



**Missouri Lodge of Research (MLR)  
Meeting & Breakfast in Columbia  
September 27 & 28, 2010**

**ANNUAL MLR MEETING**

This year's Annual Meeting of the Missouri Lodge of Research will be held at the "Holiday Inn Select", located at the I-70 South Outer Rd on the West side of Stadium Blvd in Columbia, Missouri during the Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. This Session will be from September the 26<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>nd</sup> when Grand Lodge closes and has its open installation of officers for 2010-2011.

The Lodge of Research Annual Meeting also includes the election of officers and will be held at 4:15 PM on Monday afternoon, the 27<sup>th</sup>, in the Windsor IV Room at the Holiday Inn Select. There will, no doubt, be some interesting business to come before the MLR membership in attendance.

Our Annual Breakfast will be held Tuesday morning at 7:00AM. Tickets should be ordered in advance from our Secretary, RWB Ron Miller or his MLR Assistant, Adriene Green from the Grand Lodge office. Ladies are also invited to attend this function. (Tickets may be available at the Lodge of Research table in the hotel lobby on Sunday and Monday.) Tickets will be \$20.00 each and our honored guest speaker will be RWB Trevor Stewart of Scotland, a Past Prestonian Lecturer, who is a Past Master of three English Lodges, including the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076 (English Constitution) and in June 2010 was installed as the Right Worshipful Master of Lodge 'Sir Robert Moray' No. 1641 (the leading Scottish research lodge - Edinburgh).

Trevor Stewart is a retired lecturer who was educated at Birmingham, Sheffield, Durham and Newcastle Universities. His academic work specialized in eighteenth-century English literature and his doctoral research focused on a coterie of Enlightenment gentlemen Freemasons who lived in the north of England.

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**MISSOURI  
LODGE OF RESEARCH**

**OFFICERS**

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

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MLR RP 10-04  
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**Lack of Interest  
Whose Responsibility?**

by  
**GEORGE FAGAN, P.D.D.G.M.**  
Wheaton, Missouri

Lack of interest in Masonic affairs is probably the most perplexing problem plaguing Masonic Lodges at this time. We are inclined to place the blame on changed conditions, citing the fact that our progenitors lived in a different era and had plenty of time to devote to their Masonry as compared with us of the Atomic Age.

While that specific cause is not to be deprecated, yet it may not be the basic reason and probably is not. If we analyze conditions in our respective lodges we may arrive at another conclusion. It is necessarily to have candidates, of course, but it is more important to know what to do with them. Every member knows, presumably, that a man may be a first-class citizen and still not be good Masonic material. That fact is demonstrated in almost any lodge by those who have taken one or more degrees and haven't advanced, or who have not shown sufficient interest to earn voting privileges. Good citizens certainly, but not Masonic material. The fellow whose ambition is to join some other organization, membership in which is based on membership in the Lodge, as his primary purpose has neither a sufficient nor valid reason for the Lodge to consider (favorably) his application.

An eminent Masonic scholar has said that a Mason should have an "inquisitive mind," which is true. The time to begin to develop that "inquisitive mind" is when the potential candidate inquires for a petition. There are many things about the Fraternity that are right and proper for him to know before committing himself. He should be informed that once his Masonic education is begun, it is never finished; it may be stopped but never completed.

(Continued on Page 2)

In order to be properly prepared when he gets the petition he should know some of the things Masonry is NOT. Its purpose is not to reform men of questionable reputations and shady characters. It is not a political organization and neither is it a church nor a club; it propagates no sectarian creed. It teaches a sublime and religious creed, monotheism being a primary factor. It respects the principles of morality found in all religions; it acknowledges gratefully that there is much good in all of them. It endeavors to make good men better men. Freemasonry is a meeting place where men of all shades of political affiliation and religious beliefs (Communism excepted) can mingle and commune as Brothers. Masonry promises nothing; there are neither sick nor death benefits. It is a charitable organization, and because it is, he should expect to make contributions from time to time in addition to the very modest fee and dues required. Every member knows that degrees can be bought, but one can no more buy Masonry than he can buy Salvation. Knowing something about the Institution, he should consider carefully before committing himself. His wife should know about his intentions and be in complete agreement. Both should know that if Masonry is to mean anything to him, and he to it, he must spend some time with it. His future marital relationship may be more harmonious if there is complete understanding between all concerned. When he has returned the petition to a friend to be presented to the Lodge, he should be instructed that neither he nor his wife should thereafter discuss his plans with friends. Unpleasant situations are not uncommon by reason of that neglect.

The idea that a candidate should be rushed through the degrees IS erroneous. No well informed member will concur with that philosophy, and because there are so many things to be learned in each degree besides the catechetical lectures that it is improbable he will have assimilated very much in the constitutional period of four weeks between degrees. That practice is NOT followed in our Mother Jurisdiction nor in some other jurisdictions. If no effort is made to teach the candidate anything besides the ritual, he is not "properly prepared" to face the facts of Masonic life when he has received the Third Degree regardless of how well he has mastered his proficiency examinations. His instructor\* should encourage him to ask questions, suggesting them if necessary, in order to develop that "inquisitive mind." Every effort should be made by the lodge to teach him to be as meticulous in his concern for the lodge and its affairs as were our forefathers who seldom missed their lodge meetings if at all possible to attend.

One of the first lessons he should be taught is that the affairs of the lodge are not to be discussed with his family and friends, and for obvious reasons. The Ancient Charges of a Freemason, published by the Grand Lodge of England in 1723, prohibit his doing so in the following language: "You are to act as becomes a moral and wise man: particularly not to let your family, friends and neighbors know the concerns of the Lodge..."

Masonry has a dignity and the candidate should be so taught. There are several items to be considered in this respect; among them proper attire, particularly when conferring degrees. No degree in Masonry has cause for mirth, and when members snicker, giggle or laugh at a most solemn moment the candidate thinks that it is proper to do so. The Lodge is at Labor when the lecture and charge are being given; ALL officers should be in their stations and places and members on the sidelines. If it is necessary that an officer vacate his station, his place should be occupied by a substitute during his absence. The candidate is aware that many members retired during the lecture and, naturally, he concludes that this is proper procedure if not taught otherwise. He adopts the custom, thereafter, unfortunately

Some well-informed Brother has said that "There Is No Royal Road to Masonic Success," and because there isn't a new member should be encouraged to participate in the affairs of the lodge. If, and when, he is appointed in the line of officers, he should not only become proficient in the duties of that office but should familiarize himself with the duties of the next office in line if he expects to be advanced. Failure to do so, he arrives at the East unprepared for the responsibilities of that office. It is a grievous mistake for the incoming Worshipful Master to expect to learn his duties and responsibilities after he is installed. Brother Carl H. Claudy, in his *The Master's Book*, suggests that a Worshipful Master should "Program his work and then work his program." Surely excellent advice. (Incidentally, every Senior Warden should read that book.)

There is no more certain way to discourage attendance than to open the Lodge, read the minutes, close and go home. Too many Worshipful Masters and members - imagine that there is nothing to be done if there is no degree to be conferred. Degrees should be conferred at special communications, reserving regular communications for transacting business and considering the myriad questions and problems with which lodges are confronted from time to time. Portions of our Masonic Law should be presented and analyzed at regular meetings, as well as many items of interest to the Craft incorporated in the Annual Proceedings. Any evening can have an agenda if the officers and members so decree, and a busy evening creates and maintains interest.

In the final analysis, brethren, you and I and our respective lodges are solely responsible for the lack of interest so prevalent in our jurisdiction. If we are ever to be "Our Brother's Keeper," there is no more appropriate time and place than the present and in our lodges to practice that virtue.

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*\*Reprinted from "The Freemason", Official publication of the Grand Lodge, A,F, & A,M, of Missouri, Vol 5, No.1 published December 1958. One of the main things which is different in today's world is it should be a mentor, not an instructor. (How many Lodges appoint mentors as had been encouraged by MWB Bruce Austin a couple years back.) A well written article which should be used by all members of the Investigation Committee when meeting with a new, potential candidate.*

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*"Without question, the greatest invention in the history of mankind is beer. Oh, I grant you that the wheel was also a fine invention, but the wheel does not go nearly as well with pizza." (Dave Barry)*



# PATRIOTICLY USED WORDS



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

Archives  
 Airman  
 American  
 Banner  
 Best  
 Blue  
 Brother  
 Coast  
 Commerce  
 Country  
 Courage  
 Emblem  
 Flag  
 Fly

Government  
 Guardsmen  
 Hands  
 Jefferson  
 Jury  
 Land  
 Laws  
 Lincoln  
 Love  
 Loyal  
 Majority  
 Marines  
 Military  
 Mixture

National  
 One  
 Pilots  
 Public  
 Red  
 Roosevelt  
 Sailors  
 Soldier  
 Stars  
 Truman  
 Truth  
 White  
 Won  
 Yankee

## RULES FOR PLAY:

You must *circle each of the letters* in each of the words listed above contained in the puzzle. Then line out the word found from the list. **Do NOT BLACK or BLOT out** the letters in the puzzle as each letter may be used in a different word also. When all the words have been lined through, you should then have 14 letters left in the puzzle which have not been circled. Write down **these letters only**, from upper left to lower right and this will spell out the word which is the answer! You should know you have the right answer, and realize that it is the focal point of our Patriotism!

Oh, by the way. The answer to June's puzzle was: **F. Wayne Dugan**, RGL , Region "B"  
 I certainly hope that everyone enjoys working these word games as I do putting them together!

MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH  
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RP 10-04

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(Breakfast Speaker, Con't from Page 1)

Bro. Stewart continued to give fully documented papers on various Masonic subjects in American, Belgian, French, German and Scottish lodges – at both lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge levels - as well as in many English Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters and in London's ancient Guildhall. He has also taught in history seminars at Cambridge, Oxford and Harvard Universities (2004) which focused on newly discovered contributions made by early eighteenth-century English freemasons to the development and spread of 'Newtonianism'. In October 2007 he was invited by the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge Masonic Academy to give his paper on 'A Way Forward – some seminar techniques'. He was the keynote speaker at the 2010 annual dinner of the Philalethes Society in Minneapolis. He was invited by the Grand Lodge of Romania to address their May 2010 communication in Huniazilor Castle and by the National Grand Lodge of Greece in June 2010 at their communication in Athens.

Bro. Stewart contributed papers on Freemasonry in the Enlightenment period to international conferences held at the Canonbury Masonic Research Centre (London), the University of Bordeaux and the first and second international UK conferences on the history of Freemasonry in Edinburgh (2007 & 2009). He has published several papers in the annual transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge (AQC) and of the Leicester Lodge of Research, in Hibiscus (GL of Florida) and in The Ashlar, the leading Scottish Masonic quarterly. He edited two volumes of The Canonbury Papers (2005 & 2006) for the Canonbury Masonic Research Centre (London). He has published numerous lectures in bound pamphlet format, a world-renowned English translation of Martinez de Pasqually's crucial esoteric text Treatise on the Reintegration of Beings; and he has recently published a fully illustrated monograph on the famous 1702 Haughfoot Lodge, which formerly existed in the Scottish Borders region. He is planning three new books on the hitherto unpublished non-Masonic writings of William Hutchinson (1732-1814), the founder of English Masonic symbolism. We are honored to have him as our guest speaker for breakfast during Grand Lodge.

