



Shown in the picture in the upper left is a portion of the several Officers and Members of the Lodges in Masonic District "A" and a few neighboring Lodges who participated in the annual wreath placing ceremony of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at the Bro. George Washington at Prayer Statue, Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, on Washington's Birthday, Saturday, February 22, 1969. Photo above shows Bro. William H. Reese, Worshipful Master of Michael Arnold Lodge, No. 636 (left) and Bro. James W. Fry, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District "A" about to place the Grand Lodge wreath at the foot of the statue. A view of the several hundred that braved the snow-covered grounds to witness the ceremonies is shown in the photo at the left.



On Reading Masonic Books

When a brother reaches the point in his Masonic study where he desires to read Masonic literature, he not only adds to his own knowledge, he is then in position to enlighten others.

Thousands of books and pamphlets have been written on the philosophy, history, and symbolism of Freemasonry. However, the brother who purchases some eight or ten basic books and reads them over and over again, can acquire a good working knowledge of Masonry.

Some of the finest examples of the English language are found in Masonic writings. By reading such books, one can improve in the art of writing and speaking.

One is never alone with Masonic books. They serve as do good friends.

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia Has Guided Tours for Public

Guided tours are conducted through the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, headquarters of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania, on weekdays at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

On Saturdays there are guided tours at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

The Temple is closed on legal holidays and on Saturdays during July and August.

There is sanctuary in Freemasonry. In the privacy of the inner fellowship of the fraternity, a Brother will often find rest for his heart and protection from the bruises of the world. That man is no true Freemason in whose nature the weary may not find rest and the weak find protection.

Earliest Use Of the Term Free Mason

The term Goban Saor was in common usage among the ancient pre-Roman Gaelic-speaking peoples who occupied not only England, Scotland and Ireland, but also large tracts of territory in what is now France, Germany and Spain. The pure and literal translation of Goban Saor is Free Mason.

This term is interwoven into ancient Gaelic literature, and it is quite familiar to all present-day Gaelic speakers and to students of ancient cultures and folklore. There is no doubt that the ancient peoples looked upon the Goban Saor as the personification of all that human skill and intelligence might hope to attain. His great works were prominent landmarks in all countries to sustain this feeling of awe. It was natural that legend and the professional story-tellers embellished his name until his fantastic adventures easily rivaled those 1001 tales of the Arabian Nights.

Gaelic leis an Goban Saor (as skilled as the Free Mason) is a common Gaelic expression. One story tells how he made a which preserved the Tuatha de Danann from old age. The pre-historic Tuatha de Dana reportedly arrived in Ireland around 3,000 to 3,500 B.C. and also credits the Goban Saor with leading the pre-historic round towers. Still puzzle historians. Gaelic dictionaries define Goban Saor as "A craftsman of genius in Gaelic folklore."

The PENNSYLVANIA

FREEMASON



AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA

VOLUME XVI

MAY • 1969

NUMBER 2



The Tabernacle, located between Wesley and Asbury Avenues and Fifth and Sixth Streets, Ocean City, New Jersey, where Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Grand Master, will address the Ocean City Masonic Club on Tuesday evening, August 26, 1969, on the occasion of its "Grand Masters Night." All Masons are invited.

Grand Master to Address Masons In Tabernacle at Ocean City, N.J.

1976 Committee Stays Active; Seeks Ideas

The 1976 Committee of Grand Lodge will meet on June 4, 1969, at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. Bro. Theodore K. Warner, Jr., General Chairman of the Committee, reported that every possible effort will be made to assure Freemasonry adequate programs during the 200th Anniversary Declaration of Independence in 1976. He added:

"We welcome suggestions from all Brethren. This is an important celebration and we need the collective thinking of all the Brethren."

Suggestions and ideas should be sent to the Chairman, 1976 Committee, Grand Master's Office, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, will address the Ocean City Masonic Club in the Ocean City Tabernacle, Ocean City, N.J., at 8 p.m., Tuesday, August 26, 1969.

Bro. Harold S. McGear, a member and Past Master of Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 528, Philadelphia, is president of the Ocean City Masonic Club. He has extended an invitation to all Pennsylvania Masons to attend "Grand Masters Night" of the organization on August 26.

It is expected that many Grand Lodge Officers from Pennsylvania and New Jersey will attend the meeting.

Freemasonry is a life to be lived, not a formality to be perfunctorily observed; it is a life to be lived and not a set of empty creeds to which lip service is given. It is a life grounded in religion, organized in morality, mellowed by good fellowship, humanized in charity and dedicated to service.

Cornerstones Placed, Temple, Lodge Rooms Recently Dedicated

Grand Lodge held three Special Communications during the past three months to dedicate Lodge Rooms in new Masonic Temples.

Two of the Special Communications included cornerstone placing ceremonies.

On March 15, Grand Lodge placed the cornerstone and dedicated the Lodge Room at the new Masonic Temple at Birdsboro, Berks County. It is the home of Union Lodge, No. 479.

On April 19, Grand Lodge dedicated the Masonic Temple at Sandy Lake, Mercer County. It is the new home of Lake Lodge, No. 434.

Following the dedication, the Grand Master and those accompanying him were received at a Special Meeting of Lodge No. 434 for the purpose of observing the 100th Anniversary of the Lodge.

On April 26, Grand Lodge placed the cornerstone and dedicated the Lodge Room at the Riverside Masonic Temple, Wrightsville, York County. It is the new home of Riverside Lodge, No. 503.

Bro. Kenneth W. Nebinger Now Local Secretary for Quatuor Coronati Lodge

Bro. Kenneth W. Nebinger, Co-District Chairman of the 2nd Masonic District, is the Local Secretary for Pennsylvania for Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, "The Premier Lodge of Masonic Research," with headquarters at 27 Great Queen Street, London—opposite Freemasons' Hall.

Officers and Members of Pennsylvania Lodges interested in more information and details should contact Bro. Nebinger, 4707 Hunt Circle, Harrisburg, Pa. 17110.

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

Distribution Office

MASONIC HOMES

Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022

(Send FORM 3579 to Above Address)

Second Class

POSTAGE

PAID AT

Elizabethtown

Pennsylvania

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

Issued Quarterly

February, May, August and November at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, by The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging, through its

COMMITTEE ON MASONIC CULTURE — Charles H. Nitsch, P.G.M., Chairman; W. Frederick Warren, Vice-Chairman; Martin D. Rife; Frank W. Bobb; Stanley L. Bateman; W. Edward Sell and William A. Carpenter, Secretary.

Approved and Authorized To Be Printed By
JOHN K. YOUNG
Right Worshipful Grand Master

WILLIAM A. CARPENTER, Editor

Mailing Address:

MASONIC TEMPLE
One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

Send Form 3579 to Distribution Office
Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022

Second Class Postage Paid at
Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

Vol. XVI May, 1969 No. 2

An All-Time High

\$315,419 Donated To '68 'Guest Fund'

The Guest Fund collection, which ended March 15, 1969, reached a new record of \$315,419.00.

Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Grand Master, thanked Pennsylvania Masons for their generous contributions. He added:

"The collection represents an increase of \$33,419 over last year.

"I am very proud and thankful that 40,843 Brethren, or approximately 16 per cent of our membership, sent contributions direct to the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown in the envelopes provided in Lodge Notices.

"I would estimate that another 15,000 Brethren, or approximately 6 per cent of our membership, contributed through Lodge collections at meetings and banquets.

"This means that approximately 22 per cent of our membership, or 55,843 Brethren, contributed to the Guest Fund.

"This also means that the average gift was \$5.75 per contributor."

Bro. Young pointed out that the Guest Fund budget at the Masonic Homes is now approximately \$314,000 a year, and, with rising costs, will have to be materially increased next year. He added:

"This is the money that makes our Masonic Homes a little special. It offers our Guests an opportunity to share in the riches of worldly pleasures.

"It is our way of thinking of others."

Bro. Ackermann Appointed M.S.A. Field Agent For Army General Hospital at Valley Forge



Bro. Everett F. Ackermann

Bro. Everett F. Ackermann, Past Master of Phoenix Lodge, No. 75, Phoenixville, Pa., has been appointed Masonic Service Association Field Agent for the United States Army General Hospital at Valley Forge, Pa.

Bro. Ackermann is a retired United States Army colonel; a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Reading; Rajah Shrine, Reading; and Valley Forge Chapter National Sojourners.

Training for Bro. Ackermann was provided by Bro. Paul Stewart, the first Field Agent in Pennsylvania, now serving in Veterans Administration and Service Hospitals in Philadelphia. He also received instructions from Bro. John Cole at Walter Reed Army Hospital, Washington, D.C.

The Army Hospital at Valley Forge offers Pennsylvania Masons an opportunity to assist hundreds of Viet Nam casualties fighting their way back to health.

The M.S.A. program in Pennsylvania is financed by Grand Lodge. Masons interested in assisting either Bro. Ackermann or Bro. Stewart should contact Bro. William C. Edmunds, Chief Field Officer, Masonic Service Association, 724 Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Grand Master, has urged volunteers to assist in the important work. He added:

"This is our opportunity to assist those who are in need of our assistance."

WE NEED YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS

Copies of The Pennsylvania Freemason returned by the Post Offices, due to incorrect addresses, cost ten cents each. You can help save us this expense by notifying your Lodge Secretary, immediately when you change your address.

Homes' Guest is Outstanding Student

Thomas Dawson IV, a Guest at the Masonic Homes and a senior at Elizabethtown High School, has received many honors for his outstanding scholastic work.

He was elected president of the Senior Class at the high school.

In February, he was honored by being selected to attend "A Presidential Classroom for Young Americans" at Washington, D.C. Following the trip, he described his week in Washington as "the greatest week in my life."

In March, Tom was recognized in "Who's Who Among American High School Students." This is an outstanding achievement since less than three per cent of graduating seniors in the country are selected for his honor.

It also has been officially announced that Tom has been accepted by Franklin & Marshall College at Lancaster. He will start his freshman year in September.



Thomas Dawson IV

From Our Grand Secretary's Office

Quarterly Communication — March 5, 1969

The March Quarterly Communication, as usual, was preceded by two days of interesting meetings with various Committees and the District Deputy Grand Masters.

The attendance at the Quarterly Communication was pleasingly large. Among the visitors were Bro. Vincent Burgess, Worshipful Master of Hanibol Lodge, No. 224, in Bermuda, and Bro. Martyn Gay, of St. Paul Lodge, No. 6400, Bristol, England.

Committee Reports

The various Committee reports were informative and enlightening. The proposed amendments to the By-Laws submitted by 16 Lodges were approved and action on one was deferred, as recommended by the Committee on By-Laws.

The report of Committee on Finance for the first fiscal quarter showed Receipts of \$2,028,690 and Expenditures of \$1,787,580. Resolutions presented by this Committee were approved authorizing alterations to the Nurses Home, and the Brown Cottage at the Masonic Homes, and the supervision of this work by an outside firm; a donation in connection with enlarging the sewage disposal plant on the Masonic Homes grounds; clarifying the use of the income from the Allegheny County Memorial Fund; the sale of Grand Lodge's interest in some property in Dauphin County; and the remission of dues of a Life Member who is confined in a state institution.

One of the most important reports presented was a review by Bro. Orville Kimmel, R. W. Senior Grand Warden and Chairman of the Hospital Subcommittee for the Committee on Masonic Homes on a Feasibility Study prepared by the firm of Wood and Tower concerning the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. The Hospital at the Homes is now crowded and as a result a waiting list for Hospital Guests is now in effect. Facilities are still available, however, for ambulatory Guests. A very careful investigation must be made by the Lodges and District Deputies to ascertain if their new Applicants require assignment to the Hospital at the Homes upon their admission.

1968 Membership Statistics

The preliminary Membership statistics show a net loss for 1968 of 2,006. While 5,317 were initiated, death took 6,162 Members, bringing our total down to 247,364.

Detailed reports concerning the various activities in connection with the annual Grand Masters' Conference were presented.

Three Special Communications of Grand Lodge have been held since the March Quarterly Communication. On

March 15, Union Lodge, No. 479, at Birdsboro had its new Lodge Room dedicated; a similar ceremony occurred on April 19 for Lake Lodge, No. 434, at Sandy Lake; and Riverside Lodge, No. 503's new Lodge Room at Wrightsville was dedicated on April 26. These three Lodges are highly commended for their outstanding new quarters.

The June Communication will be held at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown on June 4, 1969. This is an excellent opportunity for all of us to learn more about how our Homes operate.

Spartan Lodge, No. 372, in Spartansburg, Crawford County, is the smallest Lodge in our Jurisdiction. During the past year it initiated four new Members, and had no deaths, suspensions or resignations, and ended the year with 54 Members, an increase of almost 10 percent. Despite its small membership its yearly Receipts exceeded its Expenditures. How wonderful it would be if all our 610 Lodges could match these achievements.

Bro. Joe May, a Member of Apollo Lodge, No. 386, for 45 years, and a former boxing and baseball star, is still rugged at age 90. He has a keen interest in sports and drives his own car. During the early 1900's, Joe played semi-professional baseball and his ring career included 52 fights in the lightweight division.

Concordia Lodge, No. 67, is setting a new all-time record this year. Thirty-six of its Members will receive their Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblems in 1969. We sincerely hope each of them will enjoy wearing their Emblem for many years.

"Smiles" is a long word — there is a mile between its first and last letter. Keep smiling.

Faternally,

Ashby B. Paul

Ashby B. Paul
R. W. Grand Secretary

In Memoriam

BRO. WILLIS R. MICHAEL

Bro. Willis R. Michael, Grand Steward and member of the Committee on Masonic Homes, passed away on March 25, 1969, after a brief illness.

Bro. Michael lived in York, where he was a Member of York Lodge No. 266 and served as its Worshipful Master in 1932.

He was an ardent member and officer of the York Rite Bodies, including Howell Royal Arch Chapter No. 199, York Council No. 21, and York

Commandery No. 21.

In Scottish Rite Masonry, he was a member of the Valley of Harrisburg, where he served as Most Wise Master in 1941-42. He was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, on September 23, 1942, at Boston, Mass.

Bro. Michael served as Grand Steward of Grand Lodge for six Grand Masters, being first appointed in 1954. He was appointed to the Committee on Masonic Homes on March 25, 1960, and served as a Member of its executive committee until his death.

He also was a member of the Red Cross of Constantine; Allied Degrees; Royal Order of Scotland; Society of Rosicrucians; Zembo Temple; Tall Cedars of Lebanon, and National League of Masonic Clubs.

Bro. Michael was known throughout the world for his hobby, watch and clock collecting.



Bro. David H. Kendig, Jr. (right) who served as Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 435 in 1918, is shown receiving a Past Master's Plaque from Bro. Harold Angstadt, Worshipful Master, on the evening he conferred a Master Mason's Degree. Bro. Herbert H. Blankenbiller, who served as Worshipful Master in 1943, is shown on the left. Bro. David H. Kendig, III, shown in the rear, served as Worshipful Master in 1950, having been appointed a Floor Officer by Bro. Blankenbiller.

Need for Additional Accommodations at Homes' Hospital Prompts Guidelines For Admission of Approved Applicants

The limited number of available hospital beds at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown has caused a delay in calling for approved non-ambulatory Guests.

Bro. Orville Kimmel, R. W. Senior Grand Warden and Chairman of the Hospital Committee of the Committee on Masonic Homes, explained:

"For the greater part of the past ten years, the hospital has been occupied at more than 100 per cent capacity.

"The present legal capacity of the hospital is 265. We must reserve 27 beds for temporary care for our Cottage Guests. This leaves 238 beds for the care of permanent hospital Guests."

He pointed out that preliminary drawings were made for a possible addition to the hospital. He added:

"When estimated costs, not only of building, but also the additional cost of maintenance, were considered, it was deemed wise and prudent to have a feasibility study made by a competent firm.

"The firm of Wood and Tower was employed to make the study. We have now reviewed the results of the study with the firm."

Quotes from Wood and Tower's report included such as:

"The finest care given in any hospital I have ever visited, but there is a problem of overcrowding, which demands our immediate attention."

The study revealed there is considerable change in the age and length of stay of the Guests. It showed that Guests enter the Homes later in life and their stay is much shorter. The report continued:

"Since 1960, the number of applicants to the Masonic Homes have

greatly increased. The total yearly admissions have consequently shown an increase proportionate to the increase in applications.

"During the past 17 years, the period covered by the study, the total number of Guests has increased from an average of 515 in 1950 to 710 in 1967."

Bro. Kimmel said the Committee on Masonic Homes gave serious consideration to building a new wing onto the hospital. He added:

"This, or any other major addition, would necessitate a capital fund drive."

He reported the Committee decided to convert the present Nurses Home to provide for fifty-eight additional Guests, at a cost of \$125,000.

Employees, many now housed in the Nurses Home, will be moved to the W. Harry Brown Cottage, where it will cost an estimated \$105,000 for renovations.

Bro. Kimmel also pointed out that in the future the following guidelines will be considered by the Committee on Masonic Homes in administering the admission policy:

1. Cottage Guests be maintained at present capacity.

2. Direct admissions to the Hospital be limited at all times



Bro. James M. Aiken, Past Master, former Treasurer for six years and current Secretary of Coraopolis Lodge, No. 674, since February 1946, is shown receiving engraved plaque from Bro. Wesley E. Smith, Sr., Past Master, on the occasion of the annual banquet when his Lodge honored him for his many years of devoted service to his church, his community and Freemasonry.

to the capacity available for such Guests, after provision for Cottage Guests and proper operation.

3. Quotas be established for each type (Cottage and Hospital), these quotas being adjusted monthly in advance, taking into account the advice of the Executive Director of the Masonic Homes; the space expected to be available and approved admissions not yet in residence.

4. Requirements for medical screening be amplified and enforced by refusing to admit Cottage Guests whose physical condition will not permit them to live in the Cottage on admission. To become a Cottage Guest, it is essential that an applicant be able to dress, use knife and fork, take care of his own needs, walk and use stairs.

5. Before seriously considering an applicant, it should be established whether he or she will be a Cottage or Hospital Guest.

The approximate \$230,000 needed to make the changes to the Nurses Home and the Brown Cottage has been approved by the Committee on Finance and Grand Lodge.

The money will be taken from the Current Funds of Grand Lodge.

Bro. Kimmel concluded:

"While this is not the complete answer to the future of maintaining adequate facilities for our Guests, it is obviously prudent to review our total Homes operation periodically and proceed according to need, rather than to venture into the unknown with a Masonic Homes facility whose cost of operation might be far beyond our fondest expectation."

June Quarterly to be Held at Homes

The June Quarterly Communication will be held at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown at 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 4, 1969.

Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Grand Master, has urged Masons to make a special effort to attend the Communication. He pointed out:

"It is not necessary to be a Lodge Officer or Past Master to attend. Every Mason should make a special effort to attend as many Communications of Grand Lodge as possible.

"I personally urge Brethren to arrive at the Homes in the morning or early afternoon. In this way, you will have an opportunity to tour the Homes and the Patton Masonic School.

"This is a beautiful time of the year. I will be looking for a large attendance."

The Grand Master reported that Brethren arriving in the morning or afternoon can find ample eating facilities in the Elizabethtown area.

The Communication will be held in the George H. Deike Auditorium, which has seating facilities for approximately 600.



Main entrance to the Recreation Building at the Homes that includes the spacious air-conditioned George Deike Auditorium which will be Tyled for the June Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Wednesday evening, June 4, 1969. To the left is the Masonic Temple.

Masonic Blood Donor Club Providing Blood for Homes

The Masonic Blood Donor Club of Southeastern Pennsylvania is now providing blood that is needed by Guests at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Bro. Wayne W. Thompson, Chairman of the Blood Donor Club, recently wrote the following to the Operations Secretary of the Club:

"Kindly notify the University of Pennsylvania Bank to send from our credit supply twenty-six pints to the Lancaster General Hospital.

"Sometime in the future there may be other hospital lists, details of which are being worked out by our Elizabethtown friends with several other hospitals they have made use of since January, 1968."

There are now more than 1,200 Members in the Masonic Blood Donor Club. Bro. Thompson said that Masons may obtain information concerning the Club by dropping him a card: Wayne W. Thompson, 620 Washington Lane, Jenkintown, Pa. 19046, or by calling (Area 215) MA 7-6676. Just dial the Area Code and then "MASON 76."

Freemasonry has survived because it is a continuing unfinished story of builders seeking through the cardinal virtues and common endeavors to make life a nobler expression of the brotherhood of man.

Bro. Robert H. Linn Appointed to Medical Staff at Masonic Homes

Bro. Robert H. Linn, a member of Warren Lodge, No. 310, Collegeville, has been appointed an associate medical director at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Bro. Linn assumed his new position on March 31. His family will move to Elizabethtown in the near future.

He graduated from Staunton Military Academy, 1932; University of Pennsylvania, 1937; and Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, 1941. He interned at Hahnemann Hospital.

In 1942 he joined the U.S. Army, went to England; was in the invasion of Africa with the First Armored Division; was in the invasion of Italy at Salerno in 1943; and was in the capture of Naples, Anzio Beachhead, Rome, Florence and Milan. He was wounded in the right leg during the war and was discharged as a captain in 1945.

He took a residency in medicine in 1946 at St. Luke's and Children's Hospitals and in 1947 took a year of graduate work in internal medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

For the past 22 years, Bro. Linn has been in general practice with a group in Pottstown.



Bro. Robert H. Linn, M.D.

A Mason, it was said, in 1734-35, "is to be a Man of Benevolence and Charity, not sitting down contented while his Fellow Creatures, but much more his Brethren, are in Want, when it is in his Power (without prejudicing himself or Family) to relieve them."

—WILLIAM SMITH

A Pocket Companion for Free-Masons, 1935



Shown above are seventeen Past Masters of Milnor Lodge, No. 287, Pittsburgh, who participated in impressive Degree Work at a Stated Meeting honoring the Past Masters of Milnor Lodge recently. Bro. John L. McCain, second from left in rear row, is presently serving as District Deputy Grand Master of the 55th Masonic District.

Three-month Itinerary of GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Visitations of Grand Lodge Officers will slow down during the next three months. They include:

- June 4 — Grand Lodge Officers, Quarterly Communication, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.
- June 16-18 — Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Spring Reunion, Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Coudersport.
- June 20 — Deputy Grand Master, DeMolay Conclave, Butler, Pa.
- June 27 — Grand Lodge Officers, Meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.
- July 11 — Grand Lodge Officers, Council of Deliberation, Williamsport, Pa.
- July 25 — Grand Lodge Officers, Meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.
- August 14 — Senior Grand Warden, Grand Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, University Park, Pa.
- August 22 — Grand Lodge Officers, Meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.
- August 26 — Grand Lodge Officers, Ocean City Masonic Club, Tabernacle, Ocean City, N.J.



Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, is shown presenting the beautifully engraved framed resolution of Oakdale Lodge, No. 669, to Bro. Wesley A. Moore, in recognition of his fifty years as a Past Master and Treasurer of Oakdale Lodge for forty-four years.

Bro. Paul S. Shank Retires, Ending Over Fifty Years' Service at Homes



Bro. Paul S. Shank

Grand Master is Speaker At Patton Commencement; Openings in New Classes

Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Grand Master, will give the Commencement Address at the Patton Masonic School graduation at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 31, 1969, in the Deike Auditorium of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

There are 12 students in the graduating class. Seven of them plan to go to college next fall.

Masons and friends are invited to attend the graduation.

It was announced that Dale Krasley, a sophomore at Patton, has been elected treasurer of the Eastern District of the State Library Association.

It was also announced that Michael Klingler, a graduating senior, has been awarded a \$200 yearly scholarship for advanced trade education from the American Society of Tool Manufacturing and Engineers. He will attend the Pennsylvania State University's Center at York, Pa.

Dr. John W. Kopp, Superintendent of Patton, said applications are now being accepted for the September term. There are openings for 18 in the freshman class and a limited number of openings in the upper grades.

Detailed information on Patton School may be obtained by writing to Dr. Kopp at Patton Masonic School for Boys, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022.

Bro. Paul S. Shank, Superintendent of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, retired on March 31, 1969, after many years of service.

Bro. and Mrs. Shank and their families were guests at a testimonial dinner on March 28 at the Masonic Homes. Guests, Grand Lodge Officers and Members of the Committee on Masonic Homes extended their best wishes to the Shanks.

In 1913, as a boy of 13, Bro. Shank started to work at the Homes on a part-time basis. After those early years of summer employment he served on a full-time basis on the farms, landscape and Homes Departments. He was appointed Chief Steward at the Homes and served in this capacity for many years until 1961 when he was elected Superintendent.

The retiring Superintendent and his wife, Dora Kaylor Shank, have moved to their new home at 30 School Lane, Elizabethtown.

Bro. Shank is a Member of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge, No. 682, Scottish Rite Bodies, Valleys of Lancaster and Harrisburg, and Zembo Temple.

When asked about his retirement plans, Bro. Shank said he planned to "just loaf" and would probably travel to Florida for the winter.

The duties of Bro. Shank have been taken over by the office of the Executive Director.



Bro. Edgar C. VanDyke, Past Master of Pennsylvania Lodge, No. 380, Philadelphia, is shown being congratulated by Bro. Theodore K. Warner, Jr., District Deputy Grand Master, District "J," during the Past Masters' Night proceedings honoring Bro. VanDyke for exceptional Masonic service.

Freemasonry — A Way of Life

The Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons is the oldest, largest and most widely known fraternal organization in the world.

Volumes have been written about it. Yet, to many, Freemasonry remains a mystery.

This folder is an attempt to relate a few facts that will be informative to all and to correct a few misconceptions.

History

Some historians trace Freemasonry to the Tenth Century, B.C., during the building of King Solomon's Temple. Records reveal that Freemasonry was introduced into England in 674 A.D.

Freemasonry is directly descended from associations of operative masons, the cathedral builders of the Middle Ages, who traveled through Europe employing the secrets and skills of their crafts.

In the 17th Century, when cathedral building was on the decline, many guilds of stone-masons, known as "Operative Masons" or "Free Masons," started to accept as members those who were not members of the masons' craft, calling them "Speculative Masons" or "Accepted Masons."

It was from these groups, comprised mostly of "Adopted or Accepted Masons," that Symbolic Masonry or Freemasonry, as we know it today, had its beginning.

Grand Lodges

In 1717, four Lodges of Freemasons meeting in London, England, formed the first Grand Lodge.

This first Grand Lodge chartered Symbolic Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges in many countries, including the United States.

Today, there are more than 150 Grand Lodges in free countries of the world with a membership of more than 6,000,000.

The Grand Lodge is the administrative authority in its territory, known as Jurisdiction.

In the United States, there are 49 Grand Lodges. They include 48 states and the District of Columbia. Hawaii is under the Grand Lodge of California, and Alaska, the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Symbolic Lodges

The basic unit of all Grand Lodges is the Symbolic Lodge, or "Blue Lodge," as it is commonly known.

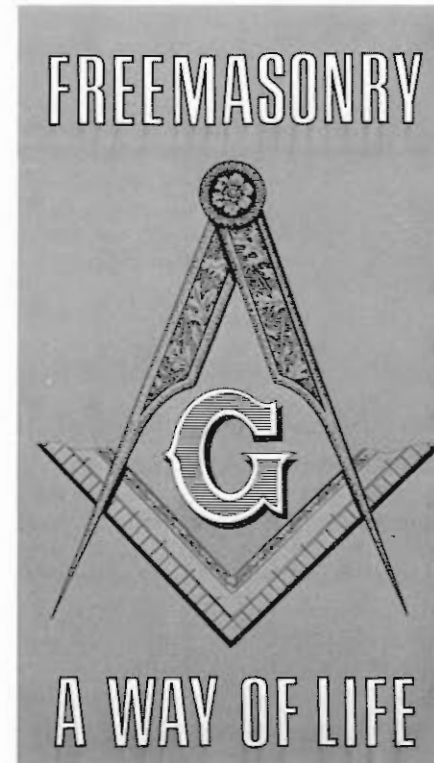
It is the Symbolic Lodge that issues petitions for membership, acts on petitions and confers the three Symbolic Degrees, known as the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees.

There are more than 600 Symbolic Lodges in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, with a membership of approximately 250,000.

Membership

Membership is limited to adult males who can meet the recognized qualifications and standards of character and reputation.

A man becomes a Freemason through his own volition. No one is asked to join its ranks. When a man seeks admission to a Symbolic Lodge,



it is of his own free will and accord. The choice is his.

One of the customs of Freemasonry is not to solicit members. One seeking admission must have a desire and must request a petition form from one whom he believes to be a Mason.

The petitioner must be recommended by two members of a Masonic Lodge and pass a unanimous ballot. The petitioner must be 21 years of age, mentally and physically competent, of good moral character, and believe in the existence of a Supreme Being.

Masonic Secrecy

Contrary to what many believe, Freemasonry is not a secret society. It does not hide its existence or its membership.

There has been no attempt to conceal the purpose, aims and principles of Freemasonry. It is an organization formed and existing on the broad basis of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Its constitutions are published for

the world to behold. Its rules and regulations are open for inspection.

It is true that we have modes of recognition, rites and ceremonies with which the world is not acquainted. In this regard, all human groups and institutions have private affairs. For instance, families have discussions on subjects which do not, and should not, concern their neighbors.

Freemasonry and Religion

Freemasonry is not a religion even though it is religious in character.

It does not pretend to take the place of religion nor serve as a substitute for the religious beliefs of its members.

Freemasonry accepts men, found to be worthy, regardless of religious convictions. An essential requirement is a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being.

What is Freemasonry?

Freemasonry is not an insurance or beneficial society. It is not organized for profit. However, the charity and services rendered are beyond measure.

It teaches monotheism. It teaches the Golden Rule. It seeks to make good men better through its firm belief in the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man and the Immortality of the Soul.

Tenets of Freemasonry

The Tenets of Freemasonry are ethical principles that are acceptable to all good men. It teaches tolerance toward all mankind.

It is known throughout the world, even behind the Iron Curtain where Masonry cannot exist.

Freemasonry proudly proclaims that it consists of men bound together by bonds of Brotherly Love and Affection.

It dictates to no man as to his beliefs, either religious or secular. It seeks no advantage for its members through business or politics.

Freemasonry is not a forum for discussions on partisan affairs.

A Way of Life

Freemasonry is kindness in the home, honesty in business, courtesy in society, fairness in work, pity and concern for the unfortunate, resistance toward evil, help for the weak, forgiveness for the penitent, love for one another, and above all, reverence and love for God.

Freemasonry is many things, but most of all:

FREEMASONRY IS A WAY OF LIFE.

The article above has been printed in an attractive three-color folder and will be mailed upon request. Write to Committee on Masonic Culture, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.