

Considering a Gift of Stock?

If so, here's a little true/false quiz to test your knowledge about using publicly traded stock to make a charitable gift to Masonic Homes.

- ___ 1. Only stocks traded on the New York Stock Exchange can be used to make charitable gifts.
- ___ 2. For tax purposes, it is normally better to sell long-term appreciated stock and give the cash to Masonic Homes.
- ___ 3. The value of a stock gift is determined on the date when Masonic Homes receives a letter from the donor indicating his or her decision to make the gift.
- ___ 4. If you buy stock in January and in three months it doubles in value, you can give the stock to Masonic Homes in June and avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciation of the stock.
- ___ 5. It is normally better to give stock that has depreciated in value rather than stock that has appreciated.
- ___ 6. For tax purposes, the value of a stock gift equals the amount of cash received by Masonic Homes after it sells the stock.
- ___ 7. Most stock gifts require legal assistance to complete.



If you answered all of these questions "false" you may move to the head of the class. On the other hand, if you used the "T" word, or were unsure of any of your answers, use the coupon below to request a free brochure on Gifts of Appreciated Property: A Way to Reduce Taxes. We want you to know the advantages of stock gifts — and how easy it really is.

(Please complete and return this coupon)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gifts of Appreciated Property: A Way to Reduce Taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> How you Benefit From a Pooled Income Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use Your Will Power | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Your Income With a Unitrust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Remainder Trusts - Income Producing Gifts | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial and Estate Planning for Women |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How you Benefit by Giving Life Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Lead Trust: Pass Assets to Family Tax Free |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please note that I have made provisions in my Will for the Masonic Homes of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. | |

This is a wonderful way to use some of your assets to help not only yourself, but also to provide needed resources for the Masonic Homes in the years ahead.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, Fred D. Rissinger, Director of Development, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199

**THE GRAND LODGE F. & A. M.
OF PENNSYLVANIA**
Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199

Second Class
POSTAGE PAID
Lancaster, PA 17604-9998
and Additional Offices



This unique art depicts King Solomon and some of the most famous Freemasons of all time. Prints are double matted with engraved plate, "Friend to Friend - From Centuries Past Through Centuries to Come," glass mounted and gold framed with a wire hanger.

Enjoy the Beautiful "Friend to Friend" Painting!

Two Sizes Available: 16" x 23" Only \$119 or 23" x 36" Only \$199

Order Today!

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ made payable to Masonic Library and Museum of PA
for the "Friend to Friend" Painting (PA residents add 6% sales tax)
Shipping address (We cannot ship to P.O. Boxes)

Name: _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: **Library and Museum, Masonic Temple**
One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to above.

Please include complete imprint of address on your postal return clipping.

PENNSYLVANIA NOW LARGEST JURISDICTION IN NORTH AMERICA

The Freemasons of Pennsylvania continue to make Masonic history with the **Friend to Friend** Membership Development and Retention Program. Pennsylvania has become the largest Masonic Jurisdiction in North America, according to the recently published 1996 List of Lodges Masonic.

This good news was made possible because of our showing a 40 percent increase in petitions for two consecutive years.

A Special Message

From The Grand Master:

I thank every Pennsylvania Freemason who has become a "Builder of the Craft" in the **Friend to Friend** Program. Because of you, Pennsylvania has become the largest Masonic Jurisdiction in North America.

Special Message continued on page 3



VOLUME XLIII

The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

AUGUST 1996



NUMBER 3



FRATERNITY



EDUCATION



YOUTH



INVOLVEMENT



The Grand Master Speaks ...

Brethren:

I have assured you that my total involvement in Grand Lodge programs, family opportunities and Pennsylvania Lodges is a goal for my tenure as Grand Master. It is my hope that all Masons become personally involved with the activities offered by our Fraternity so that each of you will reap the rewards of brotherhood, enrichment, and a feeling of worthiness as you exercise charitable works. It has been rewarding to me as I have begun presenting Grand Lodge replica model banks for those brethren completing ten out of 15 noble fraternal activities. These Masons have had many wonderful experiences and are to be congratulated for their efforts.

Charity is a theme and an accountability. As you read *The Pennsylvania Freemason*, notice how Masons have responded. Masons are involved sincerely, whether it's the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, responding to the messages of the Blood and Organ Donor Club, or in projects to help their communities and handicapped or distressed neighbors and friends. Charity is being there for another when needed. We need to be there for our brothers when they need us.

Let me relate an event that I spoke about to those attending the Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication in Johnstown. The Grand Lodge Officers visited Coatesville Veterans Hospital on the traditional Memorial Day, May 30th. We, in our Masonic regalia, were welcomed and received by the staff with open arms. Our guides took us to many of the hospital facilities, and I can assure you that our veterans are getting fine care. On one floor we noticed two ladies lovingly spoon-feeding their husbands. We stopped to visit and they informed us that their husbands had been Masons, but were put out of the lodge when they became sick and

didn't remember to pay their dues. I ask you, brethren, why did we allow this to happen? How many other brethren have been suspended who are in the same condition as the ones fed by their wives? Why aren't we living up to our obligation to help a brother when in need? Why aren't we cognizant of our responsibility as officers and members of our lodges when a member is up for suspension? It is your duty to look after your brothers and their families. Remember our Ancient Charge at Initiation when the Worshipful Master told you, "You are to be a man of benevolence and charity...." You can make a difference in the lives of your brothers. Do you realize that a penny a week from each Mason in your lodge could pay the dues of brothers who are ill? We can not afford to allow brethren to be suspended when they are in the condition of the men we visited at the Veterans Hospital. Over 1,600 members have been suspended for non-payment of dues this year. We must all become concerned about these brethren. Perhaps the secretary of your lodge could provide the names of the suspended members for the Masons of your lodge so that personal contact could be made to show that Masons care. Have you called a sick brother lately?

Education, culture, and promoting the useful arts are also our responsibilities. We have completed the awarding of scholarships for the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and the High School Senior Talent Search competition and essay contest promoted by the Masonic Education Committee. The exceptional talent and the perceptions of the essays were truly inspirational to those who attended the performances. Please make any 1996-1997 High School Seniors aware that these programs will be available for scholarship opportunities to be awarded in the spring of 1997.

Be a "lover of the arts" and visit the Grand Lodge-sponsored Sunday family entertainment programs in October when they resume. Those who attended the shows in the Spring enjoyed the programs and found them to be afternoons of wholesome fun shared with families and friends. Also, invite a non-Masonic friend to join you at our Masonic Homes for Autumn Day September 28th. There will be games for the children, entertainment, good food, tours, shopping for fruit and crafts and visiting with the Homes' residents, which will make a complete and wonderful day.

Finally, I must let you know how proud I am of the Grand Master's team. During the first four months of 1996, more than 1,600 petitions were received. The Grand Master's team comprises the first-line signers and they are the recipients of the purple team jackets which denotes their commitment to keep Freemasonry vibrant. The lodges of Pennsylvania are enthusiastically responding to our **Friend to Friend** program. Evidence of this response is that Pennsylvania now enjoys first place in membership among the jurisdictions in North America. I call upon all Masons to share the **Friend to Friend** brochure and newly released 14-minute video with those whom you believe to be qualified for membership. It is one of the finest things you can ever do for a friend. I am looking for you to be part of the team and help make a difference in our Masonic history.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Edward O. Weisser

Edward O. Weisser
R.W. Grand Master



On the Cover

INVOLVEMENT ... in the Lodge, the family, and the community ... in charity, youth programs, education, fraternalism, and membership development.

Throughout The Pennsylvania Freemason are reports of Pennsylvania Masons, lodges and districts involved in fraternalism, charity, and service. Representative of the involved Masons, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser is shown on the cover of this issue taking part in some fraternal, service, educational and fellowship activities.

In the lower photo, Grand Master Weisser is having a great time with youth as he was a surprise visitor at a Rainbow Girls' "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny." (see page 10). In the picture upper right, he presents the \$5,000 scholarship to Anthony Carafora, the first-place winner of the statewide talent search (see page 17). In the upper left picture, Bro. Weisser is with 14 new members of the Grand Master's Team who are wearing the purple **Friend to Friend** jackets for membership development that they received at the Quarterly Communication in Johnstown (see below).



Joining Grand Master's Team

During the Quarterly Communication in the Masonic Temple in Johnstown, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser welcomed 14 Masons to the Grand Master's Team and presented them with purple **Friend to Friend** Jackets. After the candidate has become a Mason, the jacket is awarded to the Pennsylvania Mason who was the first-line signer of his petition.

Shown with Grand Master Weisser after they received their jackets are: Front row (l-r) - Grand Sword Bearer William W. Weisser (left) and R.W. Past Grand Master John K. Young (right); Center row - Clarence Snyder, Jr., Paul L. Zeipicick, Lawrence Sollenberger, P. Franklin Hartzell, Sr., Brooks L. Breakey, and John D. Ladik; Back row - D.D.G.M. Danny McKnight, Louis Ludwig, Emery Dave Anden, Jr., Gary E. Moody, James Miller, and Robert Zettlemoyer.

Special Message continued from cover

I would like to see every Freemason congratulate every brother he sees who is wearing a **Friend to Friend** Builders Pin or the Grand Master's purple team jacket. Those brethren are making a difference in a most critical period of Masonic history.

Brethren, **Friend to Friend** is working; but our work has just begun! We have slowed the pace of membership losses dramatically; but we need the involvement of all members — NOW. As we join hands in unanimity, success will crown our efforts. The Masons of Pennsylvania have joined hands and we are No. 1. Are you committed to keep Freemasonry alive and well?

With the **Friend to Friend** brochure and the newly released 14-minute **Friend to Friend** video, we have the most effective tools ever developed to enlighten our worthy non-Masonic friends about Freemasonry. It is simple; it is easy; and we are doing it without solicitation.

I urge you to share the **Friend to Friend** brochure and video with those whom you honestly believe to be qualified for membership. It is one of the finest things you can ever do for a friend. It is a message of kindness that lasts a lifetime!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Edward O. Weisser

Know what is going on in the Grand Lodge. Beginning August 1, you can call toll-free to hear a weekly message from the Grand Master.

CALL 1-888-440-1500

Dodson Earns 1st Replica Bank

Paul Dodson (left), a Past Master in Hermann Lodge No. 125, Philadelphia, is the first Pennsylvania Mason to be awarded the Grand Lodge replica bank for having verified his exemplary Masonic record. He completed 11 of the 15 fraternal achievements listed on the "Banking on You, Brother" verification card.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser presented the award to Bro. Dodson "on the job at Grand Lodge." He has been an employee on the Maintenance Staff at the Masonic Temple for 13 years. For the presentation, Dodson wore the purple Grand Master's Team jacket that he earned for being the first-line petition-signer for an initiate during Grand Master Weisser's term. He also holds the bronze, silver, and gold lapel pin awards. Dodson, who has been a Mason for 23 years, said that he has signed 15 petitions.

The award winner, who celebrated his 60th birthday in June, is constantly busy with Masonically related activities. He tiles for 11 lodges or bodies; he is a "Dad" in Rainbow Assembly 47, Philadelphia; and is the Sentinel of Covenant Chapter 199 of the Order of the Eastern Star. Also, he is sexton for New Greenwich Light Baptist Church in Philadelphia.

The award can be earned by a Pennsylvania Mason who completes ten of fifteen fraternal activities during 1996 and 1997. Every Pennsylvania Mason has received a card on which to track his progress toward earning a bank. When he has ten tasks accomplished, either the Secretary or the Tyler of his lodge will initial the card to verify the achievements.





48 More Officers Complete D.A.R.E. Training

Forty-eight police officers from throughout Pennsylvania were graduated May 3 from the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) two-week training at the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. The training, made possible by the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children, is conducted in coordination with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, D.A.R.E. and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

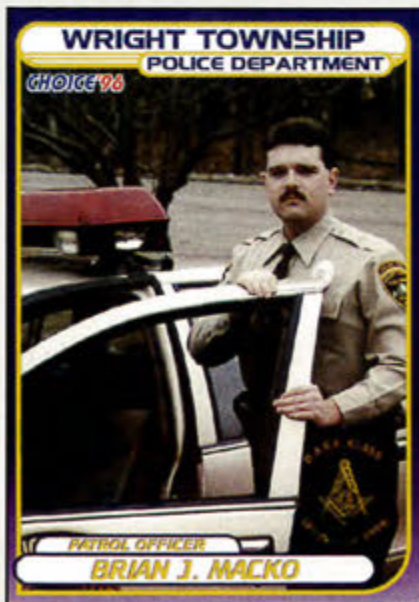
Upon completing the training, the officers were certified to teach a 17-week course on drug and alcohol abuse resistance in their local elementary schools.

Since 1994, Pennsylvania Masons have hosted the training at no cost to the state, participating municipalities, or individual officers. The Masonic Conference Center has been designated the Pennsylvania D.A.R.E Training Center. This class brings the total of D.A.R.E. officers trained at the facility to 177.

Kids Save Cop Cards

Kids love heroes. And kids love to collect picture cards of their heroes.

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children supplies each law enforcement officer who is graduated from the D.A.R.E Training Program with 2,000 personal "cop trading cards." The face of each card has the officer's picture in color, along with his or her name and that of the police department. The Square and Compasses is imprinted in a corner. On the back is the career record of the officer, a personal message from the officer and the Square and Compasses with "Compliments of The Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania."



Ashara Lodge Presents Check

Past Master Terry L. Sheppard, of Ashara Lodge No. 398, Mt. Joy, presents a check for \$2,000 representing the proceeds of its annual spaghetti fund-raising dinner to Joseph W. Witte, Director of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children.

Lodge No. 337 Finds a New Friend

[The following is excerpted from an article by Elizabeth Horne, staff writer for The Valley Independent, Monongahela.]

"A third grade Bentleyville elementary student (Brennan Shemasek) loves to draw, but because of a disease she is confined to a wheelchair and was having trouble reaching the desk in her favorite class....

"It only took one phone call for the Henry M. Phillips Lodge No. 337 in Monongahela to jump into action (and to purchase a special desk). Bentleyville Elementary teacher Joy Bellicini said (that) the members dug into their own pockets when they heard of Brennan Shemasek's situation.

"(Brennan) was born with muscular dystrophy.... art is her favorite class and a new wheelchair placed her much higher than her art table. The new desk will grow with Shemasek and be moved from school to school with her....The Shemasek family, their third grade daughter and the entire staff of the school are grateful to the men who made the gift possible."



Members of Henry M. Phillips Lodge No. 337 are shown with their new friend, third-grade art student Brennan Shemasek, at the special desk they bought for her. Shown (l-r) are: Edward Ramos, W.M.; William Powis; Brennan's mother, Beckie Shemasek; Albert E. Robinson, P.M.; Andre Bellicini; Alex Popp; and Leno Bastianin, P.M.

Scottish Rite Research Society Offers "Nickel's Worth" Deal

The Scottish Rite Research Society has grown from 400 members four years ago to nearly 2,000 today. It now has a goal of 5,000 members. To put the Society on the road toward its goal, there is a special 1996 membership promotion. For the first year's dues of \$20, the Society will waive the initiation fee, give a new book on Masonry, and place the new member on the mailing list for the Society's newsletter, *The Plumline*.

The Society calls it, "... getting your nickel's worth — and more," because the book, Bro. Jim Tresner's *Albert Pike: The Man Beyond the Monument*, — already in its second printing — is a \$19.95 value. Also, the first 1,000 new members will receive a bonus copy of a poster with 32 illustrations of Scottish Rite Regalia paintings that are displayed in the House of the Temple, headquarters of the A.A.S.R., S.M.J., in Washington, D.C.

To become a member of the Scottish Rite Research Society, a Mason should send a note of application including his name, address, lodge, Scottish Rite Valley (if applicable) along with his check for \$20 for 1996 dues to: Scottish Rite Research Society, 1733 16th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009-3103. Life membership is available at \$300.

NORTH TO ALASKA

R.W. Edward O. Weisser
and The Grand Lodge of
Pennsylvania

Presents

Glacier Discovery Cruise

(First Week of August 1997)

Plus Post Cruise Options
This trip is open to Masons and
Friends (Non-Masons)

A 7-Day Cruise Aboard Holland America Line's
MS Ryndam
Vancouver • Ketchikan • Juneau Sitka • Yukutat Bay
Valdez • Hubbard Glacier College Fjord
Harriman Fjord • Seward

Book Early For Best Cabin Selection!

Book Early and Save up to \$3,778 per couple
Off Holland America's Published Prices!
FOR IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION OR
RESERVATION CALL

VANTAGE DELUXE WORLD
TRAVEL TOLL-FREE

1-800-833-0899

For Your Convenience,

Reservation Agents Are Available

Weekdays 8:30 am - 7:00 pm EST

Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 p.m. EST

Your Trip To Alaska Will Include:

Cabin per grade selected

All shipboard meals, midnight buffet, etc.

First class entertainment

Captain's Welcome Aboard Party

(Air fare and selected options extra.)

CABIN DISCRPTION	1997 Price	Vantage Price	You Save
O = Outside Cabin • I = Inside Cabin			
A Deluxe w/Veranda (O)	\$4332	\$2898	\$1434
B Deluxe w/Veranda (O)	\$4132	\$2243	\$1889
C Large Stateroom (O)	\$3265	\$2112	\$1153
D Large Stateroom (O)	\$3185	\$1853	\$1332
E Large Stateroom (O)	\$3065	\$1788	\$1277
F Large Stateroom (O)	\$2932	\$1689	\$1243
G Large Stateroom (O)	\$2665	\$1624	\$1041
J Large Stateroom (I)	\$2479	\$1397	\$1082
K Large Stateroom (I)	\$2399	\$1332	\$1067
L Large Stateroom (I)	\$2332	\$1299	\$1033
M Large Stateroom (I)	\$2265	\$1167	\$1098

Reservation Coupon

Enclosed is my check payable to The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the amount of \$400.00 for each reservation. Refund of deposit will be made up to May 1, 1997 on all cancellations except for 10%.

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home phone: (_____) _____

Business: (_____) _____

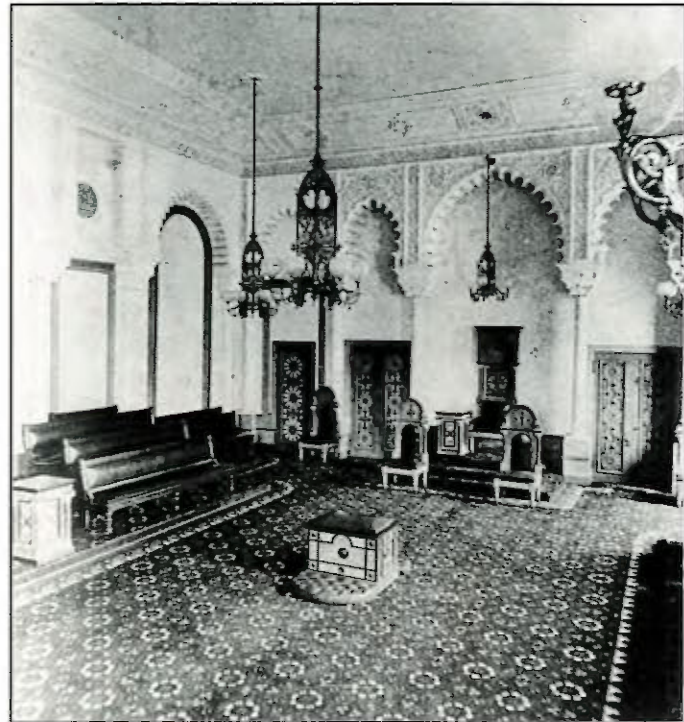
Masonic Affiliation (if any): _____

Send to: Pennsylvania Grand Lodge
c/o Vantage Deluxe World Travel
111 Cypress Street, Brookline, MA 02146

For Additional Information call: 1-800-833-0899

ORIENTAL HALL: 100th ANNIVERSARY

One hundred years ago, decoration of Oriental Hall, described as one of the finest, most colorfully designed lodge rooms in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, was completed and formally opened. Throughout the century, the stately hall has served Masonry well and today is the meeting place of five Blue Lodges and two York Rite Bodies.



Looking west - 1890's

Oriental Hall, a superb exemplification of Moorish architecture, is one of the smallest among the seven magnificent lodge halls in the Masonic Temple. Oriental Hall is 53 feet long, 41 feet wide and 23 feet high. As described in *The Keystone*, a Masonic publication of the time, "Oriental Hall is ... the work of Bro. Murray Gibson, Sr. His plans ... were reproductions of the

several parts of the famous Alhambra, at Grenada, Spain ... all of it in the raised relief characteristic of the Saracenic style. The design of the main panel of the ceiling is from the Hall of the Ambassadors and is subdivided into seven thousand smaller panels ... [with] interlacing golden lines ... that culminate into larger star-shaped clusters, out of the centre of each ... buds an electric light enclosed in a stalactite globe....

"The border around the ceiling is from the Salon of the Tribunal. The large wall spaces between the shafts of the columns are from the Court of the Lions. ... to the height of about five feet, the wall is covered with semi-glazed tiles.... This is from the Court of the Fish Pond. The borders ... are from the Hall of the Abencerrages.... The ornamentation of the spandrels of the arches is from the Hall of the Two Sisters...."

Clearly no detail in decorating the hall was left to chance!



Looking east - 1990's



Friend to Friend Lucite Award

William A. Laughlin, Sr. (right), of Glasgow Lodge No. 485, Shippingport, receives the Lucite award from 37th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master William R. Marvin. The Lucite award is earned by being the first-line signer on the petitions of six initiated Masons. Bro. Laughlin wears his gold **Friend to Friend** lapel pin that he had previously earned for having been the first-line signer on three petitions.



Plaque For Contest Winner

The winner of the 1995 Masonic Education Media Contest, William Wineberg (second from right) of John W. Jenks Lodge No. 534, Punxsutawney, was presented with the first-place trophy by the Region 3 Masonic Education Chairman, F. Rick Knepper (second from left), the 39th District Deputy Grand Master Frederick T. Hemphill (left), and Worshipful Master Ralph R. Smith. His award-winning photo of the **Friend to Friend** Masonic Memorial at Gettysburg now hangs in the Masonic Education Office of Grand Lodge in Philadelphia and is the picture for this month (August) in the Grand Master's 1996-97 commemorative calendar.

A Mason for 84 Years

Few Masons celebrate their 84th Masonic anniversary. Bro. Thomas Farrell, who will be 106 on October 21, was entered in Pollock Lodge No. 502, Tarentum, on April 18, 1912. In honor of the anniversary, he received special recognition from his Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. William M. Kratzenberg (left), 54th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master, awards a Grand Lodge certificate of recognition and Robert M. Armstrong (right), Worshipful Master of Pollock Lodge, presents a Grand Lodge achievement award to Bro. Farrell. While the presentation was being made at Bro. Farrell's residence in Belair Nursing Center, Lower Burrell, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner telephoned to extend special fraternal greetings.

The honoree retired in 1955 after 50 years as a shearman with Allegheny Ludlum Steel Co. He is a World War I veteran, having received a medal for bravery while serving as a corpsman in the 319th Infantry, Co. H, Medical Detachment.



ASERB Masons Confer Degree

A team of American Serbian Eastern Rite Brothers (ASERB) conferred the Master Mason's Degree on Daniel P. Gojsovich in John A. Brashear Lodge No. 743, Baldwin Township, Pittsburgh. Forty American Serbian Masonic brethren attended the February 14 meeting.

Conferring the degree were: As W.M., Milan M. Tomich, P.M., Lodge No. 743; S.W., David Vranesevic, P.M., East McKeesport Lodge No. 765; J.W., Sam Prisuta, P.M., Monaca-Center Lodge No. 791; S.D., Stevan Drobac, Sec'y, Union Lodge No. 259, New Brighton; J.D., Theodore J. Erdel, Jr., Lodge No. 743; S.M.C., Rudy Karas, Jr., P.M., Franklin-St. John's-Trinity Lodge No. 221; J.M.C., Milan Drakulic, Jr., P.M., Forbes Trail Lodge No. 783, Export; and Guide, Marko Godich, P.M., Lodge No. 783.

ASERB is a group of men of Serbian ancestry (or married to Serbs) who share the common bond of Freemasonry. It now numbers more than 320 brethren. They organized in 1963 for friendship, fellowship and to establish a scholarship fund. In 1965, two \$250 scholarships were awarded; for the past six years \$1,000 scholarships have been awarded. Over 31 years, ASERB has awarded 146 scholarships amounting to \$89,350.

Past Master Councilors Made Masons

It was DeMolay night during an extra meeting on George Washington's birthday at Homestead-Amity-McCandless Lodge No. 582, Dravosburg, when two past master councilors received Masonic degrees. The degrees were conferred by brethren who are "Dads" of Templar Chapter, Order of DeMolay. The Masons occupying the stations and places in the lodge were advisors and active supporters of the DeMolay chapter. Pictured are (l-r): Lincoln W. Will and his son, Thomas, who received the Entered Apprentice Mason's Degree; Jeffrey S. Henderson, who received the Master Mason's Degree, and his father, Ernest W., Secretary of Homestead-Amity-McCandless Lodge.



FROM THE ARCHIVES:

1996 Historical Notes of Note



Bro. Robert Burns, born in 1759, died 200 years ago. Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, Harrisburg, is named for the Scottish poet and avid Freemason. R.W.P.G.M. Arthur J. Kurtz is a member of that Lodge and for the Grand Master's medallion struck to commemorate his term, 1988-1989, Bro. Burns and the Lodge name were depicted on the reverse. Bro. John Minott, Assistant Curator, has mounted an exhibit in the Grand Lodge Museum in commemoration of the poet's life.

1896

One hundred years ago on May 7, the younger of two Past Grand Masters named Nisbet died. Michael Nisbet, Jr. (1829-1896), who was Grand Master in 1879-1880, was the son of Michael Nisbet, Sr. (1788-1842), who was Grand Master 1831-1832.

Bro. William McKinley (1843-1901), was nominated and elected to his first term as President of the United States one hundred years ago.



He was shot by an anarchist on Sept. 6, 1901, in Buffalo, NY and died on Sept. 14.



Dedication of Chapel in the Masonic Homes Assembly Room

The all-purpose Assembly Room of the new West Wing of the Masonic Health Care Center was dedicated as a place for Christian worship on Saturday, April 13. More than 300 residents, families, and friends attended the dedication. Ashley Van Deursen led the procession of pastors, followed by the Acolyte Allison Van Deursen.

Bro. and Dr. Charles Lacquement, Director of the Pastoral Care Department, began the service of Dedication with a call for reverence. Bro. and Rev. Ted Bowers, Rev. Preston Van Deursen, and Bro. and Rev. George Jackson assisted in the service. Independent Living Community residents, Bros. David Getty and Howard Wittel, offered solos in the ministry of sacred music. The organist for the service was Bro. Stewart Titus, resident of



the Village Green area. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner and several members of the Committee on Masonic Homes were in attendance. Dr. Lacquement's sermon was entitled, "No Baloney."

The Assembly Room will be dedicated at a future date as a Jewish house of worship. Services are held in the facility during Passover, Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashanah, and Chanukah.

A Christian service is held in the Assembly Room every Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to worship.

The Assembly Room has the capacity to hold 400 residents using wheelchairs. A large stained glass window occupies center stage area, depicting The Flood, the Tree of Life, and the Temple or Throne of God.

Youth Appreciation Day 1996

The Children's Home celebrated its 73rd annual Youth Appreciation Day with an award banquet in the Masonic Health Care Center's Assembly Room on Friday, May 24. All 35 youths were recognized for their varied activities throughout the year and several were given special recognition for outstanding achievements in the areas of creativity, scholarship, vocation, athletics, volunteerism, and citizenship.

Special focus was on the two graduates among them: Helen Carbonneau, who will attend West Chester University to study recreation and leisure administration, and David Lyons, who will study electronics design at Bradley Academy of Art in York.

Along with their graduation certificates, the two graduates were presented with Bibles from Rev. Preston Van Deursen on behalf of the Pastoral Care Department. Bro. Dean Cramer, president of the Patton School Alumni Association, also presented the two graduates with gifts.

Much of the program was presented by the young persons. Six acted as ushers, five provided musical entertainment and nine shared the duties of emcee and award presenters.



Also in attendance were parents, relatives, friends, Bro. and Dr. Dale Williams, and Miss Carol Myers of the Elizabethtown Area School District, members of the Committee on Masonic Homes, and Children's Home staff.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner shared some personal thoughts. "Today is the day you can start to be whatever you want in life. You can achieve anything... and we're proud the Masons can help you do it. There is not a greater time in your life than you have now." He encouraged them to view every day as a new beginning, and to take any opportunity to do good for their community.

With the help of Bro. Gilson Cash and Grand Master Weissner, the two seniors concluded the ceremonies by planting a tree on the grounds of the Children's Home (photo), the traditional way graduates symbolize their living and growing ties to the Masonic Children's Home.

Bro. Thompson's Apron Retired

During the Quarterly Communication in Johnstown on June 5, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner retired the purple apron of the late James K. Thompson, Instructor of Ritualistic Work. After the evening's banquet, the 41st Masonic District Deputy Grand Master Robert R. Havers joined the Grand Master in presenting the apron, attractively framed and including an engraved plaque, to Thompson's widow, Marian. In turn, the retired apron will be displayed permanently under Thompson's picture in the Johnstown Masonic Center.



Thompson had served the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania with dedication as the Instructor of Ritualistic Work from 1984 until his death on July 3, 1995.

A Past Master of Johnstown Lodge No. 538, Thompson was a Mason since 1954. He was active in York and Scottish Rite Bodies and his list of services and achievements was lengthy.

Lodge, Appendant Bodies Assist Stricken Mason

The brethren of Labelle Vallee Lodge No. 232, Jersey Shore, coordinated an effort among themselves, Ivanhoe Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, the Tiadaghton Court of Amaranth, and friends and neighbors to help one of its members return to the mainstream of life.

At age 49, Robert Braucht was laid off from his job, so he decided to change careers. Four years later, in May, 1995, he was graduated with a four-year engineering degree in addition to three associate degrees from Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport. At the same time that he earned his college degree, he also was involved with other degrees — those of being made a Mason.

Four months later, he suffered an apparent stroke which left him in a coma for 15 days. When he awoke, he was unable to swallow, talk, or walk, but suffered no paralysis. After several months of therapy that still continues, he has regained those capabilities and is concentrating on a downward focus so he can see a computer keyboard.

In addition to ongoing help of friends and neighbors, members of the lodge, Eastern Star and Amaranth held a Sunday afternoon fund-raising dinner, serving approximately 335 meals and raising \$1,700 for the Braucht family. Speaking for Braucht, his wife Joyce said, "In a small town like Jersey Shore, one really can appreciate the love and care expressed, **Friend to Friend.**"



Bro. Robert Braucht (center) receives a \$1,700 check from (left) Evie Frederick and Betty Eddy, both members of Ivanhoe Chapter of The Order of Eastern Star and Tiadaghton Court of Amaranth, and Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., P.M. (right), dinner chairman.

First Lodge Meeting in New Pittsburgh Center

The first-ever meeting of a lodge was held in the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on April 24. To commemorate the event, a medallion was issued and eight 50-year members were honored by Lodge No. 45, the oldest permanent lodge west of the Allegheny Mountains. R.W. Deputy Grand Master James L. Ernette presented the 50-year Emblems of Gold and was joined in honoring the recipients by R.W. Past Grand Master Hiram P. Ball, who is a member of Lodge No. 45, and R.W. Past Grand Masters John L. McCain, Samuel C. Williamson and Edward H. Fowler.

Lodge No. 431 Helps SADD Chapter



In the photo that was published in the *Indiana (PA) Gazette*, Worshipful Master John Maguire (left), of Williamson Lodge No. 431, Saltsburg, presents a \$200 contribution to Kathy Muir, the advisor to the SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) Chapter of Saltsburg High School, and Richard Lowman, Saltsburg Principal. That donation allowed representatives of the SADD chapter to attend the Pennsylvania Aware Leadership Conference. At right is 39th District Deputy Grand Master Fred T. Hemphill.



Look Who Came to Breakfast!

All the expected "guests of honor" — the Easter Bunny, Donald and Daisy Duck, and the Shrine Clowns — showed up at Woodside Masonic Temple to thrill more than 120 children and their parents at the annual "Breakfast With the Easter Bunny" for Morrisville Rainbow Girls Assembly No. 107. Suddenly, there was a surprise guest (center of the photo): R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner.

Masons of the lodges that meet in Woodside Masonic Temple and the Advisory Board for Rainbow work together each year to entertain the girls at Easter and serve the pancake and sausage breakfast. The lodges that meet in Woodside Temple are: Newtown Lodge No. 427; Penn Morris Lodge No. 778; and C. Grant Brittingham Lodge No. 788.

Work Progresses in Restoring Arch

In a cocoon of scaffolding, the National Memorial Arch, now in the process of being restored by the Masons of Pennsylvania, presents an imposing sight for visitors to the Valley Forge National Park. As of the end of June, restoration of the Monument was slightly more than 18 per cent complete.

The National Memorial Arch has stood for more than 80 years as a tribute to Brother and General George Washington and his army as a symbol of the accomplishments they achieved there. Recently, the Arch, which is 60 feet high and 30 feet wide, has stood in disrepair, cordoned off, and closed to the public for safety reasons. Freemasons are restoring it to the grandeur it deserves.



Dedication ceremonies and a parade past the restored Arch in Valley Forge National Park are being planned by the Grand Lodge for August 24, 1997.

.....
All Masons and friends are being given the opportunity to participate in the restoration and preservation of this magnificent national monument. To learn how you can have your name in the Gold Book that will be placed in the time capsule on the day of dedication, please see the attached brochure.



In the spirit of charity, Harry Feld, P.M. (second from left), of Athelstan Lodge No. 482, donated a display of gavels to the Masonic Homes on behalf of his uncles, the late Bro. Max Brody and Bro. Sam Brody. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner (second from right) and Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director of the Masonic Homes, received the gift. Max, who had made four of the displays which include all of the tools used in Masonry, asked that they be given to the Masonic Homes. Max established a tradition of giving a handmade gavel to each new Master of Lodge No. 482, a custom still carried on in his memory. Daniel P. Martin, W.M. (left), is the most recent recipient of a gavel.

The National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge

Help Preserve
and Enhance
the Memory of
George Washington,
a Mason, and his
Brave Men of
Valley Forge

Restoration by The Freemasons of Pennsylvania

The National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge has stood for more than 80 years as a tribute to Brother and General George Washington and his beleaguered soldiers who, at this site, suffered the terrible hardships of the historic winter of 1777. With renewed spirit, this same army emerged to successfully engage the British army in June of 1778.

Today, the Arch, which is 60 feet high and 30 feet wide, stands in disrepair. It is closed to the public for safety reasons.

The Restoration Project

During 1996-1997 the Freemasons of Pennsylvania will restore the Arch to its original grandeur at a cost of \$1.5 million dollars. The underlying brick work will be reconstructed, structural steel will be placed in the existing attic area and the ornamentation and lettering will be restored and enhanced.

Be a Part of History!

You can be a part of this great historical event! With a donation of only \$5, your name will be inscribed in the GOLD BOOK which will be placed in the time capsule on the day of the dedication. A duplicate copy of the GOLD BOOK will be placed in the Library and Museum at the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

To contribute to the restoration of the Arch, use this side.

Please place the following names in the **GOLD BOOK** to be placed in the Time Capsule at the National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge in support of the restoration of the Arch by the Freemasons of Pennsylvania. It is understood that these names will appear in the **GOLD BOOK** to be placed in the Library and Museum at the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. (Please send check in the enclosed envelope made payable to the **Grand Lodge Charity Fund/National Memorial Arch** in the amount of \$5 for each name to be included.)

Total enclosed: \$ _____ (Contributions are tax deductible)

Name (Please print)

"In Honor of"/"In Memory of"
(if applicable)

Lodge # or Organization
(if applicable)

Send Contributions to: Grand Lodge Charity Fund/National Memorial Arch

Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2508



R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser offers the presentation address prior to the signing of the agreement for Pennsylvania Masons to restore the National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge.

A Day of Celebration!

A great day of celebration is scheduled for Sunday, August 24, 1997 when the dedication of the restored Arch will take place. Plan ahead to attend an old fashioned picnic with your family and also enjoy a parade, the dedication ceremonies and laying of the capstone.

Why the Freemasons of Pennsylvania are restoring the National Memorial Arch

"Freemasons have always been there to answer the call," said R.W. Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, Edward O. Weisser. "Certainly, Brother Washington and his embattled troops did when they endured that brutal winter encampment in 1777 and 1778." "We, as Freemasons, believe our children and their children need to know that the men in 1777 cared about freedom. They need to know that Freemasons in 1996 still care about freedom."

George Washington and Freemasonry

George Washington was a great Freemason. He served as Master of his Masonic Lodge in Alexandria, Virginia at the same time he was President of the United States.

Freemasons are most proud of George Washington, whose leadership, strength and courage gave his army the will to survive against terrible odds at Valley Forge and helped give birth to our nation.

To Find Out More About Freemasonry

Freemasonry is "The World's Premier Men's Organization." Its singular purpose is "to make good men better." It accepts only those believed to be of the highest character. To inquire about how you may be considered for membership, call 1-800-234-9213 or write to:

The Grand Lodge of F&AM of Pennsylvania
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598

"It is my hope that every Pennsylvania Freemason will support our restoration of the National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge - one of the most visible symbols of our nation's freedom."

- Edward O. Weisser
R.W. Grand Master

Use this side to contribute to the Perpetual Care of the Arch

Enclosed is a contribution in the amount of \$ _____ made payable to the **Grand Lodge Charity Fund/ National Memorial Arch** to help the Freemasons of North America support the perpetual care of the National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge. (A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience.)

Lodge/Organization/Individual	State	Amount Contributed
_____	_____	\$ _____

NOTE: Contributions are tax deductible

Send Contributions to: Grand Lodge Charity Fund/National Memorial Arch
Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598

1997 Essay Contest Announced

The seventh annual Senior Essay Competition for 1997 has been announced by the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser has selected the competition topic: "What Benefits Do You Receive from Working with Charities in Your Community?" Each applicant will be asked to write a 1,500 word essay on that topic.

The contest is open to all senior students in public, parochial, and private high schools in Pennsylvania. Announcements and applications will be sent to all schools in the state this August. Essays must be received in the office of Masonic Education, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598 by February 1, 1997.

Masons of Pennsylvania support the youth of our state in many ways. The scholarships to be awarded in 1997 will help seven students to further their education. Masons are asked to encourage seniors they know to submit essays in this competition.



All in the Family

A father, Donald H. Beagle, and his five sons are members of Elysburg Lodge No. 414, with three of them currently serving as Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden. The elected officers are in front (l-r): Brian J., S.W.; Karl D., W.M.; and Reid E., J.W. In rear are the father, Donald H. and sons Scott L. and Don A.



R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser offers the presentation address prior to the signing of the agreement for Pennsylvania Masons to restore the National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge.



A Day of Celebration!

A great day of celebration is scheduled for Sunday, August 24, 1997 when the dedication of the restored Arch will take place. Plan ahead to attend an old fashioned picnic with your family and also enjoy a parade the dedication ceremonies and laying of the capstone.

Grand Lodge Charity Fund/National Memorial Arch
Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia PA 19107-2598

Use this side to con

Enclosed is a contribution in
Grand Lodge Charity Fund/ N
America support the perpetual c
(A return envelope is enclosed f

Lodge/Organization/Indiv

NOTE:

Send Contributions to: Grand Lo
Masonic'

Place
Stamp
Here



2,500-Plus Enjoy Family Picnic Day

More than 2,500 brethren with their families and friends enjoyed the "Family Picnic Day for Masons" at seven amusement parks across the state on Saturday, June 8. There was good food for everybody, exciting rides for the young and young at heart, and plenty of fellowship for all.

It was "Family Picnic Day for Masons" in Dorney Park at Allentown, Hershey Park, Knoebels Park near Elysburg, Waldameer Park in Erie, Idlewild Park at Ligonier, Sandcastle in Pittsburgh, and Kennywood in West Mifflin.



1997 Essay Contest Announced

The seventh annual Senior Essay Competition for 1997 has been announced by the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser has selected the competition topic: "What Benefits Do You Receive from Working with Charities in Your Community?" Each applicant will be asked to write a 1,500 word essay on that topic.

The contest is open to all senior students in public, parochial, and private high schools in Pennsylvania. Announcements and applications will be sent to all schools in the state this August. Essays must be received in the office of Masonic Education, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598 by February 1, 1997.

Masons of Pennsylvania support the youth of our state in many ways. The scholarships to be awarded in 1997 will help seven students to further their education. Masons are asked to encourage seniors they know to submit essays in this competition.



All in the Family

A father, Donald H. Beagle, and his five sons are members of Elysburg Lodge No. 414, with three of them currently serving as Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden. The elected officers are in front (l-r): Brian J., S.W.; Karl D., W.M.; and Reid E., J.W. In rear are the father, Donald H. and sons Scott L. and Don A.

Team In Bavarian Attire Confers The First Degree

The traditional Past Masters' Night on the third Thursday of April was extra special this year for the German-speaking Teutonia Lodge No. 367 in West Reading.

An Entered Apprentice Mason's Degree was conferred in German with the stations and places occupied by brethren in original and authentic Bavarian costumes — lederhosen, vests, knee socks, ties, and other traditional parts of the *tracht* (costume). The candidate was Karl Wolter, the son of the Worshipful Master, Dieter Wolter, P.M. Serving as Senior and Junior Wardens were two of the candidate's uncles, Rainer Wolter, P.M., and Robin Printz, P.M.

The candidate and all of the those serving on the Degree Team are members of the G.T.V. Edelweiss Schuhplattler group, which is the reason that the Grand Master granted a special dispensation to have the degree conferred in authentic Bavarian attire.

Teutonia is one of three German-speaking lodges in Pennsylvania. Traditionally, the Past Masters' Night attracts many visitors. This year, there were 144 visitors from 39 lodges in four states. They came not only from Hermann Lodge No. 125 and Humboldt Lodge No. 359, Pennsylvania's other two German-speaking lodges (in Philadelphia), but also from across the state, New Jersey, New Hampshire, and Kentucky.



Surrounded by Brethren who also are members of the G.T.V. Edelweiss Schuhplattlers in authentic Bavarian attire, Karl Wolter (center right) is congratulated by 7th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master Frank E. Daniels. Pictured (l-r) are: Front row - Charles Miller, III; Robin Printz, P.M.; Rainer Wolter, P.M.; D.D.G.M. Daniels; Candidate Wolter; Dieter Wolter, P.M. and W.M.; and George Allmendinger. Back row - Walter Hotzman; Walter Leibach; Richard Billman; Uwe Petersen, P.M.; William Allushuski; Richard Hoch; Heinrich Schlarb, P.M.; Alfred Much, P.M.; and Russel Youngwirth.

Autumn Day 1996 at the Masonic Homes

Mark your calendar now to attend Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes on Saturday, September 28. Come experience first-hand the beauty of the facility and learn about the variety of caring services provided at our annual open house for Masons, family members, and friends. The fun and festivities will begin at 10:00 a.m., and continue until 4:00 p.m.



The following is a preview of Autumn Day highlights:

Delicious food will be provided at several locations on the grounds until 4:00 p.m. Just wait until you taste the Homes-made sausage and baked beans, plus sauerkraut, hot dogs, refreshing ice cream, and beverages!

Visit our many stands where you can find answers to questions regarding our Masonic organizations. Don't forget to take a look at the Masonic Homes' numerous gift display tables of handmade craft items provided by our residents. Before you leave, be

sure to stop by a Masonic Homes' fruit stand.

Many residents of the Village Green area (Congregate and Personal Care sections) will open their rooms for you to see the services and accommodations available at the Masonic Homes. In the Independent Living areas, you may visit and view many residents' apartments and cottages so you can observe first-hand the excellent living arrangements provided by the Masonic Homes.

Tours also will be available at the Masonic Health Care Center, including the new Phase 4 additions: Assembly Room, Meditation Room, gift shop, library, therapy pool, beauty and barber shop, therapeutic recreation rooms, and three floors of nursing services.

Bands will perform throughout the day for your entertainment. Also planned are wide varieties of activities especially for children, including spin art and face painting. Visits from mimes, jugglers, and clowns are anticipated! (And... remember to keep an eye in the sky for skydivers!)

If you and your family are planning to attend Autumn Day, take a moment right now, complete the coupon on this page, and send it to the Masonic Homes. The Masonic Homes is unable to provide wheelchairs, so bring your own if needed. Handicapped parking will be available;



however, you must advise the Masonic Homes on your coupon if handicapped parking is required so that special tickets can be forwarded to you prior to Autumn Day.

Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown
Autumn Day, September 28, 1996
Registration Coupon

Name _____
Lodge No. _____ No. of Adults _____ No. of children _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Telephone (_____) _____

Transportation:
☐ Driving Own Car ☐ Passenger
☐ Charter Bus
☐ Require Handicapped Parking*
☐ Arriving By Train

*If handicapped parking is required, please enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope with this coupon. We will send a special parking permit which you must bring with you.

Mail to: Autumn Day, Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199

4th Charity Tourney Announced

After the April 10 stated meeting, Concord Lodge No. 625, Concordville, invited representatives from three school districts, community groups, and law enforcement officials to the Lodge to announce plans for their fourth annual golf tournament (October 14 at Penn Oaks Country Club) to benefit student anti-drug and alcohol programs.



The same evening, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser visited the Lodge and spoke of the many good works performed by Masons across the state. Joseph W. Witte, the Director of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children (left in photo), along with 36th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master Lynwood J. Dixon (right), presented a "Masons Care About Children" plate to Worshipful Master Edward D. Miles (center) in recognition of the Lodge's support and community partnership in the fight to keep the future of children drug-free.

Grand Master of D.C. Visits



William E. Chaney, Jr. (front left), the M.W. Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia, was an honored visitor on March 7 at Lehigh Lodge No. 621. He is pictured with Lehigh Worshipful Master Leroy E. Leibenguth (front center) and 45th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master William J. Ray, Sr. In the middle row are: Darryl W. Arner; Bruce A. Strausberger, Pursuivant; Glennis G. Windbeck, P.M., Acting Secretary; Melvin E. Muffley, J.W.; Herbert A. Henry, S.W.; and Paul J. Eberts. In the back row: Vernon L. Fritz, J.D.; Harold C. Long, P.M., acting Treasurer; William H. Ravert, S.D.; David B. Mantz, P.M., Acting Chaplain; and Duane A. Dellecker.

For the sixth year on

March 16 Zeredatha Lodge No. 451, York, has hosted the widows of the lodge, serving lunch in the Lafayette Room of the Masonic Center. Following the meal, the widows received a gift from the lodge and were entertained by Amy Hartman who presented a Pennsylvania Dutch interpretation that compared a wedding of the "plain people" of bygone days with a typical wedding of the 1990's. Worshipful Master William L. Gladfelter, Jr., is shown at the function with the senior guest, Margaret Webster, 85.



Children's Home Anticipates Openings

The Masonic Homes Children's Home opened a fifth cottage on January 1, 1996, because of an increase in applications from youth who expressed an interest in living there. The facility currently has the capacity to house 40 youths. According to Bro. Gilson Cash, Director of Children's Services, the Home may have two to three openings for boys to begin the 1996-97 school year. If any member knows of a boy who could benefit from the positive experiences provided at the Children's Home in Elizabethtown, please contact your local lodge secretary or forward a reference to: Masonic Homes, Children's Services, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199.

There are three criteria for a youth to be accepted into the Children's Home:

1. The youth must desire to come to the Home.
2. The Children's Home staff must, through a thorough assessment of the applicant's needs, feel that the youth would be a good match with the Home's services and environment.
3. Although the youth does not have to be affiliated with a Mason, he or she must be sponsored by a lodge.



MASONS OF NOTE

- ❖ Barger Lodge No. 325, Stroudsburg, is thankful for the watchful eye and quick actions of **Daniel S. Tarafas**, of Slatington Lodge No. 440. Bro. Tarafas and a Stroudsburg University friend spied a fire in a dumpster behind the lodge. He sent his friend to call 911 while he controlled the fire. In a letter of appreciation, Barger Lodge said, "We are forever grateful for having a Brother at the right place at the right time." Only the outer hallway and stairway received minor smoke damage.
- ❖ During an extra meeting of Euclid Lodge No. 698, Harrisburg, **Elmer W. Herman**, who has been a Mason for nearly 56 years, a Past Master for 46 years, and Secretary of the lodge for more than 41 years, entered his grandson, James D. Herman, Jr., who became the fourth generation of the family who are members of that lodge. At the same meeting, Past Master James D. Quigley raised his brother, Dearan Quigley.
- ❖ When **Charles L. Sober**, Worshipful Master of Dietrick Lamade Lodge No. 755, Williamsport, goes to lodge, he can catch up on family news. His father, William H. Sober, Sr., is Senior Master of Ceremonies, and his brother, William H., Jr., is Chaplain. All are active in Grotto, York Rite, and Scottish Rite.
- ❖ For 60 years, **Hiram Lodge No. 81** in Philadelphia and Maple Shade-Moorestown Lodge No. 281 in Maple Shade, New Jersey, have exchanged fraternal visits in the Spring and Fall. In May, members of Hiram Lodge, accompanied by District E Deputy Grand Master Dale H. Fera, traveled across the Delaware River and exemplified a Master Mason's Degree. Maple Shade-Moorestown Lodge will visit Hiram Lodge in October and exemplify a Third Degree.
- ❖ **Sanford G. Oringer**, a member of Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, Harrisburg, received national recognition for his 65 years of service to the Boy Scouts of America. Boy Scout President Norman R. Augustine and Chief Scout Executive Jere B. Ratcliffe sent a personal commendation to Brother Oringer.
- ❖ When **Clarence R. "Buzz" Snyder, Jr.**, P.M. of Kittanning East Brady Lodge No. 244, conferred a Master Mason's Degree for the 144th time, it was for his grandson, Brian J. Boltz. In his Masonic career, P.M. Snyder has conferred more than 200 degrees.
- ❖ Two Brothers, **Robert and Edward Martin** of Honesdale Lodge No. 218 were each awarded a 50-year Emblem of Gold by 14th District Deputy Grand Master Randall A. Thorne and Worshipful Master Steven E. Burlein. The presentation was made in the Ellen Memorial Health Care Facility, where Robert is a resident. Also attending the ceremony were other lodge officers and several Masons who are also residents of the Health Care Facility.
- ❖ **L. Howard Jones**, 97, the oldest living Past Master of Perseverance Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg, was recognized for his 75 years as a Mason. The 2nd Masonic District Deputy Grand Master, John Witmer, Jr., along with Worshipful Master Edmund R. Smith, presented the Grand Lodge 75-Year Certificate of Recognition in ceremonies at Claremont Farms, where Bro. Jones is a resident.
- ❖ **Masons from six lodges** who are employees of the County of Butler have formed a degree team for the purpose of conferring the Master Mason's Degree on fellow employees who become Masons in the future.

Yeager Unique in Red Cross of Constantine Leadership

William E. Yeager Jr., 56th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master, presided as the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign over the 124th Annual Assembly of the United Grand Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the USA, Mexico and Philippines held in Harrisburg, June 6-9. Approximately 500 members and ladies attended.

His serving in this capacity is unique. He is the only Grand Sovereign whose father had preceded him in the same position. The



late William E. Yeager, Sr. served 25 years ago, presiding over the 99th Annual Assembly in Harrisburg. Yeager, Sr. served as R.W. Grand Master in Pennsylvania in 1950-51. Yeager, Jr.'s wife, Shirley, is the daughter of the late R.W. Past Grand Master Earl F. Herold (1964-65).

Bro. Bill has served Freemasonry in numerous capacities, including: Past Master of Warren Lodge No. 726, Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge in 1964-65 and 1972-73; Grand Marshal in 1966-67, and District Deputy Grand Master since 1989.

In addition, he has contributed greatly in service to his community and his church. In 1955, he was inducted into the Marine Racing Hall of Fame.

Sunday Entertainment Programs Resume October and November

The Grand Master's Sunday afternoon Family Cultural Entertainment Programs will resume across the state in the Fall. Programs will be at 2 p.m. the third Sunday of October and November.

October 20

- **Norris & James**, pantomime artists, at Harrisburg Consistory
- **Jennifer Schaffer**, vocalist, at Williamsport Consistory
- **Tom Yurasits**, magician, Scottish Rite Cathedral, Reading
- **String Band**, Valley of Scranton
- **Musical Version of Treasure Island**, Erie Playhouse

November 17

- **Jennifer Schaffer**, Northeast High School, Philadelphia
- **String Band**, Valley of Altoona
- **Tom Yurasits**, Valley of Allentown
- **Sounds of Nashville**, Coudersport Consistory

There will be a nominal donation of \$2 per adult (children under 12, free). Tickets for each month's shows will be available from your Blue Lodge Secretary, or at the door on a first-come basis the afternoon of the show.

Masons Throughout District Help Afflicted 4-Year-Old

Four-year-old Craig Eberly suffers from *myoclonic dystonia*, a rare affliction that affects part of the brain and attacks the fine motor skills. His mother Carolann Eberly said that there may be only a half-dozen known cases. For example, Craig would be able to take the cap off a pen, but he would not be able to put it back together. He must have his hand guided when he eats so that he doesn't stab his face with the fork.

Carolann said she sought help everywhere, but to no avail until she asked the Masons. Help for Craig became a story of fraternal networking that now has established a Craig Eberly trust fund with nearly \$4,000 initially.

Following a call to the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, word of the need reached Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 704, Lebanon where Nigel Foundling discussed it with Past Master Thomas J. Weist, who is Grand Tall Cedar of Quittapahilla Forest 25, Tall Cedars of Lebanon. Weist enlisted the aid of the Forest's Scribe, Arthur L. Hepler, of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf. Together they talked to the 60th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master William S. Arnold. With the approval of R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner, the Masons of the 60th District — lodges and appendant bodies — raised money to help young Craig. As a charitable community service, the Trust Department of Fulton Bank is administering a trust fund for Craig.

The Eberly family lives in the community of Reinholds at the northeastern tip of Lancaster County abutting Lebanon and Berks Counties.



William S. Arnold (left), D.D.G.M., 60th Masonic District, shows Carolann Eberly the check for \$3,720 that will establish a trust fund for her four-year-old son, Craig. Behind Craig are (l-r): Fred D. Rissinger, P.M., Director of Development for the Masonic Homes; Arthur L. Hepler, Scribe, Quittapahilla Forest 25, Tall Cedars of Lebanon; and Thomas J. Weist, P.M., Grand Tall Cedar, Quittapahilla Forest 25.

Blood and Organ Donor Club Sets Poster Contest for Youth

The Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Club of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has announced a poster contest designed to involve youth in the promotion of the important humanitarian blood and organ donation program. It is open to any member of the four Masonically-related youth organizations — Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughters, DeMolay and Knights of Pythagoras.

Entrants are to prepare an 18" x 24" poster in any appropriate media relating to either the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Club, the Masonic Blood Club or the Masonic Organ Donor Club. The posters will be judged on artistic merit, creativity, originality, competence with the selected medium, clarity of the message and quality of the lettering.

The first place winner will receive a \$300 prize and have his or her poster reproduced and sent to all lodges and youth groups. Second place will receive \$200, and third place, \$100.

Deadline for entering the contest is October 1. Entries are to be submitted to: Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Club, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

One Person's Organ Transplant Donations Gave at Least Six Others Fuller Lives

At least six person are living fuller lives today and untold more are likely to benefit from medical research because one Masonic family has taken part in the organ and tissue transplant program that is encouraged by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The Delaware Valley Transplant Program was contacted quickly after the late Shirley Labe, 60, wife of Richard Labe, immediate Past Master of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf, was fatally stricken with a massive aneurism in the brain and taken to the Reading Hospital. Past Master Labe, who has been a registered, "card-carrying" transplant donor volunteer for some time, said he and his wife had agreed on the humanitarian importance of the program.

One can best appreciate the human value of Shirley's donation by reading the following excerpts from a letter of thanks from the Delaware Valley Transplant Program:

"The liver recipient is a 40-year old single gentleman.... who is looking forward to working with his brother in a family-owned construction business. The recipient of the first kidney is a 35-year old single gentleman.... A 28-year old woman ... was the recipient of the second kidney. She was married just one week prior to her transplant.... "Shirley's eye donation has returned ... sight to a 70-year old woman. Although the second cornea was not suitable for transplant ... both sclera were used for two people who had received eye trauma and prosthetic eyes. "... not able to utilize the two heart valves, with your consent, we did proceed with Shirley's donation of her heart for research."

Shirley was serving as Secretary of Conrad Weiser Chapter No. 449, the Order of the Eastern Star, and had recently agreed to a line appointment. Past Master Labe said that Shirley had just finished addressing the Chapter's monthly meeting notices when she was stricken.

PYF Foundation Awards Scholarships



After reviewing 221 applications, the Educational Endowment Committee of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation awarded 16 scholarships totalling \$21,750. Scholarships were awarded to children or grandchildren of Pennsylvania Masons, or members of Pennsylvania Rainbow, DeMolay, or Job's Daughters. Awards are determined on the basis of competitive review of academic development, financial need, fraternal involvement, and other activities.

Lawrence Dietrich Smith Memorial Scholarships:

William P. Higgins, Harrisburg (DeMolay) - \$2,000
Angela Marie Geary, Falls (Rainbow) - \$2,000
Elizabeth A. Fraser, Lansdowne (Rainbow) - \$1,000
Robert Allan Engleman, Pottsville - \$1,000
Emily J. Staman, Elizabethtown (Job's Daughters) - \$1,000

Grand Master's Scholarships:

Pamela C. Lynd, Cranberry Township (Rainbow) - \$2,500
Julie Ann Regal, Parkersburg, WV - \$2,500
Michelle Ann Lake, Saegertown (Rainbow) - \$1,000
Anna Marie V. Zambito, York - \$1,000
Joseph A. Bachman, III, Columbia (DeMolay) - \$1,000

Herman Witte Scholarship:

Vanessa Renee Krauser, Flushing, NY - \$2,500

Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Scholarships:

Kristen Ford, York - \$2,500
Georgia Lynn Mitchell, Erie - \$1,000

Loretta M. Scheirer Memorial Nursing Scholarships:

Michelle A. Krisfalusi, Latrobe (Job's Daughters) - \$250
Carin M. Kremenik, Girard - \$250
Natalie K. Weaver, Knoxville - \$250

Since starting awards in 1989, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation has given over \$104,000 in 82 scholarships awarded by the Educational Endowment Committee. The 1997 Scholarship Awards Program will begin in September with the distribution of the Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide and applications. Resource Guides and applications may be requested from the PYF.

As a service to those who need information about the Masonic youth or scholarship programs, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation now has a toll-free phone number in Pennsylvania.

It is 1-800-266-8424.

Outside of Pennsylvania, call the regular PYF number, (717) 367-1536.



PA Youth Wins National DeMolay Scholarship

Mark G. Tracy, 20, a Past Master Councilor of Elizabethtown Chapter, Order of DeMolay, won the \$1,200 first-place scholarship in the Paul R. Kach DeMolay Essay Contest sponsored by the Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R., Southern Masonic Jurisdiction. His topic was "Civil Rights." In the photo, C. DeForrest Trexler, 33°, Deputy for Pennsylvania of A.A.S.R., Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, presents the award check. Joining them are his father, Bro. Gerald Tracy (right), and R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser, 33°. Mark will continue studying animal bioscience as a junior at Pennsylvania State University.



Rainbows Spruce Up Monument

Members of York Assembly No. 92 of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls spent a day cleaning up and landscaping at the **Friend to Friend** Masonic Memorial in Gettysburg. The service project, organized by Worthy Advisor Amanda Beck, had members, friends, and families working some eight hours clearing leaves, weeding, mulching and planting shrubs. The group spent the weekend in Gettysburg, working during the day and enjoying one of Gettysburg's ghost tours in the evening.

7 Earn Essay Contest Scholarships

Scholarships were awarded to senior high school students from each of the seven Masonic Regions of Pennsylvania in a ceremony on May 9 at the Independent Living Center, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, attended by the winners and their parents.



R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser presents the \$2,500 Senior Essay Contest's top scholarship to winner Nicole Koneffko, of Belle Vernon in Region 4.

Each entrant in the Senior Essay Contest was required to prepare a 1,500-word essay on "How Important Charity is to Me." The state winner and recipient of a \$2,500 Grand Lodge Scholarship was Nicole Koneffko, of Belle Vernon in Region 4. Six Regional winners, who each received a \$1,000.00 Grand Lodge Scholarship, were:

Jessica Wells, Maple Glen, Region 1; Adam Alford, Camp Hill, Region 2; Kathryn Pecht, Blair Mills, Region 3; Kelley Cawthorne, Butler, Region 5; Brian Buck, Jersey Shore, Region 6; and Kristi McClintock, Berwick, Region 7.



The seven regional winners in the Senior Essay Contest await the awarding of their scholarships from R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser. The winners are (l-r): Shelly Cawthorne, Region 5; Jessica Wells, Region 4; Kristi McClintock, Region 7; Adam Alford, Region 2; Grand Master Weisser; Kathryn Pecht, Region 3; Nicole Koneffko, Region 4; and Brian Buck, Region 6.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser, Chairman of the Masonic Education Committee, conducted the awards ceremony and presented the scholarships. Dr. Elvin G. Warfel, Secretary to the Masonic Education Committee, assisted the Grand Master. Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W.J.G.W.; Glenn Olsen, Region 5 Chairman; Thomas Eynon, D.D.G.M., Region 1 Chairman; Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., Region 6 Chairman and Kenneth R. House, D.D.G.M. of the 34th Masonic District, attended the awards ceremony.

Grand Master Weisser asked each of the recipients to relate the many activities in which he or she is involved in school and community. The state winner presented her essay to the audience.

Scholarships Awarded in Statewide Talent Search; Second Annual Competition Announced for 1997

Anthony Carafora, a saxophonist from the Pittston Area High School in Region 6, was the first-place winner and recipient of a \$5,000 scholarship in the statewide Masonic Musical Talent Search Competition. The finals, in which the top winner from each of the seven Masonic Regions competed, were held in the Harrisburg Consistory on Sunday afternoon, June 9.

Mimi Song, a pianist from Milton Hershey High School in Region 2, was the second-place winner and received a \$3,000 scholarship. David Crawford, a baritone vocalist from Quaker Valley High School in Region 4, was the third-place winner and received a \$2,000 scholarship.

Masons of Pennsylvania always have been interested in supporting activities for youth. The Masonic Musical Talent Search is a new scholarship program introduced this year by R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser for high school seniors with talent in all musical areas of dance, vocal, and instrumental.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser has announced that the Second Annual Masonic Musical Talent Search for high school seniors will be held in May and June of 1997. Applications to participate in the 1997 competition must be submitted to the Office of Masonic Education, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598, by February 1, 1997.

Applicants from the seven Masonic Regions of Pennsylvania will be notified of the times and locations of the Regional competitions to be held in May. Again, Region winners will earn scholarships of \$500 for first place; \$300 for second; and \$200 for third.

The winner from each of the seven Regions will go on to a state final competition in Harrisburg in June. Statewide winners will earn scholarships of \$5,000 for first place; \$3,000 for second; and \$2,000 for third.



Grand Master Weisser presents check to first-place winner Anthony Carafora.



Grand Master Weisser congratulates the three talent search winners. Pictured (l-r) are Anthony Carafora, Mimi Song, and David Crawford.

December Quarterly

Communication Banquet

December 4, 1996 at 7:00 p.m.

Philadelphia Marriott Ballroom
1101 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

Name _____

Lodge No. _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (Area Code) _____

Dinner choice: Meat _____ or Fish _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____
for _____ reservations at \$30 per ticket.

Please make check payable to "Grand Lodge of PA," enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and send with coupon to:

David Jacobs
20 Rain Lily Rd.
Levittown, PA 19056-2302

Communication Luncheon

December 4, 1996

Name _____

Lodge No. _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (Area Code) _____

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and send with coupon to:

The Office of the Grand Master
The Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598

There will not be a Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge in September. The next Grand Lodge Communication will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, December 4 in Philadelphia.

Construction Set For 36 Cottages

Construction will begin in the Fall for 36 independent living cottages (shown in the rendering, along with the site layout), with completion scheduled for 1997.

The first two phases will offer cottages with varied floor plans, some of which will include basements. Other phases will begin in conjunction with the interest shown by members of the Fraternity and their eligible family members. Ultimately, the project could consist of as many as 100 cottages.

Many of the cottages have been reserved. If you are interested in becoming a resident, call the Marketing Office at 1-800-676-6452 for a brochure with floor plans and pricing; or visit the Masonic Homes.



Medallion Notes Meeting in Johnstown

During the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge held in the Masonic Temple in Johnstown, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser presented a Grand Master's Medallion as a memento of the first time a Grand Lodge meeting was held in the Johnstown Masonic Temple. Earl N. Rager, P.M., as Worshipful Master of Cambria Lodge No. 278, the senior lodge meeting in the Masonic Temple, accepted the gift. The other lodges that meet there are Johnstown-Conemaugh Lodge No. 538 and Sunnehanna Lodge No. 742.

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON
VOL. XLIII, AUGUST 1996, NO. 3
Publication No., USPS 426-140
Summer issue of 1996 of The Pennsylvania Freemason at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania.

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS
Bro. Edward O. Weisser, R.W. Grand Master
Bro. James L. Ermette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master
Bro. Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden
Bro. Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden
Bro. Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer
Bro. Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON COMMITTEE
Bro. Blaine F. Fabian, Chairman and Editor
Bro. Luther J. Black, Associate Editor
Bro. Paul D. Fisher, Associate Editor
Bro. Fred D. Rissinger, Associate Editor
Dr. Glenys A. Waldman, Associate Editor

(Articles and photographs for publication should be sent to The Editor, The Pennsylvania Freemason, P.O. Box 13347, Philadelphia, PA 19101-3347. All articles and photographs become the property of the Grand Lodge.)

© - 1996 R.W. Grand Lodge F.&A.M. of Pennsylvania
Distribution Office—Mailing Address
MASONIC HOMES, One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199

Published by the Masonic Homes, owned and Operated by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, as a means of soliciting the physical and financial support of the members of the Fraternity, their families and the public in general.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Distribution Office at the address above.

Second Class Postage Paid at Lancaster, PA.



It's The Mason As A Man Who Has Impacted History

By Bro. Thomas W. Jackson
R.W. Grand Secretary

My Brothers:

For a considerable number of years I have been wondering how an organization with as much influence as Freemasonry has had over several hundred years, could fail to be acknowledged for its contribution to the development of modern civilization and human thought. I even developed a talk which I titled "How Can They Ignore Us?" In it, I ask those to whom I am speaking how often they ever saw Freemasonry presented in a history text. I simply was unable to comprehend how we could be ignored.

With the exception of organized religion, Freemasonry probably has created a greater beneficial impact upon the development of present-day civilization which has existed on Earth, and yet, when you read historical documentation of the evolution of civilization, Freemasonry is rarely mentioned and, if it is, it is only peripherally.

Last year, the first World Conference of Grand Masters was held in Mexico City. Out of that Conference came the Charter of Anahuac. The third item in that Charter presented the need of the Craft in the 21st Century "to fight against... ecological depredation, contamination of the environment..., social instability..., and religious commitments in education," amongst others.

I have a very serious concern with any proposal that suggests Freemasonry's involvement in political and/or religious issues, and item three of that Charter suggests pre-

cisely that. There is no way social and ecological issues can be dealt with, without involving politics or religion. This Craft has been able to weather the storms which wiped out many organizations and even toppled governments because it stayed above the controversies of religion and politics.

When I presented my concerns about the Charter to some Masonic leaders, the rebuttal I received was that Masonry must have been involved in political and religious issues in the past. Freemasonry's influence in the American Revolution was cited as an example. They pointed to the actions of men like Washington, Franklin, Lafayette, and others, as Masonic involvement. In addition, Simon Bolivar in South America, Lajos Kusata in Hungary, Theodore Kolokotronis in Greece, Benito Juarez in Mexico, amongst many others who contributed so much to the concept of freedom, were examples of political involvement in other countries.

And then, for the first time I began to understand why the influence of Freemasonry is not discussed in history books. We cannot deny the impact of Washington and so many others in the development of American freedom; but it was Washington, the man, not Washington the Mason, and not Freemasonry that made America what it is. This is also true of Bolivar, Kusata, Kolokotronis, and Juarez and all of the other great patriots of their countries.

The philosophical purpose of Freemasonry always has been to develop the man — to start with good men and make them better, to increase the intellectual capacity of the individual, and to give the man the incentive through our lessons to contribute to making the world a better place to live.

As an ecologist, I have for more than 35 years expressed my views on ecological issues and on the population explosion; but I speak as a man, not as a Freemason. My compassionate thought of life might have been nurtured in a Masonic Lodge, but, when I speak, it is not Freemasonry speaking. When Washington acted, it was not Freemasonry acting. Thankfully, Freemasonry has had great influence on many leaders, but the man influenced does the acting. Thus we read about the man in history texts, not the organization.

So, now I understand why Freemasonry does not occupy a prominent place in history books, but that does not lessen its place in history. It probably would behoove historians to discuss the influence of Freemasonry on the man, and perhaps that is starting to occur.