



# Jerusalem Times

Jerusalem Lodge #99 F & AM

Issue 17 June 2008

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

By Robert L. Blackburn, S.W.

I can say that in my time being a Freemason, I have seen a lot of change. Admitting, some of it has been terrific and some of it has been, well, you know. I guess that I should also admit that at the ripe 'old' age of 26 (and with the Good Lord willing), I will have the opportunity to see a lot of change to come.

Recently, I had the sincere pleasure to attend Grand Lodge in Indianapolis and during the two day event meet a lot of Brethren across the state. During lunch on the second day, I had the opportunity to sit with our Secretary Ron (who is a Past Grand Master) and also with Past Grand Master A. Vincent May. It is fascinating sitting there with Brethren who have such knowledge of the craft, and during my one-on-one conversation with PGM May to find out what prestige and honor our Lodge holds in this fraternity.

Also during the Grand Lodge, I had the honor to accompany my father as he received the Grand Masters Award with High Distinction. For those of you who have not had the pleasure to be Worshipful Master, you have no idea what kind of work it takes to have a successful year, and as it was said when he stepped down in December, it seemed that he had only began to get in the groove of things. I have had the pleasure to see all of the time, and in reality blood, sweat, and tears that he poured into the Lodge last year. I must say that I am extremely proud of him and Jerusalem #99 for this impressive recognition.

Going back to my story; we had the opportunity to sit with all of the other Grand Masters Award recipients that night for dinner. It was interesting to see the common bonds that the Lodges shared that were successful. These Lodges were the ones that were active in the community. They were the ones that held events, had fundraisers, promoted Grand Lodge programs like the scholarship funds and child ID programs and in return, were the ones that were attracting new members. We have been blessed to be one of those Lodges. We have been very fortunate to have had some great Past Masters lead us to our current position.

We have all seen change. What causes me the greatest concern, knowing that I will have the opportunity in the near future to join the ranks of some terrific Past Masters, is going to be my ability and those behind me to continue to adapt to change and continue to see that our fraternity and Lodge continue to prosper. We inform our candidates during preparation that Masonry is old and traditional, yet it is new and ever changing. For myself and our leadership, this is constantly in our minds; ensuring the preservation of ancient craft Masonry while adapting to today's world.

I know that by now I sound like a broken record, but we strongly encourage you to stop by and see us. Join with us in our events, come back and see a degree (we could all use a little refresher every now and then), stop by at a stated meeting and have a hot meal with us beforehand. Most importantly, keep in mind those Masonic teachings and principals taught to us in Lodge and continue to practice them in your everyday life. Virtues like Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice as well as Faith, Hope, and Charity are just as important now as they have ever been!

God Bless!

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Visit our web site and join us for local Masonic events!

Remember our sick Brethren & Widows in your prayers!

Jerusalem Lodge #99, F & AM  
C/O Rob Blackburn  
315 1/2 South Main St.  
Clinton, IN 47842

# Ladies Dinner Planned

Jerusalem Lodge #99 is in the planning stages of organizing our first annual Ladies Dinner tentatively scheduled for September 16th. This dinner is being done to thank all of those who have helped and supported us throughout the years. The event will be open to ALL LADIES OF MASTER MASONS, BOTH LIVING AND DECEASED. More details will be found in the next issue of Jerusalem Times, or you can call Kevin Williams, PM at 765-832-2764. Mark the date on your calendar, and be ready for some good food and entertainment!

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT  
[WWW.JERUSALEM99.COM](http://WWW.JERUSALEM99.COM)

View Events, Pictures, Newsletters, Information for Candidates, & Much More!

## Recap From Grand Lodge Communication

This year, Jerusalem Lodge #99 was represented by Senior Warden Rob Blackburn, as well as our Secretary, PGM Ron Smith. A full recap of the event will be presented at the June Stated Meeting, but here is a quick rundown and a few statistics that were presented.

- Grand Lodge dues have risen, primarily due to the fact that everything else has risen (postage, utilities, the list goes on, and on.....)
- 93 Lodges showed an increase in membership last year (including Jerusalem #99), while 310 Lodges showed a decrease and 30 saw no change
- The average dues in the state are at \$58.10 + IMH Assessments
- Lodge of Instruction will once again be completed by the Grand Lecturer & Assistant Grand Lecturer
- The cornerstone of Freemasons Hall was rededicated following the conclusion of Grand Lodge, which marked the 100th anniversary of the cornerstone laying. The Hall is in the midst of undergoing some extensive updating and remodeling. It is highly advised that if anyone is in Indianapolis and would like a tour of it or the Scottish Rite Cathedral next door to stop in (the Grand Lodge building is located at 525 North Illinois Street).

## Vermillion County Low Twelve Club Report

David Waite, Club Secretary

On January 17th, 2008, the Vermillion County Low Twelve Club held its annual Oyster Supper and Business Meeting.

The members present voted on and set the annual assessment for 2008 at \$25.00. This is in accordance with the By-Laws of the Club. Anyone not having paid the dues of \$25.00 by August 31, 2008 will be automatically suspended.

During the past year we lost 3 members by death and \$900.00 was paid to the beneficiaries. This brings the total paid to beneficiaries of deceased members to \$127, 979.00 since the Club started.

Please remember that the stated meeting is held annually on the THIRD THURSDAY in January.

Payments can be sent to: Dave Waite (Secretary) - C/O Frist Funeral Home - P.O. Box 345 Clinton, IN 47842.

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!

## Jerusalem #99 Honored at Grand Lodge

During the Grand Lodge of Indiana's Awards Banquet held on May 20th at the Murat Temple in Indianapolis, Jerusalem Lodge #99 was honored for several achievements. 2007 Worshipful Master Gary Blackburn was presented with the Grand Master's Award with High Distinction. This is a great honor to Brother Gary, and is a visible token of the hard work and dedication that himself, his officers, and the members of Jerusalem #99 accomplished during 2007. This award was 1 of only 43 given out that night (keep in mind that there are 433 Lodges in the State of Indiana).

Additionally, Jerusalem #99 was 1 of only 6 Lodges in the state to be awarded with both the 500 Mile Award and the 200 Lap Award. The 500 mile award is given to Lodges that complete over 500 miles of aggregate travel to and from other Lodges (each Lodge only counting once) with at least 3 Brethren in attendance. The 200 Lap Award is given for Lodges that accumulate visits to at least 10 different Lodges during the year where at least 3 Brethren are represented.

This is only the second time in Jerusalem's history that we have received a Grand Master's Award, and the first time we have received either the 500 Mile or the 200 Lap Awards. Congratulations PM Gary and all of the Brethren!



Pictured is Most Worshipful Brother Dwayne Vaught, Grand Master presenting 2007 Worshipful Master Gary Blackburn with the Grand Master's Award with High Distinction, the 500 Mile Award, and the 200 Lap Award

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## Labor Day Planning Underway

Planning is once again underway for our annual Labor Day Fundraiser, which will once again feature pork chops. The planning meetings are being held on the 1st Tuesday of each Month until Labor Day. In the next issue, you will once again receive your tickets, and we will be looking for workers to help us have another successful year.

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## Scholarships Awarded

By Ronald K. Smith - P.G.M., P.M., Secretary

Jerusalem #99 is pleased to announce three new scholarship awards of \$1,300 each presented to the following area students; Jordan Guinn, daughter of Brother John Guinn; Khaim Helms, son of Brother Kenneth Helms; Jessica Dugger, daughter of Brother Alan Dugger. These students will receive their checks at the scholarship reception luncheon held on Sunday, July 13 at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Indianapolis.

These grants now total over \$40,000 that Jerusalem Lodge #99 has been able to provide toward the education of area youth.

The 2009 applications will be available near February 1st, 2009. Everyone interested should mark that date on their calendar and contact the Secretary, Ronald K. Smith at 812-466-6001 or 232 Francis Avenue Court, Terre Haute, IN 47804.

This year, as well as in years past, we received a number of applications. We wish to thank all of those that applied! All applications are sent off to the Indiana Grand Lodge Scholarship Board, where the applications are reviewed and awarded based on several qualifications, including financial need as well as academics. For more information about the IGLSB, please visit [www.iglsb.org](http://www.iglsb.org).

# Jerusalem Lodge #99 F & AM

Date: June 14, 2008

Shotgun Start: 8:30 AM

## 3rd Annual 4 Man Golf Scramble

Location:  
Matthew's  
Park Golf  
Course



Clinton, IN

\$40 per player - includes 18 holes,  
cart, & food (burgers, brats, dogs, sodas)

Prizes Awarded: Lowest Team Score,  
Longest Put, Longest Drive

For more information, contact:

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JerusalemLodge99@aol.com

Call 765-832-6589

Visit: [www.jerusalem99.com](http://www.jerusalem99.com)

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#4...

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