

## MASONIC ORDER FOUNDED IN 1850, HAS GROWN CONSISTENTLY

### Own Their Own Buildings Which House Lodge Rooms

(Oct. 5, 1960)

This is a short history of the Mount Pulaski Lodge No. 87 A. F. & A. M., since the issuance of its charter in 1850, just 14 years after the founding of the city. Record has it that it was issued October 8 of that year, to David P. Bunn, Master; J. R. Braucher, Senior Warden; R. Carlyle, Junior Warden; and other members whose names could not be obtained.

Mount Pulaski Lodge #87 A.F. & A.M., received a Special Dispensation in February, 1850, to operate until their Charter was issued on October 8th, 1850 at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Illinois at Shawneetown.

For the year 1851 the following were officers: David P. Bunn, Master; J. R. Braucher, Senior Warden; R. Carlisle, Junior Warden; A. Edmunds, Treasurer; John T. Jenkins, Secretary; W. B. Harry, Senior Deacon; Luther Hill, Junior Deacon; W. C. Snyder, Tyler.

The following were members at that time: T. Leads, R. O. Paranteau, G. W. Finley, W. H. Young, Granville Fain, DeGrasse Brooks, Robert Grun, S. Kahn, James McGraw, M. Kahn, R. B. Latham, J. B. McIntosh, John Clark, Charles Capps, Henry Vonderlieth, H. B. Rowe, Jesse Blackledge and others for a total of 25 members.

At the time the charter was issued to the lodge, the meetings were held on the east side of the public square in the building formerly occupied by the Snyder carpenter shop, now the George Wolcott Gas and Appliance Co.

Later the meeting place was changed to the second floor of the two-story brick building formerly owned and occupied by the store of the C. F. Schafer Co. After several years there the lodge bought the building they now occupy, and at the present time is owned jointly by Mount Pulaski Lodge No. 87, A.F. & A.M., Mount Pulaski Chapter No. 121, Royal Arch Masons and Mount Pulaski Commandery No. 39 Knights Templar. The Order of Eastern Star uses it for their meeting place.

There have been 449 members join this lodge during the century, but the hand of death has taken many, and with transfers to others Lodges, leaves the 1950 membership at 169.

### SIL-TENNIAL YEAR OFFICERS OF ORDER

The officers of the three branches of the Masonic Order at the beginning of the Sil-Tennial Year of 1961, are given belows:

**Lodge No. 87  
Ancient Free & Accepted Masons**  
John C. Bowers, 1802 E. Cantrell St., Decatur: Worshipful Master.  
Donald Curtis Copeland, Senior Warden.  
William Joseph Matthews, Junior Warden.  
Francis Harold Myrick: Treasurer.  
Ennis A. Downing: Secretary.  
Joseph Willard Lucas: Senior Deacon.  
Joe William England: Junior Deacon.  
Sheldon Copeland, Senior Steward.  
J. Lee Hild: Junior Steward, Chestnut.  
J. Dalen Shellhammer, Chaplain, Illiopolis.  
Elmer E. Hayes, Marshal.  
Roy D. Gasaway, Tyler.

**Chapter # 121  
Royal Arch Masons**  
Joseph Willard Lucas, High Priest.  
William Joseph Matthews, King.  
J. Dalen Shellhammer, Scribe, Illiopolis.  
Francis Harold Myrick, Treasurer.  
Ennis A. Downing, Secretary.  
Ellis C. Downing, Chaplain.

Joe William England, Capt. of the Host.  
Donald Curtis Copeland, Principal Sojourner.  
John Clarence Bowers, Royal Arch Captain, 1802 E. Cantrall St., Decatur.  
Orville H. Downing, Master of 3rd Veil.  
J. C. Goddard, Master of 1st Veil.  
John R. Curtis, Steward.  
Roy D. Gasaway, Sentinel.

**Commandery No. 39  
Knights Templar**  
Harry Peterson, Eminent Commander, Cornland.  
John Leroy Woodrum, Generalissimo, Williamsville.  
John Clarence Bowers, Captain General, 1802 E. Cantrall, Decatur: Past Commander.  
J. Dalen Shellhammer, Senior Warden, Illiopolis.  
Joseph Willard Lucas, Junior Warden.  
Donald Curtis Copeland, Prelate Past Commander.  
Francis Harold Myrick, Treasurer. Past Commander.  
Ennis Albert Downing, Recorder. Past Commander.  
William Joseph Matthews, Standard Bearer. Past Commander.  
Winfred Raymond Lanterman, Sword Bearer.  
George Ruel Batterton, Color Bearer, Cornland.  
Joe William England, Warden.  
Alva Coronet Brown, Sentinel.

### O. E. S. LODGE WAS FORMED IN 1900

A special meeting called of those persons interested in forming an Eastern Star in Mt. Pulaski, was held on August 2, 1900.

It was formed under the direction of W. B. Carlock of Bloomington (Deputy Grand Patron) assisted by Mrs. Belle Schott of Lincoln. The degree was given to 21 members at this time. Following the degree the following were installed as officers:

Mary Aitchinson: Worthy Matron.  
P. H. Oyler: Worthy Patron.  
Mary Wilson: Associate Matron.  
Etta Bozarth: Secretary.  
Sarah Wood: Treasurer.  
Lula Fregenshuh, Conductress.  
Hester Evans: Associate Conductress.  
Anna Schafer: Adah.  
Virgilia Pumpelly: Ruth.  
Charlotte Fowler: Esther.  
Lura Lynn: Martha.  
Hanna Meyers: Electa.  
Catherine Addleman: Warden.  
A. C. Wilson: Sentinel.  
Prudie Beidler: Chaplain.  
Emaline Oyler: Marshal.  
Anna R. Schafer: Organist.

The 20th anniversary was observed on Aug. 9, 1920. Mary Upp was Worthy Matron and G. E. Housman, Worthy Patron.

On Aug. 27th, 1925, the Order celebrated its 25th anniversary. Mayme Schafer was Worthy Matron and Walter Schafer was Worthy Patron. This was quite a celebration. Six charter members were present: Elizabeth Schafer, Hanna Meyers, Hester Evans, Lula Fregenshuh, Anna Schafer and Virgilia Pumpelly.

On Sept. 27th, 1940, Ethel Downing, W.M., and Ellis Downing, W.P., had a special evening celebrating the Order's 40th anniversary. Miss Anna Schafer was the only member present. Mrs. Belle Schott was the special guest.

On Sept. 29, 1950, the Order's 50th anniversary was celebrated. Mildred Myrick, W.M. and Francis Myrick, W.P. All stations were filled by Past Matrons and Past Patrons. Belle Schott was present and gave a nice talk regarding the first meeting in 1900. A special program was given in the form of a play showing how the Order of the Eastern Star was first formed.

The officers for 1961 are as follows:  
June Crawford: Worthy Matron.  
Joe England: Worthy Patron.  
Sally England: Associate Matron.  
Donald Copeland: Associate Patron.  
Mildred Myrick: Secretary.

Eugene Kretzinger: Treasurer.  
Meria Bowers: Conductress.  
Pauline Bender: Conductress.  
Ethel Downing: Chaplain.  
Mary Veech: Marshal.  
Luella Myrick: Organist.  
Naomi Curtis: Adah.  
Mae Kretzinger: Ruth.  
Audrey Copeland: Esther.  
Lola Froehlich: Martha.  
Gerusia Hayes: Electa.  
Irene Matthews: Warden.  
Elmer Hayes: Sentinel.  
Blanche Ford: Instructress.

### Home Bureau Forms Two Units In Township

On June 28, 1946 a group of ladies of Mount Pulaski Township met to organize a Home Bureau Unit.

On the advice of the County Home Adviser, Mrs. Mabel Albrecht, it was decided to divide into two groups, Unit I to meet at a public place, Unit II to meet at the homes of its members on the second Monday of the month.

At the first meeting of Unit II held at the home of Mrs. Edward Ruwe, the following officers were elected to serve one year.

Chairman: Mrs. Harold Tendick.  
Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Karl Dittus.

Secretary - Treasurer: Mrs. Clarence Romer.  
Objectives of the Home Bureau are to help the homemaker improve home and community life through educational programs, to build a stronger organization of homemakers; also, to sponsor girls' 4-H club work and rural youth work.

This unit has donated toward such worthwhile causes as the March of Dimes, Pennies for Friendship, Polio Fund Scholarship, Girl Scouts, 4-H Heritage Fund, D.D.T. Spraying and the Sil-Tennial Fund. We have also given our time and effort to the TB Survey Unit, Blood Bank, Rummage Sales, Food Exchanges, Silent Auctions, Public Card Parties, Float for Fiesta Parade, County Fair Lunch Stand and Box Lunches for Farm Bureau meetings.

Charter members still active, are: Mrs. Louise Ey, Mrs. Otto Ey, Mrs. Wilbur Stoll, Mrs. Karl Dittus, Mrs. Julian Schmidt, Mrs. Norman Schahl, Mrs. John Biesemeier, Mrs. Harold Tendick and Mrs. Wendell Rothwell.

The present officers are:  
Chairman: Mrs. Wilbur Stoll.  
Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Louis French.  
Secretary - Treasurer: Mrs. Karl Dittus.

## WE, TOO, ARE PIONEERS . . In Quality Building Products

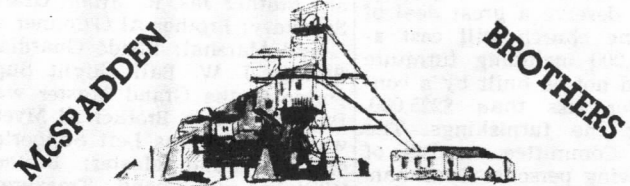
- Lumber
- Roofing
- Insulation
- Sherwin-Williams Paint
- Glass
- Millwork
- Brick & Tile
- Floor Covering

# LATHAM LUMBER CO.

Phone: OR-4-5351

Latham, Ill.

## LINCOLN COAL MINE



P. O. BOX 155

# COAL

Mine Located on Route 121

1 1/2 Miles Southeast of Lincoln, Illinois

### FRESHLY MINED DEEP MINE COAL

Oil-Treated Stoker - 3x8 Egg and Large Lump  
is available at any time

**CALL 732-6077 or**

**CONTACT YOUR FAVORITE TRUCKER**

A Successful Sil-Tennial to Mount Pulaski from Paul and Percy McSpadden, new owners of the coal mine.

## We're Right on Your Job of EXCAVATING or GRADING

When It Comes To Any Job Of  
Earth Moving — Big or Small



... BACK FILLING - GRADING  
... ANGLE DOZING, TRENCHING  
... BACK HOE WORK, OR  
... ROAD MATERIALS



COME TO US!

WE'VE GOT "WHAT IT TAKES" IN  
MODERN EQUIPMENT & SKILLED  
EXPERIENCED MAN-POWER

TO DO IT BETTER AND FASTER AT LOWER COSTS

GET OUR ESTIMATES FIRST

# LOGAN COUNTY CONST. CO.

## EXCAVATING

LINCOLN, ILLINOIS

PHONE 732-8945