



Jerusalem Times

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The View from the East...

By Robert L. Blackburn, Past Master

I want to take this opportunity to do a little house cleaning. The first of the year is always a busy time for the Lodge, and this year has certainly been no exception. As you will read, not only has our progressive officer line advanced, but we have also seen the change in a couple of other roles here at Jerusalem #99.

There are a couple of things that I want to bring to your attention. First of all, I want to congratulate all of the officers and members for a fantastic 2009. As most of you saw in the state magazine, The Freemason, we were noted numerous times. We are still listed in the #11 spot in Ritualist Pin Award points. We are tied for #12 in the state for the number of Masonic License Plates out on our roadways. It is recognition like this that shows the pride we have here at #99, especially when you realize that there are over 400 Lodges in the state.

There is one event that I so badly wanted to have during my term as Worshipful Master, but I simply ran out of time. It is with great joy that I announce that our current Worshipful has decided to put this event on...

I have the great joy to talk to many of you on a daily basis. Not only that, but through my travels I speak to many Brethren from around the Wabash Valley. As we chat, I hear from a number of Brethren that say, "It has been so long since I was in Lodge that I probably couldn't get through the door." Well my Brothers, do I have news for you.

The Grand Lodge does have a way for us to help you out. It is called the Order of the Rusty Nail. Think of it as a refresher course. It is open to any Master Mason regardless of age, skill, or the amount of time you have been a Mason. Heck, you don't even have to be a member of our Lodge to come and see it. There is absolutely nothing required of you to attend. All you have to do is show up and if you have it handy, bring your dues card. It is an opportunity to come back to Lodge and without any previous knowledge, have the officers here go back through all of the things you may have forgotten. We have decided to do this on a Saturday morning and have a free breakfast beforehand so that we can have the opportunity to sit down, relax, and chat. This is a no pressure opportunity for all of us to get together as Masons, have a great meal, and go back over not only some of the things that we once memorized, but also to talk about Masonic education and our Lodge. We hope that you can make it! The Order of the Rusty Nail will be held on...

Saturday, March 13th Breakfast at 8:00 AM Degree at 9:00 AM

We hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or the Worshipful Master!

2010 Grand Lodge Scholarships Are Due In By March 1st To The Secretary or Worshipful Master!

Jerusalem #99 has had fantastic results in the past years with this program. If you need an application, contact Chas or Kevin via the phone numbers listed on the back page. Remember, to qualify for a scholarship, you must either attend or plan to attend a qualified Indiana university and be one of the following: a Master Mason, a son/daughter of a Master Mason, or a stepson/stepdaughter of a Master Mason. For more information, you can log onto the Grand Lodge Scholarship Board's web site at www.iglsb.org.

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Masonic License Plate Forms Can Be Obtained From The Secretary—
Show Off Your Masonic Pride Everywhere You Go!

View From The East

Oh and what a view it is!! I never realized how far away the Senior Warden's station is, but it looks like a mile! 2010 brings exciting changes, new responsibilities and opportunities. Let me begin by sharing some information about myself: On the personal side, I'm married (17 yrs) to a wonderful woman (Nancy) who helps me carve out the time to participate in Masonry. I also have 3 awesome school age children, Alexandra, Carlie & Brandon, who continually make me proud and keep me busy with all the events they are involved in. I've lived in Clinton the majority of my life. My parents were both born and raised here. My Masonic interests peaked in 2004 when I was raised a Master Mason through one of the Grand Master's one day classes. It has been an interesting journey and I have only recently begun to understand what being a true Mason represents. My paternal Grandfather George Johnson was a Mason and a member of this Lodge and I look forward to one day sitting with him in the Celestial Lodge above.

I've already had the opportunity to confer three Entered Apprentice degrees and look forward to more throughout the year. I was also able to attend Grand Lodge last year and look forward to returning this year. Recently myself and eight Brothers from our Lodge attended Founder's Day on January 16th. It was an opportunity to network with the 1000 other Masons in attendance as well as to learn of the new programs and initiatives coming this year. I have a couple of personal goals for 2010: First, I would like to sit in Lodge or have personal contact, at least once, with every member of Jerusalem #99. Second, I would like to ensure the Lodge receives the Grand Masters Award for 2010.

This is where each of you can help! Check the newspaper, the sign out front, or the web site and attend one of the future stated meetings or degree presentations. Along with the comrodery, I can guarantee there will be a good meal. Here are few of the activities on the Lodge's 2010 planning list: Spring / Scholarship Golf Outing, Ladies Appreciation Dinner, Labor Day Pork Chop Dinner, Child ID Program, and Members Appreciation Event. Watch for dates and details. If you're interested in participating on one of the planning committees, contact any of the Lodge Officers. I'd like to close by thanking the officers for their commitment and support and the numerous Brothers that continue to assist in my Masonic education and progression. Finally, I'd like to thank each one of you for being a member of Jerusalem #99 and remind you that this is your Lodge. Come and see what's going on!!!

Charles 'Chas' Johnson, Worshipful Master

A Call For Lecturers & Ritualists – Your Lodge Needs You!

Chas Johnson, Worshipful Master

Are you interested in helping to make a new Mason's degree experiences something that he will always remember. A candidate's first impression of Masonry is through their degree experience. We continually receive praise for the quality of our degree presentations but have had to occasionally rely on other Lodges to help with lectures and parts. If you have ever had an interest in participating in one of our degrees, now is the time. It doesn't have to be the Middle Chamber Lecture but could be more like the Sea Captain/Wayfaring Man. Every part is equally important and all help is appreciated. If you're not sure just come and observe - Brothers on the side lines send a strong message to new candidates. Contact our new Craft Director or any Lodge Officer for more information.

Child ID Program Held In December



On Saturday, December 5th Jerusalem #99 held another one of its free child ID programs at Central Elementary. Our Lodge has put on more of these programs than any other in the state. To date, we have provided free kits to more than 600 children in the community. We once again want to thank all of the members that participated in making this another successful event, as well as the law enforcement volunteers from the Clinton Police Department and Vermillion County Sheriffs' Department.



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!

Tidings From The West

My name is Kris Cloyd and I want to introduce myself as your Senior Warden. In order for me to get to know each of you, I want you to know a little bit about me...

I was Raised to the Sublime Degree on April 9th, 2005 during a Grand Master's One Day Class where I also joined the Scottish Rite. My introduction into Masonry began when I was 13, where I joined the J.N. Frist Chapter of DeMolay in Clinton in 1974. I was active for 3 years and like so many young men did not continue into Masonry until many years later. Many of you knew my father, Carl Cloyd, who was a 50 year member of this Lodge in addition to being a 33rd Degree. One Day, he asked if I would join the Lodge. At that time, it seemed like a small request and I thought to myself, "I'll pay my dues but I will not be active." I, along with my brothers and nephews (9 of us in total) turned in our petitions and elected for the One Day Class that was coming up. Thirteen days after becoming a Mason, my father passed away.

Shortly thereafter, I came to my first stated meeting not knowing what to expect. Everyone made me feel so welcome that I came back again. One day, Jim Helms said to me, "Tell Gary (Blackburn) that you would like to be an officer." Gary started me out as Junior Steward, and shortly after Ron (Lockwood) explained that I should start leaning the questions and answers. I began working during my lunch hours with a coworker (Jim Allison) who was a Past Master of Emminence Lodge in Martinsville. He never let me miss a word, but gave up his own time to help me become an officer. I also began working with Rob (Blackburn) doing the Q & A in open Lodge, after which we began traveling to other Lodges doing the same.

I have seen first hand the pleasures and experience that fathers and sons have had in Lodge together. I now wish that I had become involved 30 years ago to do the same with my father. However, we cannot look at the past, but rather toward the future. I still am happy knowing that I share all of this with my father. It keeps me connected with him, and pushes me to serve you and our Lodge the best I can.

Kris Cloyd, Senior Warden

From The South

My journey through the officer line has thus far been a fast one. Just a couple of years ago I affiliated with Jerusalem #99 and quickly was put to work as an officer. My Masonic career began 12 years ago when I was Initiated in January, Passed in February, and Raised in March in Lodge #268 in Paris, Illinois.

Our Lodge has been fortunate enough to see several two and three generation members. I am lucky enough to be another one of those. My grandfather was a Mason, and my father, Jim Helms, is a Past Master and 33rd Degree Mason from Jerusalem #99. My father-in-law was a Past Master from Brazil as well. Having the opportunity to be a member of the same Lodge as my father is a very rewarding experience, especially because I can not only call him 'dad' but 'brother' as well. My mother, Edna Helms, has set an example as well. For many years she has served both the Eastern Star and the Nile where she has presided numerous times. My mother-in-law was also Worthy Matron of the Brazil Eastern Star, which rounded out nearly the entire family being involved.

As you can tell family is a big part of my life. My wife Marsha and I have 10 grandchildren between us with one more due in October. Babysitting, ballgames, gymnastics and visiting the ones that live hours away keep us very busy, not to mention that both of us still hold down those pesky full time jobs.

Over the last few years I have developed a real interest in the work of our Lodge. I am not content to be an observer, which is why I am addressing you as Junior Warden. This idea is one that I hope all of you do with me. As Worshipful Master, Chas has requested help with putting on the degree work for our candidates. Our officers and Past Masters are always willing and ready to help in any way they can. I encourage you to come out, have some fun, and maybe along with way learn something too! I know I have leaned a lot along my way here a Jerusalem #99!

Kenny Helms, Junior Warden

Familiar Faces, New Jobs...

With the new year, we announce the following changes...

Past Grand Master Ron Smith has decided to retire as our Lodge Secretary. For more than a decade, Ron has tirelessly worked and represented our Lodge to the best of his ability. Indeed what a job he has done. Just ask any of the Worshipful Masters that served with him, and they will quickly tell you of all the behind the scenes things that a successful secretary does. We sincerely appreciate all he has done and continues to do.

Taking his place is Past Master Kevin Williams. Brother Kevin is most certainly qualified and we are certain that he will pick right up in Ron's place and continue to do this most important role within the Lodge. On behalf of all of the officers and members we wish to thank Kevin for stepping up and taking the job.

Because Kevin was already a Trustee, and to avoid any conflict of interest, when he was installed as our Secretary he relinquished the title of Trustee and at that point in time Worshipful Master Johnson appointed Past Master Rob Blackburn to fulfill the remainder of Kevin's term.

YOUR 2010 Officers

On Saturday, December 19, 2009 Jerusalem Lodge #99 installed its 2010 Officers



Pictured from the left:

Front row:

Kenny Helms, Junior Warden
Robert L. Blackburn, 2009 Worshipful Master
Charles Johnson, Worshipful Master
Kris Cloyd, Senior Warden
Ed Magee, PM, Tyler

Second Row:

Kevin Williams, PM, Secretary
Ronald K. Smith, PM, PGM, Outgoing Secretary
Art Nowling, PM
George Williams, PM

Top:

Gary Blackburn, PM, Trustee
Jerry Steadman, Senior Deacon
Ryan Goodwin, Senior Steward
Barry R. Lilley, Junior Deacon

Not Pictured:

Tim Morgan, Treasurer

Officer Contact Information

Worshipful Master	Chas Johnson	765-832-2156	Senior Steward	Ryan Goodwin	812-208-5167
Senior Warden	Kris Cloyd	765-832-2594	Tyler	Ed Magee	765-832-2369
Junior Warden	Kenny Helms	812-877-9381	Chaplain	Bob Bartlett	765-832-1958
Secretary	Kevin Williams	765-832-2764	Trustee	Gary Blackburn	765-832-6452
Treasurer	Tim Morgan	765-832-9412	Trustee/Custodian	Ron Lockwood	812-466-5619
Senior Deacon	Jerry Steadman	765-832-8109	Trustee	Rob Blackburn	765-832-6589
Junior Deacon	Barry R. Lilley	812-236-2281	Jerusalem #99 Lodge Hall Phone		765-832-9026

www.jerusalem99.com

A REMINDER FROM OUR NEW SECRETARY

Brethren - to those of you that have already remitted your dues for 2010, our sincerest thanks! To those that have forgotten or not done so by now, please remit those as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call at 765-832-2764 and I will be glad to answer any questions you may have. Thank you and God Bless!

New Officer Created

For some time now Rob Blackburn has volunteered to help anyone interested in learning or practicing our ceremonies and lectures. He goes beyond learning the words but teaches its meaning. This year his role has been recognized and becomes more official - Rob has been appointed to the position of "Craft Director". The Craft Director is responsible for coordinating Masonic education opportunities, soliciting ritualists and cast members, and assisting with officer and candidate mentoring. Congratulation Rob!