

I Am Symbolic Masonry

I was born in antiquity, in the ancient days when men first dreamed of God. I have been tried through the ages and found to be true.

The crossroads of the world bear the imprint of my feet, and the cathedrals of all nations mark the skill of my hands. I strive for beauty and for symmetry.

In my heart is wisdom and strength and courage for those who ask. Upon my altars is the Volume of the Sacred Law and my prayers are to an Almighty God. My sons work and pray together, without rank or discord.

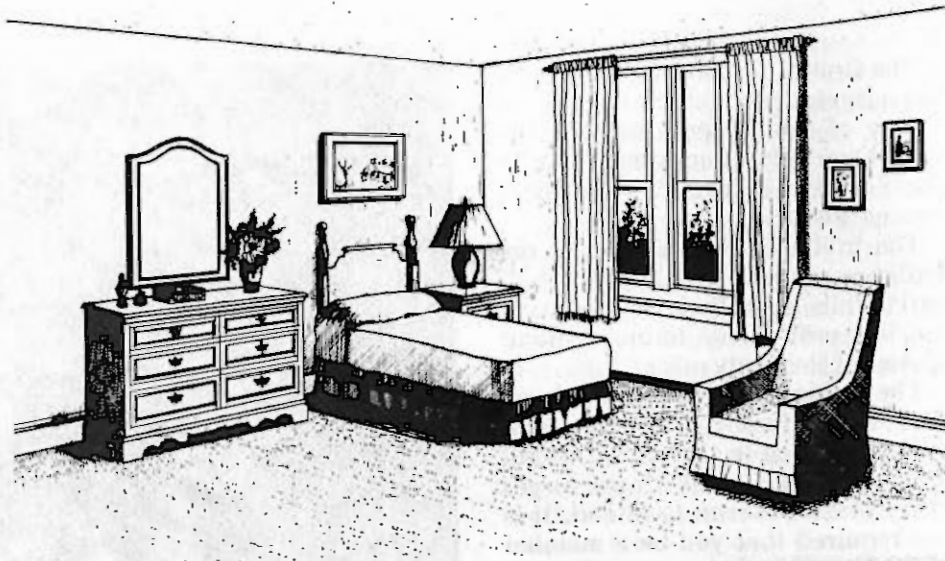
By signs and symbols I teach the lessons of life and of death, and the relationship of life and death, and of man with man.

My arms are widespread to receive those of lawful age and good report who seek me of their own free will. I accept them and teach them to use my tools in the building of men, and thereby, find direction in their own quest for perfection so much desired and so difficult to attain.

I lift up the fallen and shelter the sick. I hark to the orphan's cry, the widow's tears, the pain of the old and destitute.

I am not a church, nor a political party, nor a school, yet my sons bear a full share of responsibility to God, to country, to neighbor and themselves.

My sons are free men, tenacious of their liberties and alert to lurking dangers. At the end I commit them as



Architect's drawing indicates furnishings to be used when renovation of residential guest quarters at Masonic Homes is completed. See story on page 6.

Circulating Library Increases in Popularity

A number of requests for the rules and regulations and list of the books available at the circulating library of the Grand Lodge were received as a result of the information contained in the last issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*.

each one undertakes the journey beyond the vale into the glory of everlasting life. I ponder the sand within the glass and think how small is a single life in the eternal Universe.

Always have I taught immortality, and even as I raise men from darkness to true Masonic Light, I am a way of life. Yes, I am Symbolic Masonry.

The articles appearing from time to time have produced a steady increase in the number of readers, but the response to the last issue far exceeded all previous responses.

This may be due to our members increasingly becoming aware of the ease by which books may be borrowed and that the mails may be used in borrowing and returning the books as well as in applying for them. All mail inquiries receive prompt attention.

Regardless of the desires or needs of any Freemason — whether it be history, biography, symbolism or the romance of the fraternity — outstanding works by distinguished Masonic authors are available.

Books are loaned for a period of three weeks, no charge being made for the service.

Every Master Mason is invited to use the facilities of the circulating library — especially the newly raised brother.

Father Installs Son

Bro. Clyde O. Burns, a past master of Cassia Lodge No. 273 held at Ardmore, had the honor and privilege of installing his son, Bro. Richard C. Burns, as worshipful master at the stated meeting of December 7, 1978.

It was the first time in the 125 year history of Cassia Lodge that a past master has installed his son to the office of worshipful master.



The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

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

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NUMBER 2

Pennsylvania Ladies' Pin Approved by Grand Lodge

Following many months of research and design work, the desire of Pennsylvania Masons to provide to their ladies a tangible expression of appreciation for their understanding and devotion has resulted in the creation of an attractive new ladies' pin.

In announcing the creation of the pin, Grand Master Walter P. Wells expressed his hope that it will be worn by wives, widows of Master Masons, and all ladies of families with Masonic connections.

The Grand Master also suggested that the lodges consider presenting the new pin to widows of former members as a means of recognizing their contributions to the fraternity.

"Too often the wives of our deceased members feel that their connection to the fraternity has ended," he said, adding, "They remain a vital part of this fraternity and the presentation of this pin may provide the opportunity to regain contact where it has been lost."

The Pennsylvania ladies' pin is comprised of Masonic symbols.

Designed in a metal of gold color, it is three-quarters of an inch in diameter and features an unbroken wreath of acacia with a Masonic emblem overlaid on a keystone.

The unbroken wreath of acacia, or evergreen, esteemed as a sacred wood, symbolizes the mysteries of life and death; of time and eternity, and of the present and future.

The square and compasses with the letter "G," for God, is recognized worldwide as the mark of a Master Mason.

The center area of blue enamel is the color of symbolic Masonry, the "Blue Lodge," and stands as a sym-



ACTUAL SIZE



bol of virtues as expansive as the blue arch of heaven itself.

The keystone has long been the symbol of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and specifically identifies the pin with Freemasonry in Pennsylvania.

The purchase price of the pin has been established at \$3.00, covering the actual cost of manufacture and distribution.

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution during the March Quarterly Communication that provides the necessary sum for the initial purchase of the pins, with the proceeds from sales to be used as a rotating fund to replenish inventory.

Those lodges or individuals wishing to purchase pins may do so by completing the order form on page 4 of this issue. Checks should be made payable to the Grand Secretary.

It is expected the pin will gain wide acceptance and provide the opportunity for ladies of Pennsylvania Masons to recognize one another and know that they share a common bond.

They will know they share the patience and the sacrifice of time and companionship that allows us the opportunity to practice the principles of this great fraternity.

Freemasonry is a fraternal organization, universal in scope, teaching through symbols the garnered wisdom of the ages. It has as its purpose the gathering of men from all strata of life that they may meet on a common level, and strive to live together for the predominance in the human race of the ideals of brotherhood, trust, altruism, charity, honesty, morality and education, that the progress of man be onward and upward.

J. H. Highsmith

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Portable Exhibit Provides Lodges Cultural Treasures

A portable, traveling exhibit of Masonic articles is available through Grand Lodge for use by Symbolic Lodges throughout the Jurisdiction.

The exhibit, which is arranged by the Committee on Masonic Culture, consists of two display cases of articles from the Grand Lodge Museum in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. The museum has one of the finest collections of Masonic treasures in the world.

Equipped with lighting fixtures, the folding cases measure four by six feet when opened for showing.

The exhibit also contains a framed facsimile of Bro. George Washington's Masonic apron. The original apron is considered Grand Lodge's most priceless possession. The apron was embroidered by Madame Lafayette, and her husband, Bro. Marquis de Lafayette, presented it to Bro. Washington in August 1784.

For viewing purposes, the display cases may be placed on metal easels which come with the exhibit.

Lodges desiring to use the traveling exhibit should make the request through their District Deputy Grand Master.

The lodge must arrange for transportation of the portable cases and assume responsibility for their security until they are returned to the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

Preliminary Membership Report for 1978

(Before examination of the General Returns)

Number of Lodges, December 27, 1977	596	
Number of Mergers, 1978	4	
Number of Lodges Constituted during 1978	1	
Number of Lodges, December 27, 1978	593	
Membership, December 27, 1977		224,744

Admitted during 1978	542	
Initiated during 1978	3,671	+4,213
Suspended during 1978	1,372	
Resigned during 1978	686	
Deceased during 1978	5,607	-7,665
Decrease (net) 1978	-3,452	-3,452
Membership, December 27, 1978		221,292

Grand Lodge Officers' Schedule

The schedule for Grand Lodge officers for the next six months includes:

May 12 — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Meyersdale Lodge No. 554, Meyersdale.

May 25 — Grand Lodge officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

May 26 — Grand Master, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, honoring him in Coudersport.

June 2 — Grand Lodge officers, Special Communication, Dedication of Lodge Room, Claysville Lodge No. 447, Washington.

June 6 — Grand Lodge officers, Quarterly Communication, Scottish Rite Cathedral, Coudersport.

June 16 — Grand Lodge officers, Special Communication, Cornerstone Laying and Dedication of Lodge Room, Mount Union Lodge No. 688, Mount Union.

June 22 — Grand Lodge officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

June 23 — Grand Lodge officers, Special Communication, Cornerstone Laying and Dedication of Lodge Room, Tyrian Lodge No. 612, Level Green.

July 8-9 — Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary, Northeast Conference of Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries, in Cockeysville, Maryland.

July 27 — Grand Lodge officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

August 16-19 — Grand Master, Grand Assembly, International Order of Rainbow for Girls at Penn State University.

August 24 — Grand Lodge officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

September 1 — Grand Lodge officers, Special Communication, Dedication of Lodge Room, Lamont Lodge No. 568, Derry.

September 5 — Grand Lodge officers, Quarterly Communication, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia.

September 22 — Grand Master, 125th Anniversary, Eureka Lodge No. 290, Greenville.

September 28 — Grand Lodge officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

October 10 — Grand Master, 75th Anniversary, Acacia Lodge No. 633, Marienville.

October 13 — Grand Master, 200th Anniversary, Lodge No. 22, Sunbury.

October 17 — Grand Master, 125th Anniversary, Porter Lodge No. 284, North Catasauqua.

October 20 — Grand Master, 125th Anniversary, Anthracite Lodge No. 285, St. Clair.

October 26 — Grand Lodge officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

New Masonic Temple a Tribute to Perseverance

Hermitage Lodge No. 810, held at Hermitage Township in Mercer County, was constituted on April 7, 1978, following years of struggle.

Almost as a matter of physical proof that the lodge deserved to exist, the cornerstone was laid and the temple dedicated by the officers of the Grand Lodge on April 6, 1979, one day short of a year from the date of constitution.

The beauty of this newest temple is a tribute to the perseverance, care and imagination of the many men who contributed in so many ways to its erection.

Construction began with the excavation for the foundation of the temple on April 8, 1978. The Grand Master, Bro. Walter P. Wells, participated by taking the controls of a diesel shovel.

The temple and its lodge room were completed in record time. The members of the lodge were able to hold their first meeting in the building on September 12, 1978.

There were 120 warrant members present on the day the lodge was constituted.

The impact of the lodge building on the community is evidenced in that fact that 42 men have been made Masons in Hermitage Lodge No. 810 in its first year of existence.



Photographs depict new temple under construction (above) and as a finished product. The modified Colonial architectural style is dramatized by a large portico or porch at the front entrance. The lodge room interior (upper left) is enhanced by crystal chandeliers and the altar was handmade of black walnut wood. Because many members of the lodge donated materials as well as labor, the remaining debt for the temple is less than \$75,000.



Deserved Recognition for a Mason Who Cares

Bro. Paul S. Stewart, a past master and former secretary of Crescent Lodge No. 493, Philadelphia, was the recipient of a special award certificate issued by the Masonic Service Association of the United States in recognition for his completion of ten years of continuous service as our first field agent for the Veterans Hospital Visitation Program provided by the M.S.A.

The presentation was made by Bro. William E. Riley, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District "H," at the stated meeting of Crescent Lodge No. 493 held February 12, 1979.

Bro. William A. Carpenter, R.W. Grand Secretary, participated in the presentation and spoke briefly of Bro. Stewart's many Masonic accomplishments and services.

Bro. Stewart was appointed the first field agent for the Veterans Hospital Visitation Program in



Bro. William E. Riley, District Deputy Grand Master, Masonic District "H," is shown presenting the Award Certificate of the Masonic Service Association of the United States to Bro. Paul S. Stewart, field agent for the Philadelphia Naval and Veterans Hospitals. At right is Bro. William A. Carpenter, R.W. Grand Secretary, who also participated in the presentation ceremony.

Pennsylvania on October 2, 1968.

He has not only served continually at the Naval and Veterans Hospitals in Philadelphia, but has been most active in training other field agents who have served and are still serving seven other Veterans Hospitals included in the program throughout the state.

We congratulate Bro. Stewart for his long and dedicated service in the name of Freemasonry.

The endless hours devoted to helping and assisting others has been Bro. Paul's life since his retirement from the post office at Merion Station. And, he says, he has loved

every minute of it.

The Hospital Visitation Program in our jurisdiction is supported by the Masons of Pennsylvania who annually contribute in the neighborhood of \$25,000.00 to this worthwhile program.

Senior Members May Need Help on Dues

Retirement on fixed incomes and ever increasing costs in this inflationary age make it extremely difficult for many of our senior members to cope with certain financial obligations — including annual lodge dues.

Every effort should be made to ascertain if senior members are able to pay their dues. If not, the lodges surely can find ways and means to resolve such a condition. This would be Masonic charity at its best.

Another Father and Son Act

Bro. Elmer Paul Spahr, who served as worshipful master of Big Spring Lodge No. 361, Newville, in 1970, has had the privilege of conferring all three symbolic degrees on his son, Bro. Bradley W. Spahr, and on December 14, 1978, had the pleasure of installing his son as worshipful master.

73 Years a Mason

Bro. Wesley G. Ambill, a member of Hailman Lodge No. 321 held at Pittsburgh, is approaching his 96th birthday.

Proud as he is with the longevity he enjoys, he is more proud of the fact he has been a Mason for 73 years.

He petitioned Hailman Lodge on September 17, 1906 and was entered November 26, 1906. Bro. Ambill now resides in Torrence, California.

Another 50-Year Past Master

Bro. Joseph C. Hess, Jr., a past master of Integrity Lodge No. 187, Philadelphia, was 21 years old 59 years ago when he petitioned for the degrees of Freemasonry.

Receiving his three degrees the early part of 1920, he was attracted to the ritualistic and lodge work and was soon working on the floor of his lodge.

He labored and persisted until he became worshipful master of his lodge for the Masonic Year 1929, just 50 years ago.

A Real Adopted Mason

Bro. Luther M. Bittner, a member of Jephthah Lodge No. 222 held at Essex, Maryland, seldom has the pleasure of attending his own lodge.

However, he seldom misses a meeting of Pocono Lodge No. 780 held at Cresco in the Poconos.

Bro. Bittner, a resident of Cresco, says he has been privileged to attend the special communication of Grand Lodge on June 7, 1956 when Pocono Lodge No. 780 was constituted. Then he says he attended the first stated meeting in the old lodge hall and also the last stated meeting.

He was on hand when the new lodge room was dedicated by the Grand Lodge officers on September 9, 1978 and he attended the first stated meeting in the new Masonic hall.

Although a regular visitor to the lodge, Bro. Bittner says he is so proud to be an adopted brother of the craft.

Bro. William A. Carpenter
R. W. Grand Secretary



ANOTHER FIRST FOR OUR GRAND LODGE—Bro. Walter P. Wells, R.W. Grand Master, (front and center) is shown flanked by a few of his Grand Lodge officers who braved a snow storm on Wednesday, February 14, to attend the stated meeting of Eulalia Lodge No. 342, Coudersport, to be on hand when our Grand Master received his Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblem. Bro. Wells is the first Grand Master to receive this coveted emblem while in office. Shown in the first row (left to right) Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Bro. Larry J. Boardman, Worshipful Master of Eulalia Lodge; the Grand Master; Bro. John W. Wells, II, Grand Sword Bearer and Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R.W. Deputy Grand Master. Back row (left to right) Bro. William A. Carpenter, R.W. Grand Secretary; Bro. Robert W. Cooney, D.D.G.M. for the 44th Masonic District; Bro. John K. Young, R.W. Past Grand Master and Bro. Arthur R. Diamond, R.W. Grand Treasurer. Several other Grand Lodge officers and Past District Deputy Grand Masters attended this memorable meeting.

When Is A Man A Mason?

When is a man a Mason? When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope and courage. When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellow man. When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins — knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds. When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself. When he loves flowers, can hunt the birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child. When he can be happy and highminded amid the meaner drudgeries of life. When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead. When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response. When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay

hold of higher things, and to see majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be. When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something besides mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin. When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope. When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellow man, with his God; in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song — glad to live, but not afraid to die! In such a man, whether he be rich or poor, scholarly or unlearned, famous or obscure, Freemasonry has wrought her sweet ministry! Such a man has found the only real secret of Freemasonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world.

—JOSEPH FORT NEWTON, 1880-1950

Let's be Masons —
not just Members

Let's be Masons —
not just Members

50-Year Emblem on Long Journey

Bro. William A. Myers, a member of Crafton Lodge No. 653, Crafton, and a practicing pediatrician at age 76, has been a resident of Honolulu, Hawaii, for the past 30 years.

Due to receive his Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblem a few months ago, arrangements were made for Bro. Eugene L. Ballinger, Sr., secretary of Crafton Lodge, to present the emblem to Dr. Myers while Bro. Ballinger and his wife were visiting the islands celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. It was a happy occasion.

Besides his pediatrics practice, Bro. Myers treats the gorillas in the Honolulu Zoo and is also preparing to travel to the Galapagos as a member of a Jacques Cousteau expedition.

Send to —

Office of R. W. Grand Master
Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ Pennsylvania ladies pin(s). Check should be payable to the Grand Secretary.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

Residential Renovation Project Maintains Schedule

Renovation of two residential guest buildings at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown is proceeding according to schedule and barring unforeseen delay will be completed by year end.

The renovation project, authorized by the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes, is designed to bring guest quarters in the Dauphin County and John Henry Daman memorial buildings in line with all modern life-safety standards.

The contractor, Warfel Construction Co. of Lancaster, is now in the process of installing stair towers and elevator shafts in the Dauphin building.

It is expected the Dauphin portion of the \$966,300 project will be completed by midsummer with work on the Daman building to be finished by year end.

A complete gutting of the interiors of both buildings is being accomplished without altering the stone facades or rooflines in order to maintain aesthetic harmony with other buildings in the Homes' complex.

Both the Daman and Dauphin buildings (dating to 1914 and 1922, respectively) were constructed of

Holmesburg granite and trimmed with Indiana limestone. It is that material and the architectural integrity of the buildings that is being protected.

Both buildings were constructed in keeping with the life style of the period; meaning residential guests were forced to share certain facilities, particularly baths.

As indicated in the accompanying drawings prepared by the architect for the project, John Hoffman, each renovated guest unit will have its own private bath facilities. (See below)

All rooms will be air conditioned and fully carpeted.

The drawing of the furnishings (See page 8) is accurate in that it depicts the style to be used. The cost of the furnishings is not included in the cost of the project indicated above and the Committee on Masonic Homes will be pleased to receive any contributions, large and small, to help defray the additional expense.

The total cost of furnishing a single room is estimated at \$1,500 and at \$2,500 for a double room.

Those individuals, lodges or organizations who wish to take part in this great work of Masonic charity

and responsibility are invited to send their contributions to the Office of the Grand Master in the Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

All contributions are tax deductible and will be gratefully acknowledged.

The current renovation project is the first phase in a plan that the Committee on Masonic Homes hopes to extend eventually to all residential buildings in the complex.

Should this project receive the support of the Masons of Pennsylvania as expected, the committee intends to renovate the residential units in the Allegheny County, Paul L. Levis, Lancaster County and Berks County memorial buildings as well as the Edward W. Kuhlemeier Memorial Cottage and the McKee Cottage in future years.

Others Are Watching

The non-Mason may never have the opportunity or the inclination to read a book on Freemasonry, or study its history.

The conception of Freemasonry gained by the non-Mason comes largely from what he sees in us as Freemasons.

It is generally known by the outside world that Masons are bound together by the strong ties of brotherly love, reverence to an Almighty God, and that Masons are men of integrity; men whose lives are directed by The Great Light of Freemasonry.

These are the things that the non-Mason is aware of and are important to the welfare of Freemasonry, especially in this day and age. How well we carry out our obligations, how well we demonstrate in our lives the effectiveness of Masonic teachings, will always be the measure by which the outside world judges Freemasonry.

The habit of speaking well of others, more especially our brethren in the craft; of having a just concern for their happiness and welfare; of having the proper respect for the opinion of others, and our unyielding belief in the greatness of God are ways in which we communicate Freemasonry.

June Quarterly, Dinner-Dance Set for Coudersport

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has accepted an invitation from the Valley of Coudersport to hold the June Quarterly Communication in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, East Second Street, Coudersport.

The invitation was issued by the Valley as a means to honor Bro. Walter P. Wells in his home town during the last year of his term as Grand Master of Pennsylvania.

The communication will begin on Wednesday, June 6 at 2:00 p.m. and will take place in the cathedral auditorium. The Grand Master urges every Master Mason to attend. It is not required that you be a member of the Grand Lodge.

Tickets are available for Masons and their ladies to attend a dinner that evening to be followed by entertainment and dancing. The cost of the dinner has been established at \$6 per person and reservations will be accepted on a first reserve basis due to limited seating.

Because the auditorium is limited to approximately 1,100 seats, it will be necessary for those persons wishing to attend only the entertainment to have a ticket for admission.

There is no charge for the entertainment, but those attending the dinner will have priority seating. The remaining entertainment tickets, if any, will be issued after all dinner reservations have been completed.

The dinner will be served on a continuous basis with the first sitting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. The system is one developed by the valley during its class reunions and works well.

It is suggested that those who are unable to make the first sitting plan to arrive for dinner no later than 6:15 p.m. There will be open seating and those waiting to dine will have use of the lounge areas.

Motel accommodations are limited in the immediate area of Coudersport. It is suggested that those planning to stay overnight on Wednesday, June 6 make reservations in the adjacent communities of Kane, Wellsboro, Smethport, Galeton, Emporium and other towns enroute to Coudersport.

Those planning to take part are requested to complete the coupon



The Chopin Singing Society will entertain at the June Quarterly Communication in Coudersport on the evening of Wednesday, June 6. Widely traveled, the 130-voice choir is shown being received at the White House by Betty Ford in 1976.

form on this page, marking it and your check as indicated. Please be sure to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The entertainment, beginning at approximately 8:00 p.m., will be provided by the Chopin Singing Society, a 130-voice choir based in Buffalo, New York.

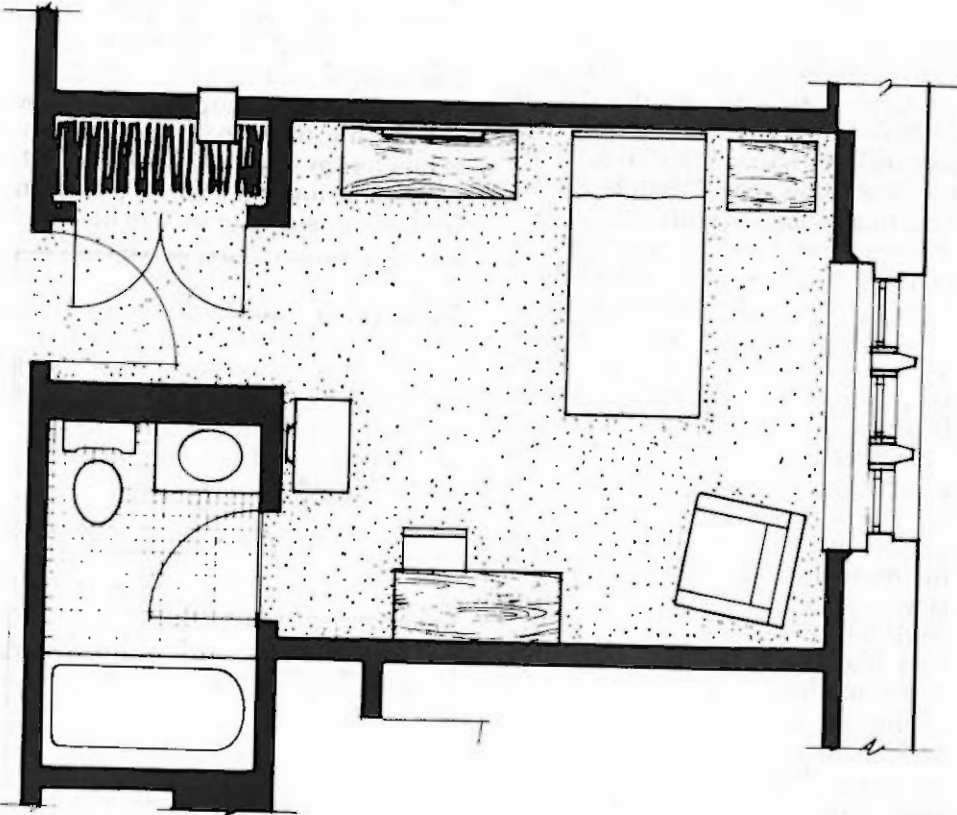
The society, organized in 1899, is composed of Polish Americans from every walk of life. It is dedicated to the preservation of Polish culture in

general, and Polish music and song in particular.

The Chopin Society was invited by the Polish Ministry of Culture to present a series of concerts in various cities in Poland in 1975 and was so well received that it was invited to return in 1977.

The choir has performed in major cities throughout the United States.

The music for dancing following the entertainment will be provided by the orchestra of Bro. Joe Martin.



Send to —
Office of R. W. Grand Master, Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107
Lodge No.

Enclosed is my check for \$ for reservations at \$6.00 per ticket for the dinner to begin at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6, in the dining area of the Scottish Rite Cathedral, East Second St., Coudersport. Checks should be made payable to William A. Carpenter, Grand Secretary.

I cannot attend the dinner. Please send tickets for the entertainment only, if available.

Print Name

Address

City State Zip

Note: Please enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope.