

## Four Generations in Same Lodge



Bro. Kenneth W. Van Wert, Past Master of Oriental Lodge, No. 588, Peckville, shown on the right, has been busy in the East. He has conferred degrees on his relatives (left to right) Bro. George H. Van Wert, his son; Bro. Thomas G. Taylor, Sr., Past Master, his son-in-law; Bro. Thomas G. Taylor, Jr., and Bro. Kenneth G. Taylor, his grandsons. Bro. Van Wert's father, the late Bro. Herman M. Van Wert, a fifty year Member of Oriental Lodge, lived to see four generations of the family as Members of the Lodge.

## A Worshipful Master, a Ritualist, a Visitor, a Real Brother

Bro. Kenneth G. Wyant, when he was Worshipful Master of Dallas Lodge, No. 396, Easton, in 1979, had the rare privilege and pleasure of Entering, Crafting and Raising his father over recent months. After making his father, Bro. Kenneth J. Wyant, a Mason, Bro. Wyant also assisted greatly in the proficiency procedure. Sometime later Bro. Wyant, accompanied by his Lodge Officers and a bus full of Members, attended a meeting of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge, No. 682, held at the Masonic Homes and while there Bro. Wyant conferred the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason upon his brother-in-law, Bro. William F. Adams. Bro. Wyant was recently honored for his dedicated service in Freemasonry highlighted by untold hours devoted to visiting a record number of the Members of Dallas Lodge in their homes, many of them at quite a distance from Easton.

*The lack of attendance and interest in Symbolic Lodges indicates there are a great number of things more popular among Masons than Freemasonry.*

## June 1981 is Our Time to Celebrate!

Although it is but nine-months into the future at this writing, it is not too soon to announce that a great event has been in the planning and designing stage for several months for the dates of June 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th of 1981.

On those five dates our Grand Lodge will celebrate 250 years of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. An elaborate celebration was planned and conducted back in 1931 in commemoration of two hundred years of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. So, it is both fitting and proper that we set aside a few days to commemorate another fifty years of Masonic activity in our great Commonwealth.

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, and his 1981 Committee, have already devoted many hours of deliberation and effort with the hope and purpose of making this coming celebration one of the greatest Masonic events of our time.

A Special Communication of Grand Lodge is planned for Wednesday, June 24, 1981, which happens to be St. John the Baptist's Day, truly a Masonic date. A wreath-laying ceremony will follow at the grave of Bro. Benjamin Franklin who was Grand Master of our Provincial Grand Lodge in 1734 and 1749, following which a Church service will be conducted in Old Christ's Church, Philadelphia.

Honored guests will be entertained on Thursday, June 25th and provided with a tour of the Masonic Homes on Friday, June 26th. On Saturday, June 27th a Masonic Parade is scheduled in Philadelphia from the

Art Museum to the Masonic Temple following which will be the unveiling and dedication of a statute to be placed directly across Broad Street in front of the Masonic Temple.

A banquet is planned for Saturday evening, June 27th. A religious service on Sunday morning, June 28th, will conclude the formal celebration.

In due time a set of six recommended programs for use at Stated Meetings of the Symbolic Lodges January through June of 1981, will be distributed.

Medallions, coins and special literature are also being considered for those interested.

More information and pertinent details as to how you can help make this coming celebration a successful and memorable occasion will follow.

## Recent Appointments By R. W. Grand Master

Recent Grand Lodge appointments made by Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, included the following Brethren:

Bro. Howard E. Vaughan, Past Master of Newtown Lodge, No. 427, Woodside, Pa., has been appointed the Philadelphia Regional Instructor, vice Bro. Maurice A. Singer, deceased.

Bro. Ernest C. Hunt, Past Master of Lewisville Lodge, No. 556 Ulysses, Pa., has been appointed District Chairman for the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture for the 44th Masonic District, vice Bro. Charles H. Catlin, deceased.

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## What Should We Say if Asked About Freemasonry?

What should we tell our non-Masonic friends when they ask questions about Freemasonry?

When these questions arise, and they often do, our response will undoubtedly influence the mental attitude of our friends toward ourselves and the Craft in general.

We should not take a timid approach to our answers. We should not indicate a desire to "change the subject." We should not reflect a "mum's-the-word" attitude.

Instead, we should be prepared to speak with ease, pride and authority.

Make it known that Freemasonry is a way of life.

Freemasonry is fraternal in organization, religious in character, based on the belief in the Fatherhood of God, Brotherhood of Man and the Immortality of the Soul.

Be prompt to make it known that Freemasonry is not a "secret society" as many surmise. Freemasonry is a voluntary association wherein the interested one comes of his own free will and accord.

Indicate also that Freemasonry is not a religion as many claim it is.

Discussions on religion or politics have no place in our proceedings.

Proclaim that Freemasonry, in its every effort and purpose strives to do charitable work within its membership and for society, and through its teachings, seeks to make good men better men. You can proudly state that the basic ethical principles as exemplified in our Ritual and Lodge Work, are such as are most acceptable to all good men; they are lessons based on the golden rule, tolerance toward men, respect for one's family, charity towards all and being true to God for His gracious and numerous blessings.

Be proud to proclaim that Freemasonry is a band of men bound together in the bonds of Brotherly Love and Affection that extends throughout the World.

And to sum it all up Freemasonry is kindness in the home, honesty in business, courtesy in society, fairness in work, pity and concern for the unfortunate, resistance toward the wicked, help for the weak, trust in the strong, forgiveness for the penitent, love for one another and, above all, reverence and love for God.

These and many other answers can be applied to the questions your friends will ask.

Speak up. What do we have to hide — save that which pertains to our esoteric Work?

Freemasonry is a Way of Life!



**SITE OF SEPTEMBER QUARTERLY — The Rajah Temple**, located at 136 North Sixth St., Reading, Pa., where the September Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge will be held on Wednesday evening, September 3, 1980.

## September Quarterly To be Held at Reading

The September Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge will be held in the spacious Rajah Temple Auditorium, Reading, Pa., on Wednesday evening, September 3, 1980. The procession of Grand Lodge Officers will begin at 6:00 o'clock, 55 minutes, P. M. (E.D.T.)

This will be the first time a Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge has been scheduled for the 7th Masonic District which comprises the city of Reading and surrounding communities. The purpose of scheduling Quarterly Communications in various cities throughout the Jurisdiction is to provide every opportunity for more Pennsylvania Masons to experience a Grand Lodge Communication.

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, is hopeful that a large number of Pennsylvania Masons will make every effort possible to attend the September Quarterly at Reading. It is not necessary to be a Lodge Officer or a Past Master to attend a Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge. All Master Masons are eligible and invited to attend.

There are many motels in the Reading area and several parking lots within a few blocks of Rajah Temple.



February, May, August and November at  
Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, by  
The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most An-  
cient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Ac-  
cepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic  
Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging.

Approved and Authorized To Be Printed By  
The Right Worshipful Grand Master

Grand Lodge Officers  
Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master  
Samuel C. Williamson, R. W. Deputy Grand Master  
Thomas H. Burgess, R. W. Senior Grand Warden  
William A. Carpenter, R. W. Junior Grand Warden  
Arthur R. Diamond, R. W. Grand Treasurer  
Thomas W. Jackson, R. W. Grand Secretary

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Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022  
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## Grand Lodge Officers' Three-month Itinerary

A portion of the many activities of the Grand Lodge Officers for the next three months includes:

**September 3** — Meeting of Grand Lodge Committee on Finance; Seminar for District Deputy Grand Masters; rehearsal for Grand Lodge Elected and Appointed Floor Officers; Quarterly Communication, all held in Reading, Pa.

**September 13** — 75th Anniversary of McKeesport Lodge, No. 641, McKeesport.

**September 20** — Special Communication, Corner Stone Ceremony and Dedication of Lodge Room, Meyersdale Lodge, No. 554, Meyersdale.

**September 21 to 24** — Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., Cleveland, Ohio.

**September 25 and 26** — Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.

**September 27** — Special Communication, Dedication of Lodge Room, Porter Lodge, No. 284 and Chapman Lodge, No. 637, North Catasauqua.

**October 4** — Sectional Meeting for fifteen Masonic Districts, Philadelphia.

**October 23 and 24** — Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.

**November 7** — 200th Anniversary of Lodge No. 9, Tacony, Philadelphia.

**November 20** — 75th Anniversary of Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 753, Indiana, Pa.

## Total, Positive Response to Questionnaire Needed to Complete Our Computer Program

Dear Brethren:

Your Grand Lodge has initiated a program to put its records on a computer to be installed in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. The successful completion of the program will have a beneficial effect, not only on the Grand Lodge, but on each and every Symbolic Lodge in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Reduction in Lodge expenses and in the efforts required of Lodge Secretaries are but a few of the benefits to be obtained.

Those benefits, however, cannot be realized without some initial effort on the part of every Pennsylvania Mason.

Recently, a questionnaire was mailed directly to all Members of Blue Lodges of our Jurisdiction requesting Masonic data and information that is vital to the computer program. Nothing less than a total, positive response to the questionnaire by every Pennsylvania Mason will make this undertaking successful.

Be assured that the data requested in the questionnaire will be held in the strictest of confidence. The complete computer complex, i.e., the "hardware," the "software," and all the employees who will operate the computer, will be under the complete control of your Grand Lodge.

It is highly probable that some of the information required will have to be obtained from the Lodge Secretary. Remember that many Members will be seeking his aid, so be patient. He will be a beneficiary of the program, but only if everyone cooperates fully in making it work.

As in all Masonic endeavors, my Brethren, let us go hand in hand with unanimity so that success will, truly, crown our efforts in this important undertaking.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Joseph E. Trate, Grand Master

## Ritualistic Sessions Attract Grand Officers

Bro. W. Harry Shaw, Jr., Instructor of Ritualistic Work, and his Staff of Regional Instructors have been displaying a renewed enthusiasm over the excellent attendance and performance experienced at the ten Sectional Meetings of the School of Instruction held thus far this year. One Sectional Meeting remains for the yearly schedule, the one to be conducted for the Greater Philadelphia area at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, on Saturday, October 4, 1980.

Highlighting several of the Sectional Meetings conducted throughout the Jurisdiction has been the attendance of Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, and several of his Grand Lodge Elected Officers.

The Grand Lodge Officers have been highly impressed with the proceedings of the Sectional Meetings and those attended have also provided an excellent opportunity for fellowship and productive conversation among the Officers and Members of the Lodges represented.

## Contributions to Homes Always in Order

One way to feel real good is to remember our much needed and ever useful Guest and Building Fund of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pa.

Contributions to this great charitable fund makes it possible for your Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes to provide not only the necessary comforts for our wonderful Guests admitted to the Homes but, when the funds permit, some of the extra nice things that make our Masonic Homes more than just a home for our more than 700 Guests.

Your contributions are always in order.

Make your checks payable to:  
"Masonic Homes,  
Elizabethtown, Pa."

You can mail them direct to the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022 or to The Office of the Grand Master, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

Every time you do, "You'll Feel Real Good."

## R. W. Grand Master Appoints New Chaplains



Bro. Charles H. Lacquement

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, was pleased to announce the appointments of two new Grand Chaplains at the Quarterly Communication held June 4, 1980, in Williamsport and followed through by investing each of them with their Grand Lodge Aprons.

The new Grand Chaplains are Bro. Charles H. Lacquement, a Member of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge, No. 682, held at Elizabethtown, Pa., and Bro. Gerald D. Wagner, a Member of Patton Lodge, No. 658, held at Patton, Cambria County, Pa.

Bro. Lacquement, former Pastor of the Church of God, Harrisburg, has been a full-time member of the Administrative Staff at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, for the past nine years and is presently Director of Spiritual, Social and Recreational Activities at the Homes.

Ordained in 1951, Bro. Lacquement served his first Church in Oklahoma City where he was born. He has a Doctor of Theology Degree from Pioneer Seminary in Illinois and later a Doctor of Divinity Degree from Findlay College, Findlay, Ohio.

Bro. Lacquement is a Member of all York Rite Bodies and is an active Member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Harrisburg.

Residing in a house on the Homes' grounds with his wife and youngest daughter, Bro. Lacquement's full-time dedication to the needs of our Guests has made him a valuable asset to the Staff at the Masonic Homes.

Bro. Wagner, former Pastor of Christ United Methodist Church,



Bro. Gerald D. Wagner

Shippensburg, Pa., is presently serving as Pastor of the Avis United Methodist Yoked Parrish, located between Lock Haven and Jersey Shore, Pa. He has been Pastor of the Avis Parrish since 1973.

Separated by several miles from his Lodge at Patton, Pa., Bro. Wagner is a frequent and active visitor at the Stated and Extra Meetings of La Belle Vallee Lodge, No. 232, Jersey Shore. A Member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Williamsport, he is known to take several active parts in the various degrees.

Bro. Wagner is a member of the Board of Pensions of the Central Penn United Methodist Conference.

Of recent, he has served as editor of the Daily Christian Advocate for the 1980 Sessions of the Northeast Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church.

## Past Masters With Long Life

Word comes from Harmony Lodge, No. 429, Zelienople, that on December 27, 1979, the Lodge had the distinction of having four living Members who have been Past Masters for fifty years. They are: Bro. Charles S. Passavant, III, who was Master in 1923; Bro. Walter E. Wise, who was Master in 1926; Bro. Dan L. Rees, who was Master in 1928; and Bro. George I. Lynch, who was Master in 1929. Bro. Lynch was pleased to witness his brother, James D. Lynch who was Master in 1936 and 1937, receive his Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblem at the Stated Meeting of the Lodge held November 8, 1979.

## Masonic Law — Article XL-1 Reference: Gambling

"No Member of the Masonic Fraternity in this Jurisdiction shall alone or with others, promote, assist in, or be a party to, any lottery, game, device of chance, or other activity, whereby or wherein an individual participating may be able, through the element of luck or chance, to win, be awarded or receive a greater value than any other like participant, arranged, devised or intended to raise money which shall, either directly or indirectly, inure to the benefit of any Masonic Lodge, body, association or organization, or to any body, club, committee, or other organization in Pennsylvania whose Members are required to have membership in the Masonic Fraternity."

## A Father and His Four Sons Are Now Masons and Brothers

Another family affair took place at a recent Extra Meeting of John F. Laedlein Lodge, No. 707, held at Williamsport. Bro. Archie B. Young, Past Master, conferred the Master Mason's Degree on two of his sons, Bro. John R. Young and Bro. Edwin R. Young. Assisting him were two other sons, Bro. William A. Young, now Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and Bro. James A. Young, the first member of the family to become a Mason, who served as Junior Warden for the two degrees.

## Two Pennsylvania Masons — One is 96 and One is 99

Our ever increasing list of Pennsylvania Masons blessed with long life has two more Members at this writing.

They are:

Bro. Elmer H. Maier, a Member of Davage Lodge, No. 374, held at Bellevue, near Pittsburgh, who is 96 years old. Bro. Maier was Entered on October 15, 1908, at age 23.

Bro. Alfred C. Diehl, a Member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, held at Philadelphia, who is 99 years old. Bro. Diehl was Entered on May 22, 1922, at age 41.



## Many Masons Enjoyed June Quarterly held At Williamsport, Pa.

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, had every reason to be a proud and happy Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania when he greeted the more than 1200 Brethren who attended the June Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Williamsport, Pa., on the evening of Wednesday, June 4, 1980.

Being a native of Williamsport, the Grand Master and Bro. Mark Trate, his blood Brother who traveled from Arlington, Va., had a long and pleasant day renewing long established friendships in the "old home town."

Another highlight of the day for the Grand Master was a visit with the Mayor and other officials of the City of Williamsport and being the recipient of an engraved Certificate of Recognition presented by the Mayor.

## Freemasonry Is Not a Religion

While Freemasonry is religious, our purpose as Freemasons is not that of a religion. We seek no converts. We raise no money for religious purposes. We do not ask our members to subscribe to any religious tenet or dogma.

There are some who would make it so in order that they personally might rationalize and excuse their own escape from the claims of religion. Being completely a tolerant organization, there is nothing in Freemasonry that is opposed to the religion a man brings with him into the Lodge. We have none of the marks of a religion. We have prayers, it is true — invocations to Deity, but we have no ritual of worship. We have no symbols that are religious in the sense of the symbols found in Church or Synagogue. Our symbols are related to the development of character and of the relationship of man to man. They are our working tools — used in the building of life.

Freemasonry does not assert and does not teach that one religion is better than another. We do not say that all religions are equal because we admit men of all religions. We do ask a man if he believes in God and that is a religious test only. Belief in



**FIVE RAINBOW GIRLS ARE CAPPED** — Highlighting the first of the four sessions conducted for the Order of Rainbow for Girls at the Patton Campus in June was the capping ceremony for five Rainbow Girls of the West Shore Assembly, No. 59, Camp Hill, for their volunteer service at the Masonic Health Care Center at the Homes. Shown above, following the ceremony, are (left to right) Bro. Charles H. Lacquement, a Grand Chaplain and the Director of Spiritual, Social, and Recreational Activities at the Homes; Mrs. Beryl L. Hogue, Supreme Inspector in Pennsylvania for Rainbow Girls; Miss Evette J. Riley, Grand Worthy Advisor for Rainbow Girls; Miss Tammy Locke; Miss Anita Painter; Miss Carolyn Kauffman; Mrs. Joanne Painter, Mother Advisor of West Shore Assembly; Miss Denise Shader; Mrs. Mae Fernback, Director of Nurses at Masonic Health Care Center, and Mrs. Donald Luck, Grand Deputy for Rainbow Volunteers.

## Our Special Program at Patton School Is Rewarding Experience for Our Youth

As we go to press with this August 1980 issue of "The Pennsylvania Freemason," a goodly portion of our Special Youth Program using the excellent facilities at the Patton School Campus, will be completed, except for the lasting memories of hundreds of young people and their adult advisors.

Now in its fifth year, this Special Youth Program provided by our Grand Lodge through its Committee on Youth Services, is bringing life once again to the hallowed halls and rooms of the Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys which

God is faith; belief about God is theology. We are interested in faith only and not in theology.

When Freemasonry accepts a Christian, or a Jew, or a Mohammedan, it does not accept him as such, but as a man — worthy to be received into the Craft. Freemasonry is a teaching, through exemplification in its degrees, of the highest ethical and moral principles known to mankind. There it stops, and there it must stop, else we could be censured by our theologian friends.

we were forced to close just a few years ago.

Four sessions for the Order of Rainbow for Girls throughout Pennsylvania were held this year in June and July. Two sessions of the Order of Job's Daughters of Pennsylvania were held in July 1980. And, a three-day Keyman Conference for DeMolays throughout Pennsylvania and a four-day Workshop of DeMolays from Chapters comprising the Southwestern Region of Pennsylvania, were conducted in August 1980. A two-day Adult Leadership Conference for DeMolay and a two-day Seminar for ten DeMolay Chapters comprising the Southeastern Region of Pennsylvania, will take place at the Patton Campus in September and October.

The enthusiastic reaction and the enormous dedication of these young people, both to hours of training and instruction plus the well-timed hours of recreation is something to behold.

It has been stated that the cost of providing this unusual Special Youth Program each year is one of the best investments ever made by our Grand Lodge.

## Symbolic Masonry—A Way of Life

Of definitions for Symbolic Masonry there have been many. Perhaps one of the simplest and most direct is that shared by our English Brethren: "Symbolic Masonry is a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." Another version claims: "Symbolic Masonry is an organized society of men symbolically applying the principles of operative masonry and architecture to the science and art of character building."

Symbolic Masonry has a threefold aspect, the first being secret, the second private, and the third public. The secret aspect consists of keeping safe and inviolate the secrets and mysteries of Freemasonry from the curiosity of the uninitiated. The private aspect consists of the Lodge Work which is practiced in the privacy of the Symbolic Lodge Room. The public aspect consists in the teachings of Symbolic Masonry. The order in which these three aspects have been listed have no reference to their relative importance. Each aspect is as important as the other two. It is the fusion of these three aspects into one integral whole which makes Symbolic Masonry what it really is—a way of life.

A man becomes a Freemason when the secrets and mysteries of Symbolic Masonry are communicated to him in the privacy of the Symbolic Lodge Room. Thereafter, he is not only obligated to keep himself in Good Masonic Standing with his Symbolic Lodge, but he is also obligated to take every opportunity to understand the lessons taught in Symbolic Masonry and then practice those teachings. The lessons taught are intended to govern a Freemason throughout the remainder of his life. The lessons taught in Symbolic Masonry embody truths and principals universally recognized as those which enoble men.

One of the greatest lessons of Symbolic Masonry is charity. Not only is a Freemason taught to provide help for the less fortunate when it is within his means, but he is taught to practice charity of the heart. He is taught to see others as others want to be seen; to look with tolerance and understanding; to be ready with the encouraging word and the quick forgiving mind. It is stretching forth the

helping hand, unsought and unsolicited, not only to other Members of the Craft but to all men. It is to forgive even though no pardon is asked. It is to act so that your actions may cause no hurt to others nor wound their feelings.

Another great lesson of Symbolic Masonry is harmony. It is harmony and good order which makes the perfect edifice. The Symbolic Lodge brings this lesson home to us in the procedure and decorum in which it conducts its meetings, ceremonies and degrees. Without harmony, symbolic Masonry would be meaningless. The Symbolic Lodge teaches men to be an instrument which plays in harmony with the orchestra of life.

Symbolic Masonry teaches discipline. Such is the nature of rules and regulations that govern "Blue Lodge" Masonry. As some must of necessity rule and teach, others must, of course, learn, submit and obey. Humility in each is an essential qualification. It is discipline which makes us turn away from the deceptively rosy path of ill doings, of easy gains and self indulgence. It is discipline which brings about order and gives birth to the beauty of harmony.

Symbolic Masonry also teaches faith. Who would care for happiness if it were a daily fare? Who would value life if death did not wait for him? What would joy be worth if misery did not alternate? The balance in the ledger of life is sometimes in credit and sometimes in

debit. It is faith in The Great Architect of the Universe and in the master plan He has drawn for this life which makes us pass with fortitude through the transient period of afflictions and tribulations, always confident that His grace is never withheld from any man for all time.

Another great lesson of Symbolic Masonry is courage. Not the physical courage required of the soldier in the field, for this can come from example, or training or out of fear of consequences. The courage we receive in the Symbolic Lodge is that moral courage to stand up, alone and undaunted if need be, for what is right, however unpopular that stand may be. It is the courage not only to proclaim the truth but also to maintain it in the face of opposition. It is the courage to persevere in the path of right even if others turn their backs on you.

One of the greater lessons of "Blue Lodge" Masonry is the lesson of true brotherhood. A Master Mason soon learns that man was not born to walk alone. Symbolic Masonry teaches us that true brotherhood lies neither in mere gatherings for refreshments, mirth and pleasures. It teaches us that a Freemason is his Brother's shield in time of danger; his guide in time of perplexity; his bulwark in time of confusion. Let others desert him in his time of need, a Mason will be at his side. Let comforts elude him, a Mason will be his solace. Thus, Symbolic Masonry teaches us the essence of true friendship, of true Brotherly Love and Affection.

Yes, Brethren, "Blue Lodge" Masonry is, and always should be, truly a way of life. And, the true and zealous Brother who has acquired an understanding of the teachings of Symbolic Masonry will be better enabled to reflect the real purpose and objectives of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity.

Such a Mason will, at all times, be clothed in the habiliments of truth. His wardrobe will contain the robe of justice, a mantle of charity, a tunic of toleration and a cloak of mercy. These garments, all of genuine quality, measured and cut by a Master Tailor, are in good taste for every occasion. And every Member of a Symbolic Lodge so clothed, can rightfully qualify a being well and duly prepared as a real and true Master Mason, a title and distinction not enjoyed by all men.

### The Masonic Ballot

*The "blackball" is not a dagger for a coward's use or with which to even up an old score. It is not a brush with which to besmirch the character of one who may hold different views from you. A "blackball" is a fraternity shield to protect not individuals but the fraternity from those who would injure it. It should never be cast with a prejudiced mind or a selfish thought. Remember, it is a serious thing to constitute one's self as jury and executioner in one single act, unless the fraternity's interests and well-being demand it on the basis of a genuine Masonic objection.*



## Four Young Brothers of Avalon Lodge, No. 657 Wear 50-Year Emblem

Bro. Arthur B. Besnecker, Past Master and Secretary of Avalon Lodge, No. 657, held at Bellevue near Pittsburgh, shares with us a fact worthy of mention.

Four Members of the Lodge are blood Brothers and have quite a record of Masonic service. Bro. Frank D. Young was Entered November 11, 1924; Bro. Robert R. Young was Entered January 11, 1927; Bro. James L. Young was Entered November 8, 1927, and Bro. Milton C. Young was Entered November 11, 1930.

When Bro. Milton C. Young received his Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblem recently, he became the fourth living Member of the same family to be wearing the coveted gold emblem provided by Grand Lodge.

## New District Deputy Has Busy Evening

Bro. James T. Amacher, Sr., the new District Deputy Grand Master for the 22nd Masonic District, had a busy evening when he visited Union Lodge, No. 334, Bradford, on March 13, 1980.

Bro. Amacher was pleased to present Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblems and Wallet Cards to five members of Union Lodge, all Entered in 1930. They were:

Bro. Robert A. Blair, Past Master and Treasurer; Bro. Cedric E. Hulme; Bro. Earl Gordon James; Bro. Earl F. Smith, and Bro. John K. Bovaird.

Bro. Blair then conferred the Master Mason's Degree on Bro. Terry Carl Brown after receiving his new Fifty Year Gold Emblem and Wallet Card. It was an impressive evening, reports Bro. Amacher.

*When we are faithful and true to our obligations, and the teachings of Symbolic Masonry, we enjoy those inner satisfactions of conscience which become sustaining assets of genuine peace of mind and contentment of soul.*

*Modern Freemasonry may claim to be the world's oldest laboratory for practical and experimental research in the Art of Living.*

## In Memoriam



Bro. Charles S. Reyner

Once again the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has been saddened by the passing of another truly dedicated Master Mason.

Bro. Charles S. Reyner, Grand Tyler from 1969 through 1979, died on July 28, 1980, following several months of confining illness.

Serving as Worshipful Master of Fort Washington Lodge, No. 308, Fort Washington, Pa., Bro. Reyner soon become one of the most active Masons to serve the Montgomery and Lower Bucks County area.

For years a mainstay in the 8th Masonic District School of Instruction, his natural leadership prompted his appointment as District Deputy Grand Master for the 8th Masonic District, an office he served with excellence for eleven years.

Prior to being appointed Grand Tyler, Bro. Reyner served with his usual complete dedication on the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture.

Employed by the Reading Railroad, Bro. Reyner retired in 1968 with fifty years service as a proud railroader. Active in St. John's Lutheran Church, Ambler, Pa., for many years, Bro. Reyner, a great man and Mason, leaves a legacy of true love, affection and service to mankind that shall remain among us forever.

## A Guest at Homes Contributes to Help Renovation Program

Bro. Tobias Krause, a Member of Athelstan Lodge, No. 482, held at Philadelphia, and a Guest at the Masonic Homes since March 29, 1973, has his own way of expressing just how proud he is to be a Mason and also how appreciative he has been since being admitted as a Guest at the Masonic Homes.

Bro. Krause recently made a contribution in the amount of \$1,500.00 to the Guest and Building Fund, asking only that the money be used to furnish Room No. 1005 in the Lancaster Building during the current renovation program of the several residential buildings.

The amount contributed represents money saved from his monthly allowance as a Guest at the Homes over the past seven years. Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, has assured Bro. Krause that a suitable plaque will be placed near the entrance of Room No. 1005 in the Lancaster Building when it is re-opened for occupancy.

Bro. "Toby," as he is best known, is a colorful person. He was born in Russia in June 1898 and came to America in 1904. He is a bachelor and has served in the Navy in World War I and again in World War II. He once worked in the wholesale clothing business for Bacharach Company, the firm of our former R. W. Grand Treasurer, Bro. Louis Bacharach. Prior to being admitted to the Homes, Bro. Krause owned and operated a fish and tackle shop in Florida. Having travelled widely, Bro. "Toby" is affiliated with many Masonic Bodies and clubs throughout the World.

Bro. Krause says that his greatest ambition since he was 17 years old was to become a Mason. And, Freemasonry couldn't have a more enthusiastic and dedicated Member than Bro. "Toby."

*A tiny little minute; only sixty seconds in it; forced upon me, can't refuse it; did not seek it, did not choose it; but it's up to me to use it; I must suffer if I loose it; give account if I abuse it; just a tiny little minute; but eternity is in it.*

## Three Children Admitted To Our Children's Home; There's Room for More

We are pleased to announce that since the article appeared in the May 1980 issue of "The Pennsylvania Freemason" and the report presented by Bro. Arthur R. Diamond, R. W. Grand Treasurer and Chairman of the Sub-committee on the Children's Home of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes, that three children, one girl and two boys, have been admitted to our Children's Home at the Masonic Homes.

As stated, there surely are other deserving children who would profit greatly from what we have to offer at our Children's Home and the Masonic Homes. We can recall an enrollment of sixty or more in previous years but the present enrollment is down to ten.

The requirements for admission are as follows:

1. Any orphan by one or both parents, or a social orphan (from a broken home), or a child who has a great need for the care and protection provided at our Homes.
2. The child you endorse must be sponsored by one of our Blue Lodges.

The first step is to contact the Secretary of the Lodge and request the necessary application form.

If you feel that you need further clarification prior to contacting the Blue Lodge, feel free to contact the Office of the R. W. Grand Master, either by telephone — 215-988-1920, or by writing to the Office of the R. W. Grand Master, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

## Four Past Masters Meet At 1929 Class Reunion

At the 50th reunion of the Class of 1929 of Sunbury High School held recently in Sunbury, four living Past Masters of Sunbury Lodge, No. 713, were on hand and had the pleasure of chatting about "old times." They were Bro. John R. Fryling of Williamsport who was Master in 1938; Bro. Arthur E. Zimmerman, Williamsport, Master in 1939; Bro. William E. Gass, Sunbury, Master in 1950 and Bro. Lewis T. Gasull, now residing in Johnson City, Tenn., who was Master in 1951.

## A Third Field Agent Honored by M. S. A.



Bro. William B. Brown  
Field Agent for the  
Masonic Service Association  
of the United States

Bro. William B. Brown, a Member of Victory Lodge, No. 694, held at Butler, Pa., was honored at the Quarterly Communication held in Williamsport, June 4, 1980, when he was presented with the coveted Masonic Service Association Award Certificate for completing ten years as a Field Agent assigned to the Butler Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Bro. Brown is our third Field Agent to be so honored over the past two years, the first being Bro. Paul S. Stewart, our first Field Agent, appointed in October 1968 for the Naval and Veterans Hospitals in Philadelphia, and Bro. Julian R. V. Johnson, our Field Agent for the Oakland Veteran Administration Hospital, Pittsburgh, who received his Award at our Quarterly Communication, March 5, 1980.

Bro. Stewart was pleased to assist Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, in the presentation of the Award Certificate of Bro. Brown as he also did for Bro. Johnson.

Bro. Brown has had a most active life mostly devoted to service to others. A Member of all York Rite and Scottish Rite Bodies, he served as the Mayor of the Borough of Portersville, Pa.; had his own Insurance agency; was an Income Tax Practitioner, and has specialized in teaching safety courses in Butler County.

## TWO FIELD AGENTS NEEDED

Brethren interested in serving as Field Agents for the Veteran's Hospital Visitation Program conducted by the Masonic Service Association in Pennsylvania may contact the Office of the R. W. Grand Master for pertinent facts and details.

Of the nine Veteran's Hospitals being serviced in Pennsylvania, two are presently in need of a Field Agent. They are located in Butler and Coatesville.

## "District Nights" are Being Planned for You

A schedule is now in the final stages for the visit of the R. W. Grand Master to the remaining District Meetings throughout the Jurisdiction.

In his effort to strengthen Freemasonry at the Blue Lodge level, Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, will attend a "District Night" in each of the seventy Masonic Districts during his term in office.

One Lodge in each Masonic District will act as host and the Officers and interested Members of the other Lodges in the District will be extended an invitation to attend their particular "District Night."

The "District Nights" held thus far have been most productive. They have provided a time for open dialogue between the Grand Master and the Craft.

## Father and Son are Devoted Ritualists

Bro. William J. Staas, Past Master of Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72, shares this interesting story with us: Bro. Staas served as Worshipful Master of Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72, in 1962 and again in 1973. His son, Bro. William H. Staas served as Worshipful Master in 1968 and 1969 when he was 23 and 24 years old. Both father and son are competent ritualists even having the pleasures of installing each other as Worshipful Masters. In fact, Bro. William H. while attending Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and studying for his doctorate, surprised his father by attending Lodge in December 1972, just to install his father for his second term as Worshipful Master.