

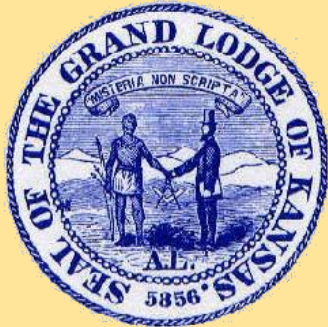


The OBSERVER



July, 2012

Volume 62 No. 3



The Observer – The Official
Publication of Overland Park
Lodge #436 A.F. & A.M.

OFFICERS

W.: Fred Ahlemann
Worshipful Master
913-642-7221
fahlemann@sbcglobal.net

W.: Frank Kneaves
Secretary
8824 Kessler
Overland Park, KS 66212

Brian Weese	S.W.
Fred Kemp	J.W.
W.: Dave Miller	Treasurer
Ryan Collett	S.D.
Jason Daniels	J.D.
Mark Kramsky	S.S.
David Salem	J.S.
W.: Kyle Kesler	Tyler
W.: Bill Baker	Chaplain

TRUSTEES

W.: Dallas Ford
W.: Kevin Hughes
W.: Kyle Kesler

TRESTLE BOARD

Stated Meeting

1st and 3rd Thursday – 8 pm

Study Club –

2nd and 4th Thursday – 7:30 pm

Degree Work –

As scheduled, usually 7 pm

Mark Your Calendars or
Visit www.opmasons.org

Overland Park Lodge #436 www.opmasons.org Ph: 913-523-3570

A Word from the East

Greetings to all my Masonic Brothers! Your Overland Park Masonic Lodge continues to move forward with activities to include Brothers, family and Widows.

Our Widows Dinner was held on Saturday Evening, April 14th at the Lodge. Thirty-five people enjoyed the excellent meal prepared by our resident “New Orleans Chef”, Bro. Fred Kemp. We had a good number of Widows who were greatly entertained by the “Heartland Ringers”. They are the same bell ringers who help us each year with our Installation of Officers.

R.:W.: Scott Wilson, our District V. DDGM, visited our Lodge on April 3rd and spoke to us regarding Perpetual Life Memberships, 20/20 Vision and clarification regarding Background Checks which were required beginning April 1st of this year.

“Officers Move-up Night” was held on April 19th. It was both interesting and challenging to our Brothers in line to advance in the Leadership of our Lodge. Our next Move-up Night will be September 6th.

Our “Second Quarter Birthday Dinner” was held on May 17th. Third Quarter Birthdays will be celebrated with a 6:30 Dinner followed by a Stated meeting on August 16th. Please come and support Fred Kemp. He is such a good cook and the turnouts have been terribly small. Support us in this activity if you want it to continue!

Saturday evening, June 23rd, was celebrated by 80 people attending the T-Bones baseball game. In attendance were Masons, family members plus Job’s Daughters and their families. Cudos to W.: Ken Mickey for his hard work.,

A Masonic Funeral Service was held for Brother Charlie Sites on June 4th with MW.: Bob Tomlinson Presiding.

Our hearts go out to Brother Leland and Jenny Burnett on the loss of their son, David. A Masonic Funeral Service will be held on July 14th at 11 a.m. at the Hillcrest Christian Church, 11411 Quivira, Overland Park, Ks. Please join us at this memorial service.

Our Past Masters Dinner and Stated Meeting saw 11 Past Masters in attendance. More information follows in this Newsletter.

We appreciate your support. We need you to attend our functions and meetings as often as you can.

Please read this issue carefully as there are several items of vital interest to you and your Lodge. These include a new starting time for Stated Meetings, recommendations from the 20/20 Sub-Committee that require your action, a required action if you wish to be included in the new Directory, as well as a report on the “Past Masters Dinner”.

Fred Ahlemann, Worshipful Master

"Be courteous to all, but intimate with few, and let those few be well tried before you give them your confidence. True friendship is a plant of slow growth, and must undergo and withstand the shocks of adversity before it is entitled to appellation."

- George Washington, President, General, Planter and Freemason

You've got mail...

Help us keep our e-mail list up to date! Simply drop the lodge a quick e-mail from the contact page on www.opmasons.org

This will enable us to stay in touch on a more frequent basis with any member that has access to the web.

Remember, you can also view the calendar on the web site, www.opmasons.org

"Friend" us on your Facebook page to access our Masonic Facebook information

20/20 SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Grand Lodge has placed renewed emphasis on their 20/20 Program. W.: Fred Ahlemann, W.: Martin Johnson and Brother Fred Kemp attended an Area wide meeting at the Wyandotte Lodge on Saturday, Jan. 21st. More than 50 Masons from several Lodges were in attendance. After the general presentation, we broke out into groups based on our current state of planning. Our Section was led by R.:W.: Wayne Rector who helped us begin to develop our Lodge plans for action between now and the year 2020.

We were instructed to first "Find a Mission". Define who you are (as a Lodge) and what you do for whom. Then, as a "Vision Statement", plan where you want to be in 5 years, then in 10 years. Describe the Lodge Environment by defining the "Strengths", "Weaknesses", "Opportunities", "Threats". Follow these with specific "Goals".

Those of you who attend regularly remember that we had a "Brain Storming Session" downstairs following a Regular Stated Meeting. A couple weeks later, I passed out a form that recited the eleven (11) suggestions that came out of that session. You were asked to rank those suggestions. Those results were compiled and given to the 20/20 Subcommittee consisting of W.: Jay Myers, W.: Ray Keighley, W.: Doug Jessup, W.: Frank Kneaves, W.: Fred Ahlemann, Brother Brian Weese, and Brother Fred Kemp.

Top rankings went to:

1. More family oriented activities
2. Encourage proficiency for more people doing degree work
3. Purchase new Audio/Visual equipment
4. Update Jewels & Lodge Furniture
5. Facilitate Socializing outside of Lodge
6. Compile Directory of Lodge on an Opt-in basis.

The Subcommittee discussed ways to better include families into our activities. For example the next W.:M.: may have a Christmas Party for Children complete with Santa and gifts.

I would encourage all our Brothers to invite their wives and significant others to our Quarterly Birthday Dinners, Widows Dinners and at the Installation of Officers in December.

Our Education Committee consisting of W.: Doug Jessup (also our Study Club Director), W.: Kevin Hughes and W.: Kyle Kessler have been giving of their time to help us gain proficiency in our Degree Work. I appreciate their excellent help.

We are helping facilitate #5 and #6 by producing a Directory, Information follows in this Newsletter.

The only recommendation for action that involves an outlay of funds is to update our Projection equipment. Our current slide projection equipment and slides are beyond "dated". We already have a sound system, a lap top computer and DVD's with slides and music. We need a projector with remote and stand that will accommodate the equipment. W.: Kevin Hughes is getting an estimate of costs together before this is put before the membership for a vote. It will most probably cost much less than we net from the Fall Festival activities.

Hang this page near
your calendar!

Masonic **Education**

Our Masonic Education committee continues to provide exciting discussions on a myriad of subjects. Masonic Education programs are presented at the Lodge's stated meetings on the first and third Thursday of each month. See you there!

Upcoming **Events**

MASONIC FUNERAL:
For David Burnett, Sat.,
July 14th 11 am. See
Calendar for details

**THIRD QUARTER BIRTH-
DAY DINNER:**
August 16th 6:30 pm

**OFFICERS MOVE-UP
NIGHT:**
September 6th

SHOTGUN EVENT:
Sept 8th at Powder Creek
sponsored by Shawnee
Lodge. See Calendar of
events for further
information

Keep current with all
events by going to the
calendar at
www.opmasons.org

**JOIN US FOR
STUDY CLUB ON
THE SECOND
AND FOURTH
THURSDAYS OF
EACH MONTH!**



**HELP US MAKE
O.P. LODGE #436
THE OUTSTAND-
ING LODGE FOR
RITUAL IN
DISTRICT V.!**

NEW O.P. LODGE #436 DIRECTORY PLANNED

It has been suggested that we compile a directory to be used discretely by our own members so that we can better communicate with each other.

This will be compiled and published on an **“Opt-in”** basis. In other words, **If you want to be in the Directory**, let me know personally! Let me know what information you wish to be included (phone number personal or business., e-mail, etc.).

In an effort to make sure no one abuses the list of our members, we have kept ourselves unavailable to our Brethren with common interests. You will now have the chance to be available to your Brothers for social contact.

E-mail me at fahlemann@sbcglobal.net or call 913-515-6259 (my cell).

PAST MASTERS DINNER AND MEETING

Eleven Past Masters were honored at our Stated Meeting on June 21st. Most of them were put to work in the various places and stations. All were given the opportunity to give a short Bio of their years in office as Master. It was noted that our Lodge has had only one Master serve for more than one year (W.: Jay Myers). We hope that his physical challenges will soon allow him to return.

We opened on the First Degree with W.: Doug Jessup in the East, W.: Phill Smith in the West, W.: Kevin Hughes in the South, W.: Don Crouse, Treasurer, W.: Frank Kneaves, Sec, W.: Ray Keighley, S.D., W.: Kyle Kesler, J. D., W.: Ken Haynes, S.S., W.: Brian White, J.S., W.: Dick Yoakum, Tyler, and W.: Martin Johnson, Chaplain.

Fifteen people were in attendance at the great meal prepared by Brother Fred, Kemp our Junior Warden.

AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

An Amendment was passed by a vote of 17 to 0 to change the starting time of our Stated Meetings to 7:30 pm on the First and Third Thursdays of the month.

The vote taken on June 21st followed, by one meeting, the reading of the motion and the second. This is in line with our by-laws. It will now be forwarded to the Grand Secretary for action by the Grand Master.

Once we receive dispensation from the Grand Lodge to implement this Amendment, you will be given notice and we will change our starting time. Thus, our starting times for Stated Meetings and Study Club will be standardized.

Overland Park Lodge #436

Voice Calendar:
(913) 523-3570

Email:
www.opmasons.org and
click on Contact Us.

***Making Good Men
Better!***



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WWW.OPMASONSONLINE.ORG

Overland Park Lodge #436
8109 Overland Park Drive
Overland Park, KS 66204

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HIERARCHY OF NEEDS & MASONIC MEMBERSHIP

Following is a short recap of an article printed in the June 2012 Short Talk Bulletin. It was written by Mr. W. Kevin B. Todd of the Grand Lodge, F.&A.M., of Ohio. Ask Fred Ahlemann for a copy of the article if you are interested to follow the full story.

Most Worshipful Brother Todd states that "Masonry is like a large rock in the middle of a river. It stays in one spot with the river moving around and sometimes over it. " Masonry reached it's maximum size in the 1950's and has lessened ever since.

"What did the Masons of the 1950's do differently than we do today?...not much". "To further the analogy, the rock in the river did not move or get any larger, but an island grew up around the rock in the middle of the river. In the times since then, the river has eroded that island to the point where the rock is itself in danger of erosion."

To better understand the environment, one needs to know about the five levels of needs known as "Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs". To be very brief, those levels are: 1) Physiological Needs, 2) Security Needs, 3) Social Needs, 4) Esteem Needs, 5) Self-Actualization Needs.

Physiological Needs are the most basic needs (e.g. water, air, food and sleep. Security Needs include the need for safety and security (including desire for employment, safe neighborhoods, shelter, etc.) Social Needs include the needs for belonging, love and affection, relationships and companionship. Esteem Needs – After the first three have been satisfied, esteem needs become increasingly important. These include needs that reflect on self-esteem, personal worth, social recognition and accomplishment. Self-Actualization Needs – "This is the highest level of the hierarchy of needs. Self-actualized people are self-aware, concerned with personal growth, less concerned with the opinions of others and interested in fulfilling their maximum potential."

"Do you recognize your own place or that of others in this hierarchy? You need to understand that you can move up and down this hierarchy with a changing environment too. And you can be at more than one level on different aspects of your life. As the river (society) changes, you will find yourself and others with new and different needs."

In the 50's, millions of men had returned from war. After supplying their Physiological and Security Needs, they then were open to fulfilling their Social Needs. The fraternal aspects of a Masonic Lodge definitely fulfilled the need for companionship and acceptance in a social or community setting. In order to exist in today's world we must strive to meet the "Social Needs and Self-Actualization Needs of our Brothers.

Overland Park Masonic Lodge #436

The Freemasons of Overland Park Lodge are a group of Men belonging to a greater Fraternity, or Sacred Band of Friends and Brothers, who are united in the prospect of making good men better, practicing charity, walking and acting with just honor before God and Man and working toward that eternal goal of uniting all mankind in a single Brotherhood under the perfect Fatherhood of the Great Architect of the Universe through Truth, Compassion and Brotherly Love.

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