



The Trestle Board

Setting The Pace For Our Masonic Year...

by WM J.D. Enke

Much like the term as Master;
“Life is too short to be vengeful or malicious. Life is not lost by dying; life is lost minute by minute, day by dragging day, in all the thousand small uncaring ways. Be patient and understanding.”
 ~Stephen Vincent Benet.

There are some great words which are recited in the “Circle of Friends” which says;

“If our work in Freemasonry has taught us but one thing, accomplished but one purpose, and that being the forming and cementing of true and lasting friendships, then our labor about the Altar of Freemasonry has not been in Vain.”

Remember that we have all joined freemasonry for our own reasons and to make it thrive we need to support each other in all aspects. Through Freemasonry I have

become a better man and established lifetime friendships with extraordinary individuals. It has contributed much to my personal growth.

I would like to impart to our brethren to have some fun with this Lodge. Contribute where you can or want to. When you see a need, step out of your comfort zone and do what needs doing. While we definitely need those that can head up ceremonial events and ritual, we also need those that can keep the fellowship strong and the charity available to all. In a perfect world we would all be into all aspects, but the reality is we are all different.

If any of these pillars of this fraternity are shunned or become lost to the group we become much weaker. Let us stay strong and keep our house growing. I am so

proud of everyone this year, it has been a stellar one thus far.



RWB Cecil R. Wagers’ Official Visit to Ivanhoe Masonic Lodge was greatly welcomed by the brethren in attendance! Greeted with his annual “Hail Caesar!” cake!



On January 4, 2018, M.W.B. Ronald D. Jones presented W.M. J.D. Enke with a plaque, emblematic of the 2017 Masonic Service Award, that recognizes Ivanhoe’s work with Harvester’s Kid’s Cafe. An excellent attendance that night for RWB Cecil R. Wagers, District Deputy Grand Master, and RWB Dennis Spears, District Deputy Grand Lecturer Official Visit to Ivanhoe

Ivanhoe Hits the Ground Running This Year

by Adam James

This Masonic Year, we have kept up our feverous pace in doing good for our community. This is an excellent standard to bear brethren! I would first like to thank each and every brother who has been supportive of all of



The hallway at the Temple, transformed into the Haunted House

Ivanhoe's charitable efforts! Whether you were/are able to give financially, or with time serving, supporting, promoting the efforts of the Lodge, you are an integral part of our success.

The Ivanhoe Haunted House raised \$960 in this year's efforts.

Not only did the Haunted House provide a safe and fun spot for the community's kids to spend the halloween season, but our members were able to put forward a professionally

produced event! The profits that were raised went to three charitable endeavors that Ivanhoe has adopted; Hams For The Holidays, Back Snack, and a Food Drive for The Veteran's Tiny Homes Project.

In coordination with the 18th Masonic District, Ivanhoe delivered a nonperishable foods, toiletries, and other necessary items to the Veteran's Community Project at 8900 Homes Rd. This organization has been building the tiny homes for homeless veterans to live in while they get rehabilitated and back on their feet.

Hams For The Holidays, an Ivanhoe tradition, worked this year to collect food for needy families in the area. The hope is to provide a nice holiday meal for each of the families that the Center School District has directed towards our Lodge's collections.

This year's Back Snack program is successfully underway in conjunction with Harvester's Food Bank. This year, though, the Brethren decided to bolster the food donated to the needy children by adding extra quality food items

to the weekend take-home backpacks.

Outside of these individual efforts, Ivanhoe's WB Moose, along with his radio station 98.9 The Rock, held their annual charity drive to collect items for the Vets in the VA Hospital.

These items were bagged, and delivered in gift bags on December 16th in coordination

with Swope Park Lodge as Christmas Gifts. Many of the Vets were stunned at the generosity of the masons. Brethren, we are accomplishing good things and serving good purpose to those we connect with. Let's keep it up!



Past Masters getting into the act on Superhero Night at the Haunted House



Food drive delivery by Ivanhoe and other Lodges of the 18th District to the Veteran's Tiny Homes

My Perspective on Leadership & Learning

by Jonathan Haslar

The core mission of Freemasonry I have heard repeatedly is "to make good men better," this is what had first drawn me to this organization. Now, I'm fairly new to this and still trying to find my way around in the newfound Light! The thought of becoming a better man in general would most certainly affect all areas of my life and likely influence the lives of those around me. And in turn, by being a better man, I would undoubtedly be able to return the favor to the organization of which I belong. Why WOULDN'T I be interested in being a part of Masonry and having Masonry be a part of me?

It took nearly a year for me to hear the words so elegantly spoken at the Lodge of Instruction by RWB Glenn Burrows, "Ritual is the key that unlocks the mysteries of Freemasonry." The more it was explained and the more I thought about it and understood those words, the more I saw that each officer has many duties within the Lodge. Not just a fancy apron, a jewel, a gavel and a few lines to regurgitate upon command, but several duties that REQUIRE a man to develop and utilize certain skills to effectively execute the

commands of which his post entails.

With this ray of dappled enlightenment it became clear that to become a better man through this organization meant that I would need to take my place in the line when I was ready. I'm not



ready yet. It takes a lot of observation on my part to prepare for anything in general and Freemasonry has an awful lot to observe... I'm looking forward to taking an active roll when I'm ready and an officer's station is available for me.

Not only did it become clear that being in the line facilitates developmental changes with and within a man, it is also VERY clear that not all men are interested or even capable of being able to play a part in the theater of Lodge. Some are meant to organize, some to memorize. Some to teach, some to learn. Some to help, some to be helped. Some to lead, some to follow. To conceal, to reveal. To make, to manage... You get the point.

It was the late RWB Tom Truman that taught me these things when he passionately and adamantly spoke out against requiring Brothers to memorize things that he felt didn't make him any better off than he was when he learned them thirty-plus years prior. It was nice to see a debate like that happen right in front of me with such passion on both sides! Sure, you can sit down and learn hours worth of materials and get a few cards to carry around that show you're the guy that knows stuff. Tom did that and it didn't benefit him at all. It benefited me, thirty-plus years AFTER he learned that lesson the hard way.

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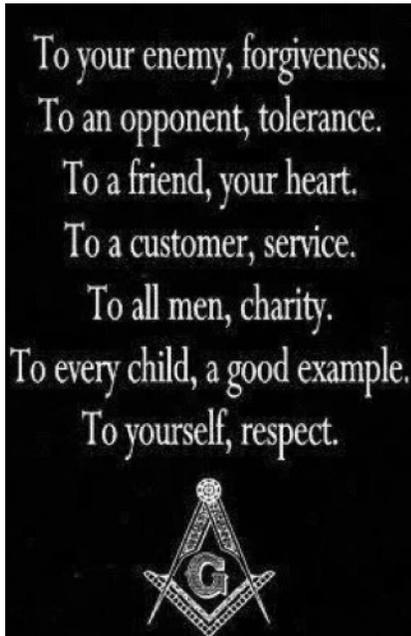
Upcoming Events at The Temple

- ❖ Ivanhoe Lodge Stated Meeting (Irish Heritage Night)
Thursday, March 15th, Dinner at 6pm, Meeting at 7pm
- ❖ Kansas City York Rite Bodies, Commandery Meeting
Monday, March 19th, at 7pm.
- ❖ Mother Chapter, Order of DeMolay Chapter Meeting
Tuesday, March 20th, at 7pm
- ❖ Ivanhoe Mentoring Class
Every Wednesday after our Thursday Stated Meeting
Starts at 6:30pm



...continued from Jonathan Haslar:

Somewhere in all this debate is a middle ground. There has to be give and it has to be on both sides. Making Masonic Education mandatory for all Masons makes perfect sense for some but is completely ridiculous for others.



should focus on Ritual work in the degrees, the roles of each officer in Ritual degree work, the spoken parts should be practiced and explained, and the hidden meanings within the parts can be explained too. These things are things I would be and am interested in learning. Maybe introduce a little of the lectures as the time allows and if the Steward is willing. RWB Brad told me at one point (a long time ago) the Worshipful Master would not only confer the degree, but give the lecture as well! How cool would that be! With so much to learn and so much to memorize, I'd think a few parts at a time, over time as the line progresses, these things can be learned and done with relative ease.

The Why:

The purpose of Steward highly suggested (but not mandatory no matter how strongly suggested it may seem) would be to introduce

each Mason into a role in which they will discover things about Freemasonry as much as within themselves. They (we/I) may think they're not cut out for it, don't want to do it, are afraid of it, etc., but until active participation is accomplished, it'll never be known for sure and I'd think that the Light and Further Light would be left undiscovered and never understood, INCLUDING the lessons and unlocked mysteries within Freemasonry and within ones' self.

I know this is a lot of writing my thoughts here, and maybe I'm more than a little bit long winded on a subject I'm just starting to learn about, but there are my two cents worth of input on a topic that seems to be on the minds of Masonic Leaders today.

Being in the line is clearly not for everyone, but everyone would benefit from those mysteries that we as Masons should seek to unlock.

My proposal to find and define a possible middle-ground would be this:

The What:

Make the first step in the line of Officers so encouraged and the participation so assumed that it seems mandatory. And with that, each Officer in the line has a specific amount of Masonic Education that he MUST attend and participate in as a part of his role as an Officer. It all starts with the Stewards in our Lodge.

The Who:

The Stewards role in Lodge is minimal, but his role in Ritual is a staple necessity. I'd say the Masonic Education for Stewards

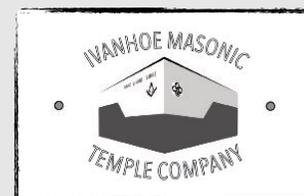
Ivanhoe Temple Company Election Results for 2018

Election of Executive Officers for the 2018 fiscal year took place at the January 17th, 2018 Temple Board Meeting. The Ivanhoe Temple Company Elected Board Members voted and elected:

- ♣ **President: RWB James Lowman**
- ♣ **Vice President: WB Kurt "Moose" Osmundson**
- ♣ **Treasurer: Bro. Robert Phillips**
- ♣ **Secretary: Bro. Adam James**

The Ivanhoe Temple Company Board now meets 4 TIMES a year:

April 11, July 11, October 10, and January 9, 2019



Kansas City York Rite Bodies are Fulfilling Further Enlightenment!

by RWB Brad Fowler

High Priest, Kansas City Chapter No. 28, Royal Arch Masons
Past Eminent Commander, Kansas City Commandery No. 10

First off, a bit of history. The Kansas City York Rite bodies are actually older than Ivanhoe Lodge, but when Ivanhoe Lodge formed in 1901, they paired themselves with the lodge and were constantly working together throughout the years to grow. In 1922, Ivanhoe Lodge was the second largest Lodge in the United States, The Kansas City York Rite bodies were also the second largest in the United States.

We have enjoyed a symbiotic relationship for many years. In the past decade, many have forgotten that relationship and the Kansas City York Rite bodies declined drastically in membership. In the last few years, a few of our fellow Lodge brothers have been hard at work rebuilding The Kansas City York Rite Bodies, and like the



Lodge, are on the way back up! This last December, The Kansas City York Rite Bodies, held a Festival at Ivanhoe Lodge to help new members go through the degrees of the York Rite and journey further down the path of understanding towards what it means to become a Freemason. They got a chance to learn the True Word. As you recall, in the Third Degree, you only receive the

substitute word of a Master Mason.

After the Festival, it was impressive to see these brethren craving more knowledge and light to guide them down their path.



Newly-Made Royal Arch Masons at December's York Rite Festival at Ivanhoe Temple

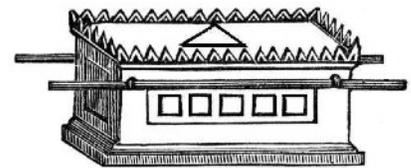
Our meetings are filled with education, and are a place to help you grow as a Mason!

To explain further, let me tell you a bit about the York Rite and what it has to offer. Each body that we have is unique, they are separate and offer something unique. You do not have to go through all of the bodies to gain knowledge that will last you a lifetime. The first body that you join is one you are already a member of, The Lodge. The first three degrees that you go through in the "Blue Lodge" are York Rite Degrees. So you have already experienced some of what The York Rite Degrees offer.

The next step is the Royal Arch Chapter. In the Chapter you finish out the story that you were told in your Third Degree. Remember, you were told that you can receive Master's Wages. But, how do you

get them, and what are they? How was the Temple completed? What happened after it was destroyed and how did it get rebuilt? You learned the substitute word, but what is the True Word and how was it found? These are all things that you learn in the Chapter.

The Cryptic Council Degrees are next. This can be a bit confusing,; but when the first three degrees were created, some of the stories in each degree were taken out to save time and not to overwhelm the candidate. This places those stories back into your journey. Some of the Council Degree's help you further understand the Second Degree, and some fall in between the first and second section of the Third Degree. They help you understand the Lodge's three degrees more in-depth.



The Commandery of Knights Templar is the only body in Freemasonry which talks about religion in a more specific tone. In Commandery, you have to declare that in a religious war, you would defend the Christian Faith over others. These Chivalric orders culminate in the Order of the Temple (Knight Templar).

There are many members that are just a member of the

Continued on next page...

...continued from RWB Brad Fowler:

Chapter and Council without going on to the Commandery. Although our Commandery, at one time, did have a mounted drill team unit (on horseback). That alone is a something that other Commanderies cannot claim!

Besides the knowledge and light that you gain by joining the York Rite, there are also many charities to help with. The Chapter, has the Royal Arch Research Assistance Foundation, concentrating on exploring causes and solutions for children with central auditory processing disorder (CAPD). In short, the brain cannot make sense of what the ears hear because the auditory signal is distorted. As a result, one of the biggest problems experienced by those with CAPD is difficulty listening in background noise.

The Council has the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation. This Foundation concentrates on the research in preventing Arteriosclerosis. It's complications are the leading cause of death in the Western World. Heart Attacks and Strokes cause many more deaths than cancer and accidents combined, the second and third most common causes of death. In the

United States heart attacks are responsible for 35% of all deaths in men in the 35-50 age group. At present a man before the age of 60 in the USA and Canada has a one



The apron of a Knight Templar adorned with the Memento Mori. One of the mysteries revealed in the Order of The Temple.

in five chance of having a heart attack, resulting in sudden death. Also in this country close to two million people are affected by strokes each year, and one of ten of these loses his or her life.

The Commandery has the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF). This Foundation is helping fight many eye issues in children. An estimated 500,000 children worldwide become blind every year. Seventy-five percent of these

children live in developing countries. Yet nearly half of all blindness in children could be avoided with increased access to ophthalmic education, physicians will be better equipped to manage existing conditions, take preventive measures and even educate their own communities for preventive care. Since its inception, KTEF has spent more than \$140 million on research, patient care and education, and has provided more than \$23 million in grants for researchers working in pediatric ophthalmology and ophthalmic genetics. The Commandery also has a Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund. Once a year they help ministers travel to Jerusalem to learn and pass that information to their churches.

When it comes to going through the Degrees, we offer either Degrees in-house or a Festival setting (normally 2 days). If you are interested in joining, all you have to do is ask! We are right here at Ivanhoe Masonic Temple and hope to always be a part of keeping the history, knowledge and light shining with Ivanhoe Masonic Lodge!

DeMolay's Mother Chapter Looking for Prospects

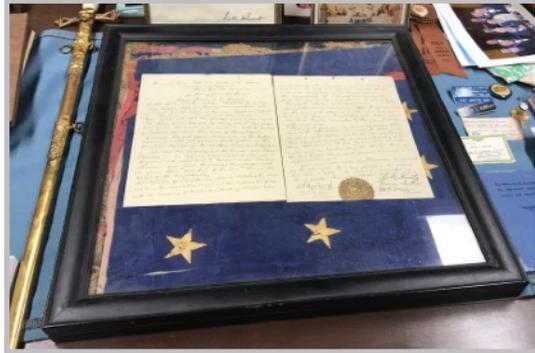
DeMolay is the premier youth leadership organization building young men of character and dedicated to making young men better people and leaders. Providing a program based on timeless principles and practical experience, DeMolay strives to not only create the extraordinary leader, but a leader of character. DeMolay is a youth-led, adult-advised organization in which young men learn to plan, organize, and facilitate their own programs. Mother Chapter is looking for interested young men between the ages of 12-21 to join the Chapter! If you know someone who may be interested, please contact Chapter Dad, James Lowman or Chairman Brad Fowler.



Preserving and Repairing The Archives...

by Matthew Dowd

Ivanhoe Lodge is fortunate to have a rich and long history in Kansas City. As our current Brethren Labor to propel our Lodge into the



future; our Brethren who have moved on to that Lodge on High toiled to preserve our past. I believe an understanding of our past will help inform us as to our present, that will assist us as a Lodge to create our future. Our library and Lodge files are a true wealth of information. It is our responsibility to preserve Ivanhoe's history for posterity. Currently I am working on cataloging Ivanhoe's Library and historical files. The resource books at our disposal and the photographs we have are truly quite something. The photographs

seem to leave a lasting impression on everyone that sees them. They are clear evidence that the Brothers make the Lodge, not the building. Although we all have our own paths and struggles as individuals; it is the "we" not the "I" that helps us along our journey. My long term goal is to get our historical files and pictures up on our website. The Lodge owns a Union flag from the Battle of Gettysburg. The flag comes with accompanying documents proving its providence. I am currently seeking out preservation bids for the flag and parchment documents. I have been in contact with preservationists from the National Archives in Washington DC, the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, UMKC's Linda Hall Library and the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. The Lodge is also in possession of an old Alter from the Ivanhoe Temple on Linwood and Park. Bids are being collected to reupholster this Alter and return it to its former glory! This particular

Alter was often used in the Temple's Auditorium. At that time Ivanhoe's Auditorium could accommodate over 1,500 Brothers. The Kansas City Scottish Rite would borrow this Alter when they were our Temple mates back in the 1940s and '50s.



The Alter will be reupholstered in Royal Purple and edged with gold cordage. Hopefully, prices and logistics will be sussed out in the near future. At that time I will bring my findings for restoration to the Lodge floor!

2017-2018 Officers

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Senior Warden
Tim Watkins
816-808-9768

Junior Warden
Adam James
816-352-2742

Treasurer
RWB James Lowman
816-337-5040

Secretary
RWB Daniel Sewing
816-419-9176

Senior Deacon
Derek Berdine
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Junior Deacon
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