

The Swope Park Masonic Temple Bodies Quarterly Newsletter



Master's
 Trestle Board
 .Mike Luellen
 Worshipful
 Master

Brethren: Here we are in the New Year and beginning the second quarter of my year as Master. So much has happened in the past three months. We look back and remember the Brethren who have gone on to the Celestial Lodge on High, especially Brother **Al Beach**. Al was very involved with the Lodge, especially the VA Christmas Gift project. The VA Christmas Gift project, chaired by Brother **Armando Nunez**, was a huge success with a great turn out and participation by many members of our extended Swope Park Masonic family. (See article on page 4). We had a good turn out of Swope Park Brethren and their ladies and some of the Sisters from Swope Park OES Chapter 520 for the first annual Quality Hill Playhouse Christmas program (see page 3 column 3). We are going to have more family inclusive events later as the year progresses. Coming up early April, we plan to have a pot luck dinner with entertainment for the ladies while the Brethren are called to Labor upstairs for the stated Lodge meeting. More on that later as it materializes. I am going to have quarterly meetings with the officers to plan other events during the year to garner more membership participation to make attending Lodge more interesting, educational and strive to involve every Brother who wishes to participate in all facets of what Masonry is about. In addition to improving our ritual and fostering a better understanding of the lessons conveyed in the degrees, we want to plan more community service and charitable projects. We invite your input and participation. The C.H.I.P.s programs are getting filled up rapidly. We are working on one in the Raytown school district and one at Greenwood elementary school, both later in the Fall. Come to Lodge and join with us! Yours in the Faith **WB "Lou" Luellen Master.**

Swope Park OES Chapter 520 Installation of 2009 Officers



Pictured above: Front Row: Richard Houston, Treasurer; Becky Bowman, Conductress; Pat Neece, Associate Matron; Jean Vantellman, Worthy Matron; Loren Taylor, Worthy Patron; Brad Patten, Associate Patron; Lois Patten, Secretary; Holly Johnson, Associate Conductress. Second Row: Prudence Irwin-Brennan, Chaplain; Alby Shipman, Martha; Marilyn Houston, Organist; Frances Banks, Adah; Forest McChesney, Sentinel; Delores McChesney, Ruth.

Installation of the 2008-2009 officers was held November 8, 2008. Sister **Jean Vantellman**, Worthy Matron and **WB Loren Taylor**, Worthy Patron were installed with all of the other sixteen officers. Installing Officers were Sister **Rita Hanson**, General Grand Chapter Committee Member and PGM, Installing Matron; **RWB Jack Clark**, PGP, installing Patron; Brother **Richard Houston**, PP, Installing Marshal; Brother **Brad Patten**, PP, Installing Chaplain; Sister **Marilyn Houston**, PM, Installing Organist and Sister **Stella Turnquist**, PM, Floral Marshal. The chapter room was beautifully decorated following the Worthy Grand Matron's theme "Friends for Life". The symbol of the year – Raggedy Ann and Andy were displayed in several places. The emblem of the train of friendship was visible on the secretary's desk with one train being over 100 years old. Behind the star point chairs were hinged boxes with jewelry of the star point color. During the Floral Ceremony each star point officer was presented a ceramic Raggedy Ann made by the Worthy Matron. 2008-2009 Appointed Officers are: Sister **Prudence Irwin-Brennan**, Chaplain; Brother **John Stillman**, Marshal; Sister **Marilyn Houston**, Organist; Sister **Frances Banks**, Adah; Sister **Delores McChesney**, Ruth; Sister **Barbara Stillman**, Esther; Sister **Alby Shipman**, Martha; Sister **Gladys Mohart**, Electa; Sister **Bonnie Nelson**, Warder and Brother **Forest McChesney**, Sentinel. The Elected Officers are: Sister **Pat Neece**, Associate Matron; Brother **Brad Patten**, Associate Patron, Sister **Lois Patten**, Secretary, Brother **Richard Houston**, Treasurer; Sister **Becky Bowman**, Conductress and Sister **Holly Johnson**, Associate Conductress. Sister **Marilyn Houston**, Grand Representative of Manitoba in Missouri, was honored December 6, 2008 with a reception hosted by Swope Park 520 and her dual chapter, Joseph 63. Sister **Brenda Austin, Jr.** Past Grand Matron and Brother **John Chaney, Jr.** Past Grand Patron were present for the reception. (cont. page 4 col. 1)

BUILDING BOARD REPORT

Several members of Swope Park lodge worked weekends during October to start putting up a security fence in the southeast corner of the building. The roof is about four foot from the ground at this location and was accessible to neighborhood youths who got up on the roof and rode their bikes around destroying roof shingles and vents. Our air conditioning compressor is also in this area, exposed to possible vandalism and copper tubing theft. The cost of putting a eight foot metal security fence and the necessary roof repairs came to \$ 2000. It is an unfortunate sign of the times that our lodge has to spend the money to protect our building from the people living in the surrounding neighborhood. We need to think about the future. Should we continue the lodge at this location, where we've been 42 years, and hunker down like many other lodges are doing, or should we consider moving out into a more suburban area? Many of our active members reside in the far south Kansas City metro area which includes Raymore, Lee's Summit, Martin City and Johnson County. Our lodge has moved several times since being chartered in 1911. We have been at 6704 Cleveland, 60th and Swope Parkway, 1115 E 47th street, 2704 Linwood and finally, in our existing building since 1966.

What are your thoughts? Should we continue at the present location or move to a more secure and convenient location for the majority of the active membership? The building has been well maintained and is in excellent condition, thanks to the stewardship of **WB Ken Best**, custodian and efforts of several members such as Brother **James Parkinson**, who keep our heating and cooling mechanical fixtures in good order. On another note, a proposed operating budget for 2009 has been prepared for review and approval by the building board at the February annual meeting February 7, 2009. Total operating expenses are projected to be \$ 16,566. \$ 6,454 or 39 % is utilities, \$ 3,000 (18 %) is custodian compensation, \$ 2,540 (15 %) is grounds maintenance covering lawn mowing, snow removal and minimal maintenance. \$ 1,859 or 11 % is fire, property & casualty and liability insurance. The remaining 17 % covers building maintenance, telephone, trash removal and miscellaneous expense. Rent income covers only \$ 9,780 or 59 % of costs. The remaining \$ 6,786 comes from interest on investments and contributions. – Bro. Jim Payne Secy.

WB BEST INVESTED DEMOLAY LOH



(Oct. 23) **WB Kenny Best** (second from right) was awarded the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor. at Ararat Temple. He joins **WB Gary Dryer** in this elite group of men. A Legion of Honor recipient must have actively demonstrated outstanding leadership in some field of endeavor, whether it be a civic, professional, fraternal or spiritual arena. It consists of a group of men who can be implicitly relied upon, as the years pass, to aid young men in carrying the ideals of DeMolay into every walk of life. A Master Mason, (Who was NOT a DeMolay) but has worked hard for the Order,) may be given an Honorary legionnaire. This award consists of a white cordon, with a cross medallion and a ring. This presentation was also accompanied by a certificate. The honor also consisted of signing the legionnaire book which included great men like Harry S. Truman and Walt Disney. Congratulations to Brother Best, for all your accomplishments and we are proud to have you a member of Swope Park Lodge.

JOB'S DAUGHTER'S BETHEL # 1

We have been very busy this year.. Having a very large council , we are able to do a lot of fun things in addition to the ritual work. We stay busy doing fund raisers to help off-set our costs working the Scottish Rite dinners and baby sitting at the Shrine temple.. We are selling Avon Tax Free – so think about Christmas. See a Jobie for a book or place an order. We will also be working the Shrine circus and the Ducks Dinner at the Scottish Rite We have the Thanksgiving Ball coming up and our delegates are **Meghan Culver** and **Samantha Keller** – “Good Luck” ladies! On December 6th at Swope Park Lodge we will be having our installation. Sr. Princess Cassie will be going in as Honor Queen. We know that Cassie will do a great job and she has the full support of her Bethel. Cassie has been a leading example of what Job's daughter's is and she has been a tremendous help in getting our fund raiser's organized. Just a hint – we have a bet with the other youth groups – and Guess what: “Jobie's Lead” - PHQ. Beca Crocker

DEMOLAY AWARDS DINNER



(Oct.26) Wm F Kuhn Chapter held an awards dinner at our temple. All active DeMolay members received merit bars.. Our chapter also acknowledged two Swope Park Masons. **WB Frank Chester** (third from right) was honored as Mason of the year. Brother **Al Beach** (center) received the DeMolay degree and was awarded Honorary DeMolay Member of William F. Kuhn. Our newest member, **Jacob Hampton** (far right) received his certificate and the “Flower Talk” by Senior DeMolay **Trevor Keller**. **William A. Caldwell** presented the “Ceremony of Light”. These two brothers do excellent ritual work and we encourage everyone to come out and experience this yourself, both are very moving. – Bro. Danny Best

MASONIC HALLOWEEN PARTY



(Oct.18) A large group of Squires, Rainbows, Job's & DeMolay come out and participated in a Halloween party at the Masonic home. Thanks to the generosity of many Lodges, the OES, several Shrine Units, Clubs, and the KC Scottish Rite, we were able to provide some outstanding treats and gifts for everyone. We had a total of eight different age groups participating in the costume contest. We awarded the residents Wal Mart gift cards treat bags, and spent some time just visiting with them in the dining room foyer cider and donuts. It was a fun afternoon and. really heartwarming to observe the pleasure experienced by the residents as we visited with them. – Bro. Danny Best

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 in The Rambler's box in the vestibule outside the lodge room E-mail to dsmazdad@yahoo.com. We reach 450 households. To advertise, call Jim Payne 537 7457

VA FUND RAISER DRAWING

(Nov 13) The winners of the drawing conducted to raise funds for the VA Christmas party was held after the official visitation of DDFM **Lloyd Callwell**. He drew the following winners for their prizes: The Garmin GPS system was won by RWB **Jack Clark**; autographed Chief's football by Job's Daughter member **Beca Culver**; The handmade baby quilt, made by RWB Cameron's lady, Pearl, won by Brother **Steve Hill** and the last prize, the \$ 50.00 gift certificate from Applebee's restaurant was drawn by Brother **Jim Payne**. The project, chaired by Brother **Armi Nunez**, raised \$ 800, of which the net proceeds will purchase "stocking stuffers" for our Veteran's in the VA hospital December 20th. This is a Swope Park Masonic Temple event with participation by the OES chapters, Job's daughters, the Jobie-to-Bees, DeMolay chapter, RAM chapter members as well as Swope Park Lodge 617 members. Sorely missed this year, Bro. **Al Beach**, who gave so much of his time and financial contribution last year. R.I.P Brother Al.



In Memoriam

Harley Ladd

Born June 21, 1928
Raised November 15, 1949
Passed away October 29, 2008

Allen S. Beach

Born February 9, 1942
Raised January 18, 1977
Passed away November 21, 2008

Gustave R. Egner

Born June 11, 1917
Raised January 16, 1947
Passed away December 7, 2008

*Past Worshipful Master
Westport Lodge 340*



APPOINTED OFFICER CHANGES

(Dec 11) WM Luellen announced the following changes in the Lodge appointed officer line due to the recent passing of Brother Al Beach, Senior Steward. Brother **Jim O'Shea** advanced to Senior Steward, Brother **Andre Newsom** to Junior Steward and Brother **James Parkinson** appointed Marshal.



There is an old humorous Masonic story about an eighty year old man who came to the Lodge saying he was ready for his

Second Degree. Upon questioning it was learned he took his first degree at age 22: Now nearly 60 years later here he was - ready for the next degree; when he was asked why he waited so long to come back for his degree he answered; "I was learning to subdue my passions."

*-Thanks to WB. Harry Oberg, Secy.
Evanston WY Lodge Nr 4 AF & AM*

MOVING?

**Be sure to send a change of
address
To your Lodge Secretary**

**WB Ken Best Sr
PO Box 35313
Kansas City, MO 64134
Or email bestsrs@aol.com,**

OTHER TEMPLE CONTACTS

Joseph OES Chapter 63

Leslie Anderson WM (816) 333 3872

Swope Park OES Chapter 520

Stella Turnquist WM (816) 254 8093
Lois Patten Secretary (816) 318 9808

Jobs Daughters Bethel Nr 1

Tonya Culver BG (816) 868 7758

Jobie-2-Bees

Lynn Cowen (816)886 0100

Wm F Kuhn DeMolay Chapter

Danny Best MC (816) 850 0959

Squires of the Round Table

Jayna Wabler Manor Mom (816) 699 3544



BROTHER JAMES DEWAR

FIFTY YEAR MEMBER

(Dec 11) Congratulations to Brother **James Dewar**, who was presented his Grand Lodge fifty (50) year jewel and certificate per the courtesy of the Grand Lodge of Colorado. Brother Dewar resides in Colorado Springs.

SWOPE PARK SOCIAL EVENT

(Dec 12) Several Swope Park Lodge Brothers and their ladies were joined by ladies from Swope Park OES Chapter 520 for an evening of Christmas at the Quality Hill Playhouse. Brother **Charles Farris** coordinated the social event and a good time was had by all, getting us in the spirit of the season. The Quality Hill Playhouse is currently undergoing renovation and will have a gourmet restaurant in operation next Fall. There are two particularly great shows upcoming the Spring. April 15-26 features J. Kent Barnhart in a one man show featuring songs from the New York Cabaret scene doing his solo piano performance and witty commentary. He is a real professional entertainer and always gives a great performance. May 29-June 28 will be ALL SINATRA celebrating the music and style of one of America's prominent figures and icon of a musical era gone by. If you are interested in booking an outing alone with your organization Chapter, or if you would like to join the Lodge in one of these upcoming events, please contact Brother **Charles Farris**, Swope Park Lodge Junior Warden at (816)761-6667 or email him at sailorretired@netscapenet.

ANNUAL AUDITS COMPLETED

(Dec 15) The audit committee met Monday evening in Shotwell Hall to conduct the annual audit of the Lodge and Building Association books. WB **Richard Brown** audited the Swope Park Masonic Lodge financials, WB **Warren Weston** and Brother **Ed Culver** audited the Building Association books and the Wm F Kuhn RAM chapter financial records were reviewed by HP **Mike Luellen** and PHP **Frank Chester**. All financial records were found to be in order.

The Lodge Budget committee also met at this time and reviewed the fiscal year budget prepared by RWB **Larry Cameron**, Treasurer. The Budget committee is WB **Mike Luellen**, WM; Bro **Jim Payne** SW; WB **Ken Best**, Secretary, WB **Warren Weston**, Brother **Ed Culver**, JD and Brother **James Parkinson**. The budget will be presented at the January 8th regular stated meeting for vote by the membership.

Income \$ 19,216

Expense \$ 21,002

Deficit (\$ 1,786)

Your attendance at the meeting is earnestly requested for input on how we might generate additional income to eliminate or reduce the budget deficit.

OES Chapter 520 Installation

(Cont. from page 1) They had offered Sister Marilyn her appointment. The decorations were a combination of those of the 2007-2008 year and items representing Manitoba and the theme of their Worthy Grand Matron. The 2nd Annual "Wreaths & Wits" event was held November 22nd at the Ararat Shrine Temple. This event supports the Rainbow Center for Communicative Disorders in Blue Springs. Sister **Alby Shipman** and Sister **Frances Banks** served on the committee that organized this event. Six other sisters and brothers attended. Sister **Marilu Herrick**, Past Matron of Swope Park 520 is the director of the school. This is one of the community charities that Swope Park supports each year. It is with sadness that we report the deaths of Sister **Margaret Floyd** who passed away September 30 and Brother **Harley Ladd** who passed away October 29th. Sister **Katrina Kunkle** reports that she gave birth to **Kayla Linn** on November 20th. Some of our members joined with the members of Swope Park Lodge 617 in attending the Quality Hill Playhouse production of "Christmas in Song". This was an opportunity for the two groups to get better acquainted. Our special charity in December was collecting food for a local food pantry. The weather conditions prevented a quorum from attending this meeting. The collection will take place at our January meeting.

Meet Your Worthy Matron

Sister **Jean Vantellman** is a first time Worthy Matron. She petitioned Swope Park Chapter on February 20, 2001 being recommended by Sister **Lois Compton** and Sister **Delores McChesney**. She came under the Masonic affiliation of her son, Bro. **Robt. Hobbs**, a member of Corinthian Lodge 265 in Warrensburg, MO. She was initiated May 15, 2001. She served the stations of Electa and Marshal before being elected as Associate Conductress in 2006 and from there serving each of the elected line officer's chairs.

Sister Jean met Sister Lois Compton through their work. She began going to receptions and installations with Sister Lois and soon decided she would like to join Eastern Stars. However, she had no Masonic affiliation. She visited with her son about this desire and he then joined the Masonic Lodge in Warrensburg. Sister Jean is enthusiastic about the order, visits other chapters regularly and is a true asset to our chapter. At her installation she said "this is a dream come true". Sister Jean, it is also a dream come true for your Sisters and Brother at Swope Park Chapter.

Eastern Star is an organization where we have "Friends for Life". Attend meetings, remember your "Friends" with birthday cards and notes other times of year. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8521 Oldham Road.

Submitted by: Sister Lois Patten, Secretary

Swope Park Lodge Veteran's Hospital Christmas Project



Pictured above, Santa's helpers, front row left to right **Margret Chester**, **Tory**, **Megan Culver**, **Samantha**, **Jayna**, **Juby**, Bro. **Army Nunez**, WB **Frank Chester**, WB **Mel Tacke**. Rear, left to right, WM **Mike Luellen**, Bro. **Ed Culver**, RWB **Larry Cameron**, PHQ **Beca Culver**, Bro. **Danny Best** and **Dakota**.

Swope Park Lodge's Veteran's Christmas project was a big success! Thanks to lodge members and the assistance of the DeMolay, Rainbow Girls and Jobs Daughters over 160 gift bags were put together at the Lodge on Friday, 19 December. The bags were filled with fruit, socks and knit caps which were purchased with funds raised through contributions and a raffle that among other prizes included a Garmin GPS and an official NFL football autographed by Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Brodie Croyle.

The bags were personally delivered by the lodge along with the DeMolay, Rainbow and Jobs Daughters to approximately 100 U.S. military veterans that were in the Kansas City Veteran's Hospital over the Christmas holiday. The group braved freezing weather and slick traffic conditions to bring a little ray of sunshine to those that had given of themselves to protect our country.

We were unable to take pictures due to privacy restrictions imposed by the HIPPA act, but the smiles and gratitude expressed by the men and women veterans as we delivered the gift bags. We were unable to shake hands and give our personal thanks to a small handful of the veterans that were under quarantine for various conditions but we did leave the bags outside their doors and waved through the glass door.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed and gave their personal time to help with this project. The smiles from the veterans alone were heartwarming and made the effort more than worthwhile. Since we could not take photographs I've included one taken by Connie Best of the group that helped put the gift bags together on Friday, most of whom also helped deliver them the next day.

Thank again to all who assisted, and please continue to keep our military in your thoughts and prayers as they go in harms way.

Fraternally,
Army Nunez
Committee Chairman

William F Kuhn Chapter
Order of DeMolay



Presents
The Third Annual
Potato Bash
March 21
11:30 – 1:30
At Swope Park Lodge
8521 Oldham Road
Kansas City MO

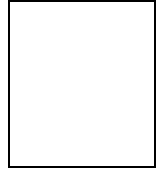
All you can eat Baked potato, salad and dessert
Everything you can think of for toppings

\$5.00 donation

Funds to help DeMolay and Swope Park Building fund
For tickets or to make a donation contact

Bro. Danny Best, MC
(816) 965 5261
8830 Everett
Kansas City, MO 64138

Make check out to Wm F Kuhn Chapter Order DeMolay








Your Brethren at Swope Park Lodge Nr 617

Have been missing your attendance....so

COME. JOIN IN ON

The Fellowship we have during our
STUDY CLUB 7 PM every Wednesday and Lodge 7:30 the second and fourth Thursday.
WB Warren Weston, Chairman

<p><i>Anders Air</i> Residential Heating & Cooling Sales And Service Tom Anders 816-679-9520 Licensed * Insured Harrisonville MO Email: andersair@yahoo.com</p> 	<p>Place an ad here to reach over 450 Masonic consumers who are excellent prospects for your products or services. Email your ad copy to dsmazdad@yahoo.com or mail it to Rambler Editor Jim Payne 1001 Spruce Dr. Greenwood, MO 64034 Rate:\$ 75.00 for four (4) issues or \$ 20 for a single issue ad. You will be billed. Your contribution helps defray the cost of publication of the Masonic Family News Letter.</p>	<p> FARMERS <u>Auer Insurance Agency</u> AUTO * HOME * LIFE * COMMERCIAL Jim Payne Business Cell (816) 223 6068 Home (816) 537 7457 Email dsmazdad@yahoo.com</p>
<p>AUTO GLASS & TINT SHOP Business or Residential Phone (913) 491 8648 FAX (913) 491 181 8 9928 W. 62nd Terr. Merriam, KS 66203 NICK BALDI Email Nick@autoglassandtintshop.com</p> 	<p>Robert L. Nelson DDS NELSON Family Dentistry 913-498-8899 1308 Stateline Road Leawood, Ks 66219</p> 	<p>RIMANN <i>Liquors</i>  15117 W 87th St Lenexa KS 3917 Prairie Lane Prairie Village KS 913-492-6629 913-236-5311 <i>Your party & event headquarters for Expertise in fine wine selection</i></p>