



**Missouri Lodge of Research (MLR)
Meeting in Columbia
May 22, 2010**

SEMI-ANNUAL MLR MEETING

This Semi-Annual Meeting of the Missouri Lodge of Research was held in the Dining Room of the Masonic Complex in Columbia on Saturday, May 22nd, shortly following the Chance to Advance (C2A) Class which was conducted by the Grand Lodge Officers at which there were 39 candidates who became Master Masons that day.

The MLR meeting was called to order by MWB Robert Berger, Worshipful Master, with his greeting and welcome to all present. There were numerous wives and ladies in attendance. He called upon MWB Elmer E. Revelle, our Chaplain, for prayer, followed by a very enjoyable, delicious dinner meal served by the men and ladies of Ashland Chapter No. 309, O.E.S. WM Berger then introduced Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri, which included MWBs Vince Kinkead, Bill Soutiea and Elmer Revelle. He then introduced the several MLR Officers who were present.

Under unfinished business, it was announced that the mandatory donations for the Masonic emblem usage on Missouri State License Plates, will now go to the Missouri Lodge of Research since it is now a 501c(3) non profit organization. That will certainly help in improvements to the Library and Museum. Under new business, RWB Steven Harrison, announced that on Saturday, August 14th, there will be a Masonic Day at the Harry S Truman Library in Independence MO, and all Freemasons will be admitted free of charge. He stated this is the time for all Missouri Freemasons to show support for our PGM, MWB Harry S Truman.

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MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH

OFFICERS

Worshipful Master – M. Robert Berger
Senior Warden – Stanley M. Thompson
Junior Warden - Larry R. Houge
Secy-Treas - Ronald D. Miller
6033 Masonic Dr Suite B
COLUMBIA MO 65202-6535

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MLR RP **10-03**
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“Think About It!”

These are tough times. High unemployment, no credit, housing market in the trash, mortgage foreclosures. a very divided country on many issues, a nagging mistrust of our political leaders and our political system, to cite but a few of the issues that are likely to set men at odds with each other. In short. people are frustrated - people feel they aren't heard.

Yet, these can be good times.

Think about King ~Solomon’s pass. Think about the benefits you received in your three degrees. A favor was given you. Each degree left each candidate with something not often found in the world three Principal Tenets. This is the gift of Freemasonry. True, it can be found elsewhere. but it is a safe bet that it is not usually appreciated.

Each candidate was educated in the four Cardinal Virtues - Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. Another safe bet - how many ever thought of the virtues before their initiatory experience?

In the Masonic progression, the Mason is taught a new appreciation of The Great Architect of The Universe. He is given insight into the steps that help him achieve harmony in his personal life and in his relationship with others.

And finally, the greatest Masonic mystery: the demonstration of what Freemasonry is all about. The third degree brings it all together - if we only apply what we were shown. It is a gift, but to appreciate the gift one must use it, study it and learn from it.

If the Freemason has learned anything, peace and harmony come with the favor of Freemasonry. As an individual, one may be powerless to solve the problems of the world, but the individual has it in his power to utilize the tools given him to make his personal world a better place.

Freemasonry gives each of us the chance to firmly plant our feet on the ground - to come to grips with our own problems - to live at peace with ourselves.

By Norm Leeper, Editor Southern California Research Lodge
 Published in April 2010 Edition of Newsletter

AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING - SO SHALL IT BE IN THE ENDING

By Byron Hams - A lifetime Apprentice, Prince Hall Lodge #1 MO

In the beginning, God said, "Let there be light and there was light". Since that time light and truth has been with us. Over time the banners under which that light and truth has been bought to us has changed names many times, and most likely change many more times before the end of time.

As we are beginning our travels in this New Millennium, the question I have is, are we bringing in the banner of Masonry with us or we leaving that banner behind and bringing in a new banner?

As the teachings of Masonry have been with the world in the past and the present, they will also be with the world in the future.

As truth and light always find a way to make it through the dark, so will Masonry find a way to make it through the dark times?

So the two questions that need to be asked are: Will Masonry come through the dark times with new principles that are different from the ones of old? Or will the principles of old come through the dark times with a new name?

As the issue of numbers becomes more important, the issue of quality becomes less important.

As the desire for a title becomes more important, the issue of becoming a better person becomes less important.

As we worry more about how many Lodge meeting a Brother attends, we worry less about what a Brother is doing to improve himself and his community.

Now that we are doing all we can to increase membership, we find that we have lost more than we are gaining.

Now that we have more members than Masons, we find that the members are starting to run the Order.

Now that the members have the majority vote, we find that the members are changing the rules of the Order to make it more of a Social Club and less of a Masonic Fraternity.

Now that the Masons have lost control of the Masonic Order, they are crying, "Who Left the West Gate Unguarded"?

Well, we left the gate unguarded, and now we are seeing the cost of doing that and find that closing the gate now is not an option.

Everybody wants to talk about what is wrong with Masonry now, but no one wants to talk about how to fix it.

Everybody wants to talk about how they did it in their day, but no one wants to talk about how to do it today. Since everybody is talking about their day, isn't today still their day?

Well, as I see it we have several options:

1. Starting teaching the members that we have today how to become the Masons of tomorrow.
2. Go back to guarding the west gate.
3. Do nothing and watch the slow death of Ancient Freemasonry, as we know it.

If we start doing 1 and 2, we will see a turn back to Freemasonry as it was.

If we do 3, we will see new Organizations spring up claiming to teach the lessons of Freemasonry.

The Modern Rite of Memphis is only the first of many that will come unless we do something to get back to the basics of Masonry. Even though it appears that the Modern Rite of Memphis has failed in its first attempt at a start, it has set the idea in motion that a change is needed and that idea will only grow if we do nothing.

Only when the majority of members of Masonry can ask themselves, "What came you here to do", and truthfully answer themselves, "I came to learn to subdue my passions and improve myself in Masonry", then and only then will Masonry make a comeback in its present form.

But if that does not happen in Masonry, then it will happen in some other organization where men can ask themselves, "What came you here to do", and truthfully answer themselves, "I came to learn to subdue my passions and improve myself", and that will be where you will find True Masonry under a new name.

So it is up to us to determine which of the above will come to pass in the future. If the present is the ending of Masonry, as we know it, it is also the beginning of Masonry, as it will be known in the future

RGLs / DDGLs of Missouri - 2010

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

REGION	NAME	DISTRICT	NAME	DISTRICT	NAME
A	Bobby R O'DELL	13	Robert E HUTCHINSON	29	John J TUNE
D	Norman E HARRISON	14	August L BOTTOM	30	Wayne A GERDES
E	Joe W JOHNSON	15	Stanley E MASSEY	31	John A PARKS
F	Timothy L COUCH	16	Donald E GILKERSON	32	Alvin O GRIFFIN
G	Wayne G TUCKER	17	Michael E WHEELER	33	Christopher C McLEMORE iv
DISTRICT		19	Lyle K. CROISANT	35	Michael K BODINE
1	Timothy M DUNBAR	20	Harold L DAVIS	36	Noel R MASON
2	Ralph S MILLER	21	Micheal J JOYNER	37	Rick KAESER
3	David D POWEL	22	James G. WADE	38	E Otha WINGO
4	Gale L JONES	23	Gary N. BASKETT	39	Randy JENNINGS
5	David W MOYER	24	Robert E MARTIN, Jr	40	Jonce B CHIDISTER
6	William J HOLLINGSWORTH	25	Louis V. SIEG	42	Randall D UPTON
7	Lawrence R CRAWFORD	27A	Terry C LITTLE	43	Gary L BENSKIN
8	Virgil E CALDWELL	27B	Kenneth CLEMENTS	44	Kevin M SLIGAR
9	Anthony J BATTAGLIA	27C	Thomas KUHN	45	Jared RICHMOND
11	Kent E CHEEK			46	Matthew D RUTH
12	Gary A McCORMACK				

RULES TO FOLLOW:

You will notice there are two regions and five districts missing (Three are repeated Last Names). Correct answer will be one of those RGLs/DDGLs. Go to URL: www.momason.org/lists.asp then click on **DDGL** and you can see the whole list of DDGLs. In the puzzle above, **individually** circle the letters in each of the (**bold-CAPS**) last NAME of each RGL/DDGL listed. Then check off or line out the name found in the list. **Do NOT BLACK or BLOT out** the letters in the puzzle as each letter may be used in a different last name also. When all the DDGLs above have been lined through, you should then have 11 letters left which have not been circled. Write down **these letters only**, from upper left to lower right and this will spell out the full name of one of the RGL/DDGLs missing. In which REGION/DISTRICT is he the RGL/DDGL??

Oh, by the way, the answer to our last puzzle was: RAYMOND VOLLMAR from District 27B.

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At this time MWB Berger introduced our Honored Guest Speaker for this evening; RWB Michael A. Halleran, the Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Kansas and a member of Emporia Lodge No. 12 and Mount Zion Lodge No. 266, A.F & A.M. of Kansas. Brother Halleran is a freelance writer and a practicing attorney in the Flint Hills of East-Central Kansas. He is a member of Quatuor Cornati Correspondence Circle and the Scottish Rite Research Society (SRRS), where he studies American military Masonry and the traditions of military Lodges worldwide. His newest book, published in March this year, "The Better Angels of Our Nature, Freemasonry in the American Civil War", was available to be purchased and personal comments and autograph by Brother Mike. He gave a very interesting talk (along with visual projections) about his research and many of the Masonic stories he was able to verify happening during our nations civil war. He covered the armies of both the North and South and related many stories where lives were saved or made easier in a prisoner of war camp. There have been many stories talked about over time, but never researched and verified as RWB Halleran has done in this book. He examines carefully the major Masonic stories from the Civil War and, in particular, the myth that Confederate Lewis A. Armistead made a Masonic sign of distress as he lay dying at the high-water mark of Pickett's charge at Gettysburg. The result is an objective and compelling account of the Brotherhood of Freemasons under stress of a life – and death – struggle.

His book is currently available from Borders, Barnes & Noble, eurosbookstore.com or amazon.com.

It definitely shows that the new program of professionalism in the "**Truman Lecture Series**" is indeed working within our Missouri Lodge of Research! Watch for our next breakfast/meeting at Grand Lodge