



Jerusalem Times

Jerusalem Lodge #99 F & AM

Issue 18 August 2008

Worshipful Master, Wardens, & Brethren...

By Robert L. Blackburn, S.W.

THE ROUGH ASHLAR - "By the rough ashlar, we are reminded of our rude and imperfect state by nature, by the perfect ashlar that state of perfection at which we hope to arrive by a virtuous education, our own endeavors, and the blessings of God."

In Masonry, we tell people that our job as Masons is to 'Take Good Men and Make Them Better'. As you are all very much aware, we use things like allegory and symbolism to accomplish this goal, so let's take a second to look at one of our more notable symbols.

We teach that Masons should improve themselves; just look at the last three points describing the ashlar - virtuous education, our endeavors, and the blessings of God. For instance, I just stated that we 'teach' these things; we endeavor to pass on knowledge to each other to make our lives (and those around us) better. Everyone can explore their own meaning about improvement, but just take for instance the scholarship programs that we sponsor and the benefit that is gained from the further education that is imparted to our youth.

Our own endeavors - I can't count the number of times I have heard sayings like, "You reap what you sow" or "If you put your mind to it..." growing up. We tell our candidates during their pre-degree instruction that "Masonry is what you make of it. If you receive your degrees and never progress in your understanding of them, Masonry will contribute less to your life. If you take to heart the lessons learned, there is no limit to what Masonry can contribute to your everyday life." I realize that is it not feasible or possible for everyone to make it back to Lodge on a regular basis, but take a minute every once in a while and look at references like your Indiana Monitor. You might just be surprised what you could learn.

The Blessings of God - I really don't think this takes any explanation. It is necessary to keep in mind that we need to make suitable preparation while there is still time for our final destination; 'That house not built with hands, eternal in the Heavens'.

The thing I want people to remember is...take a minute to realize what it is to be a Mason. I know that there are times when people will walk up to me and ask me what a Mason is. Just make sure that you can not only tell them what a Mason is, but more importantly, show them what a Mason does. Remember that none of us are perfect, but that within us all there is a perfect stone awaiting the Master for our final purpose. This is why we use symbols like the Ashlars! God Bless!

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A Very Special Award of Gold

During the Grand Master's trip to Alexandria, Virginia, Past Grand Master Ron Smith was presented with his 50 Year Award of Gold. Brother Smith was invited to attend the official visitation of the Grand Lodge of Indiana to the George Washington National Masonic Memorial where the presentation occurred. Grand Master Jeffery P. Zaring conferred the Award before a delegation of

Indiana Masons and their wives, which included Brother Ron's wife Mickey, as well as Jerusalem's own Junior Deacon Tim Long and his wife.

As most of you are well aware, Ron has been a pillar here at Jerusalem #99. He has served as Secretary probably more years that he might admit. He was Grand Master in 1976-1977 and holds plural memberships in both Jerusalem #99 as well as Price Lodge #231 in Princeton, Indiana. He was Initiated on March 5, 1958, Passed on April 29, 1958, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on May 24, 1958.

We are all very proud of Ron and all of his accomplishment throughout his very distinguished Masonic career, and wish him many, many more to come!



Pictured is Most Worshipful Brother Jeffery P. Zaring presenting Brother and Mrs. Ronald K. Smith, PGM with his 50 Year Award of Gold

More Pictures From The George Washington Memorial



Brother and Mrs. Tim Long, P.M./J.D. on the bus ride to Alexandria

Third Annual Golf Outing A SUCCESS!

Recently, Jerusalem #99 held its third annual golf outing at Mathew's Park Golf Course in Clinton. We were once again fortunate enough to have nearly 40 people participate in the event, and good times were had by all. The event, which was chaired by Bro. Rob Blackburn, was aided by several Brothers including the cook - Kevin Williams, Barry Lilley, Ron Smith, Brandon Hawkins, Chas Johnson, and Ron Lockwood. We would also like to thank all of the businesses that sponsored holes and donated to this years event. We would also like to thank Mike's Motors and Bro. Tom Luft for sponsoring the hole-in-one policy. The proceeds from this years event went into the Jerusalem Lodge #99 Scholarship Fund!

We appreciate what all of the Hole Sponsors do to help us put this great event on!



The Winning Team in front of the potential Hole-In-One Prize!

Questions, Comments, Input? Please Contact the Editor:

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Fellowship Meetings

1st Tuesday of Each Month - 7:00 PM

Everyone Is Encouraged To Attend!

Scholarships Awarded

Once again, Jerusalem Lodge #99 is very proud to announce that three outstanding students were awarded Grand Lodge Scholarships. This year, each of the three recipients were awarded with \$1,300 scholarships, and were presented with their awards at a banquet held on Sunday, July 13th at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Indianapolis. All of our recipients were present for the event, as well as Senior Warden Rob Blackburn and Secretary Ron Smith, P.G.M.

The scholarship winners from this year were (along with their Masonic sponsors): Jessica Dugger (Alan Dugger - Father), Jordan Guinn (John Guinn - Father), and Khaim Helms (Kenneth Helms, Senior Steward - Father).

These recipients were four of 328 selected for this academic year from nearly 600 that applied. To date, over 6 million dollars has been awarded to students continuing their education in Indiana colleges and universities.

We would also like to thank all of the students that submitted applications for this years scholarships. We would also like to remind everyone that applications for next years Grand Lodge Scholarships will be available on February 1st. Eligible applicants are the children, stepchildren, and grandchildren of Master Masons, as well as Master Masons that are accepted or enrolled in an Indiana higher education institutions. For more information, please visit www.iglsb.org or call our Secretary Ron Smith at 812-466-6001.



Pictured Left to Right:

Jordan Guinn, Khaim Helms, and
Jessica Dugger

**HELP WILL BE NEEDED TO SET UP
FOR THIS YEAR'S LABOR DAY
FUNDRAISER - IF YOU CAN HELP,
PLEASE SHOW UP AT THE LODGE
ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 28 AT
6:00 PM!**

LABOR DAY FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

The following is important information concerning the upcoming Labor Day Fundraiser and Ticket Information

Planning is in full swing for our upcoming fundraiser, which will once again take place this Labor Day Weekend (August 29 - September 1). Included in this mailing you will find four tickets for our upcoming fundraiser that is held in conjunction with the Little Italy Festival. We are strongly encouraging every member to sell these tickets, but we also need your support! It takes a great deal of work to put this event on, so we are also asking for your help. We need people to man the stand, cook, clean tables, and help set-up/take down, etc. If you can volunteer any of your time, please contact Kevin or Rob as soon as you can!

We ask that these tickets either be purchased, sold, or returned. We greatly appreciate your help in selling these tickets, and if you feel that you can sell more, please contact Kevin Williams or Rob Blackburn. **IF YOU CANNOT SELL THE TICKETS, PLEASE SEND THEM BACK!** While it is very difficult, we will then attempt to find someone else to sell them! Every ticket is accounted for, so your help is greatly appreciated!

If paying by check, please put the ticket numbers in the 'Note' section of the check.

Please return all payments/unsold tickets to:

Jerusalem Lodge #99
Fundraiser
315 1/2 S. Main St.
Clinton, IN 47842

If you would like to volunteer your time or have questions, please contact:

Kevin Williams	Rob Blackburn	
765-832-2764	765-832-6589 (H)	765-832-6589 (W)

PLEASE NOTE:

ONCE YOU HAVE PAID FOR THE TICKETS, PLEASE PLACE YOUR INITIALS IN THE BOX IN THE LOWER RIGHT HAND CORNER OF THE TICKETS! THIS WILL HELP US TO KEEP TRACK OF WHO HAS PAID WHEN THE TICKETS ARE REDEEMED AT THE FESTIVAL!