

Questions & Answers

Question: Can a Roman Catholic, even a known member of the Knights of Columbus, become a Mason?

Answer: There are no rules or regulations in Freemasonry forbidding a Roman Catholic, even a known member of the Knights of Columbus, from petitioning for membership in a Masonic Lodge.

Question: Explain the emblems or ornaments that look like inverted "T's" on the Apron of a Worshipful Master?

Answer: The Ahiman Rezon, Article XV, Section 3, states: "... There may also be perpendicular lines about two-inches long and one-inch wide raised on horizontal lines of the same width and about three-inches in length, thereby forming two squares." The Constitution of the United Grand Lodge of England, our Mother Grand Lodge, in its 1815 edition described them as "perpendicular lines upon horizontal lines, thereby forming three several sets of (two) right angles." They were designed only for purpose of distinction. They are not to be confused with the Tau Cross the form of the Greek letter "T."

Question: Was James Wilson, a signer of The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, a Mason?

Answer: There are no records to substantiate that James Wilson, a prominent personality in the judicial profession in Pennsylvania from 1765 until his death in 1798, was a member of the Fraternity.

Question: Is there any other Jurisdiction in the United States that has the same "Blue Lodge" Ritual as that of Pennsylvania?

Answer: The Ritual and Lodge Work in Pennsylvania is still distinctly different than any of the other Jurisdictions. And, to possess or use a written or printed ritual, code or cipher is a Masonic offense. The Ritual and Lodge Work must be acquired "mouth to ear."

Question: Name the first three American Grand Lodges to become independent of the Grand Lodge of England and when?

Answer: Virginia on October 13, 1778; South Carolina on December 27, 1783; and Pennsylvania on September 26, 1786.

Question: Can you vouch for another as a Master Mason if you have only been in his presence while attending a

meeting of a Masonic Body other than a Symbolic Lodge?

Answer: Decision No. 6 on Page 3 of the Digest of Decisions, which is established Masonic Law, states: "To sit with a person, somewhere else than in a regular Blue Lodge, is not lawful Masonic information that he is a Master Mason in good standing."

Question: When does a Candidate for the Degrees of Freemasonry become a Member of the Lodge?

Answer: A Candidate for the Degrees of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania becomes a Member of the Lodge when he receives his Entered Apprentice Masons's Degree. He is not entitled to all the rights and privileges of his Lodge, but, nevertheless, he is a Member.

Question: I understand a former Member of our Grand Lodge also became President of the United States. Who was he?

Answer: Bro. James Buchanan, a Past Master of Lodge No. 43, held at Lancaster, and who later served as District Deputy Grand Master for the counties of Lancaster, York and Lebanon, was our 15th President. He was in office from 1857 to 1861 and has been our only bachelor President.

Question: Has the ruling forbidding Pennsylvania Masons to affiliate with Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star ever been reviewed?

Answer: The Edict, handed down by the R. W. Grand Master in 1921, making it unlawful for any Freemason under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania to be affiliated with the Order of the Eastern Star continues to be enforced.

Freemasonry in brief: A Faith to Live By; a Self to Live With, and a Cause to Live For.

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HONORED BY HIS LODGE—Bro. and Rev. Dr. Kenneth P. Rutter, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church, Greensburg, Pa., is shown receiving the Mason of distinction Award from Bros. James E. Warnick, Worshipful Master of Philanthropy Lodge, No. 225, held at Greensburg. This was the first of a series of such awards to be presented by the Lodge to Greensburg area Masons whose personal, professional and Masonic lives exemplify the ideals and teachings of Freemasonry.

June Quarterly to be Held at Scranton, Pa.

The June Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge will be held in the Masonic Temple and Scottish Rite Cathedral, Scranton, Pa., at 7:00 o'clock, P. M., Wednesday, June 3, 1981.

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, urges as many Pennsylvania Masons as possible to make an effort to attend Communications of the Grand Lodge. It is not necessary to be a Lodge Officer or a Past Master to attend. All Master Masons are invited.

Scranton has ample hotels and motels, if needed. The Masonic Temple is located near the center of the city, 420 North Washington Avenue.



The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

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FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA

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NUMBER 1

A Time for Proud Participation

250th Anniversary Set for Five Days in June

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, has his rather active 1981 Committee finalizing arrangements and details for the 250th Anniversary of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania to be celebrated in June, this year.

Special programs prepared in recognition of this 250th year of Freemasonry in our Jurisdiction, have been produced and distributed to our Symbolic Lodges for use during the Stated Meetings for January through June, this year.

An excellent Grand Lodge Medallion has been struck to commemorate this 250th Anniversary. These solid bronze medallions, 3-inches in diameter and inserted in a beautiful

case, will be made available for purchase to those interested.

The Grand Master is still hopeful that many more Symbolic Lodges and also individual Pennsylvania Masons will contribute toward the cost of the large bronze statue of Bro. Benjamin Franklin — Craftsman, to be dedicated and presented to the City of Philadelphia at the conclusion of the Masonic parade on Saturday, June 27, 1981. The plaque at the base of the statue will read in part: "Presented by Pennsylvania Freemasons." A few Pennsylvania Masons and two Symbolic Lodges have made contributions thus far. Your prompt consideration of this appeal is en-

couraged as we endeavor to honor a great man and a great Mason who served as Grand Master of our Provincial Grand Lodge in 1734 and again in 1749.

Highlighting the five-day program of events and beginning on Wednesday, June 24, 1981, a true Masonic date—St. John the Baptist's Day—will be the following:

Wednesday, June 24th—Special Communication of the Grand Lodge followed by a wreath laying ceremony at Bro. Benjamin Franklin's grave and then a church service in Old Christ Church.

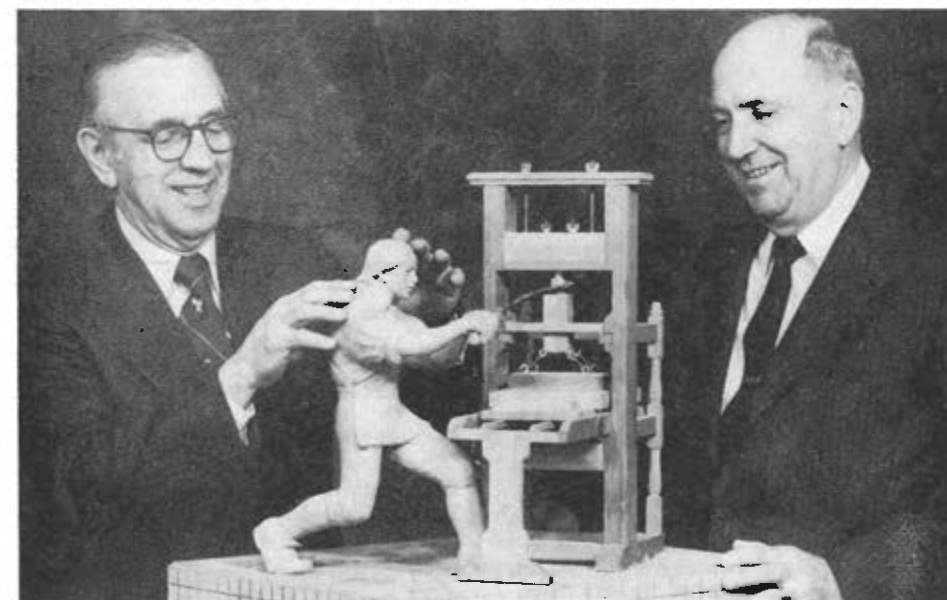
Thursday, June 25th—A formal black-tie dinner and reception for our distinguished guests from Grand Lodges in North America and England.

Friday, June 26th—A day at the Masonic Homes and an evening dinner and entertainment back in Philadelphia.

Saturday, June 27th—A Masonic parade down the Benjamin Franklin Parkway; unveiling and dedication ceremony around the new statue; dinner in the spacious ball room of the new Franklin Plaza Hotel.

Sunday, June 28th—A religious service in the ball room of the Philadelphia Sheraton Hotel following breakfast at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., and finally, a real Masonic farewell to all from all of our Right Worshipfuls.

Contributions toward the large bronze statue should be mailed to the Office of the Grand Master, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107, made payable to the R. W. Grand Secretary.



ADMIRING THE CRAFTSMAN'S HANDIWORK—Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, is shown on the right admiring the 18-inch scale model of the 14-foot statue of Bro. Benjamin Franklin, Craftsman, to be dedicated on Saturday, June 27, 1981, on an area near the walk-way directly across Broad Street from the main entrance of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. Mr. Joseph Brown, renowned sculptor commissioned to produce the completed statue, is shown on the left adding the master's touch.

Did You Know . . .

That more than 60 years ago, in 1919, the Order of DeMolay was founded in Kansas City by Bro. Frank S. Land and nine teenage boys, as an ongoing force for building better character and molding better citizens among young men?

That more than 3 million young men have knelt at the Altars of DeMolay around the world, and that there are more than 111,000 DeMolays today in 12 countries and territories?

That membership for young men between the ages of 13 and 21 years is not restricted to the sons or relatives of Masons?

That DeMolay is an organization that inspires young men to become better sons, better men, and better leaders?

That Senior DeMolays (those over 21 years of age) such as John Wayne, Walt Disney and Senator Mark Hatfield, have gone on to become leaders in all walks of life?

That an estimated 50% of all DeMolays become Master Masons?

That more than 150 DeMolays have become Grand Masters of Grand Lodges and numerous other DeMolays have attained exalted Masonic honors in the various bodies?

That the Order of DeMolay is the largest fraternal youth organization in the world today?

Note: Whenever or wherever you can help, aid and assist in the advancement of the Order of DeMolay, please do. These are the young men who will be taking our places a generation or so hence. The most important thing needed by the Order of DeMolay is the time and effort of Master Masons. And, that means thee and me Brethren!



GRAND LODGE OFFICERS ELECTED AND INSTALLED—The photograph above shows the Grand Lodge Officers elected and installed to serve for the current Masonic Year. Reading from left to right, they are: Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., R. W. Junior Grand Warden; Bro. Thomas W. Jackson, R. W. Grand Secretary; Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master; Bro. William A. Carpenter, R. W. Senior Grand Warden; Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. Arthur R. Diamond, R. W. Grand Treasurer.

Your Correct Address Is Always Needed!

When you change your mailing address, please take the time to promptly notify your Lodge Secretary so he can report the change to us on the proper form. The United States Postal Service Department is now charging us 25-cents for each copy of "The Pennsylvania Freemason" returned due to an incorrect or incomplete address imprint. Your cooperation in helping us eliminate this unnecessary expense is appreciated.



ANOTHER FAMILY AFFAIR—Four members of one family, shown above, are current Officers in Manquey Lodge, No. 413, Bath, Northampton County. Reading left to right, they are: Bros. David G. Reinert, Senior Deacon; Bro. Donald C. Reinert, Pursuivant; Bro. Dale E. Reinert, Worshipful Master; and Bro. Raymond E. Reinert, Past Master and Treasurer, who is the proud father of his three active Brother Masons.



QUITE A MASON—Bro. John J. Kessler, shown above flanked by Bro. Lester W. Sassaman, Worshipful Master of Stichter Lodge, No. 254, Pottstown, and Bro. George E. Boyer, D.D.G.M. of the 40th Masonic District, was honored recently by Stichter Lodge for his 50th year as a Past Master. Bro. Kessler, now in his 80th year, has been a power of strength in his Lodge for nearly 60 years. Secretary of his Lodge for 40 years, he has also been Secretary of the Masonic Temple Association for 55 years.

A "Knife and Fork Degree?"

*I seldom attend my Lodge Meetings,
For I've not the time to spare;
But, every time they have a banquet,
You will surely find me there.*

*I cannot help with the Degrees,
For I do not know the Work;
But I can applaud the speakers,*

*And handle a knife and fork.
I'm real rusty in the Ritual,
It all seems like Greek to me;
But practice has made me perfect,
With the "Knife and Fork Degree."*

Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., Elected and Installed R. W. Junior Grand Warden

Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., Past Master of Whitehall Lodge, No. 794, held at Whitehall, Allegheny County, and former District Deputy Grand Master for the 57th Masonic District, was elected R. W. Junior Grand Warden at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, December 3, 1980, and was installed at the Annual Grand Communication on December 27, 1980.

Bro. Stenberg was born in Sewickley, Pa., in 1916, and has resided in Whitehall Borough, Pittsburgh, since completing military service with the United States Army in 1946. Educated in the public school system of the City of Pittsburgh, he then continued his education at the University of Pittsburgh where he graduated in 1953.

A member of the Baldwin Community United Methodist Church, he has served as Trustee and on several other church committees. Active in his community, Bro. Stenberg served as treasurer of the Baldwin-Whitehall Schools Authority for 25 years. Having obtained the Eagle Scout Award in Scouting, he served as a Neighborhood Commissioner for the Boy Scouts of America for many years in his Council. Bro. Stenberg is a past advisor of the Temple Chapter, Order of DeMolay and a past president of the Whitehall Athletic Association.

Employed by the Mellon Bank, he is presently serving as a vice president and manager of the Estates Section of the Trust Department.

Bro. Stenberg served as Worshipful Master of Whitehall Lodge, No. 794, in 1966. He was elected a Trustee of the Lodge in 1967 and also served as Representative in the Grand Lodge for this Lodge from 1968 through 1979. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the 57th Masonic District for 1980.

A member of Crafton Royal Arch Chapter, No. 312, Bro. Stenberg is presently serving as a Trustee of the Masonic Fund Society for the County of Allegheny. He is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Pittsburgh and is presently serving as a Trustee. He is a Past Thrice Potent Master of Gourgos Lodge of Perfection. He is also



Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr.
R. W. Junior Grand Warden

a member of Syria Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.

Bro. Stenberg and his wife, the former Mildred G. Baggs, are the proud parents of three married sons.

98 Plus and 70 Years a Past Master of His Lodge

Congratulations are due Bro. William L. Stow, Past Master of North East Lodge, No. 399, North East, Erie County, who is looking forward to his 99th birthday in October and who has the distinction of being a Past Master of his Lodge for 70 years.

Bro. Stow gets out to Lodge and Bro. Ronald Lebold, Worshipful Master, tells us that it is an inspiration and a rare privilege to listen to Bro. Stow relate his past Masonic experiences to the Brethren. The Brethren agree unanimously that Bro. Stow is a remarkable Master Mason.

New Appointments Made By R.W. Grand Master

Grand Lodge appointments made by Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, since the November 1980 issue of "The Pennsylvania Freemason," include the following:

Bro. Frank W. Podrebarac, Keystone Lodge, No. 271, as District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District "C," vice Bro. Robert G. Boone, resigned and created a Past District Deputy Grand Master.

Bro. Robert H. Mason, Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, as District Deputy Grand Master for the 2nd Masonic District, vice Bro. Donald L. Albert, resigned.

Bro. Alfred R. Dudley, Dormont Lodge, No. 684, as District Deputy Grand Master for the 57th Masonic District, vice Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., newly elected R. W. Junior Grand Warden.

Bro. William H. Kley, University Lodge, No. 51, Trustee of the Grand Lodge Consolidated Fund, vice Bro. Russell A. Harris, resigned.

Bro. William R. Lessig, Jr., Lodge No. 62, Trustee of the Grand Lodge Consolidated Fund, vice Bro. Ralph W. Welsh, resigned.

Bro. William A. Carpenter, R. W. Senior Grand Warden, Chester Lodge, No. 236, as a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Correspondence and an Administrator of Grand Lodge Pension Plan.

Bro. Frank W. Bobb, Grand Lodge Curator and Librarian, George W. Kendrick, Jr. Lodge, No. 690, as a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Correspondence.

Bro. Gregory L. Cheesebrough, Oakdale Lodge, No. 669, as District Chairman for the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture for the 47th Masonic District, vice Bro. James E. Freeman, resigned.

Bro. Eugene W. Fobes, Sharpsville Lodge, No. 517, as District Chairman for the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture for the 53rd Masonic District.



A REAL FAMILY AFFAIR—The Koenig Brothers really have the three Throne Chairs in Joppa Lodge, No. 608, Pittsburgh, tied up this year shown above is Bro. David H. Koenig, Worshipful Master, with Bro. Daniel C., on the left, his Senior Warden, and Bro. Joseph N., on the right, his Junior Warden. Dan and Dave were Entered on November 8, 1977, and Joe was Entered on March 14, 1978. Here are three blood Brothers going all the way in Freemasonry.

Commuter Tunnel Causing Cracks in Our Temple

Conceived and planned by eminent Freemasons whose ambition was to erect an enduring and fitting monument to Freemasonry, our Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, truly a perfect specimen of authentic Norman architecture, has stood for more than 110 years with but few minor structural blemishes.

The physical structure of our world-renowned Masonic Temple has been threatened, however, by circumstances conceived by local and federal governments. We refer to the Center City Commuter Tunnel now under construction for the purpose of connecting the former Penn Central and Reading Railroads. This controversial project was, at one time, estimated to cost \$307 million. More recent figures now rate the completed project to exceed five to six-hundred million dollars—if it is ever completed.

As shown in the photographs to the right, the excavation under the thick wooden deck used to accommodate traffic has resulted in the removal of soil that was right up against the original foundation along the south wall of our Masonic Temple. During the early stages of the drilling and excavation near the Temple, a seismograph was installed on the south wall of the Temple and it registered vibrations beyond a reasonable tolerance on a few occasions.

The real tragedy of this project thus far, other than the daily noise and inconveniences caused those visiting the Temple, has been the appearance of large cracks in the floors, and interior walls and ceilings within the Temple along and adjacent to the south wall. These damages started to appear about the middle of January this year. Since February 2nd, 1981, all excavation, heavy drilling and pile driving has been stopped in the area of the south wall of the Temple.

Several of the top-level engineers assigned to the project have been reviewing the damages encountered and we certainly hope they are able to correct the problems caused by



USING PHOTOGRAPHS TO TELL THE STORY—To better relate what is happening along the south wall of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, headquarters of our Grand Lodge, the photograph above shows the extent of activity and excavation on the Center City Commuter Tunnel. The photograph below is a close-up showing that the soil has been removed right up to the original foundation of the Temple which was laid in 1868. The accompanying article covers more detail on this unfortunate experience.



Two 50-Year Past Masters Honored at Testimonial

On the evening of Saturday, December 6, 1980, the Officers and Members, accompanied by their lovely Ladies, of Corinthian-Philo Lodge, No. 368, Philadelphia, assembled for a testimonial banquet in honor of its two Past Masters of fifty years.

The honored Brethren were Bro. Alfred M. Hoffman who served as Worshipful Master of the former Philo Lodge, No. 444, in 1930 and Bro. Herbert M. Packer who served as Worshipful Master of Corinthian Lodge, No. 368, in 1930.

We will endeavor to keep you informed on future developments as the project pertains to our Temple and our tempers.

It was an evening long to be remembered. As Bros. Hoffman, age 94, and Bro. Packer, age 90, reminisced during the "This Is Your Life" evening, it was most revealing just how their lives had paralleled even to their schooling, military service and professions. It was a great evening for two great Master Masons.

A wound from the tongue is worse than a wound from the sword; the latter affects only the body, the former, the body and soul.

Three-month Itinerary of Grand Lodge Elected Officers

The schedule for the Grand Lodge Officers for the next three months includes:

- April 2**—27th Masonic District Meeting, Butler Lodge, No. 272, Butler, Pa.
- April 3**—54th Masonic District Meeting, Plum Creek Lodge, No. 799, Plum Borough, Allegheny County.
- April 4**—Sectional Meeting, School of Instruction, New Castle.
- April 6**—35th Masonic District Meeting, Sylvania Lodge, No. 354, Shickshinny.
- April 7**—42nd Masonic District Meeting, York Lodge, No. 266, York.
- April 8**—19th Masonic District Meeting, Lewistown Lodge, No. 203, Lewistown.
- April 11**—Sectional Meeting, School of Instruction, Scranton.
- April 14**—6th Masonic District Meeting, Shiloh Lodge, No. 558, Lansdale, Montgomery County.
- April 15**—16th Masonic District Meeting, Union Lodge, No. 108, Towanda.
- April 16**—15th Masonic District Meeting, Warren Lodge, No. 240, Montrose, Susquehanna County.
- April 18**—125th Anniversary, Chartiers Lodge, No. 297, Cannonsburg, Washington County.
- April 23**—60th Masonic District Meeting, Abraham C. Treichler Lodge, No. 682, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
- April 24**—Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes Meeting, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
- April 25**—Sectional Meeting, School of Instruction, Johnstown.
- April 30**—Annual Maxwell Sommerville Banquet, Union Lodge, No. 121, Philadelphia.
- May 1**—Worshipful Master's Night, Zembo Temple, A.A.O.M.N.S., Harrisburg.
- May 2**—Sectional Meeting, School of Instruction, Kane.
- May 4**—30th Masonic District Meeting, Loyalhanna Lodge, No. 275, Latrobe, Westmoreland County.
- May 6**—43rd Masonic District Meeting, Blyth Lodge, No. 593, West Newton, Westmoreland County.
- May 7**—45th Masonic District Meeting, Leighton Lodge, No. 621, Leighton, Carbon County.
- May 9**—150th Anniversary of Pulaski Lodge, No. 216, Pottsville, and Sectional Meeting, School of Instruction, Williamsport.
- May 14**—District Meeting for "G" Masonic District, Union Lodge, No. 121, Philadelphia.
- May 16**—75th Anniversary, Belle Vernon Lodge, No. 643, Belle Vernon, Fayette County, and Sectional Meeting, School of Instruction, Meadville.
- May 22**—Grand Lodge Committee on



R. W. GRAND MASTER IS IN GOOD HANDS—Always smiling and in good spirits around the ladies, Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, and his wife, Isabel, are shown with Miss Marie Stevens, Grand Worthy Advisor for the Rainbow for Girls in Pennsylvania, on the left, and Mrs. Beryl L. Hogue, Supreme Inspector for the Rainbow for Girls in Pennsylvania. The occasion was a special meeting of the Rainbow for Girls, attended by 63 Rainbow Girls and 58 adults, and held at the Masonic Temple, Woodside, Lower Bucks County, for the purpose of extending special recognition to the Grand Master and Mrs. Trate, and also for conferring the Grand Cross of Color on the R. W. Grand Master, the highest honor the Order of Rainbow for Girls may confer upon a Rainbow Girl or an active adult. The Grand Master is wearing his award around his neck proudly.

Masonic Homes Meeting, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

- May 23**—100th Anniversary, Lewisville Lodge, No. 556, Ulysses, Potter County.
- May 26**—100th Anniversary, Masonic Veterans of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
- May 28**—75th Anniversary, Joppa Council, No. 46, Royal and Select Masters, Philadelphia.
- May 30**—Sectional Meeting, School of Instruction, Mt. Union.
- June 2**—13th Masonic District Meeting, Peter Williamson Lodge, No. 323, Scranton.
- June 3**—Grand Lodge Committee on Finance Meeting; District Deputy Grand Master's Session; Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.
- June 5**—75th Anniversary, Tyrian Lodge, No. 644, New Kensington, Westmoreland County.
- June 6**—100th Anniversary, Olive Lodge, No. 557, Tionesta, Forrest County.
- June 8**—12th Masonic District Meeting, Landmark Lodge, No. 442, Wilkes-Barre.
- June 18**—41st Masonic District Meeting, Somerset Lodge, No. 358, Somerset.
- June 19**—34th Masonic District Meeting, Everett Lodge, No. 524, Everett, Bedford County.
- June 20**—Special Communication of Grand Lodge, Dedication of new Lodge Room, Laying of Cornerstone, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 300, Huntingdon.
- June 24 to 28**—250th Anniversary Celebration of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
- June 30**—52nd Masonic District Meeting, Garfield Lodge, No. 559, DuBois, Clearfield County.

Room for More Children At Our Children's Home

We are pleased to report we now have sixteen girls and boys enjoying the excellent care, comforts and security at our well supervised Children's Home at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. It was less than a year ago that we made it known to the Masons of Pennsylvania that our Children's Home enrollment had dropped to only seven. An expression of appreciation is in order for the Brethren and their respective Lodges for the efforts put forth to locate these additional children who needed us and are now our Guests.

We learn that two and possibly three more applications are being processed for children to be considered by the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes at its March 1981 meeting. However, we still have accommodations for approximately forty more orphaned children or children from broken homes who are in need of a better way of living. A full-time Staff, headed by an experienced and well qualified Children's Home Supervisor, over-see the special care and training of our children.

If you are acquainted with a case or cases where a young girl or boy is really in need of a good home; where it will receive proper supervision, and good disciplined care in the ways of life; plus sincere love, contact your Lodge through the Secretary for the required sponsorship and application. It is not necessary for the child to be Masonically related.

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, says it this way: "All we are attempting to do is to reach out and touch the lives of young people who may need a nudge in the right direction."

SO MOTE IT BE!



TYPICAL GROUPS OF "WONDERFUL GOOD" PENNSYLVANIA YOUNG PEOPLE — Shown above and below are just two of the group pictures taken of the several sessions of leadership training and recreational programs conducted at the Patton School Campus last year as part of the Special Youth Program sponsored by our Grand Lodge. Relative to the dress: The young ladies, noting the agenda called for a group picture at a certain time, just had to get "all prettied-up." The young men, all set for some recreation, when the photographer arrived, said: "OK, let's get it over with!"



Special Youth Program Proves a Sound Investment

Our Grand Lodge will enjoy another "first" this Summer when we host one of the National Leadership Training Conferences conducted by the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay. The conference will be held at the Patton School Campus August 9th through August 15th with members of the Staff arriving August 7th and 8th. Approximately 125 leaders of the DeMolay movement will be in sessions during that week in August and we are pleased to have them as our guests.

Other sessions being held at Patton School in this sixth year of our Special Youth Program outreach include:

A Key Man Workshop for DeMolay Chapters of Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon

and Schuylkill Counties, held January 2nd, 3rd and 4th, this year.

A State-wide DeMolay Basketball Tournament held at Patton School on March 13th, 14th and 15th, this year.

A DeMolay Leadership Conference for Chapters of the 20th and 22nd Regional Districts on March 27th, 28th and 29th, this year.

Four sessions of four-days each for the girls from the various Assemblies of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls in Pennsylvania from June 7th through June 21st, 1981. This will be the sixth year for the Rainbow Girls and their adult advisors to return to the Patton School Campus.

Two sessions of four-days each for the girls from the various Bethels of the International Order of Job's Daughters in Pennsylvania from July 16th through July 22nd.

Three-day week-end Training Conferences have also been scheduled for DeMolay Chapters throughout Pennsylvania on a selective basis for September 11th, 12th and 13th; September 25th, 26th and 27th; and October 9th, 10th and 11th, this year. And there could be more.

Arranged and coordinated as one of the duties of the Grand Lodge Committee on Youth Services, this Special Youth Program is the will and pleasure of Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R.W. Grand Master and is designed to reach out and touch the lives of our young men and ladies. Already we have seen that it is one of our best investments.

Our one chance of real world improvement is with the growing generation. And they include DeMolays, Rainbow Girls and Job's Daughters.

In Memoriam

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Freemasonry in general have been saddened by the death of Bro. Walter P. Wells, Right Worshipful Past Grand Master.

Bro. Wells passed away during the early morning hours of March 19, 1981. His death ended a notable career as a lawyer, a judge, a churchman, a public official and a Masonic leader.

Born May 10, 1905, Bro. Wells resided in Coudersport, Pa., where he distinguished himself for most of his earthly life in civic groups, community projects, church work and fraternal activities. He was a member of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church and served for many years as a vestryman.

A Past Master of Eulalia Lodge, No. 342, he later served as Most Wise Master of Coudersport Chapter of Rose Croix, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Coudersport. A trustee of the Valley of Coudersport for over thirty years, he also served as Commander-in-Chief of Coudersport Consistory.

Bro. Wells was a member of all the York Rite Bodies in Coudersport and served as High Priest of Coudersport Royal Arch Chapter, No. 263. Active in the Royal Order of Jesters of Jaffa Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., he was also an active member of the Pennsylvania College Society of Rosicrucians and the Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

Bro. Wells served as District Attorney of Potter County, resigning in 1952 to become a Judge. He became the President Judge of the 55th Judicial District and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1975, when he became a Senior Judge.

A graduate of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, he was also a graduate of the Dickinson School of Law. He was a director of the First National Bank of Coudersport and at one time was president and director of the Coudersport & Port Allegheny Railroad. He was a past president of the Potter County Memorial Hospital.

Bros. Wells was honored in 1955 for outstanding service in Freemasonry and excellent services for the benefit of his community,



Brother Walter P. Wells
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master

when he was coroneted an Honorary Thirty-third Degree Mason.

Serving as Right Worshipful Grand Master in 1978 and 1979, Bro. Well's two-year term was highlighted by the constituting of a new Symbolic Lodge in Hermitage Township, Mercer County; conducting several leadership training seminars for Symbolic Lodge Officers throughout the Jurisdiction; and, the creation of a Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Gold Benjamin Franklin Medal for presentation to distinguished Masons.

Surviving are his wife, the former Anne Mulligan, four children, John Walter, II, Rosemary Anne, Christopher Arthur and Mrs. Patricia Wells Kapteina, two grandchildren and two sisters, Mrs. Howard Schutt and Mrs. H. Hollingsworth Pett.

Masonic services were conducted at the Fickinger Funeral Home, Coudersport, Pa., on Sunday evening, March 22nd, and the funeral was held Monday, March 23rd, following a memorial service in Christ Episcopal Church, Coudersport.

Silver Beavers are Good Scouts and Busy Brethren

Another "first" for our Jurisdiction took place at the January Stated Meeting of Eureka Lodge, No. 335, held at Montoursville, Lycoming County.

At the meeting, the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason was conferred on Bro. Melvin D. Hunter, an executive in the Boy Scouts of America. The Brethren occupying the various stations and places in the Lodge for the conferring of the De-

The Mason who gets the most out of his membership is the one who is faithful in attending all Lodge Meetings, and willing to serve his Lodge when called upon. Such a Member is indispensable to his Lodge. And to him comes the honor and satisfaction that he has done his duty.

gree each had the distinction of being recipients of the coveted Silver Beaver Award, the highest recognition in Boy Scouting given to adult volunteers.

More than 495 years of service to the Boy Scouting program was represented by those Brethren participating in the Degree. Dean of the group was Bro. F. Parson Kepler, Sr., Past Master of Milton Lodge, No. 256, who has been serving in Scouting for 64 years.

Bro. Robert H. Christie, Past Master of Eureka Lodge, No. 335, conferred the Degree. His Wardens were Howard R. Baldwin and Bro. Paul L. Seeling, Past Masters and members of Ivy Lodge, No. 397 and Lodge No. 106, respectively, both of Williamsport. Muncy Lodge, No. 299, was the fifth Lodge with Silver Beavers participating. And, most of the 100 Brethren in attendance were former Boy Scouts.

Oh, Just to be Sincere

Remember how not too long ago we didn't have to lock our doors when we left home? Remember how the majority of us knew and could trust our neighbors? A man's word and a handshake made contracts. Common sense told you if it was right or wrong and failing to cross a "t" or dot an "i" didn't set criminals free.

It would be great if we could return to those times of truth and love and goodness. There is still a place for integrity in the business of living and our Fraternity, together with countless others surely can be numbered on the side of sincerity. We may not be perfect and without blemish but we should always be sincere.

Webster defines "sincere" as: Without pretense or deceit, genuine. We receive letters which close with "sincerely" and perhaps we have used that closing without giving it much thought.

The word "sincere," we are informed, is the English translation of two Latin words, "sine" and "cera," meaning "without wax." These words were used frequently in the building trade of yesteryear. In the preparation and shipment of marble, a block might receive a chip or be marred in some fashion. It was possible to hide or conceal these imperfections by the use of white wax. This procedure could not withstand time and weather, however, and the imperfection would soon appear. To insure against this practice, it was customary to mark the marble blocks or pieces "Sine-cera"—meaning without any wax added.

How great it would be if we could sign all of our works "Sine-cera" and make Shakespeare's definition of sincerity our goal: "His words are bonds, his oaths are oracles, his thought immaculate, his tears pure messengers sent from the heart."

The Apostle Paul said: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and angels and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass or tinkling cymbal." What Paul was saying that even though I give away everything and even sacrifice my life, and am not sincere, but do things to be seen of men, it means nothing. The Pharisees were condemned for their insincerity. The widow, however, who gave of what she had was commended for her sincerity.

Brethren, we are knee-deep in another Masonic Year. So, let us pause and reflect and then resolve to take the ingredients for true Brotherhood and put them together so that all men may know that Freemasons can be sincere.

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