



Officers of Allen Lodge #24 Free and Accepted Masons observed the Lodge's 200th anniversary on August 24. Organized in 1813, Allen Lodge #24 is one of Barren County's oldest institutions.

Other notable Allen Lodge members included U.S. Senator Joseph Rogers Underwood, Confederate General Joseph Horace Lewis who was also a member of Congress and Judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, and Judge Virgil Baird who also served on the Kentucky Court of Appeals.

Allen Lodge Female Academy was founded in the 1850's and became a respected institution dedicated to educating young girls of the area. With the disruption of the Civil War, the college was left weak and it did not survive. The Academy's last principal was the Rev. N.G. Terry who only a few years later, with the support of the Liberty Baptist Association, founded Liberty Female College in Glasgow. Rev. Terry's son, Professor E.B. Terry, later began a private school in Glasgow which eventually merged with the public education movement to create Glasgow's public educational system. Thus, Allen Lodge #24 played a major role in the history of education in the community.

In the early 20th century, the lodge found itself in need of a new building following a devastating fire that destroyed the lodge building in 1906. The South Green Street site was pressed into service again when a new three-story brick building

next door to Citizens Bank was completed. That structure was used until 1980 when the lodge acquired the upper floor of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company building which was constructed at that time.

Other Masonic orders use the current quarters of Allen Lodge #24, including: Glasgow Chapter #45, Royal Arch Masons; Glasgow Council #11, Royal and Select Masons; Glasgow Commandery #36, Knights Templar; Glasgow Chapter #257, Order of the Eastern Star; Past Matrons

Club of the Eastern Star; and the Barren-Hart Scottish Rite Club.

Eleven members of Allen Lodge #24 have been Masons for 60 or more years, namely, Eugene Thomas Blair, James O. Brown, Lewis Thomas Button, Thomas O. Cole, Lester Ewen Gregory, Carl Kenneth Jackson, Robert Adams Lessenberry, Walton Howard Luttrell, Roy Jewell Pace, George Edwin Read, and John Hugh Vaughn. The current Junior Deacon, Lewis T. Button, has been a member for 69 years.

