Charge was given by WB Paul Miller, PM Alpha Lodge Nr. 659 and Study Club Coach at Ivanhoe Lodge every Weds. From 7pm to 9pm. Many of the Swope Park Lodge Brethren participating in the degree work regularly attend this study club. This clearly contributed to an excellent degree presentation. Those who attend study club enjoy the fellowship of several outstanding Brethren from Alpha, Ivanhoe and Heroine-Rockwell lodges. Come out and join us! Working together, we'll improve our degree work as we improve ourselves in Free Masonry.

WB Bob Harman in Iraq

Our immediate Past Master, WB Bob Harman was deployed to Iraq last month as an civilian contractor working to establish national ID cards as part of the effort to stabilize the country. We will include articles of interest in the Rambler as we receive them from Bob. His e-mail address is rlharman@sbcglobal.net Mail address Robert Harman
DynCorp Badge Team
Camp Victory
APO AE 09342

Item from WB Bob in Iraq

Great news about the Lodge. Please tell all that I am equally proud that they are doing everything possible to keep Swope Park alive and vibrant for our sons and grandsons. I felt bad leaving so suddenly and this is welcome news about the Lodge carrying on, as expected. I have met quite a few Masons in my travels so far and have shared good fraternal greetings with them. Most are young soldiers, new to the fraternity, as I was once, and they enjoyed talking to an "old-timer". Little did they know I am about the youngest in my Lodge! How proud to stand with an age "20 something" en-route to combat and ask to be photographed with a brother for posterity. These young troops are amazing. None of the bitching I remember from the Viet-Nam era guys. These are dedicated and patriotic young people who are informed and eager to serve. Many are returning for their 2nd and 4th tours here. Of course, I wouldn't meet the ones who were getting out or did not come back. It's just comforting to know how sharp the kids are that are here and are taking the battle for freedom to the enemy. Thanks again for the update. Best to all there. Fraternaly, Bob Harman



Front (l to r.) T. Broome, J. Nemic, K. Best, G. Dryer, S. Martinez, H. Brown and F. Chester. Rear (l to r) J. Payne, L. Cameron, D. Hurlbert, Sr, Jack Clark and G. Barron.

Installation of 2006 Officers

October 1st at 7:pm., Swope Park Lodge. Presentation of Colors extremely well done by Wm. F. Kuhn DeMolay followed by Pledge of Allegiance than invocation by RWB Jack Clark, Installing Grand Chaplain. Installing Grand Master was WB Gary Barron. Installing Grand Marshal was Bro. Tony Broome. Installed Officers were: Worshipful Master, Bro. Gary Dryer; Senior Warden, WB Sergio Martinez; Junior Warden, Bro. Kenneth Best; Treasurer, RWB Lawrence Cameron; Secretary, WB Don Hurlbert, Sr. Chaplain. WB Harry Brown; Marshal, WB Frank Chester; Senior Deacon, Bro. Johnnie Nemic; Junior Deacon, Bro. James Payne. Following introductions and remarks by WM Gary Dryer, was a Flower talk by DeMolay SMC Justin Dryer. Refreshments were served immediately afterward in Shotwell Hall prepared by Beverly Barron and Connie Best.

Donate to Distressed Brethren Hurricane Relief

The Lodge voted to donate \$ 500 to a special fund set up by Grand Lodge to aid hurricane victims through *Masonic Services Association* if you wish to contribute personally, make your check out to Masonic Relief and mail it to Swope Park Lodge Nr. 617, PO Box 35313 Kansas City, MO 64138



CHIP (Child Id. Program)

is one of the most comprehensive Child Recovery, Identification and Abduction Awareness Education programs being offered "free of charge" to parents. MASONIC CHIP EVENTS are sponsored by the Missouri Grand Lodge and is conducted by local Lodges.

At a MASONIC CHIP EVENT, Freemasons set up the equipment and enlist the aid of local volunteers as necessary to generate completed child identification kits that are given to a child's parent or guardian to take home for safe keeping (we keep nothing but a permission

form). Each child progresses through the several stations of the Event (it takes about 10-15 minutes) generating the information that will be included in an ID kit. Parents are reminded to take the kits with them on trips and vacations as this completed kit can be immediately provided to authorities to aid in the recovery of a child that is missing or presumed abducted. The mission of the Masonic Children's Foundation of Missouri is to raise public awareness concerning the risk of abduction or exploitation our children

now face in today's society by conducting MASONIC CHIP EVENTS regularly in our communities so that any parent wanting their children to receive this "free comprehensive service" will find it offered. These events provide parents with a completed ID KIT of their child that contains vital identifying items to be given to law enforcement if their child is missing. MASONIC CHIP

EVENTS also serve as an opportunity to educate both

children and their parents about Abduction Prevention and other safety information.

The basics:

Tooth prints indented on a Dental Impression Wafer:

2006 LODGE OFFICERS

An election was held at the August 11, 2005 meeting . By vote of those in attendance, the following Brethren were elected to serve Swope Park Lodge in 2006
 Worshipful Master Gary Dryer
 Senior Warden W.B. Sergio Martinez
 Junior Warden Kenneth Best
 Treasurer RWB Lawrence Cameron
 Secretary WB Don Hurlbert, Sr.



Bylaws Changes

The proposed Changes to the Bylaws as read in Lodge June 23, 2005, published in the July Rambler and read again at the August 11, 2005 stated meeting were passed by a vote of the majority in attendance August 11, 2005

(CHIP cont.)

- Teeth, like fingerprints are unique. Even with a child losing and gaining teeth, a dental imprint gives accurate and important information for identification purposes.
- DNA Sample - From the use of the dental impression wafer, a DNA sample is obtained from the cheek cells in the saliva, which can also uniquely identify anyone.
- Canine Scents – The saliva from the dental impression wafer also provides a pure, exclusive scent, which can be used by tracking dogs in helping to find lost children.

No Charge to Parents!

The Masonic Children's Foundation's Child Identification Program (CHIP) is provided free of charge to the public. All of the identifying information collected at the event about the child is given to the child's family. The MCF does retain the permission slip that must be signed prior to participation in the event.



CEMETERY Lot FOR SALE
Floral Hills
Blue Ridge & Gregory
Blvd.
Two plots
Market Price \$ 1625- ea.
Swope Park Lodge selling
For \$ 800. ea

Grand Lodge Report

Bro. Ken Best, Jr. Warden, and Bro. Jim Payne, Jr. Deacon, attended Grand Lodge Sept. 26-27 in Columbia, MO. There were over 1044 Mo. Masons in attendance representing 348 Lodges. Of specific interest to Swope Park membership, the following Brethren were recognized receiving their 50 year awards: **James Sowards, Gary Spalding, Leo Kohl, Jerry Friesner, Don Miller, L. Ray Wise, Wallace Kidd and Louis Plax.** Throughout the Grand Lodge Communication, the emphasis was on Masonic Service and seeing to the welfare of our distressed Brothers, their widows and orphans. It is our affirmative duty to see to their welfare, and we are bound by our obligation to address their needs with the resources of our lodge and the programs available through Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Missouri donated \$ 35,000 through Masonic services for Hurricane Relief to the grand Lodges of LA, MS. And TX. In addition to over \$ 36,000 contributed by individual Lodges, including Swope Park Lodge's donation stated earlier.



Membership Statistics

Grand Lodge presented some interesting indications about churn in membership through out the state. There were 51,920 Mo Masons on record last year. We lost 1556 Brethren in deaths (2.9 %)

Swope Park Lodge had 245 members at the beginning of this year, losing six (6) in death or 2.5 %- in line statistically with Grand Lodge attrition.

Grand Lodge reported 1246 EA's initiated, 1340 raised to MM and 1200 suspension for non-payment of dues. The 1246 initiates are a 2.3 % Move in the right direction, and offset the deaths and suspensions somewhat.

Swope Park Lodge, if we are to reverse our losses, should initiate at least twelve (12) new Masons this new fiscal year. That is a 5 % increase, needed to replace the losses anticipated by death and suspension.

One candidate per month is all we need to turn this around. It is doable.

Let's get to work! Look around... Have you talked with your grandsons, nephews, and young

men in your church or neighborhood?

What is a Lewis?

It is an instrument in Operative Masonry. It is an Iron Cramp, which is inserted into a cavity prepared for that purpose so that large stones may be raised to any height, by rope and pulley. The stone is then placed in it's proper position. This implement was known to the Romans and several were taken from old ruins and are now in the Vatican. In the ruins of Whitby Abbey in England which was founded by "Oswy" King of Northumberland in 658, large stones were discovered with the necessary excavation for the insertion of a Lewis.

Probably from the old French word "LEWIS" meaning "any contrivance for lifting". In the English system of Masonry, the "LEWIS" is found on the Tracing-board of the Entered Apprentice, where it is used as a symbol of "STRENGTH", (English Constitution) because by it's assistance the heaviest of stones can be lifted with comparatively little exertion. The son of a Mason in England is called a "Lewis", because it is his duty to support the sinking power and aid the failing strength of his father. Or as Dr. Oliver has put it "To bare the burden in the heat of the day that his Parents may rest in their old age, thus rendering the evening of their lives peaceful and happy."

In Browns "Master Key" which is supposed to represent the Prestonian Lecture we find the following:

Question What do we call a son of a Freemason ?

Answer A Lewis

Question What does that denote?

Answer Strength

Question How is a Lewis depicted in a Masonic Lodge?

Answer As a cramp of metal, by which, when fixed into a stone, great and ponderous weights are raised to a certain height, fixed on their proper bases, without which Operative Masons could not so conveniently do.

Question What is the duty of a Lewis to his aged parents?

Answer To be made a Mason before any other person, however dignified by birth, rank or riches, unless he by complaisance waives this privilege.

The term occurs in this sense in the constitutions of 1735 at the end of the Deputy Grand Masters song, in allusion to the expected birth of

George III son of Frederick Prince of Wales.

"May a Lewis be born whom the whole may admire;

Serene as his mother, august of his sire."

It is sometime stated that a Lewis may be initiated before he is twenty one (21). Not so under the English Constitution, Scottish Constitution, however, will allow a Lewis to be made (a Mason - ed.) at 18 years.

Masonic Scholarships

The Masonic Scholarship Fund of Missouri, Inc. proudly offers the following scholarships to Missouri high school students. For more information , visit the website www.momason.org/programs scholarships available are:

[Ruth Lutes Bachmann Scholarship](#)

[Masonic Merit Scholarship](#)

[Samuel Smith Stewart Masonic](#)

[Scholarship](#)

For more information, click on the scholarships listed download an application packet.

Criteria for Masonic Scholarships:

1. Grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent).
2. Position in class (with some thought to size of school).
3. SAT-or equivalent-test score.
4. Involvement in extra-curricular activities.
5. Financial Need.
6. Graduate of a Missouri Public High School.
7. Selection is made without regard to race, creed, sex or country of origin.
8. Current Recipients need to provide proper notification by letter for continuing their education.
9. Must provide a current official college transcript showing a cumulative 3.0, or higher, grade point average.
10. Must be enrolled as a full time student (12 hours credit per semester or term) at an accredited college or university in the United States.
11. These scholarships are limited to 4 consecutive years.
12. (Study Abroad Programs are not accepted).
13. Student must contact the Grand Lodge Office with any address changes and or if he/she transfers to another college. (This information is imperative as it may affect the Scholarship.