



# Jerusalem Times

A Publication of Jerusalem Lodge #99, F & AM - Est. 1850

Issue 16 February 2008

## Worshipful Master, Wardens, & Brethren...

By Robert L. Blackburn, Senior Warden

At our February stated meeting, I decided to take it upon myself to do something that I have meant to do for a long time; share with our Brethren a little bit of Masonic Education.

There is so much that can be considered Masonic Education. I have recently said (numerous times) to a newly admitted Brother learning his work that when I tutor a person, I want them to understand the meaning behind our work. I have said to him, "If I wanted someone to just memorize the words and repeat it back, I could just go get a parrot." This sort of relates to my last article about the feelings, wants, and needs of young Masons (if you would like to read my past article, you can find copies of past newsletters at [www.jerusalem99.com](http://www.jerusalem99.com)).

My topic for discussion at our stated meeting was Bylaws. I know, it sounds really boring, but not that many people have actually read them and realize all of the things we as Masons should be doing. The one thing that caught my eye was a committee on Family. One of the duties of the Family Committee is to keep track of our widows and orphans, ensuring that if they need some type of assistance they are aware that we are here to help. It seems that we have lost this touch, which is one of the basic beliefs and tenants of our institution (go back and remember your Master Mason degree work; "What induced you to become a...")

Brethren, here is something that I ask of you. Help me in keeping our ladies connected to Jerusalem #99. I can tell you that we are in the planning stages of having a ladies night, where ladies of Master Masons will be invited to the Lodge for an evening of food and entertainment. Help us to spread the word. Additionally, I have one more request.

I take it upon myself to send out several additional copies of this newsletter each quarter. Besides all of our Master Masons, I ensure that each one of our Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Brethren receive one, as well as our Honorary Members. I go a step further; I send them to people like my Grandmothers, both Masonic Widows.

If you know of someone that would like to receive a copy of our newsletter, let me know. It doesn't have to be a female, it can be anyone from a widow, child, sibling, or anyone else that you can think of. You can find all of my contact info on the bottom of the next page (I do encourage e-mail where possible). Let me (or one of our other officers) know, and I will make sure that they are added to my newsletter list.

I know that receiving a newsletter isn't a big deal, but it lets people know that we are still here and that we still care. I can tell you first hand that a LOT of time and effort goes into this quarterly publication. To be honest, I love to do it, and love to share with all of you the great things that are going on here at Jerusalem #99. As always, I encourage you to stop by and witness first hand the great things that are happening.

While I have your attention, there is one last thing that I want to say. At February's Stated Meeting, I was presented with a Meritorious Service Award by the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Jerusalem #99. I can't say how much it means to me, and I am truly flattered. All I do is try and do my part to make sure that Jerusalem #99 continues to be a successful and flourishing Lodge in the Wabash Valley. I am but simply building on the foundations that were laid before me by some incredible men and amazing Masons!

Jerusalem Lodge #99, F & AM  
C/O Rob Blackburn  
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Clinton, IN 47842

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.com



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Show your Masonic Pride everywhere you go!

## From the Secretary

I trust that everyone enjoyed the holiday period and are ready to enter into the new year in good spirits. If you know of any Brother or his family who is ill, please advise me immediately so that calls can be made.

We start the month of February with eight candidates to finish their degrees, yet we enjoyed another year of membership increase in 2007. Hats off to our leaders and full steam ahead! To the best of my knowledge, Jerusalem Lodge #99 is the only Lodge in the Wabash Valley area to show a membership gain three years in a row. I note also, with pride, that we need no outside help to perform all degree work; we do it ourselves. Pride is a splendid virtue.

We are completing our 158th year of Freemasonry in Clinton and our 106th year in our present location. We have continued during the past year, just like in previous years, to restore the building. Last year we were able to replace the stairway lift chair and recently replaced the kitchen range. Please make a visit and see for yourself one of the finest Lodges of Freemasonry in Indiana.

The quarterly newsletter will continue, thanks to Rob Blackburn, to keep everyone posted on all of the extra activities of our good work in the community. \$5200 was given to area college students this past year, a new record. 2008 college scholarship forms must be returned to me by March 1st for consideration, and you will read more about them later in the newsletter.

Our voluntary contributions to the Building Fund, Scholarship Fund, and voluntary labor has been the life saver to stave off rising operation costs. Please note that thirty-three members have yet to pay their 2008 dues as of this date. Please write or phone so that we may help. Every member is important!

Thank you for all your consideration and may God continue to bless you every day!

Ronald K. Smith - Secretary / P.G.M.

## ANOTHER Child ID Event Held

On Saturday, December 8th, Jerusalem Lodge #99 held another FREE CHIP event. To date, we have been able to ID nearly 400 children in the community! Those participating in the event were: Gary Blackburn (co-chair), Robert Blackburn (co-chair), Bob Bartlett, Bob Brownfield, Kris Cloyd, Harry Crossley, Bill Davis, Chas Johnson, Jeremy Jones, Barry R. Lilley, Ron Lockwood, Ken Lowe, Richard Reed, John Sanquenetti, Ron Smith, and Kevin Williams. In addition, a total of 8 officers from the Clinton Police Department and Vermillion County Sheriff's Department were present. Also assisting in putting the event on were Superintendent Doug Orman and Principal Rhonda Majors of the South Vermillion Comm. School Corp., as well as a financial donation from Vermillion County Prosecutor Nina Alexander. Even Santa made a surprise visit this year! We hope to have another event this coming December (and hope to have Santa make another visit)!



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!

## 2007 Past Master's Night



During our 2007 Past Master's Night, the Master Mason degree was conferred on Brother Kenneth Lowe. Brother Lowe is serving our country in the armed forces, and is being deployed overseas. We would like to wish him a safe return back to the United States, and May God Bless him and all of our Troops!

Those Past Masters pictured are:

Bottom: Ronald K. Smith, PM, PGM / Jim Helms, PM / Kenneth Lowe / Charles Cartwright, PM / Gary Blackburn, WM.

Top: Tim Long, PM / Brad Shepherd, PM / Jim Toppas, PM / Ron Lockwood, PM

## 50 Year Awards Presented

Since our last communication, Jerusalem Lodge #99 has presented two honored Brothers with their Grand Lodge Award of Gold:



Left: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ferguson accompanied by W.M. Barry Lilley and P.G.M. Ron Smith after being presented with his 50 year pin.

Right: Ron Smith, P.G.M. speaking to Mr. & Mrs. Art Nowling, PM and a packed house of friends and Brothers during the presentation of the Award of Gold.

Editors Note: I would like to personally say what an honor it was to see Brother Art presented with his Award of Gold. Anytime this presentation is done, it is a capping achievement in any man's Masonic career. For Art, he has been one of the pillars that has supported this Lodge through the years, and has always been a model for what a Mason should be. We hope that God will continue to bless our 50 year members, and may there be many more to come!

## Scholarship Forms Still Available

Each year, over \$500,000 is provided by the Masonic Fraternity to Indiana students who need assistance to continue their education in Indiana. Grants now total nearly \$40,000 to which Jerusalem Lodge #99 has been able to provide toward Clinton area youth education. For the 2007-2008 school year, 4 local students received Masonic scholarships; Jessica Dugger, Dirk P. Foltz, Jordan Guinn, and Micah Haltom.

It is not too late to receive a Scholarship Application. The deadline to for applications to be turned into the Lodge is March 1, 2008. For a copy of the application, please call the Lodge Secretary, Ron Smith at 812-466-6001.

For more information about the Indiana Grand Lodge Scholarships, please visit [www.iglsb.org](http://www.iglsb.org).

## YOUR 2008 Officers

On Saturday, December 22, 2007, Jerusalem Lodge #99 installed its 2007 Officers.



Pictured from the left:

Front row:

Ronald K. Smith, P.M., P.G.M, Secretary  
Gary Blackburn, Outgoing Master  
Barry E. Lilley, Worshipful Master

Second Row:

Tim Long, P.M., Junior Deacon  
Robert Bartlett, Chaplain  
Ed Magee, P.M., Tyler

Third Row:

Kevin Williams, P.M., Trustee  
Barry R. Lilley, Junior Steward  
James Toppas, Sr., P.M.

Top Row:

Robert Blackburn, Senior Warden

Kenneth Helms, Senior Steward - Kris Cloyd, Senior Deacon - James W. Toppas, II, P.M.

Not Pictured:

Charles Johnson, Junior Warden - Tim Morgan, Treasurer - Ronald Lockwood, P.M., Trustee

## Officer Contact Information

Worshipful Master	Barry E. Lilley	765-828-0216
Senior Warden	Rob Blackburn	765-832-6452
Junior Warden	Charles Johnson	765-832-2156
Secretary	Ronald K. Smith, P.M., P.G.M.	812-466-6001
Treasurer	Tim Morgan	765-832-9412
Senior Deacon	Kris Cloyd	765-832-2594
Junior Deacon	Tim Long, P.M.	812-448-1492
Senior Steward	Kenneth Helms	812-466-1934
Junior Steward	Barry R. Lilley	812-230-0773
Tyler	Ed Magee, P.M.	765-832-2369
Chaplain	Robert Bartlett	765-832-1958
Trustee	Gary Blackburn, P.M.	765-832-6452
Trustee / Custodian	Ron Lockwood, P.M.	812-466-5619
Trustee	Kevin Williams, P.M.	765-832-2764
Jerusalem #99 Lodge Hall Phone		765-832-9026

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