



Jerusalem Times

Jerusalem Lodge #99 F & AM

Issue 13 May 2007

Worshipful Master, Wardens, & Brethren...

By Robert L. Blackburn, J.W.

As another Grand Lodge year comes to an end, and we see the election of a new Grand Master, I look back on the year as well as the duties and accomplishments that the Grand Master has made. This year was a first for Grand Master Barkdull; he sent a Grand Master's pin to every Brother. At Founder's Day, he spoke of this. He said that a lot of people questioned his decision to send out so many pins, but he said in a joking manner, "I am Grand Master, and I can do it if I want!" He went on to say that he has received more positive feedback from this decision than any other Grand Master's Pin before. As you know, the pin simply says 'Proud To Be A Freemason'.



Brethren, I have worn this pin on my jacket since the day I received it. As those of you know that see me at Masonic events, whether at Jerusalem #99 or in other Lodges, I always have a jacket and tie on. I have worn this pin not only because I support the Grand Master, but also because this simple pin sums it all up; I AM PROUD TO BE A FREEMASON. Not only am I proud to be a Freemason, but I am proud to be a member of Jerusalem #99. As a part (committee chairman) of the Wabash Valley Masonic Awareness Campaign (which was established by Jerusalem #99), I have traveled to so many Wabash Valley Lodges that I have truly lost count. I can tell you one thing about being from Jerusalem #99; we should be proud of our Lodge.

The regard that Jerusalem #99 has in the local Masonic community is amazing. We are by far not the biggest (or smallest for that matter) Lodge, we don't have the biggest building, but we have that something that just seems to work. We have Brethren that support our Lodge. Support can come from having officers that are present and learning their floor work. Support can come from paying your dues every year and helping us continue our efforts to improve the community and our hall. Support can come from spreading Masonic Light in all your travels; using your working tools to divide your time, divesting yourself of superfluties, walking upright, squaring your actions, traveling on level ground, and spreading Brotherly Love wherever you may go.

We should be proud of our members. We are truly blessed to have elders and Past Masters in our Lodge that have supported Freemasonry through the years and kept our Lodge going even during tough times. We should be thankful for our Ritualists. We are still ranked as the # 7 Lodge in the state in the Grand Lodge Ritualist Program. We have some truly great men that can put such heart and emotion into the work that it becomes an amazing experience for new Brethren. We should be thankful for our officers, who this year before inspection worked extremely hard to learn the floor work and were truly prepared for the Grand Lecturer.

Brethren, I will continue to wear this pin on my travels, and I hope you will to. I will also continue to support this great fraternity through the programs and tools that have been presented to me. I will keep Masonic license plates on my vehicle to show my support. I will continue to promote the Wabash Valley Masonic Awareness Campaign (television and radio ads). I will continue to try and conduct myself in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of Masonry. I hope and pray that you will to. May God bless you and this great fraternity now, and forever!

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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
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From the East...

Greetings from the East! I sincerely hope that this communication finds you well!

It is amazing how fast this year is racing past. We continue to travel not only to our neighboring Wabash Valley Lodges, but also to Founder's Day and Grand Lodge. Many of our Valley Lodges are doing well, but many of our smaller Lodges are in need of our support. I encourage everyone to get out and support not only Jerusalem #99, but also these Brethren in the smaller Lodges that need our help and encouragement.

This years Founder's Day brought new light and a new era to Masonry with the introduction of radio and television ads featuring Benjamin Franklin. These ads are available to Lodges to reach out to new members. In test markets, the ads have been very successful. Potential candidates will either visit a web site or call a toll free number and ASK for information. A promotional packet will be sent to them and a local Lodge will contact them to follow up.

Jerusalem #99 is spearheading a fundraising campaign in the Wabash Valley to make this campaign happen. Between the Committee Chairman Rob, PM Kevin Williams, PGM Ron Smith, and myself, we have visited many Valley Lodges, and so far we have raised over \$5,500 towards the campaign. The goal of this program is to expand Masonry throughout the Valley and bring great men to Light! Watch for these ads in the very near future!

Grand Lodge went very well this year with no major issues, and there was no increase in Grand Lodge assessments/dues. A per capita tax of \$.50 towards the George Washington National Masonic Memorial was approved, but total per capita dues and assessments from last year were down \$.70. In the end, we are ahead this year by \$.20 from last year!

We also recently visited Vincennes where a Ritualist Workshop was held. It was very educational and I would suggest that all officers and potential officers attend one of these workshops. This year, four members from Jerusalem #99 were able to attend.

Work continues on the building. New paint has been applied to the upper cornice on the Main Street side of the building. The lighted sign from the front of the building has been temporarily removed, and is getting a total overhaul. The sign was sandblasted, and has already been repainted back to it's original blue color. New graphics will be installed, along with new lighting components and anchors before the sign is reinstalled on the building. New shingles will also be installed to the awning over the building to give it a fresh, new look!



I need to acknowledge a few people that are helping to get these projects done:

- Marty Moore - F.T. Moore & Sons (North Terre Haute): Marty sandblasted our sign at no cost, saving the Lodge a great deal of money
- Tony Natalie: Donated the use of his man lift for use to paint and improve the front of the building
- Brother Steve Giordano: Donated the use of his bucket truck for use to paint and improve the front of the building
- Brother Rob Blackburn: Helping me get all of these jobs done no matter what, even though he isn't real fond of heights!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Worshipful Master Gary Blackburn

Scholarships Awarded

Very recently, Worshipful Master Gary Blackburn was informed that Jerusalem #99 was awarded four Masonic Scholarships! The four honored students/sponsors are: Dirk P. Foltz / Dirk Foltz, Sr. - Micah J Haltom / Brad Stone - Jessica Dugger / Alan Dugger - Jordan Guinn / John Guinn. We would like to congratulate these students and their families, and also thank those of you that submitted applications.

All applications are sent off to the Indiana Grand Lodge Scholarship Board. The applications are reviewed, and scholarships are awarded based on several qualifications, including financial need as well as academics. For more information about the IGLSB, please visit www.iglsb.org.

<p>Questions, Comments, Input? Please Contact the Editor: Rob Blackburn, J.W. 238 S. Jackson St. JerusalemLodge99@aol.com Clinton, IN 47842 (765)832-6452</p>	<p>Fellowship Meetings 1st Tuesday of Each Month - 7:00 PM Everyone Is Encouraged To Attend!</p>
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Job's Daughters Head To State

By: Lynelle Myers, Bethel Guardian

On Saturday, April 14th, three wonderful young ladies represented Bethel #5 at the Miss Indiana Job's Daughters Pageant. The Miss Indiana Job's Daughters Pageant is more than a 'beauty pageant'. Daughters are required to learn ritual parts, rules and regulations of the Order, and participate in an interview with the judges. Our daughters have been practicing and reading for months to prepare for this event. On April 7th, they participated in the written test, the ritual portion, and were judged on their official regalia. The following weekend, dressed in formals, they completed their pageant experience at the beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral in Indianapolis. This is also the day when interviews take place.

The Miss Indiana Pageant has been divided into two age groups. Daughters ranging from 10 to 15 compete in the Jr. Miss category, and daughters ranging in age from 16 to 20 compete in the Miss category. At the completion of the pageant, four lovely young ladies; Miss Indiana, Miss Indiana Congeniality, Jr. Miss Indiana, and Jr. Miss Congeniality represent the state.

As the Bethel Guardian, I am sure you can imagine how proud I am of 'my' three daughters for even having the courage to try for this difficult competition. We had Jordan Russell and Alyssa Whitesell competing for Miss Indiana, and competing for Jr. Miss Indiana was Rayven Randolph. The girls spent many hours together, with their council, and alone studying their hearts out for this competition. They also went around and collected sponsorships required by the pageant for entry. It was a difficult, but rewarding experience for all those involved.

Saturday night finally came, and the girls were excited and nervous all at the same time. They had made wonderful friends from all over the state, and gained a lot of wonderful experiences that they will carry with them forever. The time came and 6 Jr. Miss candidates along with 14 Miss candidates took the state. After introductions and the farewell speeches from the current Misses were complete, it was time to announce the finalists. The finalists had to answer a question about how Job's Daughters has affected their lives. When the winners were announced, out little Bethel was on their feet applauding two of our own...Jordan Russell won the title of Miss Indiana Congeniality and Rayven Randolph won the title of Jr. Miss Indiana. These two young ladies will be representing the state, along with Brittany Utley as Miss Indiana and Rustie Mills as Jr. Miss Congeniality. Not only will they travel throughout the state promoting Job's Daughters, but they will also be proudly representing our area.

The council is always proud of the accomplishments of our daughters in every aspect of their lives; whether is within Job's Daughters or outside the Order. Please help us by showing your support to these girls whenever you may see them. They look up to the adult Masonic organizations, and truly 'hold high our aim and name of Job's Daughters'.

Morris Jenkins 50 Year Presentation

At our stated meeting in May, Past Grand Master Ronald K. Smith and Worshipful Master Gary Blackburn presented Morris E. Jenkins with his Grand Lodge 50 Year Award of Gold. We wish to congratulate Morris on this achievement, and thank him for his many years of support!



NEW WEB SITE

Don't forget to
check out our
NEW web site at
www.jerusalem99.com

Download petitions, view
updates, see newsletters, get
contact information, online events
calendar, and much, much more!

Jerusalem Lodge #99 F & AM

Date: June 16, 2007
Shotgun Start: 8:30 AM

2nd 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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Call 765-832-6589

Hit a hole-in-one on
#4...

Win A New Truck!

Sponsored By:



Visit: www.jerusalem99.com