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VOLUME XLIV

The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

FEBRUARY 1997



NUMBER 1

Winter at Valley Forge - 1997

Displaying a gigantic banner with the Square and Compasses and shrouded by construction tenting to protect it from the weather, the National Memorial Arch overlooks the crude huts where beleaguered soldiers of the Continental Army huddled to combat the harshness of Winter more than two centuries ago.

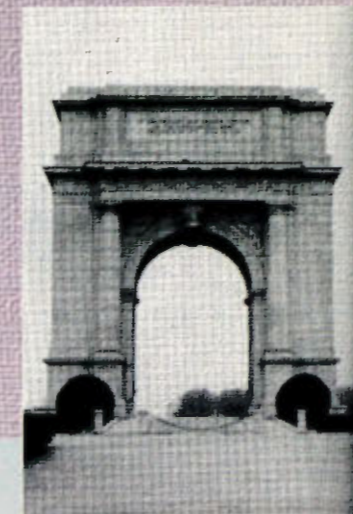


Similar Arch Dates to 81 A.D.

The National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge, erected by an act of Congress in 1910 to honor the soldiers who fell during the Revolutionary War, is a clone of the Arch of Titus in Rome.

The triumphal arch is a form of monument attributed to the Romans who constructed them to celebrate military victories. One of the earliest is the Arch of Titus, dating to 81 A.D., still standing in the Forum of Rome.

In the modern era, structures that copy Roman triumphal arches were built mostly as memorials rather than to commemorate battles. They are to be found throughout the Western World, such as the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, the Arc of Triumph in Paris, the Marble Arch in London and The Washington Arch in New York City.



Restoration on Schedule

The original splendor and dignity of the National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge will be there again for all Americans to appreciate with pride when the restoration that is made possible by Freemasons of Pennsylvania is completed this Summer. At the end of 1996, the extensive restoration was well on schedule and slightly more than fifty percent completed. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner has announced plans for dedication ceremonies, a parade and celebration at the restored Arch in Valley Forge National Park on Sunday, August 24.

Every Mason and friend should want to -- and can be -- a part of this historic project. It is easy to join in the tribute.

See "On the Cover" on page 2.

The Grand Master Speaks ...



Brethren:

Letters received by the Grand Master are an indication of the concerns and interests of the members. Many of the communications that have come to me question if the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is considering class-type conferral of degrees. I have considered the advantages and disadvantages of such classes for conferring degrees in Pennsylvania. Looking at our society, we find many types of occupations that require good men to spend many hours away from their homes to meet the demands of their occupations. Doctors, pharmacists, police officers, pilots, over-the-road truck drivers, servicemen, and salesmen are a few examples of jobs that require men to work unusual hours. These men would make good members; we need them, but because of their work schedule many find it difficult to plan for time to join any type of organizations.

I have sent several members of the Friend to Friend Committee to Illinois and Florida to observe the procedures of those jurisdictions when degrees have been conferred on several hundred members as a class. I do not believe this type of conferral of work would be in keeping with our Masonic Law, and I do not want to break the Law. I have reviewed the voluminous reports of the investigative committee, and after consulting with the Landmarks Committee (our Past Grand Masters and Grand Lodge Line Officers) and presenting this information to the members at Grand Lodge on December 4, I have concluded that we can apply our current law and offer those men who have a desire to become Master Masons and whose circumstances prohibit the normal procedure, a program that will meet their needs. One might ask if these busy men become members, what good will they be for the lodges if they can't attend. It is possible that they would find time to visit lodges while on the road. Also, they may have sons, sons-in-law, grandsons or other relatives or friends whom they then can recommend. These individuals may find time in the future to attend lodge functions when their work routine changes. Do you realize that 85 percent of our present membership seldom attends lodge?

I am approving a class-type program for May to be used at the local lodge level that can function within our Masonic Law. The necessary changes in the wording will be developed by the ritual staff with definite instructions providing the prescribed requirements are met. The requirements are as follows:

1. A man petitioning a lodge must have two signers.
2. The lodge must investigate the petitioner.
3. The lodge must vote on the petitioner.
4. One month must elapse between the approval of the petition and the actual degrees.
5. Every man who is going to get all three degrees on the same date will receive a dispensation to receive the second and third degree without waiting the usual time.

This type of action by a lodge is in keeping with our Masonic Law, and we now can recommend a man to become a brother who, because of time restrictions, found the initiation process prohibitive. A Saturday class at the local lodge for these men will achieve our objectives of helping good men become Masons.

Since this is my first opportunity to address the membership following the December Quarterly Communication, I wish to thank the many brethren who attended the meeting in Philadelphia. This was the largest attendance that anyone can remember. The lodge rooms were overflowing with interested brethren. Lodge and individual contributions to the many Grand Lodge Charities were very generous. The totals were well over \$100,000.00. I wish to thank those who are supporting the National Memorial Arch Fund. This project is truly a Pennsylvania Masonic project with numerous individuals as well as lodges and other Masonically affiliated groups responding. Masonic charity is again reaching out to provide stewardship of our national treasures. Thank you all.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Edward O. Weisser

Edward O. Weisser
R.W. Grand Master



On The Cover

You can be a part of this historic project for a donation of \$5 or more and have your name or a memorial included in the Gold Book that will be placed in the time capsule at the Dedication in August. Please use the form available at all lodges or print clearly on a sheet of paper your name and (if applicable the name to accompany "In Honor of" or "In Memory of") and your Lodge No. or Organization. Make checks payable to "Grand Lodge Charity Fund/National Memorial Arch" and mail to the Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598. Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law.



110 at Masonic Education Conference

More than 110 Grand Lodge Officers, District Deputies, and Regional and District Chairmen of Masonic Education and the Friend to Friend Committee attended the Eleventh Annual Masonic Education Conference at the Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus, Elizabethtown, on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 11 and 12.

The Friday evening program included: remarks by R.W.G.M. Edward O. Weisser, Committee Chairman; John Suchanec, Director of the Masonic Outreach Program of the Masonic Homes; and F. Rick Knepper, P.D.D.G.M., Co-Chairman of the Blood and Organ Donor Committee.

After Dr. Charles H. Lacquement, Grand Lodge Chaplain, opened the Saturday session, there was a stirring keynote address presented by James B. Wilkinson, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. He spoke eloquently on the need

for all Masons to be involved in the activities of the lodge and the fraternity.

The Lodge Program Competition followed and state winners were selected. The afternoon session was devoted to taking the information of the Friend to Friend Program and of Masonic Education to the lodges. Grand Master Weisser announced that he was combining the Friend to Friend and the Masonic Education Committees as a means of informing the lodges.

Dr. Elvin Warfel, Secretary to the Committee, spoke to the conference on the role of the District Chairmen. District Chairmen are being asked to visit each lodge to present information on membership, the Friend to Friend Incentive Program and the Masonic Education activities that are needed to build strong lodges and enhance the fraternity.



Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer; and in the center is Dr. Charles Lacquement, Grand Chaplain.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser presents a medallion to M.W. Grand Master James B. Wilkinson (second from right) of Virginia, who was the keynote speaker for the Eleventh Annual Masonic Education Conference. At left is Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden; at right is Marvin G.

Winners of Lodge Program Competition Are Announced

The winners of the 1996 Lodge Program Competition in the seven Masonic Regions presented their programs at the Eleventh Annual Masonic Education Conference on Oct. 12. The state winner of the Lodge Program Competitions in the written category was John M. Roushey, of Jerusalem Lodge No. 506, Tacony (Philadelphia) in District D, Region 1, who portrayed Benedict Arnold. Michael Epstein, of Columbia Lodge No. 91, Philadelphia, in District C, Region 1 was the state winner in the Media category for his collection of "Freemasonry and Stamps."

The other Masonic Regional winners were:

Region 2: Written, Thomas Wiest, P.M., Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 704, Lebanon, 60th Masonic District; and Media, Richard Gillard, P.M., William S. Snyder Lodge No. 756, Harrisburg, 2nd Masonic District.

Region 3: Written, Joel A. Weiss, P.M., Mountain Lodge No. 281, Altoona, 20th Masonic District.

Region 4: Written, Charles C. Collins, P.M., Dormont Lodge No. 684, 57th Masonic District; and Media, Philip M. Sandora, P.M., William D. McIlroy Lodge No. 758, Dormont, 57th Masonic District.

Region 5: Written, Lloyd A. Riggie, P.M., Seneca Lodge No. 805, Kittanning, 27th Masonic District.

Region 6: Written, Harvey E. Haag, P.M., Clearfield Lodge No. 314, 21st Masonic District.

Region 7: Bradley L. Oman, Knapp Lodge No. 462, Berwick, 35th Masonic District.

Prince Hall's Mt. Horeb Lodge No. 14 Moves To The Lancaster Masonic Center

Members of Mt. Horeb Lodge No. 14, Prince Hall Affiliation, met in the Lancaster Masonic Center for the first time on Friday, Oct. 4.

There was a visitation by the Rev. Thomas A. Jackmon, then the Prince Hall Grand Master of Pennsylvania, who performed dedication and consecration ceremonies. He was accompanied by other Grand Lodge officers and members of the six Masonic Lodges in Prince Hall's 5th Masonic District.

The Prince Hall Lodge in Lancaster has outgrown the facilities it owns and found that it would be difficult to expand or upgrade the building. Discussion leading toward locating Mt. Horeb Lodge in the Lancaster Masonic Center began a couple of years ago. Approvals were received several months ago from the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Affiliation, as well as that of the Masonic Center trustees.



Prior to the first meeting of Mt. Horeb Lodge No. 14, Prince Hall Affiliation in the Lancaster Masonic Center, Worshipful Master Douglas Gray (second from right), receives keys from Bro. John A. Kassees (second from left), President of the Center's Board of Directors. At right is the Rev. Thomas A. Jackmon, then M.W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania, Prince Hall Affiliation and at left is Jay W. Smith, D.D.G.M., 1st Masonic District.

Keep in tune with what's going on in your Fraternity. Listen to the R.W. Grand Master's weekly telephone update on activities and issues about Masonry in Pennsylvania.

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The Grand Master records a new message at the end of each week.

Ground Breaking For New Danville Masonic Center

Ground was broken Oct. 23 for the construction of a new Danville Masonic Center. A two-story, 5,800 square-foot building will be built on a two-and-a-half-acre plot at the intersection of Rts. 642 and 54, north of the community.

The \$230,000 building will be the fraternal home for more than 400 members who make up the Masonic Hall Association and will serve as the meeting place for Danville Lodge No.

224, Mahoning Lodge No. 516, Danville Royal Arch Chapter No. 239, Calvary Commandery No. 37, and Danville Chapter No. 186, Order of the Eastern Star.

The new center is to be completed during next summer with cornerstone-laying ceremonies scheduled for Sept. 20. That date will coincide with the 150th anniversary of Danville Lodge and the 125th anniversary of Mahoning Lodge.



Ground-breaking ceremonies were conducted by Masons representing the two Blue Lodges, members of the OES, the township supervisors, and the contractor (l-r): Front row - John W. Haines, P.D.D.G.M.; William H. Rice, Jr., D.D.G.M., 35th Masonic District; Kenneth M. Seay, W.M., Mahoning Lodge; Ronald A. Lambert, W.M., Danville Lodge and President of the Hall Association; Lois Myers, Associate Worthy Matron, Danville Chapter, O.E.S.; Leroy J. Sweitzer, P.M., Mahoning Lodge and Vice President of the Hall Association; Calvin Megargle, Valley Township Supervisor; Frank Cotner, contractor; the Rev. H. R. Loughborough, Chaplain of Mahoning Lodge; and David R. Smelts, P.M. of Danville Lodge and Secretary-Treasurer of the Hall Association. To the rear are officers and members of the two Blue Lodges.

MASONS OF NOTE

Two Lucite Awards, each earned by having been the first-line signer on the petitions of six new Masons, were presented on behalf of R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner during the Sept. 12 Stated Meeting of **Marion Lodge No. 562**, Scottdale, by Richard J. Stemmler, D.D.G.M., 30th Masonic District to Worshipful Master Ralph E. King, Sr., and Karl Burkhart, Sr.

Elsewhere, Lucite Awards also were presented to: Dean E. Vaughn, P.M., **Cumberland Star Lodge No. 197**, Carlisle, by Edward O. Weissner, R.W.G.M. at the December Quarterly.

Howard D. Confer, **Ossea Lodge No. 317**, Wellsboro, by Ronald G. Bennett, D.D.G.M., 17th Masonic District.

James P. Eaton, **Verona Lodge No. 548**, by Charles A. Garnes, D.D.G.M., 38th Masonic District.

Alfred M. Pedder, P.M., **Acacia Lodge No. 633**, Marienville, by William E. Yeager, Jr., D.D.G.M., 56th Masonic District.

Members of **Warren Lodge No. 240**, in Montrose, 15th Masonic District, extended their hands to help a Brother in the finest tradition of Freemasonry. Fifteen members of the Lodge gathered on Saturday, Sept. 14, to cut, split, transport, and stack a trailer-load of logs for Warren R. Williams, Jr., P.M., who is recuperating from an extended illness. The warmth of the firewood will only be exceeded by the warmth of friendship and brotherly love provided by the Lodge brethren.

Congratulations to Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director of the Masonic Homes, a member of **Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682**, Elizabethtown, upon being elected and installed as President of the Pennsylvania Association of Non-Profit Homes for the Aging (PANPHA). He will serve through 1998.

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When Past Master Arthur L. Dym of **William S. Snyder Lodge No. 756**, Harrisburg, conferred the Master Mason's Degree for his son, Aaron, on Nov. 6, R.W. Past Grand Master George H. Hohenschildt served in the station of Junior Warden.

R.W. Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson, who is Intendant General, East of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders, installed R.W. Grand Treasurer Marvin G. Speicher as Puissant Sovereign of **Constantine Conclave**, Reading. This was the fourth time that Bro. Jackson has installed his Grand Lodge associate, Bro. Speicher, into a Masonic office. He previously installed him as the R.W. Grand Treasurer, as Worshipful Master of **Excelsior Mark Lodge No. 216**, and as Preeminent Governor of Liberty Bell York Rite College.

920 Served at Ox Roast



The 22nd Annual Ox Roast was another big Labor Day outing for Harmony Lodge No. 429, Zelienople. W. Thomas Marlowe, D.D.G.M. of the 26th Masonic District, reports that 920 dinners were served. Pictured in the middle of the workers who served the ox roast is R.W. Past Grand Master Hiram P. Ball. Past Grand Master Ball was Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge in 1944 and served as R.W. Grand Master in 1970 and 1971. At top left is Worshipful Master Kenneth R. Weyman.

Abuse Prevention Efforts Recognized



At the October stated meeting of Hobah Lodge No. 276, Brookville, John W. Postlewait (second from right) was recognized by The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children for his dedication in helping to stamp out addictions among the youth in our society. The award, a pewter plate and certificate, was presented by James D. Oberlin, (left) D.D.G.M., 52nd Masonic District who had recommended him for the recognition.

Bro. Postlewait is the Director of Alcohol and Drug Awareness Education and Training at Clarion University, the 52nd Masonic District Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Chairman, and an active public speaker for the Foundation. Associates who joined in recognizing Bro. Postlewait are Dr. Charles D. Leach (holding the certificate at right), former President of Clarion University, and Shaun W. Taylor (holding the pewter plate), a student employee in the Office of Alcohol and Drug Programs at the University.

PA Masons Notified of New Life Insurance Benefit Plan

During November, all Pennsylvania Freemasons were notified of the new benefits program that offers group term life insurance to qualifying members of the fraternity and their spouses at attractively low rates and with no physical examinations necessary. The brochure that accompanied a letter from R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner included an "easy as 1-2-3-4" application form and charts detailing the low premiums.

The life insurance program is not only a major benefit for the Freemason and his spouse, but also, if he chooses, it can benefit the permanent fund of his lodge and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The member may select from options whereby 100% will go to his designated beneficiaries; or, 50% to his designated beneficiaries and 50% to Freemasonry; or, 100% to Freemasonry.

The group term life insurance benefit is underwritten by the Ohio National Life Insurance Company. For further information, or if you have misplaced your application form, contact: North American Benefits Co., P.O. Box 3056, Southeastern, PA 19398-3056, or call toll-free 1-800-537-4565.

TAKING TO THE ROAD

Lancaster Lodge No. 43 has joined the "Adopt A Highway Program" taking the responsibility to clean trash from a



two-mile stretch of roadway four times a year. Signs at each end of the road segment identify the Masonic Lodge as the responsible community-minded organization keeping the area clean. Worshipful Master Nathaniel Gilchrist is shown at work with other officers and members of the lodge in their first clean-up session.

Connecticut Grand Master Visits PA Lodge



M.W. Grand Master Charles W. Yohe (center) of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut visited Olive Lodge No. 557, Tionesta, on Sept. 9. Accompanying him were: M.W. Past Grand Master Arthur W. Kratzert, R.W. Grand Secretary Russell W. McClelland, and D.D.G.M. George S. Greytak. The visitors were hosted by William E. Yeager, Jr. (left), D.D.G.M., 56th Masonic District and Richard Stoltenburg, W.M. of Olive Lodge.

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

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E Large Stateroom (O)		3065	1788	1277
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e-Mason Square Club of PA Formed

Masonry in Pennsylvania looks to the future with the formation of the "e-Mason Square Club of Pennsylvania."

A Square Club is a social organization for brethren who share a common interest or hobby. This Square Club was formed by Pennsylvania Masons who enjoy working with computers. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser suggests that all Masons with an interest in computers ought to join, even if they do not own a computer. The goals of the e-Mason Square Club is to help Pennsylvania Masons learn about and enjoy all of the advantages that current technology has to offer.

An electronic Mason — an "e-Mason" — is someone who wants to share the common bond of Freemasonry with other Masons in the electronic age. The e-Mason Square Club of PA promotes

fellowship and an exchange of information. Charity is also an important part of the club. The Square Club already donated software recently to a local high school in the Pittsburgh area.

Encouraged by almost daily growth, the club is dividing the state into districts to allow future growth as local chapters form. Grand Master Weisser has approved an official site on the Internet for the posting of information and education about Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. It is located at [HTTP://WWW.ICUBED.COM/USERS/BLUE LODGE/SQCLUB.HTML](http://www.icubed.com/users/blue lodge/sqclub.html).

Membership information packets are available from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; or, visit the e-Mason Square Club on-line at the above address for additional information.

More Than 1,000 Attend District's Awareness Expo

More than 1,000 persons attended a Drug and Alcohol Awareness Expo for the communities of Coatesville, Downingtown, and surrounding areas of Chester County on Sept. 28.

According to Russell W. Baker, D.D.G.M. of the 5th Masonic District, "The tremendously successful awareness effort was the idea of Worshipful Master Edward J. Dazio, of Williamson Lodge No. 309, Downingtown, and the result of a lot of hard work by him." Edward J. Stumm, the District's Chairman of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children, and many brethren throughout the District contributed to the success of the event.

As William Penn Sees Us!



Here's what the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania looks like from the brim of William Penn's hat atop City Hall in Philadelphia. The picture, taken from scaffolding around the statue, not only provides a seldom-seen view of the Masonic Temple, it also answers the question, "Where is there nearby parking?" Members of the staff of The Masonic Library and Museum were invited by colleagues at City Hall to climb on high and see the work being done on Alexander Milne Calder's (1846-1923) monumental bronze portrayal of Pennsylvania's founder.

Perseverance, Euclid Lodge Masons Work For Big Brothers/Big Sisters

During Harrisburg's Kipona Days that attract thousands to River Front Park, volunteers from Perseverance Lodge No. 21 and Euclid Lodge No. 698 in the 2nd Masonic District, staffed several Pizza Hut concessions to raise funds for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters

of the Capital Region. D.D.G.M. John D. Witmer, Jr. noted, "The mission of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters is to strengthen the community's future through one-to-one service to youth, and Masons are happy to have a part in the effort."

For many years, Kipona has been Harrisburg's annual Labor Day festival along the Susquehanna River. It features swimming and boating competitions and in recent years has been expanded to include rides, food concessions, and other attractions.

50-Yr. P.M.s Help Present 50-Yr. Emblems

The 1946 Worshipful Master of Howell Lodge No. 405, Honey Braak, Reo F. Ford (front, second from left), assisted Russell W. Baker (front, right) D.D.G.M., 5th Masonic District, and Worshipful Master Gary L. Dukeman (front, left), in presenting 50-Year Emblems of Gold on Oct. 23. Recipients with D.D.G.M. Baker, W.M. Dukeman, and P.M. Ford are (l-r): Front - Ira M. Buckwalter, Jr.; Charles I. Miles; and Foster A. Ranck. Rear - Marvin E. Ranck, J. Martin Bressler, C. Stanley Eckenroth, and John M. Kurtz, Jr. Unable to attend to receive their Emblems were James A. Geiger, Kermit H. Zimmerman, and Samuel O. Zimmerman.



In an open presentation, 1946 Worshipful Master of Rochester Lodge No. 229, John A. Swanson (front, center) was present when William R. Morvin (front, second from right), D.D.G.M., 37th Masonic District, and John W. Dunbar (rear, right) Worshipful Master, presented 50-Year Emblems of Gold to (l-r): Front - Owen G. Bernhardt, John T. Wood and Robert E. Beck. Rear - Floyd M. Word, Sr.; Charles S. Spanos; William R. Moore, Jr.; and Leonard K. Ruckert, P.D.D.G.M.



First Batto Scholarships Awarded

Robert Batto (second from right) P.D.D.G.M., 37th Masonic District, presents one of the District's first two \$500 scholarships which were named in his honor to Jessica Rae Herstine. William R.



Morvin (second from left), D.D.G.M., presents the other scholarship to Ayn Carroll Huntington. At left is Milfred W. Smith, District Scholarship Chairman, and at right is Clarence G. Herstine, District Masonic Education Chairman and father of Jessica Rae. The scholarships are awarded to achieving family members of brethren in the District.



Adult Daily Living Center Open House

The Masonic Homes' Adult Daily Living Center held an Open House on Friday, Nov. 22 in the new center of the Ben Franklin building in the Masonic Health Care Center. The center had been in operation for one and a half years, and offers goal-oriented programs and services to adults 18 and older with physical and/or cognitive impairments.

The center's new location will provide participants with a variety of additional services to further improve their quality of life, such as easy access to physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language pathology and other ancillary clinics. Participants also will have access to the beauty/barber shop and therapeutic pool.

The layout of the center allows for concurrent programming, so participants may enjoy more choices for recreational activities, social participation or quiet time. A private first aid room is also available for participants who require medical care. The center has three accessible restrooms; one has a walk-in shower for participants who desire to receive assistance with personal hygiene while at the center.

The center is designed with carefully selected furnishings: comfortable recliners, platform rocking chairs and a pleasing decor, to feel like "home" for up to 41 participants.

Adult day care is a valuable option for fami-



Residents, employees, and guests enjoy refreshments at the Adult Daily Living Center Open House.

lies who provide care for a loved one with a physical or cognitive impairment because it allows families to keep their loved one at home, but also feel assured that he or she is receiving excellent care during the day while they are at work.

A Tribute to Brother and Pastor Charles H. Lacquement, D.D.

On Friday, Dec. 13, Bro. and Rev. Charles H. Lacquement, D.D., Director of Pastoral Care for the Masonic Homes, was honored for devoting more than 23 years to providing for the spiritual needs of the brethren and their family members residing at the Masonic Homes. The 23rd Psalm Stained Glass Window in the Roosevelt Building of the Masonic Health Care Center was dedicated to Bro. Lacquement by the following: Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682; Lorna Kimmel Baer in honor of her father, W.

Orville Kimmel, R.W.P.G.M.; Robert Burns Lodge No. 464; Perseverance Lodge No. 21; officers and members of Harrisburg Consistory, A.A.S.R.; and Zembo Shrine, A.A.O.N.M.S.

Bro. Lacquement was honored with a plaque inscribed with Psalm 23 and the



Arthur Kurtz, R.W.P.G.M., Robert Burns Lodge No.464; Edmund Smith, W.M., Perseverance Lodge No.21; Roger Kramer, W.M.-Elect, Perseverance Lodge No. 21; Dean Vaughn, member of Committee on Masonic Homes; George Moad, Harrisburg Consistory; Rev. Charles H. Lacquement, Director of Pastoral Care, Masonic Homes; Fred Kaylor, W.M., Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682; Edward O. Weissner, R.W.G.M.; and Lorna Kimmel Baer, daughter of W. Orville Kimmel, R.W.P.G.M.

following verse: "A quiet man who walks among us as an example of Christian life. A faithful pastor caring for others as one 'sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness' (Titus 2:2), reminding us on our journey that it matters not how we arrive at our destination but who walks with us on our way."

Masonic Homes Will Visit Florida in 1997

Over the past few years the Masonic Homes has developed and expanded its services to continue its long tradition of providing excellent care. A representative from the Masonic Homes will visit several sites in Florida during 1997 to inform brethren and their families about the new services offered through Independent Living, the Masonic Health Care Center, the new Lafayette Special Care Unit, the Children's Home, the new Adult Daily Living Center, the Outreach Program, and more.

"It is our hope that many of our friends residing in Florida will accept an invitation to join with us, share refreshments and discover how the Masonic Homes continues its dedication to providing the highest quality service in every aspect of care," said John Suchanec, Masonic Homes Outreach Director.

Locations and dates have not yet been set. Look for more information about the visit in the May issue of the Pennsylvania Freemason. In the meantime, if you have questions about the upcoming visit call John Suchanec, at 1-800-462-7664.

Construction of New Independent Living Cottages Progresses

Many of the independent living cottages in Phase 1 are now under roof, and much progress has been made since December, 1996 when the photo was taken. This is an exciting time for everyone concerned with the project, but especially for those who are waiting to move into their new homes. Several future residents have already sold their present homes and have moved into temporary apartments in the Elizabethtown area in anticipation of their moving day.

Cottages are available in Phase 2 of the cottage construction project which will be completed the latter part of 1997. Call the Marketing Office at 1-800-676-6452 or return the coupon for more information on how you, too, can become a resident in one of the beautiful cottages, and enjoy all of the benefits of living here at the Masonic Homes.

Please send the coupon to: Marketing Office, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022



Please send me more information on the Independent Living Cottages at the Masonic Homes!

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____

Dedication of Chapel/Multipurpose Room

On Dec. 10, Rabbi Mark Greenspan formally dedicated the One West Chapel /Multipurpose Room as a beit hamidrash, with a mezuzah on the doorposts entering the building. To further appreciate in the religious significance of the mezuzah, read Deuteronomy 6: 3-10. Jewish services are currently held in the facility during Passover, Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashana and Chanukah.



Bro. and Rev. Charles H. Lacquement, Director of Pastoral Care for the Masonic Homes, assists Rabbi Mark Greenspan as he prepares to hang a mezuzah on the doorpost of one of the three entranceways to the Masonic Health Care Center Assembly Room.



Rabbi Mark Greenspan, of Beth El Temple in Harrisburg, lights a menorah during the dedication ceremony, which took place during Chanukah.

Benefits for Handicapped



Masonic District C in Philadelphia held its first Awards Night Banquet at the Philadelphia Racquet Club on Oct. 19, during which it presented its charity project proceeds of \$2,500 to the Pegasus Riding Academy. Pegasus offers a program through which handicapped riders gain therapeutic benefits from the motion of the horses. District C plans for the Awards Night to be an annual event. Participating in the presentation are (l-r): George Haynes, W.M., Leonard Forman Lodge No. 782; Eugene M. Polter, District Masonic Education Chairman; Harvey Perleman, W.M., M. S. Brotherhood Lodge No. 773, a representative of the Pegasus Riding Academy; Joseph DiPinto, Jr., D.D.G.M., Raymond C. Mohr, W.M., St. Alban-Swain Lodge No. 529; Robert C. O'Connor, W.M., Williamson-Corinthian Lodge No. 368; and Martin I. Bogdon, W.M., Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135.

If You Have A Child With Mental Retardation, Could Your Family Benefit from Quality Respite Care? If your Answer is "Yes!" We Need to Hear from You!

The Masonic Homes is working to determine whether a sufficient number of Pennsylvania Masons' families would benefit from such services to warrant the development of a Mental Retardation Respite Care Program.

In Pennsylvania today, approximately 65,000 people are served by the State Mental Retardation System. Services include residential facilities, employment, adult rehabilitation services and family support services. Unfortunately, up to 13,000 more people are currently on waiting lists, unable to benefit from this assistance network until their name moves up the list. In the meantime, they wait, their families wait, and they hold out hoping that they'll receive help soon.

A diagnosis of mental retardation includes a broad spectrum of mental impairments ranging from those persons with mildly diminished mental capacity to those so severely impaired that they cannot care for themselves. Many of these individuals, broadly classified as "severely" or "profoundly" mentally retarded, are cared for in group homes or are institutionalized. However, there are many more, diagnosed as "mildly" or "moderately" mentally retarded, who are able to function at a relatively high level and live in the community, most often with their families.

Respite care is defined as an interval of rest or relief. Available in periods for up to two weeks at a time and annually for up to 30 total days, respite care would offer a safe and secure environment for the adult with mental retardation as well as assurance for the parent who must be apart from his or her adult child for a period of time.

Some of these individuals are fortunate enough to attend sheltered workshops, maintaining a degree of productivity which enhances the quality of their lives. Some become productive citizens, holding jobs and functioning within their respective communities. However, even those who maintain a high level of functioning require basic assistance from their parents. As the mentally retarded child ages, so do the parents, and the natural aging process creates a serious concern as to how that child will ultimately receive care.



The proposed Respite Care Program would serve as a temporary shelter, or "home," for an adult child with mental retardation within the caring environment and beauty of the Masonic Homes.

It is expected that the parents of a child with mental retardation will provide the most basic forms of care that many of us take for granted, and the parents will continue to provide this assistance as their mentally retarded child ages. Although adult children with mental retardation are generally not in a position to live entirely on their own, in many ways they expect to be treated as adults. Parents maintain concern that their adult children will succeed in their endeavors, build relationships of their own, and be safe throughout the process. In so doing, the parents try to help their children develop those skills necessary to be as independent as possible; yet they constantly recognize the dependence their adult child has on them.

It is often impossible for the parents caring for an adult child with mental retardation to take a vacation, go away for a long weekend, spend quality time together, or even accomplish such fundamental tasks as going to the grocery store. This brings us to the greatest concern that parents of adult children with mental retardation possess: **To whom can I turn to provide quality, safe, secure, and caring services for my child?** As one Masonic family speaking about their 34-year-old daughter so aptly stated, "We're looking for an umbrella to be held over her while we're away."

The responsibility of caring for a child with Mental Retardation is enormous. What are otherwise considered to be normal tasks -- meals, toileting, clothing, teaching, exercising, and moving -- become stressful, continuous efforts that take a severe toll on parents.

The young woman referred to is an adult, mildly retarded, holding a job, and responsible for her own transportation to and from work. She was graduated from high school and has a relationship with a young man whom she cares for very much. She has become responsible for much in her own needs. Nevertheless, her parents remain concerned about her well-being and find it difficult to go away on a vacation and leave her behind. In the past they would not even have considered taking an extended vacation without taking her along. Now, however, they hold hope because the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown is studying the need for a Respite Care Program to help them and other families in similar positions.

Survey

Masonic Homes Respite Care for Adults Diagnosed with Mental Retardation

If you would be interested in using the Respite Care program at the Masonic Homes should it be approved, please provide the following information and return this reply letter to the Masonic Homes. Please apply postage.

1. I provide care to an adult child with mental retardation. ☐ YES ☐ NO
2. County of Residence _____
3. I am interested in respite care for my child(ren). ☐ YES ☐ NO
4. I am able to provide transportation to the Masonic Homes for my adult child. ☐ YES ☐ NO
5. With a maximum use of 30 days per calendar year, approximately how many days per year would you use the respite care facility at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown?
☐ 1 - 7 DAYS ☐ 8 - 14 DAYS ☐ 15 - 21 DAYS ☐ 22 - 30 DAYS

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LODGE NAME & NUMBER _____

TELEPHONE NUMBERS DAYTIME _____

EVENING _____

Thank you for your participation in this survey. We look forward to investigating ways in which we can improve the quality of life for all Masons and their families.

Masonic Homes



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their parents, in a quality, safe, and caring setting.

Respite care services are offered to families with mentally retarded children throughout the Commonwealth at the county level by local MH/MR offices or through private providers; however, in many areas it is often difficult to find available bed space for individuals who require respite care services. The Masonic Homes is surveying Pennsylvania Masons and their families to determine the needs of our Fraternity. Based on the response of the enclosed survey, the Masonic Homes will determine the need to establish a respite care program in Elizabethtown.

With all their time devoted to the disabled child, a couple finds little time or energy to get out and relax together. With so much energy directed to their child, a couple is afforded minimal time with each other. An immeasurable amount of energy is spent trying to locate services for a child with mental retardation. If a family is fortunate enough to find a provider, endure the waiting list, and have services in place, how will it be funded? Frequently, one parent takes a part-time job to make the extra money to pay for the services.

To continue to perform these care-giving duties, parents must find time provided the opportunity to get away, to exercise, to relax, to find some ner support, and to reflect, refresh and renew themselves.

at Masonic Homes

in board message" on the Gift
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k at the time of check-in.
times are Monday through
fter 2:00 p.m., and weekends
0 p.m. Check-out times are
through Friday at 11:00 a.m.
ends at 1:00 p.m.

Masonic Homes Food Services Featured in National Magazine

The Masonic Homes' Food Services Department was featured in the November issue of Food Management magazine because of its versatility in providing food service for many levels of care. The department consists of more than 180 employees, who serve a variety of appetizing menu items daily to more than 1,200 residents and 950 employees. The article focused on the department's unique ability to prepare a wide variety of delicious and nutritious meals for a large number of repeat diners; adhere to special needs of individuals with specific requirements; and present the food in a consistent, attractive and timely manner.

Masonic Homes
Attn: Respite Care Program
One Masanic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199

FOLD HERE

Masonic Hc
Attn: Respite Care
One Masonic
Elizabethtown, PA 1

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RETURNING SURVEY

- 1.) Please complete all the information asked for in survey
- 2.) Detach survey at the perforation
- 3.) Fold at the marks on the back of this survey and apply tape to seal
- 4.) Please apply the proper postage and mail



Brother Kenneth W. Bleiler, D.D.G.M., his daughter Debbie and wife Elaine, Rydel, PA feel that the Respite Care Program, if offered by the Masonic Homes, would greatly benefit their family.

"An umbrella to hold over her:" A strong metaphor for the kind of care the Masonic Homes is considering to offer parents of adult children with mental retardation. This proposed Respite Care Program would serve as a temporary shelter, or "home," within the beautiful environment of the Masonic Homes. Here, an adult child with mental retardation could find respite for themselves and

their parents, in a quality, safe, and caring setting.

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Maintaining the physical and emotional health to continue to perform these care-giving duties, parents must find time to take care of themselves as well. They must be provided the opportunity to get away, to exercise, to relax, to find some measure of personal enjoyment...to vent, to garner support, and to reflect, refresh and renew themselves.

Guest Lodging Rooms Available at Masonic Homes

Two guest lodging rooms are available to families and friends of residents of any area at the Masonic Homes. These rooms are in the Masonic Health Care Center between Lafayette West and Lafayette East. Each room has two single beds; a bathroom with a shower; television; and fresh linens, soap, and towels. The rooms are near the cafeteria, where guests may purchase lunch and dinner.

The guest lodging rooms may be reserved for one night or several. Cots or baby cribs are not available. Phone-in reservations may be placed through the Masonic Health Care Center Gift Shop, (717) 367-1121, ext. 33636, during normal operating hours: Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. through 3:30 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. through 4:00 p.m.

A "bulletin board message" on the Gift Shop extension (33636) will provide instructions on reserving those rooms; however, it will not be programmed to take messages. If a family needs lodging after hours, the family or staff members may dial the Masonic Homes' operator ("0").

Rooms will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. If plans are altered, advance cancellation is requested so another family may have the opportunity to use the room.

Cost per room per night is \$32.00 plus tax, payable by cash, check, or traveler's check at the time of check-in. Check-in times are Monday through Friday, after 2:00 p.m., and weekends after 4:00 p.m. Check-out times are Monday through Friday at 11:00 a.m. and weekends at 1:00 p.m.

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The Masonic Homes' Food Services Department was featured in the November issue of Food Management magazine because of its versatility in providing food service for many levels of care. The department consists of more than 180 employees, who serve a variety of appetizing menu items daily to more than 1,200 residents and 950 employees. The article focused on the department's unique ability to prepare a wide variety of delicious and nutritious meals for a large number of repeat diners; adhere to special needs of individuals with specific requirements; and present the food in a consistent, attractive and timely manner.

Lafayette Special Care Unit Open House and Seminar



To celebrate the opening of the Lafayette Special Care Unit (formerly the Dementia Unit), the Masonic Homes held two events to help people understand the disease and tour the new unit. On Sunday, Nov. 3, at 1:00 p.m., a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony was held to celebrate the opening with the families of the residents who live in the unit. From 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., residents and employees of the Masonic Homes toured the unit and enjoyed refreshments.

On Monday, Nov. 4, 1996, from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., the Masonic Homes hosted a seminar, entitled, "Dementia... Understanding the Disease and Effective Treatments," in the Masonic Health Care Center Assembly Room. The seminar featured some of Central Pennsylvania's most knowledgeable dementia specialists, who discussed a variety of dementia-related topics, including: current trends and treatments in Alzheimer's care, support for families of an individual with dementia, how to develop a special care unit, public policy issues regarding long term care, and horticulture therapy.

The seminar was open to the public. More than 275 residents, employees, health care workers, and individuals from the community with a loved one suffering from dementia, attended the seminar.

Bro. C. Richard Speith, President of the Residents' Council, poses with Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director, in front of one of the courtyards built for residents of the Lafayette Special Care Unit. Bro. Speith performed the honors during the ribbon cutting ceremony at the unit's Open House.

MASONIC HOMES' ADMISSIONS POLICY

The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania is owned and operated by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania whose existence antedates both the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States of America.

Currently eligible for admission to the Masonic Homes are a Master Mason in good standing in his Pennsylvania Blue Lodge for five or more years, his wife, widow, mother, sister, and never-married daughter. If the Master Mason is deceased, these relationships are also eligible without regard to the length of his membership, provided he was in good standing at the time of his death. Admissions to the Masonic Homes is governed by the Committee on Masonic Homes, members of which are elected by the Grand Lodge. The Committee approves or disapproves applications for admission solely on the basis of need and does not discriminate by reason of the race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap of the applicant.

Applications for admission to the Masonic Homes by members of the Lodges of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania, their wives, widows, mothers, sisters, and never-married daughters are also received by the Committee on Masonic Homes and approved or disapproved on the same basis. The admission to the Masonic Homes of the approved applicants of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania is governed by the Committee on Masonic Homes in the same manner as is the admission of the approved applicants of the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania.

No person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in the provision of any care or service at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Specifically the previous includes, but is not limited to, the following characteristics:

1. Inpatient and outpatient care will be provided on a non-discriminatory basis; all patients will be admitted and receive care without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap (which includes but is not limited to persons with AIDS or HIV infection).
2. All patients will be assigned to rooms, floors, and sections without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap (which includes but is not limited to persons with AIDS or HIV infection).
3. Employees will be assigned to patient services without regard to the race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap (which includes but is not limited to persons with AIDS or HIV infection) of either the patient or employee.
4. Staff privileges of professionally qualified personnel will not be denied on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap (which includes but is not limited to persons with AIDS or HIV infection).
5. All facilities of this institution will be used without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap (which includes but is not limited to persons with AIDS or HIV infection).
6. Transfers, discharges, and room assignments will not be made on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age, or handicap (which includes but is not limited to persons with AIDS or HIV infection); however, any patient may request to upgrade the room assigned and/or selected at any time for any reason provided that the room requested is readily available and the patient is financially able to pay for the requested room.

MRS. HOGUE RECEIVES WANAMAKER MEDAL

Mrs. Beryl L. Hogue, Supreme Inspector for The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Pennsylvania, has been awarded the John Wanamaker Masonic Humanitarian Medal by R. W. Grand Master, Edward O. Weisser. The award was presented to Mrs. Hogue by Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, R.W.P.G.M., representing the Grand Master at a special reception in Seattle, Washington during the Supreme Assembly in July.

Hogue, who is responsible for the Rainbow program in Pennsylvania, has served as the leader of that organization in Pennsylvania since 1971, first as Supreme Deputy, and eight years later becoming the Supreme Inspector. She has been a member of the Advisory Board of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation from 1982 through 1988, when she became a member of the Board of Directors. She is also

a Past Mother Advisor of New Castle Assembly and a Past Matron and Past Secretary of Cathedral Chapter No. 440 of the Order of the Eastern Star. In addition to these activities she has been a Girl Scout leader and a Sunday school teacher.

The John Wanamaker Masonic Humanitarian Medal is presented to persons who are not members of the Masonic Fraternity, in recognition of their distinguished service to others, emblematic of the high values of Freemasonry.



DeMOLAY GROWTH!

Pennsylvania DeMolay grew in total membership in 1996, for the second consecutive year, after many years of decline. The Order went "over the top" with the initiation of more than 40 candidates at the special initiation held in December, honoring Right Worshipful Grand Master Edward O. Weisser.

The Grand Master's Class was held at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. The Initiatory Degree was presented in the Lodge Room and the DeMolay Degree was conducted on stage in the Deike Auditorium. The Flower Talk, to honor Mothers, was presented to the class and to the R. W. Grand Master, who attended the entire program.

State Master Councilor Robert R. Nye, Jr. presided over the program. The Initiatory Degree was conferred by officers of Somerton Chapter. The DeMolay Degree was presented by Elizabethtown Chapter, and the Ceremonial Fourth Section was

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YOUTH LEADERS MEET

Youth leaders of Rainbow, DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and the Knights of Pythagoras met Oct. 25-27 at the Masonic Conference Center - Patton Campus in Elizabethtown for some fun, fellowship and fraternalism.

Held in conjunction with the quarterly meeting of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Advisory Board, the program included a variety of activities for 15 representatives of each youth group.

The program began on Friday evening with a carnival atmosphere to break the ice and encourage the youth to have some fun. Later that evening, Rick S. Freedman, a Past Master of Williamson-Corinthian Lodge No. 368, and a member of the Lu-

Shrine Temple Clown unit, conducted a hands-on session in how to create Clown make-up. Each participant had the opportunity to have their face painted, and to paint another's face.



In the photo, Bro. Rick S. Freeman, PM, displays his talent by making a clown of Jeff Kline, Master Councilor of Elizabethtown DeMolay Chapter.

On Saturday morning, each group participated in membership recruitment discussion groups with the Advisory Board members, and presented a portion of their public ritual work.

Afternoon activities included a discussion on the public perception of Freemasonry and the youth groups, and a Masonic Youth Fun Olympics. At dinner, Miranda Gresko, Grand Worthy Advisor for

Rainbow, Shanna Coe, Miss Job's Daughters, Manny Mills, Grand Master Knight of the Knights of Pythagoras, and Robert R. Nye, Jr., State Master Councilor of DeMolay, each spoke of their most unusual experience as a member of their organization.

The evening program included an exercise where each youth had to take a stand in a discussion of values, and a trip to the Elizabethtown Haunted Park and Hayride. A worship service conducted by various members of the youth groups concluded the program on Sunday morning.



Posing for the camera are, (left to right): Jona Hoover, Past Miss Job's Daughters; Robert R. Nye, Jr., State Master Councilor; A. Nathaniel Croumer, Past State Master Councilor; Shanna Coe, Miss Job's Daughters; and Jennifer Fasnacht, Past Miss Job's Daughters.

DeMOLAY GROWTH!

continued from page 13

conferred by Erie Chapter. The Flower Talk was presented by Past State Master Councilor A. Nathaniel Croumer.

The members and candidates were housed at the Masonic Conference Center - Patton Campus for the weekend, and participated in various athletic and social functions, including a Hawaiian Theme "Sock Hop" Dance. Prior to departure on Sunday morning, a worship service was conducted by the State Officers in the William A. Carpenter Chapel.

"That Takes The Cake!"

The Square and Compasses were on more than the Emblem of Gold lapel pins for two 50-year members of Verona Lodge No. 548. After Charles A. Garnes (left), D.D.G.M., 38th Masonic District and Gordon J. Isherwood, Jr.



(right), W.M., presented the emblems to Donald H. Eaton (second from left), who is the Mayor of Oakmont, and George B. McLaughlin (second from right), they were honored with a chocolate-covered cake adorned with the Masonic symbol and the inscription, "Congratulations 50-Year Members."

One Videotape Enlightens At Least Four Worthy Men

If a picture is worth a thousand words, what's a video worth?

Richard C. Bennett, a member of Jordan Lodge No. 673, Allentown, will tell you that his copy of the **Friend to Friend** video tape is priceless to him. He showed it to one colleague, who then asked him to show it to a mutual friend. They, in turn, asked if two more of their professional associates could see it.



Scout Executive Richard C. Bennett loads the **Friend to Friend** video into his VCR. Within days, four of his professional associates benefited from his one copy of the video.

What was it worth? By the year's end, two of his colleagues had petitioned a lodge and were favorably balloted upon; the other two had asked for petitions.

Bro. Bennett, who has been a Mason since 1975, is the Scout Executive for Hawk Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America, headquartered in Reading.

He said he is glad that he looked at the videotape the day it arrived in the mail, because the next day at a regional meeting of Scout Executives, an associate asked him about Freemasonry. He had the answer right away, saying, "I have just the thing you ought to see — it will tell you all about the Fraternity."

It's as easy as that. We could turn the tide and put an end to the declining membership immediately if each Mason in Pennsylvania would show the **Friend to Friend** video to just one of his good friends and follow up with answers to his questions.

Every Mason in Pennsylvania should have the videotape — probably the most convenient

and most effective explanation of who Freemasons are, what we do, and what we believe. A free copy was mailed to every Mason in Pennsylvania in September. As the blue-colored petitions that accompanied the videotape are received in lodges, it is a signal that brethren are using the tools of the **Friend to Friend** program.

However, it has been recognized that some brethren may not have received their copies of the videotape because they have moved recently or their addresses of record in their lodges are not correct. Also, there are some members who apparently hadn't read fully the accompanying letter from R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner that told them the videotape was free and returned it to Grand Lodge because they thought they had to buy it.

If you did not receive your free **Friend to Friend** videotape, or if you have mislaid it, contact the **Friend to Friend** Office of the Grand Lodge in the Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia 19107-2598 [Phone: (215) 988-1928].

What's a video worth? It could be worth many worthy new Masans!

Two Lodges, State Association Join To Aid Special Students

Help came almost computer-quick, after a school teacher of developmentally delayed children sent a letter by way of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit to Lynwood J. Dixon, D.D.G.M., 36th Masonic District. The teacher indicated a desperate need for a computer system to aid in the education of the special children and wanted to know if the Masons could help.

D.D.G.M. Dixon informed Prospect Lodge No. 578, Prospect Park, of the need and they contributed \$2,000 to purchase the computer and its hardware. Stu Brown, who is a vice president of the Pennsylvania State League of Masonic Clubs, was present in another lodge in the district when that

contribution was mentioned, and he tendered a \$1,500 contribution to purchase additional hardware and software. Then, Edward Miles, W.M. of Concord Lodge No. 625, Concordville, acquired the equipment through professional connections and had the special education software installed at no charge.

The Delaware County Intermediate Unit gave certificates of appreciation to the Masons involved in the contribution. But, the best honor came when the Masons received letters from the students and the teacher indicating that great strides already have been made by the students using the equipment.



Two lodges and a state association joined in providing special students with a needed computer system. Left to right are: Lynwood J. Dixon, 36th Masonic D.D.G.M.; Dennis Price, P.M., Worshipful Master of Prospect Lodge No. 578; Stu Brown, Vice President of the Pennsylvania State League of Masonic Clubs; Walter Senkow, President of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit; and Edward D. Miles, W.M. of Concord Lodge No. 625.

36 Officers Complete D.A.R.E. Training

Thirty-six more police officers from across Pennsylvania were graduated Oct. 18 from the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) training program hosted at the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus by The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among children. Pennsylvania Attorney General Thomas Corbett, who also is Chairman of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, was the keynote speaker at graduation ceremonies and presented the officers with certificates of completion. (Attorney General Corbett is seated at center, with Anthony J. Garvey, Assistant to the Grand Master, left, and Joseph W. Witte, Director of the Foundation, right.)

Having completed the two-week training, the law enforcement officers are certified to teach a 17-week class on drug and alcohol abuse resistance in their local elementary schools.

Since 1994, the Foundation has hosted the training program for law enforcement personnel at no cost to the state, participating municipalities or the individual officers. Attorney General Corbett expressed his personal thanks for the support the Masonic Foundation has given to the D.A.R.E. program.

Law enforcement officers who are pictured below represent the following municipalities:

Aliquippa Borough, Bedminster Twp., Bensalem Twp., Brackenridge Borough, Bradford, Brentwood Borough, Chester County (Sheriff's Dept.), Columbia Borough, East Lampeter Twp., Eddystone

Borough, Ephrata Borough, Erie, Harrisburg, Lansdale Borough, Manheim Twp., Manor Twp., Middletown Borough, Milcreek Twp., Moosic Borough, Munhall Borough, Ohio Twp., Palmerton Borough, Penn Hills, Penn Twp., Pittsburgh, Plumstead Twp., Pottstown, Scranton, South Whitehall Twp., Southwest Mercer County Region, Susquehanna Region, Upper Chichester Twp., Upper Southampton Twp., Summit Hill Borough, Wilkes Barre, and Williamsport.

Also on the picture are two instructors from the Philadelphia Police Department, Officers Michael Cullen and Daniel Richmond.



George Washington Visits Bloomsburg TreeFest



The 5th Annual TreeFest was honored by a visit from George Washington. He is owned by the Supreme Council and was on loan to Caldwell Consistory for the two weeks of the TreeFest held in the building.

The photo shows Walter O. Haussmann, W.M. (left) of Washington Lodge No. 265, which meets in the Consistory presenting a **Friend to Friend** Brochure to Rick Rice (right), non-member and talking to him about the Fraternity. George Washington was the silent helper.

TreeFest is a fund-raiser for the Bloomsburg Theater Ensemble and the Caldwell Consistory. This was the fifth anniversary and approximately 4,000 people visited the display of more than 100 decorated trees.

7 Brethren From 6 States Visit Lodge the Same Night

Seven brethren from six jurisdictions other than Pennsylvania were among the 52 members and 11 visitors attending the November stated meeting of Ephrata Lodge No. 665. Two of the visitors were from Tempe, Arizona, and the others were from: Meridian, Mississippi; Barrington, Illinois; Chester, Virginia; Savannah, Georgia; and Detroit, Michigan. The other four visitors were the elected officers and a past master from Reading Lodge No. 549, who conferred two degrees that evening.

Brethren From 4 States in Phila. For "German Masonic Lodge Day"

By proclamation of Mayor Ed Rendell, Sept. 7 was "German Masonic Lodge Day" in Philadelphia, when brethren of German-speaking lodges from Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, and New York met in Norman Hall of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. German Masonic Lodge Day is an annual multi-state event hosted each year by a different German-speaking lodge. Humboldt Lodge No. 359, Hatboro, was the host in Philadelphia.

German-speaking Lodges represented were: Germania Lodge No. 160, Baltimore, by Rolf P. Sorg, W.M.; Mozart Lodge No. 121, Pennsauken, NJ, by Julius W. Trimbach, W.M.; Copernicus Lodge No. 545, NY, by Gustav Segenberger, W.M.; United Burbus Lodge No. 356, NY, by Hubert Koltzstrand, W.M.; Trinity Lodge No. 12, NY, by Werner Kress, W.M.; Teutonia



Mayor Ed Rendell (right) presents the proclamation declaring September 7 to be "German Masonic Day" in Philadelphia to Kurt Fago (center), W.M. of Humboldt Lodge No. 359. At left is Thomas R. Eynon, D.D.G.M., 8th Masonic District

Lodge No. 367, Reading, by Horst Hildebrand, P.M.; Hermann Lodge No. 125, Philadelphia, by Arno Reutzel, P.M.; and the host, Humboldt Lodge No. 359, by Kurt E. Fago, W.M.

Outstanding Past Masters' Night

Worshipful Master David E. Guloien (seated, second from right) of Emporium Lodge No. 382, celebrated a very successful Past Masters' Night when there were 17 of the former leaders present to be honored. Emporium Lodge has a membership of a little more than 150. Also, there to honor the Past Masters were Ralph H. Besecker, D.D.G.M. (seated, second from left), and Evan H. Boden, P.D.D.G.M. (seated, right), of the 33rd Masonic District. Seated at left is Byron H. Horning, Jr., a Past Master and Secretary of the Lodge. The other Past Masters are standing.



Amendment for Spanish-Speaking Lodges Adopted at Quarterly

An Amendment to the *Ahiman Rezon* was adopted at the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, Dec. 4, to allow the warranting of lodges in Pennsylvania to work in the Spanish language.

A number of Masons have asked that if they had the opportunity to become a warrant member of a new Spanish-speaking lodge

could they do so as dual membership. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser said that the answer is, "Yes, seldom does a Mason have the opportunity to become a warrant member."

Any Mason interested in joining a Spanish-speaking lodge should call the Office of the Grand Master, (215) 988-1975.

Grand Lodge, Zembo Temple Host Organ Donor Appreciation Events

In conjunction with the vital Organ Donor Program vigorously supported by R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Zembo Temple each hosted an annual Donor Family Appreciation ceremony of the Delaware Valley Transplant Program (D.V.T.P.). The programs were in Philadelphia on Nov. 3, and in Harrisburg on Nov. 10.

During the programs, each donor family was presented with a donor medal and a yellow rose. At the conclusion of each

program, there was an emotional video tribute honoring each donor.

In Philadelphia, Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden welcomed more than 60 donor families to the Grand Lodge building. Other featured speakers were: Howard Nathan, Director of D.V.T.P.; the Rev. Thomas A. Jackmon, Past Grand Master, Prince Hall Affiliation; F. Rick Knepper, Co-chairman of the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Committee; and Bro. Joseph Pearlstein, of Shekinah Lodge No. 246, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia.

In Zembo Temple, Harrisburg, John D. Witmer, Jr., D.D.G.M. 2nd Masonic District, welcomed the donor families. Bro. Knepper was also on that program, where he again shared his story as a kidney recipient.

For information concerning the Blood and Organ Donor Program, contact either of the Committee Co-Chairmen: Norman A. Fox, 33 W. Girard Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19123; or F. Rick Knepper, HCR 60 - Box 135, Orbisonia, PA 17243.

Organ Donor Poster Contest Winners

Larry Rosenberry, of George Washington Chapter, Order of DeMolay, Chambersburg, was the winner of the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Contest and received the \$300 first-place award for creating the poster. Tania A. Murhon, of Pottsville Rainbow Assembly No. 75, received \$200 as the second-place winner, and Gwen Peters, of Job's Daughters Bethel No. 15, Elizabethtown, received \$100 as the third-place winner.

The first-place winner's poster is being reproduced for display in each lodge and each youth group meeting place. It is hoped that by having the posters displayed in the lodges, everyone will be encouraged to become blood and organ donors. In addition, speakers are available for presentations on blood and organ donor programs.



Shown with the winner are (l-r): Mark Bumbaugh, W.M. of George Washington Lodge No. 143; F. Rick Knepper, Co-Chairman of the Grand Lodge Blood and Organ Donor Committee; prize-winner Rosenberry; Jess Leidig, DeMolay Chapter Advisor; and Roger L. Wheeler, D.D.G.M., 3rd Masonic District.

For information concerning the Blood and Organ Donor Program, contact either of the Committee Co-Chairmen: Norman A. Fox, 33 W. Girard Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19123; or F. Rick Knepper, HCR 60 - Box 135, Orbisonia, PA 17243.

Grand Secretary on Panel at World G.M. Conference

The second annual world "Conference of Grand Masters" was held in Lisbon, Portugal on the 25th, 26th and 27th of September. The Conference was attended by representatives of 43 Grand Lodges, including three from the United States of America.

R.W. Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson presented a paper to the Conference and served on two of the four panels. The two panels on which he served dealt with "Limits of actions of Freemasonry in the profane world, with the due respect of the tradition and the Landmarks" and "Evaluation of the Masonic philosophical production during the 20th Century." The other two panels discussed "Freemasonry and youth" and "Secrecy: advantages or disadvantages?"

1996 Resident Volunteer Recognition Event

Approximately 150 resident volunteers from the Masonic Health Care Center and Village Green area attended the 1996 Resident Volunteer Recognition Event on Nov. 15, in the Masonic Health Care Center Assembly Room. The theme for the event was "Thanks for Giving," and the volunteers were recognized for their unselfish service and accomplishments during the past year.

Over the past twelve months, more than 217 volunteers contributed more than 46,750 hours of volunteer work toward the Masonic Homes' "Mission of Love."

The volunteers enjoyed a delicious buffet and entertainment that was provided by a piano soloist.



Resident Volunteers toast to their achievements over the past year.

12 New District Deputy Grand Masters

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser has appointed the following new District Deputy Grand Masters:



Masonic District A
Thomas J. Miller
William L. Elkins Lodge No. 646
Philadelphia, PA
For Lodges Nos. 115, 125, 230, 271, 482, 487, 591, and 646



14th Masonic District
D. Carl Peet
Salem Lodge No. 330, Hamlin
For Lodges Nos. 218, 249, 330, 344, 466, and 542



16th Masonic District
Larry D. Sharer
Evergreen Lodge No. 163, Monroeton
For Lodges Nos. 70, 108, 163, 263, 306, 415, 418, 471, and 618



19th Masonic District
Jeffrey L. Nale
Union Lodge No. 324, Mifflintown
For Lodges Nos. 203, 319, 324, 371, 376, 381, and 458



22nd Masonic District
Cecil V. Gallup
McKean Lodge No. 388, Smethport
For Lodges Nos. 334, 342, 388, 505, 555, 580, 598, and 749



24th Masonic District
Glenn W. Olsen
Oasis Lodge No. 416, Edinboro
For Lodges Nos. 347, 362, 366, 392, 399, 416, 425, 455, 695, and 708



38th Masonic District
W. Robert Semethy, Jr.
Infinity Lodge No. 546, Penn Hills Twp.
For Lodges Nos. 546, 548, 635, 683, 766, and 786



40th Masonic District
William R. Dillon
Boyertown Lodge No. 741
For Lodges Nos. 75, 254, 446, 553, 585, 595, and 741



52nd Masonic District
Erich Viertel
Parker City Lodge No. 521
For Lodges Nos. 276, 277, 520, 521, 522, 536, and 559



56th Masonic District
Arthur C. VanNort
Acacia Lodge No. 633, Marlenville
For Lodges Nos. 241, 365, 412, 547, 557, 633, and 726



57th Masonic District
Robert T. Addleman, Jr.
Pleasant Hills-Guthrie Lodge No. 759
For Lodges Nos. 269, 509, 684, 743, 758, 759, 761, 794, and 808



58th Masonic District
Thomas R. Reich
Elysburg Lodge No. 414
For Lodges Nos. 255, 294, 357, 378, 414, and 737

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Floor Appointments

Grand Steward
William A. Wetterau
Southampton-Radiant Star Lodge No. 806, Hatboro

Grand Pursuivant
Emanuel Iglesias
Leonard Forman
Lodge No. 782, Philadelphia

Aides To The Grand Master

James T. Young
Thomson Lodge No. 340, Paoli

David Jacobs
G. Grant Brittingham
Lodge No. 788, Woodside

Nelson M. Baird
Norristown Lodge No. 620

A Lafayette Lodge Missed

In the story about "Lafayette and Washington Together in Fayette County" on Page 4 of the November issue, it was reported that there are three lodges in Pennsylvania named for Bro. Lafayette. There are four: three listed under "Lafayette;" and the fourth listed as "General Marquis de Lafayette."

Apologies to General Marquis de Lafayette No. 795, Riegelsville, for the oversight, and thanks to the Lodge Secretary, W. Kenneth Stout, Jr., for setting the record straight.

R.W. Grand Lodge Officers Re-Elected at Quarterly

R.W. Grand Lodge Officers were re-elected during the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on December 4. They are:

Edward O. Weisser, R.W. Grand Master; James L. Ernette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer; and Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary.

Elected to serve on the Committee on Masonic Homes are: Carl R. Flohr, William L. McCarrier, Norman A. Fox, Dean E. Vaughn, D. William Roberts, Robert L. Engel, and Guy T. Matthews.



7 In Perry Lodge No. 392 Receive Jackets



Seven brethren of Perry Lodge No. 392, Erie, who were first-line signers for eleven new Masans, were presented Grand Master's purple jackets at the October 8 stated meeting by Worshipful Master James W. Berger. Recipients with their jackets are (l-r): Front row - Richard D. Hanks, Donald W. Schick, Paul E. Masters, and Richard N. Fitzsimmons; Second row - Dennis W. Weed, Robert D. Gornall, Jr., and Ernest C. Hornaman. In the rear with the Worshipful Master is Robert K. Parrish, P.D.D.G.M., 24th Masonic District.



Have We Helped Too Much?

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

My Brothers:

You have heard and read my concerns for years about the lack of knowledge of Freemasonry by our membership. While attending the World Conference of Grand Masters in Portugal in September, I learned that their lodges meet weekly with two of those meetings each month dedicated to Masonic education.

I relate to you a little tale I heard a number of years ago which illustrates a vital issue affecting our society in general, and could affect our fraternity in particular, because of its inherent goals.

A little boy one day found a cocoon of a moth and observed movements within the cocoon. He realized that the moth was attempting to emerge into its final metamorphic state — that of a vibrant, living adult. The boy decided that he would help the moth in escaping the confines of the cocoon, so he cut the cocoon to permit the moth to emerge. To his disappointment, the moth failed to open its wings and develop into the adult he expected and soon died.

His mother, noting the disappointment on the face of the little boy, explained to him that, in order for the moth to reach its full potential, it was necessary for it to emerge on its own. The struggles of the moth were for a purpose — to enable it to gain strength to rise above the world upon which it used to crawl. The struggle was a necessary part of its life. She told him that because he did not allow it to struggle to mature, it would neither walk nor fly. When the boy reduced the struggle, the moth was never able to achieve its potential.

Is this perhaps indicative of what is happening to much of our society in

general today? It has been the goal of generations to attempt to make life easier for each succeeding one, to give much and require little, and, in reducing the requirement to struggle to achieve are possibly reducing much of the hope for reaching full potential. There is no way to fully quantify or qualify the effect of this attitude upon society, but there is enough evidence to express concern.

In my last few years in education, I watched a high-quality, highly-respected private college continually lessen the requirements of performance by the student body. These requirements ranged from academic standards to dress codes. The school is no longer in existence and it died as a little-respected institution.

Perhaps in Freemasonry today we are not requiring enough from our members to learn more about the Craft, its ideals and its purposes. I never witnessed more enthusiasm for Freemasonry than I did in Portugal, and the average age of their members is 39 years. These Brothers know the Craft and respect its meaning. They have created a successful operation, and success breeds success.

Is it possible that we have helped too much to open a Masonic cocoon and thereby removed a requirement for maturation? Our ancient Brethren knew well that membership carried with it responsibility. Maybe, in our attempts to make life easier, we are requiring too little. A number of times in my life, I have noted that when less was required, less is what was received. If we don't know what we are, we can't be what we were. Think about it!

Santa Says Thanks

Dear Editor:

How do Mrs. Claus and I say "thank you" to so many gracious people who helped us make the holidays happier for the many residents at the Masonic Homes each year. Perhaps this letter will do it.

Each year as we make our rounds spreading joy to so many, we are filled with joy ourselves. We would like you to know that as we are doing that, we are also wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah to all of you "Santa's helpers" who make it possible.

Our "Ho-Ho-Ho" would not be so joyful—in fact, we would not be able to be the generous Santa and Mrs. Claus—without the help of so many loving, caring people like you, members of many lodges and personal friends who made all the homemade cookies and candy available.

Thank You to all, and let me be the first to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah for 1997.

Fraternally,
Santa Claus (J. Walter Price)

P.S.: Jolly Ol' St. Nick also owes special thanks to Mrs. Claus (Elaine) for her great personal efforts.



Santa (J. Walter Price) and Mrs. Claus (Elaine Price) spread holiday joy among the residents at the Masonic Homes each year.

Ten Regional Ritualistic Meetings Set for '97

Ten Regional Meetings of the Schools of Instruction are scheduled for 1997:

February 22 ..Uniontown	April 12..Ridgeway
March 8New Castle	April 19..Allentown
March 15Pittsburgh	April 26..Philadelphia
March 22Johnstown	May 3Erie
April 5.....Harrisburg	May 10 ..Williamsport