

**Missouri Lodge of Research (MLR) Meeting &
Breakfast in Jefferson City
May 17, 2008
SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**

This Semi-Annual Meeting of the Missouri Lodge of Research was held in the Jefferson Room of the Capitol Plaza Hotel at 7:00 AM on Saturday, May, 17th. The Meeting was called to order by RWB Jim Snaveley, Senior Steward, with his greeting and welcome. He called upon RWB Elmer Revelle for prayer, followed by a great buffet breakfast. RWB Snaveley then introduced Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri, MLR Officers present and Grand York Rite Officers also present.

RWB Ron Woods had sent greetings to all and hope they are enjoying the "Bonus" book already distributed this year entitled "Masonic Thought for Each Day." NOW, remember, this SHOULD take you a year to finish if you do it right!! Also the next book to be published will be "Missouri History of KYCH."

The speaker for this morning, MWB Glenn E, Means, GM 2001-02, who gave a presentation on "Masonic Libraries in Other Jurisdictions." It was to compare with what we are doing with the Masonic Library and Museum at our Grand Lodge Office in Columbia.

MLR Secretary, Ron Miller, reported that our next meeting will be on September 22, 2008 in Columbia. He also announced the several items being sold by the MLR (pins and key chains) as fund raisers for the Missouri Lodge of Research. He also commented and stressed the importance of asking others to join and belong to the MLR.

The meeting was closed following prayer by our Chaplain, MWB Revelle.

+++++

FLAG SALUTE

Recent Congressional legislation has changed the rules for saluting the flag. Section 9, Title 4, United States Code, is amended by striking 'all persons present' and all that follows through the end and inserting 'those present in uniform should render the military salute. **Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute.** All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries should stand at attention.

[SB 1877; HR 3380]

OFFICERS

Worshipful Master - Jon B. Broyles
Senior Warden - Dale Bryan
Junior Warden - M. Robert Berger
Secy-Treas - Ronald D. Miller
6033 Masonic Dr Suite B
COLUMBIA MO 65202-6535

+++++
MLR RP **08-02**
+++++

RUMORS, THE TEST OF THREE

(Reprinted from SCRL Feb 08)

Keep this philosophy in mind the next time you hear, or are about to repeat, a rumor.

In ancient Greece (469 - 399 BC), Socrates was widely lauded for his wisdom. One day the great philosopher came upon an acquaintance that ran up to him excitedly and said, "Socrates, do you know what I just heard about one of your students?"

"Wait a moment," Socrates replied. "Before you tell me, I'd like you to pass a little test. It's called the Test of Three."

"Test of Three?" "That's correct," Socrates continued. "Before you talk to me about my student, let's take a moment to test what you're going to say. The first test is Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?"

"No," the man replied, "actually I just heard about it." "All right," said Socrates. "So you don't really know if it's true or not. Now let's try the second test, the test of Goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about my student something good?"

"No, to the contrary..." "So," Socrates continued, "you want to tell me something bad about him even though you're not certain it's true?"

The man shrugged, a little embarrassed. Socrates continued, "You may still pass though because there is a third test, the filter of Usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about my student going to be useful to me?"

"No, not really." "Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither True nor Good nor even Useful, why tell it to me at all?"

The man was defeated and ashamed, and said no more. This is the reason Socrates was a great philosopher and held in such high esteem.

THE YEARS 1932 – 1957 REVIEWED

(The following taken from: 1957 "THE MASONIC WORLD"
published by the Grand Lodge for the 1957 Grand Session)

With this review we close the twenty-fifth review written for the Grand Lodge of Missouri; in that length of time we have written for this review more than 3000 pages. We are egotistical enough to believe that these twenty-five volumes of review compose a rather complete history of Freemasonry throughout the world during a most momentous period of world history (1932-1957).

Our interest began in 1932, at the death of Dr. Corona H. Briggs, PGM, and with our appointment to this task by a great friend - Thad B. Landon, PGM. Shortly after our appointment (1936), it was our privilege to visit in Europe where we attended Masonic functions in Norway, Denmark, Sweden, England and Scotland; this widened our Masonic vision and made us world conscious. We saw how widely separated the Masonic groups of Europe and America were, and we envisioned a day when every Freemason from whatever clime, of whatever race, or whatever religion, might find it possible to kneel at the Masonic altar.

In 1945, we returned to Europe - this time as chairman of a committee whose personnel was selected by the then President of the United States; it was a relief mission, charged with the duty of finding out what had happened to the fraternity during the cataclysm of World War II. We visited thirteen different countries and brought back a report which resulted in the raising of one of the largest Masonic relief funds ever recorded.

And in 1949, we made a second mission to Europe - this time to assist in the rejuvenation of Freemasonry in Germany, in Italy, and in France. The results of this trip are well known. And finally, in 1956, we returned to Europe to make an overall picture of things Masonic - and what an improvement! And yet how much remains to be done to solidify ourselves as a great international society for human brotherhood?

But how can we accomplish this without a few accomplishments in our own backyards. Why should we tell our neighbors what to do and how to do it, when we ourselves may not be carrying out the program?

Several years ago we published in these columns this statement:

The peace of the world will depend upon a union of hearts and minds of those nations in which Freemasonry plays a dominant part. You, as a member of the great world brotherhood, have a part in the great drama of world advancement. The future will depend on how well YOU play your part.

Let us examine ourselves; now that there is a trend towards a decreased membership we may begin to read the alibis of grand masters and others, the substance of which is that "we are seeking *quality* rather than *quantity*." Most of us know better. We prefer *quality* but we can only appeal to "quality" applicants through making our fraternity desirable. We may not resort to the press, for we are forbidden to advertise. We may not invite petitioners, so both "quality" and "quantity" petitioners are received. Many of our high officials would discredit the Shrine - and they do many discreditable things - but not a word may be said against their crippled children's hospitals.

And little can be said by our critics against the various Masonic homes which extend from Atlantic to the Pacific, and in which millions of Masonic dollars have gone. But a Masonic Home is not in the strictest sense a *charity*. What we do for our

own families is not charity. Charity is what we do for those *outside* our family. And there is not too much of this evident in grand lodge proceedings.

There are some who believe the Masonic homes are being overdone, in that the expense of operation is far above what it should be; there are some who feel that social security is the answer, but social security will never look after the bed-ridden, hence the necessity for a Masonic hospital. One of the greatest appeals of the Home was the children, who at one time constituted a major part of the resident membership. Today, in Missouri less than 30. This is probably well, because there is no institution - however good - that can take the place of the home and a mother.

There are few social agencies which encourage institutional care. And with costs of this care rising year after year, all institutions will be confronted with additional assessments in order to maintain their present position. Yet there is this to be said for the Home - it is good advertising where properly conducted.

The gravest situation at the present is the question of leadership. This is a thing that only the craft itself can improve. Grand lodges have to take the material sent up from the lodge quarries - which is not always the perfect stones required for the building of a beautiful Masonic structure (the Grand Lodge). In the cities so much accent is placed on the ritual; so much on perfect and constant attendance at all meetings. With a large number of candidates - as in the larger lodges - it means night after night away from borne; and it means hours away from business. And these same lodges insist on regular advancement without taking into account the total lack of education and ability of those advanced. There is nothing reasonable in the theory that a Junior Steward must eventually become a Master. One might make a good steward - and yet a very bad Master. Leaders might be secured if we did away with this peculiar theory and elect from the Junior Warden up; many men would be willing to devote three years to Masonic office who would not have the time for eight or nine years.

Grand Masters are made from Masters of Lodges; it well behooves Lodges to select the best man possible for its line of officers. Is it not possible for a grand lodge to set up a program for the improvement of officer material? Then the question of leadership would settle itself. A Master of a Lodge should be a leader - and not a follower. A good executive is worth a dozen ritualists - nor would we discredit the ritualist, for good ritual is essential in portraying our lessons - but a good executive can get the ritualist.

Probably our Freemasonry is over organized? Everything seems to be organized with the exception of the infant division. Nothing wrong with any of these societies, but it detracts from the main body - the Symbolic Lodge. We are a member of a number - too large a number - of these groups; all have good ideals and good intentions - but couldn't we consolidate many of these, giving more time to one or two organizations - and at a decreased cost. And when we take into account the Lodge buildings, the York and Scottish Rite temples, we are confronted with a large upkeep, and a divided interest. Why cannot one temple house all? It all looks like poor business from our standpoint. And we all remember the days when many Masonic buildings had to be given up because they couldn't be paid for.

Continued, Bottom of Page 4)

PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES

D K E N N E D Y J T A Y L O R
 E R O M L L I F A R E L Y T N
 C O O L I D G E M U N B T C O
 J E F F E R S O N M O U A L S
 D N A L E V E L C A X S F E I
 N O S K C A J W E N I H T V R
 A R T H U R N L O C N I L E R
 N O S N H O J T S H E C E L A
 A H A Y E S G G R A N T V A H
 H S A M O N R O E R A E E N O
 C M A D I S O N R D G K S D O
 U A T H B U R E N I A L O I V
 B D S C L I N T O N E O O E E
 G A R F I E L D R G R P R J R
 W I L S O N Y E L N I K C M R

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. George WASHINGTON , 1789-1797
2. John ADAMS , 1797-1801
3. Thomas JEFFERSON , 1801-1809
4. James MADISON , 1809-1817
5. James MONROE , 1817-1825
6. John Quincy ADAMS , 1825-1829
7. Andrew JACKSON , 1829-1837
8. Martin Van BUREN , 1837-1841
9. William Henry HARRISON , 1841
10. John TYLER , 1841-1845
11. James Knox POLK , 1845-1849
12. Zachray TAYLOR , 1849-1850
13. Millard FILLMORE , 1850-1853
14. Franklin PIERCE , 1853-1857
15. James BUCHANAN , 1857-1861 | 16. Abraham LINCOLN , 1861-1865
17. Andrew JOHNSON , 1865-1869
18. Ulysses S. GRANT , 1869-1877
19. Rutherford B. HAYES , 1877-1881
20. James GARFIELD , 1881
21. Chester A. ARTHUR , 1881-1885
22. Grover CLEVELAND , 1885-1889
23. Benjamin HARRISON , 1889-1893
24. Grover CLEVELAND , 1893-1897
25. William McKINLEY , 1897-1901
26. Theodore ROOSEVELT , 1901-1909
27. William H. TAFT , 1909-1913
28. Woodrow WILSON , 1913-1921
29. Warren G. HARDING , 1921-1923 | 30. Calvin COOLIDGE , 1923-1929
31. Herbert HOOVER , 1929-1933
32. Franklin ROOSEVELT , 1933-1945
33. Harry S TRUMAN , 1945-1953
34. Dwight EISENHOWER , 1953-1961
35. John F. KENNEDY , 1961-1963
36. Lyndon B. JOHNSON , 1963-1969
37. Richard M. NIXON , 1969-1974
38. Gerald R. FORD , 1974-1977
39. James E. CARTER , Jr., 1977-1981
40. Ronald W. REAGAN , 1981-1989
41. George H. W. BUSH , 1989-1993
42. William J. CLINTON , 1993-2001
43. George W. BUSH , 2001- |
|--|---|---|

RULES FOR PLAY: (YOU MUST READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE PLAYING)

You must *circle* the **LAST NAMES** of our Presidents **ONLY (BOLD CAPS)**, LETTER BY LETTER, in the puzzle above, then line through or check the name(s) off the list (*If the name is in the list more than once, (i.e., Adams, Harrison, Bush, etc) it will only be in the puzzle ONCE*). **DO NOT blot out the letters** in the puzzle as many of the same letters are used in another name. When you have found almost all of the above names in the puzzle, you should have 14 letters **NOT circled**. Writing down each of these letters from the top left to the bottom right, should sequentially spell out the name and number of a President on the list. Line through or check that name off. NOW, there is only one name which is not lined thru or scratched out. That is the Answer. WHO IS IT???

Call a member friend who may have worked this puzzle and see if you got the same answer they did. If not, I will include the answer in the next issue.

The above list from upper left to lower right are all 43 Presidents of the United States and the years that they served. This just might get you through a trivia quiz sometime. For instance, there were only two times when three different presidents served in the same year. Who and when was that? There was only one president who served two terms, but not in succession. Who was that and what years? One President served for 12 years. Who was that? And of course, one President was a Past Grand Master of Missouri. Who?

March's Puzzle Answer: Charles E. SCHEURICH

**MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH
RONALD D. MILLER, Secy
6033 MASONIC DRIVE SUITE B
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI 65202**

**NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBIA, MO
PERMIT #286**

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



RP 08-02

(From Page 2)

The failure of a Masonic building corporation is a blow to the fraternity; we have in mind a certain city where the loss of their building has resulted in the craft having a poor reputation. And many other places where loss of buildings, and failure to pay their just debts, has resulted in lack of confidence in our society. No lodge or building association should ever be permitted to embarrass the fraternity by failure to pay its debts, and their word should be as good as their bond - or even better, for we know of some bonds which were no good. Many a grand lodge has now shut the door on indiscriminate associations-after the horse got out.

If the Masonic groups in those cities had been united under one roof this would never have happened; if the grand lodge had stepped in and supervised the transaction we are sure the craft would have had better standing in the community. And then we wonder why some good businessmen do not seek to enter our doors!

And now we come to the question of Masonic secrecy. Actually there is no such thing - except in the minds of those outside the fraternity; we thought of here using the word "profane," but the outside public do not understand the Masonic meaning of profane (which means those outside the temple, or fraternity). We do have some profanes in the Temple much to our regret. But they were profane before they came in.

It was this question of "secrecy" which had, and still has much to do with the antagonism towards Freemasonry. Outside of a few passwords, grips, and signs, there is nothing secret in Freemasonry. The names of our members appear in directories open to the public, our places of meeting are plainly marked with the square and compasses; our printed monitors contain most of the "work," for if they didn't many a candidate would go without the Masonic teachings. Our halls are open for inspection except at the hours of our meetings. Literally hundreds of volumes are printed on Masonic and allied subjects so that there is little we have to conceal from the outside public.

Then what should we do to counteract this charge against us. We think our German friends have found the answer in their country where it is most essential - the holding of a press conference to explain the objectives of Freemasonry. News articles containing stories of the fraternity, its aims, objectives, charities, and everything the public are entitled to know, will do much to eliminate this criticism. When in Sweden a few years ago, we were asked, in all interviews with the press, to dwell upon the Masonic objectives-Homes, charities-promotion of education-and not on the so-called secrets. While we did not care for the *Life* magazine article, nevertheless it brought the attention of the public to our work. How much better if it had played up our millions of dollars spent in the care of the aged and afflicted, the orphan, support of Ret! Cross, educational work, Shrine Hospitals, Templar Eye Foundation and Educational Fund, rather than on the "playgrounds" or organizations which have tied themselves onto the tail of the Masonic kite?

We are seriously concerned with the recent growth of anti-Masonic propaganda. In general, it may be said that it comes from hut one source-and that a religious source. We have, for that reason, in this review, departed from our usual routine of trying to avoid discussion of such matters. Just what has prompted this recent activity we cannot fathom, but we have on our desk literally hundreds of articles, papers, pamphlets and volumes professing to deal with the 'Evils' of being a Freemason. The great Catholic publication, edited by the Jesuits, America, devotes much of its space to anti-Masonry. There is concern in Canada which has anti-Masonic material for sale; it even distributes the discredited "Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion." *Vers Demain* published in Montreal spends its space denouncing Jews, communists, UNRRA and foreigners. A recent article lamented the fact that U.N.'s International Civil Aviation organization, in its recent sessions in Montreal, had expelled Spain. *Vers Demain's* explanation was that the United Nations is ruled by "Masonic politics."

We wonder what is Masonic politics. And we more than wonder at Masonic influence in U.N. when there are so very few Freemasons in it! We feel it necessary to publish these references just to show to our membership that we are being attacked, who the attackers are, and how foolish is their criticism. Freemasonry, accentuating as it does this thing of secrecy, must be prepared to meet all such insinuations; we must reduce to a minimum all that can be misinterpreted, and all that might cause suspicion.

We do not wish to criticize the Roman Catholic church. We may have our own opinions, but a Masonic publication is no place for religious or political argument. Since the great church and Freemasonry have the same objectives, it would seem foolish for the church to continue its attacks on us. There are so many wicked things in the world which we could wage war upon without stooping to shoot at those who are striving to maintain universal brotherhood, a brotherhood which will never be all Roman Catholic, all Protestant, or all Jewish. Universal brotherhood means every decent, respectable, law-abiding individual who would love his neighbor as himself!

And that is the difference between Freemasons and Roman Catholics.

Fraternally,
RAY V. DENSLow, PGM 1931-32