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Historically, year-end is a popular time for making stock gifts. In fact, most stock gifts occur dur-

ing the fourth quarter of the year. Many thoughtful donors review their stock portfolio and select those stocks which have appreciated the most and which have been held for more than a year. These donors give stock instead of cash because they have discovered the value, and enjoyment, of stretching their giving power by giving the appreciation. And, after all, the more they can prudently give to help the worthy efforts of Masonic Homes, the better they feel.

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VOLUME XLIV

The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

NOVEMBER 1997



NUMBER 4

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The Annual Grand Communication And Grand Master's Banquet Set For December 27 in Pittsburgh

The Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is scheduled to be held in the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on Saturday, December 27, 1997, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The Communication will mark the end of the administration of Edward O. Weisser as the R.W. Grand Master and the beginning of the expected term of James L. Ernette.

The Grand Master's Banquet is scheduled for the evening at the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for \$25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first request basis.



Lettermen to Entertain

Entertainment by the Lettermen will follow the Grand Master's Banquet, Saturday evening, December 27, in the Pittsburgh Hilton. The Lettermen will present their well-known harmony and their popular holiday show.

GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Masonic Temple

Philadelphia, PA 19107

October 1, A.D. 1997, A.L. 5997

The Members of the Grand Lodge are requested to attend:

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Wednesday, December 3, 1997 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at which the Grand Officers and Committee on Masonic Homes will be elected.

Action will be had upon the following proposed Amendments to the *Ahiman Rezon*.

Amendment No. 1
Eliminating Executive Director of Finance and Administrative Services

Whereas, the Executive Director of Finance and Administrative Services was eliminated by the action of the Grand Lodge Officers; and

Whereas, it becomes necessary to amend Article 12.03.1 of the *Ahiman Rezon*.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Article 12.03.1B shall be removed in its entirety from the Constitution.

Amendment No. 2
Honorary Membership

Be it resolved that Article 17.04 of the *Ahiman Rezon* shall be amended so that as amended the same shall read.

"17.04. Lodge have the option of having a membership classification known as Honorary Member which may be created with a minimum of 20 years membership and upon the payment of at least Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00) to the Lodge, which sum shall be in cash and which shall be placed in the Permanent Fund of the Lodge.

Lodges are prohibited from making Honorary Members based solely or partially on number of years of membership in a Lodge, payment of full dues for a specific period, or age of a Member or any combination of the foregoing.

Any By-Laws which are in contravention of the foregoing are hereby declared null and void."

Amendment No. 3
Life Membership

Whereas, the creation of new life Membership was eliminated by action of the Grand lodge in 1955; and Whereas, it is thought our Lodges may benefit financially by re-creating such Memberships.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Article 17.04A be added to the *Ahiman Rezon*, the said Article to read:

"A Lodge may grant Life Membership to its Members upon the payment of \$1,000.00 which sum shall be invested in the Permanent Fund of the Lodge, the income only to be used for the general operations of the Lodge."

Amendment No. 4
Recommender May Be From Another Lodge

Be it hereby resolved that the second paragraph in Article 21.01 of the *Ahiman Rezon* be amended so that, as amended, it shall read:

"He must apply by petition, to be presented at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge. His petition must be in writing, partly written and partly printed. He must sign the petition with his full name, set forth therein his age, occupation and residence, that he has not been rejected by any regularly constituted Masonic Lodge, and that he believes in the existence of a Supreme Being. He must be recommended by two Master Masons, one of whom must be a Member of the Lodge being petitioned."

The Members of the Grand Lodge are also requested to attend the Annual Grand Communication in the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, Saturday, December 27, 1997 at 10:00 A.M., at which the Grand Officers will be installed.

Thomas W. Jackson, Grand Secretary

The Grand Master Speaks ...



Brethren:

As I look at the calendar, I realize that this will be my last message to you as your Grand Master. I want to assure you that I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure, and I personally want to express my appreciation to every Mason in Pennsylvania for his support.

Brethren, your Grand Lodge enjoys having a very hard-working line of officers and staff. Please take the time when you meet the staff at our Masonic Homes, or at our Grand Lodge, to say "thank you" for their help. They deserve this recognition for the many hours they serve our Craft.

To the officers and members of each Blue Lodge in this State, I appreciate the enthusiasm you have displayed as I visited the lodges, announced and unannounced. Having met so many fine men and ladies across this Commonwealth will always be a highlight of my life.

Brethren, it is quite satisfying to have lodge officers who not only support their lodges, but who also supported the Grand Master's programs — from returning our ritual work to the "old way" to the rededication of the Memorial Arch at Valley Forge. You are the ones who make Freemasonry vibrant and alive in Pennsylvania.

THANK YOU!

Edward O. Weisser
Edward O. Weisser
R.W. Grand Master



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.

CALL TOLL-FREE ANY TIME 1-888-440-1500

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

A Gift to America

Thousands Unite in Stirring Ceremony
As Freemasons Unveil, Dedicate
Preserved Memorial Arch at Valley Forge

Unveiling, Capstone and Dedication Ceremonies
Commemorating the Preservation of
The National Memorial Arch
By the Freemasons of Pennsylvania



Valley Forge National Historical Park - Valley Forge, Pennsylvania



August Twenty-fourth, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-seven

Above is the cover of the program
for the dedication ceremony,
which was preserved in the vault.

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Bro. James L. Ernette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master
Bro. Robert L. Duge, 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

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Thousands of Masons, families, and friends came to Valley Forge on Sunday afternoon, August 24, to be part of history and join in stirring ceremonies conducted by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania to "Unveil, Lay the Capstone, and Dedicate the Preserved National Memorial Arch."

Seventeen months after the Freemasons of Pennsylvania formally entered into an agreement with the National Park Service, the National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge has been returned to grandeur and will be preserved as a symbol of freedom for generations to come. In addition, at the base of the American flag pole facing the Arch, a new monument

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STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

(Act of Oct. 23, 1962; Section 4369
Title 39, United States Code)

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Masonic Military Leaders Recalled

In a fitting preparation for Memorial Day after the May meeting of Philanthropy Lodge No. 225, Greensburg, Past Master Duane V. Myers (front, right) led 20 members of the Armbrust Veterans Association in a program on "Famous Masons in Military Service." Nine of the group that conducts military funerals, marches in parades, and presents programs in schools are Masons.



The veterans are (l-r): Front - Joseph Hartman; Bro. Wendell Summy, Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, Greensburg; Cadet Shirer, a World War I veteran who is now 100; and Past Master Myers. Second row - Bro. Charles Miller, P.M., Westmoreland Lodge; Bro. Wayne Shaffer, Marion Lodge No. 562, Scottsdale; Henry Sabota; Paul Wilson; John Beer; Don Gray; and Bro. Robert Ramsey, Philanthropy Lodge. Third row - William Kunkle; Samuel Breegle; Eugene Brinker; Kenneth Hillis; David Hamilton; and Donald Fowler. Back row - William Hillis; Thomas Webb; Bro. Curtis Dell, Westmoreland Lodge; Bro. Arthur Hill, P.M., Philanthropy Lodge.

Team Travels for One-Day Class Conferrals

The Pin Club Conferral Team, comprising Masons who are law enforcement officers from Western Pennsylvania, traveled to Juniata Lodge No. 282, Holidaysburg, near Altoona, to confer the Master Mason's Degree on two state police officers as part of a one-day class. On another occasion, they conferred the Master Mason's Degree in Valley Lodge No. 613, Turtle Creek, on two officers of the Monroeville Police Department.

Participating in the conferral at Juniata Lodge are (upper photo, l-r): Front - Albert Roll, P.M.; the newly-raised Masons, Trooper Charles R. Stitt, II, and Sgt. David C. Gehret; Daniel Konieczka, P.M.; and Lewis Rauhecker, P.M. Rear - Dale DeLozier, P.M.; Chief Richard Brantner; Michael De Cimmuto; Joseph Barth; William Polinsky; Leo McCafferty, S.W.; and Chief John Reilly, Sr., P.M.



Participating in the Valley Lodge conferral (lower photo, l-r): Front - Lt. David Palermo; newly-raised Mason, Sgt. Steve Pascarella; Monroe Police Chief George Polnar, J.W., who conferred the degree; newly-raised Mason Cpl. Vincent Guerrier; Daniel Konieczka, P.M. Second row - Lewis Rauhecker, P.M.; Leo McCafferty, S.W.; Allen Brown, P.M.; Albert Roll, P.M.; and Lt. Carlton Nagy. Third row - Luke Lesic; Michael Colberg; Joseph Barth; and William Polinsky.



Ground Broken For Lodge No. 307



R. W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser, accompanied by the Grand Lodge officers, broke ground Thursday, Sept. 4, for a new building for Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf. The new lodge hall, to be constructed at U.S. 422 and PA 419 at a cost in excess of \$425,000, will replace the building in which it has met since it was constituted in 1857. Looking on as Grand Master Weisser turns the shovel, are (l-r): William S. Arnold, Sr., D.D.G.M., 60th Masonic District; Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer, and a member of Williamson Lodge; Clark A. Knarr, W.M.; Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; Grand Master Weisser; Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R. W. Senior Grand Warden; and Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden.

Ten Sectional Schools of Instruction have been announced for 1998 by Robert L. Krout, the Instructor of Ritualistic Work:

February 28	Clearfield
March 8	Washington
March 14	New Castle
March 21	Pittsburgh
March 28	Harrisburg
April 4	Altoona
April 18	Scranton
April 25	Philadelphia
May 2	Warren
May 9	Williamsport

Masonry in Motion A Fraternal Labor of Love Has Finally Come to Fruition.

Larry Ebersole, a 22-year member of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown, has hand-crafted a miniature carousel of Masonic symbols that took a year to complete. It consumed more than 600 hours of work, not including the designing and tracking down the supplies and special materials needed to fabricate the intricate and precise working tools of the Craft and the assorted regalia that adorn the beautifully crafted masterpiece.

The Masonic carousel is adorned with most of the fraternal symbols, including many of the working tools, cabletow, officers in formal Masonic dress with collars and aprons, an altar complete with the Bible, ballot box with voting pieces, columns, 24-inch gauge, common gavel, square and compasses, acacia bushes, lodge lapel pins, and other symbols too numerous to mention. All are surrounded by 21 brightly decorated horses mounted on brass poles that go up and down just as on a life-size carousel. It is highlighted by 250 lights and features the **Friend to Friend** theme.



Brother Ebersole conceived his idea for the Masonic carousel from the miniature circus on display in the Masonic Homes Museum. He talked to William S. Arnold, Sr., D.D.G.M., 60th Masonic District, to learn if it is permissible to use the symbols of Freemasonry on the carousel display. After receiving permission, he went to work on the carousel with the same vigor and enthusiasm that he has for Freemasonry as an active member of his lodge.

The Masonic carousel has been on display numerous times in various places, including lodges and the Miniature Carousel Association shows, where he has been well received. He has earned the highest accolades for his efforts and perfection of work. Brother Ebersole also has crafted a double-decker standard carousel, a regular carousel with a gazebo-type roof, and five doll houses. He has displayed his carousels in nursing homes for the enjoyment of the residents.

He would like to construct another Masonic-related carousel, if time permits. Let's hope so!



Brother Larry Ebersole at work hand-crafting the miniature carousel of Masonic symbols.

Crafted Clock Honors Secretaries



In recognition of all of the hard work he does, and the devotion to the lodge shown by Jacob A. Marquart, Secretary of Mozart Lodge No. 436, Bro. William O. Reithmeyer wished to present Marquart with a gift. Bro. Reithmeyer thus carved a clock like the one shown here. It is an exact copy, in wood, of the Secretary's Service Award which had been presented to Bro. Marquart. The wreath, laurel leaves, and square and compasses are red oak; the ring surrounding the clock movement is bird's eye maple; and the quill pens are black walnut. These clocks, to be made in a limited edition of 100, of which number 001 was the gift, will be branded, numbered, dated, and signed. One of these clocks would make a wonderful gift for your lodge secretary. The clocks are available through the Gift Shop at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. Call (215) 988-1973 or fax (215) 988-1972 for more information.

Union Lodge Helps Heart Recipient

Brethren of Union Lodge No. 291, Scranton, held a spaghetti dinner and raised \$4,000 to help Jessica Reap, a ten-year-old heart transplant recipient. The entire community has joined efforts to help the young lady as though she were a member of one big supportive family. At the time of a ceremonial check presentation, the support by Union Lodge was the largest single contribution received by the family. Credit for the successful effort is due to the work of many Union Lodge members and hundreds of Masons, friends, and neighbors who patronized the event.



Pictured making the presentation of the ceremonial check to Jessica's grandparents, James and Ann Reap, are some of the Masons responsible for the success: Front (l-r) - Fred James, P.M.; Howard Wormuth, P.M.; the Reaps; Richard Belardi, W.M.; Greg Dewey, J.W.; and Bro. Robert Reed. Rear - Frank Mellert, P.M.; Warren Maxson, P.M., Secretary; William Jones, P.M.; Robert Moore, P.M.; Al Aukscunas, P.M.; Bro. Carl Taylor; Carl Sherman, P.M.; and George Hamborsky, P.M.

Marine On Leave Receives Degrees



While home on his first leave in 16 months, Marine L/Cpl Michael T. McCarter was entered, passed, and raised during a one-day conferral of degrees on Saturday, July 19, in Boyertown Lodge No. 741. The degrees were conferred respectively by W. Richard Dillon, D.D.G.M., 40th Masonic District; Roland H. Shock, P.D.D.G.M.; and Kevin D. Baver, W.M., Boyertown Lodge. Brother McCarter has been stationed in Iwakuni, Japan, since April 1996 and has returned for at least another nine months. Pictured are degree participants (l-r): Front - W. Richard Dillon D.D.G.M.; L/Cpl McCarter; Kevin D. Baver, W.M.; Roland H. Shock, P.D.D.G.M. Middle - Robert R. Buchert; Mark A. Memmo; L. Laverne Schlegel, P.M.; and LeRoy R. Erb, P.M. Rear - Russell M. Griesemer, P.M.; Paul Moatz, Jr.; Winfield R. Lessig; Robert T. Ritter; and Harry H. Buchert. A participant not pictured: Mark K. Lessig.

29th District Holds Table Lodge



Eighty brethren of the 29th Masonic District enjoyed a table lodge conducted by the School of Instruction earlier this year. Conducting the table lodge were (l-r): Front - Thomas M. Glasmire, P.M., Chartiers Lodge No. 297, Cannonsburg; Paul Terry, S.W., Beallsville Lodge No. 237; Daniel M. Martin, P.M., Washington Lodge No. 164, who was the "cook;" Jay A. McGuire, W.M., Claysville Lodge No. 447, Principal Instructor of the School of Instruction, who spoke at the table lodge; and David L. Richards, S.W., Washington Lodge. Rear - Glenn D. Miller, Beallsville Lodge, Principal of the School of Instruction; and William M. Jones, Chartiers Lodge, Regional Instructor for Grand Lodge Region 4. Also among the presiding officers were James R. Flanigan, Chaplain, Claysville Lodge; and D. Everett Plance, Secretary, Washington Lodge. Responding to the toasts were: William M. Baily, D.D.G.M., Woynsburg Lodge No. 153; Eugene G. Painter, P.D.D.G.M., Richard Vaux Lodge No. 454, Burgettstown; Walter L. Sykes, P.D.D.G.M., Chartiers Lodge; and Thomas E. Westfall, Sr., P.D.D.G.M., Claysville Lodge.

All Together in Purple Jackets



A large contingent of the more than 3,200 proud Pennsylvania Masons who have earned the purple jackets of the Grand Master's Team rallied, **Friend to Friend**, with R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner on Autumn Day, September 27, at the Masonic Homes. A Mason becomes a member of the Grand Master's Team and earns the purple jacket the first time he is the first-line signer of a petition for a new Mason.

Police Degree Team Raises Trooper



R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner (center), R.W. Junior Grand Warden Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr. (second from right), and D.D.G.M. Stephen Gardner (second from left), 10th Masonic District, were present in Quakertown Lodge No. 512, when a degree team of Pennsylvania State Policemen led by retired State Police Sergeant Homer Jones (third from left), P.D.D.G.M., acting as Worshipful Master, conferred the Master Mason's Degree on John P. Madison (third from right), a state trooper from the Bethlehem Barracks. Also in the front row are William Grimly (left), W.M. of Quakertown Lodge, and Evans Jones, Union Lodge No. 291, Scranton, who served as S.W. Other degree team members and the stations or places they served are: Middle row (l-r) - Patrick Foy, Kingsbury Lodge No. 466, Olyphant, J.M.C.; Paul Bickelman, Moscow Lodge No. 504, Guide; Robert Robbins, Honesdale Lodge No. 218, J.W.; Richard Armbrust, Waverly Lodge No. 301, J.D.; and Harrison Balthaser, Honesdale Lodge No. 218, Treasurer. Back row - David Jones, Moosic Lodge No. 664, S.M.C.; Carl Mease, Pocono Lodge No. 780, Cresco, Secretary; Jeffrey Crum, Salem Lodge No. 330, Hamlin, Chaplain; John Richards, St. Johns Lodge No. 233, Jenkins Twp., S.D.; and Harold McElroy, Pocono Lodge No. 780, Cresco, Pursuivant.

D.D.G.M. First on Tap to Give Blood



Dieter Douber, D.D.G.M., 15th Masonic District, was the first on tap to donate in the Masonic Blood Drive in New Milford, May 10, and said he intended to do the same September 10, in Tunkhannock. The blood drives, sponsored by the 15th Masonic District, are open to the public.

MASONS OF NOTE

Four Pennsylvania Masons are among seven elected to offices of the Supreme Forest of Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America. **John L. Gahres**, a member of Susquehanna Lodge No. 364, Millersburg, was elected Supreme Scribe; **Charles L. Rush** of H. Stanley Goodwin Lodge No. 648, Bethlehem, Supreme Treasurer; **Clifford I. Mengel** of Page Lodge No. 270, Schuylkill Haven, and **Ellis P. Updegraff**, Warren Lodge No. 310, Collegeville, both Supreme Directors. James J. Benson of Virginia Beach was elected Supreme Tall Cedar; Donald H. Knade of Forest Hill, MD, Senior Deputy; and Barry R. Stocker, Phillipsburg, NJ, Junior Deputy. All will be installed and begin their terms during the mid-Winter conference in January in Philadelphia.

When **Frank R. Derringer** (right) of Duquesne Lodge No. 731, McKeesport, gave a presentation on the Congressional Medal of Honor in Ivanhoe Lodge No. 446, Kansas City, MO, he was honored to meet the M.W. Grand Master of Missouri, Donald E. Scott. Bro. Scott is the first Grand Master from Missouri's 52nd Masonic District since President Harry S. Truman.



At the Grand Assembly for the York Rite Sovereign College of North America held in Denver in mid-August, **Marvin G. Speicher** (right), R.W. Grand Treasurer, received the York Rite's highest honor, the Order of the Purple Cross. Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary, a former recipient of the honor, congratulates Bro. Speicher after presenting him with the award. The honor is conferred for service to Freemasonry far beyond the norm, or for outstanding services rendered on behalf of the nation or humanity.



At the annual meeting in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 8, R.W. Past Grand Master Edward H. Fowler, Jr. was to be installed as the Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland for the United States of America. Andrew Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Deputy Grand Master and Governor of the Order, was to travel from Edinburgh, Scotland, to install him in the District of Columbo Scottish Rite Cathedral. Bro. Fowler served as the Provincial Deputy Grand Master for four years and succeeds Marvin E. Fowler (no relation), who has served as Provincial Grand Master for 44 years.



1997 Youth Leader Weekend

In August, 62 youth and 16 adult leaders spent the weekend at the Freedoms Foundation Campus, adjacent to Valley Forge National Historic Park, to participate in a special Youth Leader Weekend that was sponsored by the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation. The weekend program, supported by DeMolays, Rainbow Girls, and Job's Daughters from across



"James Wilson," Signer of the Declaration of Independence, challenges the youth.

Pennsylvania, included a visit with a costumed Revolutionary War Soldier, a tour of the park, a super-charged motivational talk by Bob Tryanski, and a dance on Saturday night.

After a Sunday morning a worship service, an actor portrayed James Wilson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Each youth was challenged to make the same commitment for the country as did the original signers. Each young



Youth Leaders inspect Continental Army encampment at Valley Forge.

person then approached the candlelit table to sign the copy of the Declaration.

At noon, the youth leaders joined additional members of their organizations for the Grand Lodge's celebration of the preservation of the Valley Forge Memorial Arch. This was followed by a "Family of Freemasonry" parade in which 175 youth group members participated.

The program was made possible, in part, by a contribution of \$1,000.00 from Infinity Lodge No. 546, to honor Bro. William R. Hovis, a 76-year member of the fraternity. A certificate of appreciation was signed by all participating youth leaders to be presented to Bro. Hovis, who recently celebrated his 104th birthday.

The 1997 Pennsylvania DeMolay Key Man Conference

Goal-setting and accountability were two of the key ingredients of the 1997 Pennsylvania DeMolay Key Man Conference that was attended by 50 Pennsylvania DeMolays, 27 out-of-state DeMolays, 12 Jurisdictional Officers, 6 Advisors, and a full-time staff of 25.

The week was a mix of formal DeMolay training, with an emphasis on membership recruitment techniques and commitments; basic chapter procedures; leadership ideas and ideals; and programming for success. The conference also included guest speakers on the dangers of drug and alcohol use; sex education; and leadership development from a Top Gun Instructor. Special programs and demonstrations included a police department canine corps drug dog program; interaction with residents of the Masonic Homes; a Masonic panel during which various Masonic organizations and their activities were highlighted; and a professional hypnotist who kept the audience both entertained and mesmerized.

During the membership magic sessions, each DeMolay was challenged to set a membership recruitment goal for himself. These commitments could result in 260 new members for the Order of DeMolay. To support them as they aggressively pursue their goals, these key men will receive reminder calls and specialized assistance from the conference staff members throughout the next several months. The goals are high, but the probability of success is also high. Pennsylvania DeMolay should grow in membership for the third straight and unprecedented year!

Scholarship Guide Published

The tenth edition of the Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide has been produced by the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation. It includes a summary of more than 50 scholarship or grant programs provided by various Masonic bodies for Masons, their families, and members of the Masonically-related youth groups. More than 4,000 copies of the guidebook have been distributed, free to all of the Masonically-related youth group leaders, lodge secretaries, lodge youth chairmen, and more than 500 guidance counselors in high schools in Pennsylvania. Additional copies are available from the PYF offices, 1244 Bainbridge Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. (717) 367-1536 or (in PA. only) (800) 266-8424.

14th Brotherhood Weekend For Youth at Elizabethtown

The 14th meeting between the members of the Order of DeMolay and the Knights of Pythagoras was held August 15-17 at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. The Brotherhood Weekend was organized by Charles L. Saltzgueber, Jerusalem Lodge No. 506 and Pennsylvania DeMolay's Director of Brotherhood, and Edward W. Perrine, Worshipful State Director of Youth for the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. The weekend included brotherhood exercises, interactive group activities, and a tour of Fort Indiantown Gap, where the military staff stressed the importance of leadership development, education, and service to country.

The keynote speaker for the weekend program was Joseph G. Summers, President and CEO of Pennsylvania Healthmate Corporation and Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Urban League of Metropolitan Harrisburg. Summers is a senior member of the Knights of Pythagoras and spoke on the importance of setting and achieving the proper goals in life. He reminded the young men that "in life there are only speed bumps, not stop signs." He also stressed that truly happy people are those who set goals that include sharing of personal talents with other people, remembering that you should never "step on someone else to get anywhere."

The weekend concluded with a Sunday morning worship service, which was prepared by the youth leaders. Plans are being made now for the 15th annual Brotherhood Weekend to be held August 21-23, 1998.

7th Masonic District Hosts Rainbow Tour

The lodges of the 7th Masonic District hosted the Grand Assembly Tour of Rainbow for Girls in the Masonic Center, West Reading, late in March. During the session, the Rainbow Girls exemplified their ritualistic work and initiated seven young ladies. Leading the session were (l-r): Frank E. Doniels, D.D.G.M.; Barbara Johnson, the Grand Deputy of Rainbow District No. 24; Miranda Gresko, Grand Worthy Advisor of Rainbow for Girls, 1996-97; Beryl L. Hogue, Supreme Inspector in Pennsylvania for Rainbow; and June Claypool, Grand Trustee.



348 Enjoy Traveling To Alaska On Grand Master's Tour in August.



At a Friendship Banquet for the Grand Lodge of Alaska hosted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner (left in left photo) greets M.W. Grand Master Stanley Foulks in Alaska. In right photo, the Grand Master thanks the Elder of the Indian Tribe from Ketchikan that provided the entertainment after the banquet.



That's the Grand Pursuivant, Emanuel Iglesias (left photo), behind the overturned kayak from which he fell when his daughter tried to photograph him. In right photo, Stanley P. Polekoff, Lodge No. 9, Tacony, Philadelphia, shows the king salmon he caught, along with other pink salmon, in Ketchikan.

Five Students Awarded Stenberg Scholarships

Five students were awarded Carl W. Stenberg Scholarship checks for \$1,000 each by the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children. The checks are the first installments toward as many as four years of support for each of the students who have turned their lives around through the Student Assistance Program (SAP). The five were selected from 18 finalists out of 125 original applicants. Presently, the fund is awarding \$15,000 a year in scholarship money.

The 1997 recipients are: Joseph Flowers of Pittsburgh, Jamie Cramer of Johnstown, Sarah Olejarz of Glenshaw, Jonathan Romanoski of Reinholds, and Gina Rubino of Blairsville.

Each recipient is eligible for as much as \$1,000 a year for as many as four years of post high school education. Each student has completed a Student Assistance Program and has been recommended by his or her school's (SAP) team. The students must remain drug- and alcohol-free and maintain at least a 2.0 grade average while in college.



Nearly two hours before the ceremonies were to begin, people were arriving at the Memorial Arch. Estimates of the total attendance ranged from 6,000 to 8,000.



Bro. Raymond and Virginia Foose lead the large crowd in singing "The Star Spangled Banner"



It was a stirring scene of patriotism and pride as the thousands joined in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem.



The Knights Templar Color Guard and the Friend to Friend banner led the Grand Lodge procession to the Memorial Arch.

A Gift to America

Thousands Unite in Stirring Ceremony As Freemasons Unveil, Dedicate Preserved Valley Forge Memorial Arch

(continued from page 3)

pays tribute to Brother George Washington and Freemasons who were among the soldiers of his Continental Army encamped there in 1777-78.

Following the cadence of the Continental Fife and Drum Corps, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner led an impressive procession of the officers of the Grand Lodge, accompanied by grand masters from 17 Masonic jurisdictions and leaders of nearly all of the appendant Masonic bodies. Joining in the procession and the ceremonies were Congressman and Bro. Jon Fox, U.S. Department of Interior representatives, National Park Service directors, and the Valley Forge National Historical Park Service Superintendent and staff.

As the program began, the restored Arch was veiled with a large blue banner with a white Square and Compasses emblem. Following the invocation by Grand Lodge Chaplain Charles H. Lacquement, Arthur L. Stewart, Superintendent of the Valley Forge National Historical Park, joined Grand Master Weissner in lowering the veil to reveal fully the preserved 60-foot high structure and a huge American flag hanging in the center of its arch. It was a dramatic experience with stirring patriotic moments as the thousands joined the Grand Master in pledging allegiance to the flag and singing "The Star Spangled Banner" led by Past Master Raymond Foose of Newtown Lodge No. 427, Woodside.

The ritualistic capstone-laying and dedication began with a prayer by Grand Lodge Chaplain Thomas C. Haugh after which Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer, presented coins and valuable articles for depositing in the vault under the capstone. Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary, read the inventory of items that were placed. The vault, subsequently sealed and lowered in the presence of Grand Master Weissner and Superintendent Stewart, is a stainless steel box with a bronze date plate adorned with the Grand Master's Medallion.

The ceremonial "Approval of the Work" was performed by R.W. Junior Grand Warden Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., who proved and pronounced it plumb; R.W. Senior Grand Warden Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., assured it to be level; and R.W. Deputy Grand Master James L. Ernette, verified it to

continued on page 13



The First Continental Fife and Drum Corps set the cadence for the processional.

The Grand Master's Oration

Children Are Freemason's Keystone for Future

Below is the text of R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner's oration concluding the "Unveiling, Capstone-Laying, and Dedication" ceremonies at the National Memorial Arch. Placing a strong emphasis on children as "the keystone for freedom" in the future of our country, midway through the oration, Grand Master Weissner invited his grandson, George Stockburger, VI, and Aneesah Akil, daughter of Worshipful Master David E. Wilson, Ionic Lodge No. 112, Prince Hall Grand Lodge, to join him. The children stood upon the lectern as living symbols of a future with freedom as the Grand Master concluded his remarks.

A copy of the Grand Master's Oration, along with the printed program of the "Unveiling, Capstone-Laying, and Dedication" ceremonies, were placed in the time vault under the capstone of the Memorial.

The Oration

We assemble here today at this National Memorial Arch to show the world that freedom is the keystone for all God-fearing people. We especially honor those brave men who, in the time of conflict, were ready to lay down their lives in the cause of liberty, justice, and righteousness. Lincoln said it so well when he stated, "The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here."

May this Memorial Arch, that the Freemasons restored, rise to perpetuate the memory of the heroic men who gave their lives for friends and country — to teach us, and our children to the last generation, the love of God, fidelity, and loyalty to constituted authority.

(continued on page 12)



Joined during his oration by his grandson and the daughter of a Worshipful Master, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner heralded children as the benefactors and the future of the freedom in this great country as earned by dedication and sacrifice of the soldiers of the Continental Army.

The Grand Lodge also erected a new monument at the base of the American flag pole facing the Arch that pays tribute to Brother George Washington and Freemasons who were among the soldiers of his Continental Army encamped there in 1777-78.



Vault is Sealed; Capstone is Placed



Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary, places the final plans and designs in the stainless steel box before it is sealed under the capstone. Watching the action are (l-r): Earl L. Hummer, Jr., P.M., General Contractor; Edwin R. Junkin, P.M., Architect; Dean E. Vaughn, P.M., the Grand Lodge Project Representative; Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Regina Jones-Underwood, Assistant Superintendent at Valley Forge; Arthur L. Stewart, Superintendent at Valley Forge; and Edward O. Weissner, R.W. Grand Master.



R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner seals the box preparatory to its being lowered into the vault.

Lowering the time box into the vault are (clockwise from left): Project Representative Dean E. Vaughn, P.M.; Architect Edwin R. Junkin, P.M.; R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weissner; and Valley Forge Park Superintendent Arthur L. Stewart.



Overseeing the final action as a crane hoists the capstone and places it over the vault is a group of principal personalities in completing the project. They are(l-r): Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; Tim Long, Valley Forge Historian; Arthur L. Stewart, Valley Forge Superintendent; Norma Keeney, of JWF Architects, Inc.; Edwin R. Junkin, Architect; Earl L. Hummer, Contractor; Edward O. Weissner, R.W. Grand Master; Rick Perkey, Houck Construction Supervisor; Harry Houlton, Construction Worker; Dean E. Vaughn, Grand Lodge Project Representative; Henry Cole, the Mason who first recommended the preservation project; and Scott Pence, Construction Worker.

Grand Master's Oration (continued from page 11)

No arch can stand without the influence of a keystone, and we, as Freemasons, cannot fulfill our God-given mission without being charitable to all who seek and need charity. Masons have — and Masons will — always be the keystone of charity and the keepers of freedom. May we all keep the vision of this National Memorial Arch in our mind's eye to remind us always of the sacrifice that God's children gave for each of us.

These children are the hands of God's shaping of the keystone for the future. Always let them be the keystone of freedom, and may freedom prevail because of the beauty of children who will be the arch that holds the future of freedom.

This small sampling of the granite stone that you have received is an actual

fragment of the George Washington Memorial Arch that was restored to its grandeur by the Freemasons of Pennsylvania. It is being rededicated on this 24th day of August, 1997, to future generations. May this rock always remind you that Brother George Washington and his men, who were encamped at Valley Forge during the harsh winter of 1777-78, believed in freedom and fought to preserve it.

The Masons of Pennsylvania, who restored this Arch to its grandeur in 1996-97, also have a strong belief in freedom. They want you, your children, and their children to know that the Masons of this great country have always believed in freedom. Keep this authentic piece of granite as a solid remembrance of this belief — and may you enjoy freedom always!

Thank You, Freemasons V. F. Park Superintendent Accepts Gift

Following are the remarks of Arthur L. Stewart, superintendent of Valley Forge National Historical Park, when he accepted the gift of the "preservation of the National Memorial Arch" from the Freemasons. The original text has been placed in the time vault under the capstone of the Memorial Arch.

Thank you Grand Master Weissner. Ladies and gentlemen, I am very pleased to be here today representing Valley Forge National Historical Park, The National Park Service, and the American people, for we are the recipient of a most generous gift.

A gift ... that helps us fulfill the mission of the National Park Service ... to preserve and protect the nationally significant resources that have been entrusted to us by you, the people of the United States.

A gift ... that helps us all preserve a most worthy resource ... the National Memorial Arch.

I do not believe that we can state too often the purpose of this monument ... to honor the "patriotism displayed and the suffering endured by General George Washington, his officers, and men."

Though no battles were fought here, during that winter of 1777-1778 hundreds of soldiers died. For Valley Forge is the site of the American army's epic struggle to survive against hunger ... disease ... and the relentless forces of nature ... as the price of those most elusive commodities ... liberty and independence.

When Washington's Army marched into Valley Forge, the men were tired ... cold, and ill-equipped. The Continental Army had been handicapped in battle because military training was not unified, but rather administered from a variety of commands, using a

variety of techniques and field manuals. This made coordination during battle difficult at best. But after six months of intense training at Valley Forge ... that same army emerged as a cohesive fighting force able to go on to secure liberty ... and win our independence.

On March 15th, 1996, we stood on this same ground ... and made a covenant to insure the future of the memorial that honors them.

Today ... we have returned to this same place to celebrate the culmination of the most difficult part of our journey in this covenant.

Over a year of craftsmanship, innovative engineering, and design have resolved problems that began almost 80 years ago, when the Arch was new. But, what is equally significant is that our covenant will go on ... beyond today ... for our journey together continues. The Grand Master has given the Brotherhood a charge ... to continue to help the National Park Service care for the National Memorial Arch.

We are comforted by the knowledge that the National Memorial Arch will continue to be jointly protected by the Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and by the National Park Service ... two organizations with a devotion to our nation's past, as well as a stake in our nation's future.

Thousands Unite For Unveiling and Dedication (continued from page 10)

be square. The same officers then spread the corn, wine, and oil in the "Act of Consecration."

Dean E. Vaughn, P.M., the Grand Lodge Project Representative, whom the Grand Master had introduced at the beginning of the ceremonies as having spent countless days overseeing the project, presented the Architect, Edwin R. Junkin, P.M., and the General Contractor, Earl L. Hummer, Jr., P.M. Bro. Junkin thanked the Grand Lodge for the opportunity to be part of the historic effort and turned over to the Grand Master the plans and designs from the trestleboard. Bro. Vaughn then presented Valley Forge Park Superintendent Stewart to whom the Grand Master gave the plans for official records.

Superintendent Stewart thanked the Grand Master and the Freemasons on behalf of the "... Valley Forge National Historical Park, National Park Service, and the American people, for we are the recipients of a most generous gift." (Please see the text of Superintendent Stewart's remarks in an adjoining column.)

Speaking last in the program, the Grand Master delivered an oration, which was brief, but poignant. His message first heralded the dedication, bravery, and suffering that delivered freedom for this nation. Then he looked to the children of today and generations

to come to appreciate, benefit, and protect that freedom and "... let them be the keystone of freedom, and may freedom prevail because of the beauty of children who will be the arch that holds the future of freedom." (See the complete text of the Grand Master's Oration on Page 11.)

The event was dramatically climaxed with a stirring rendition of "God Bless America" sung by Raymond and Virginia Foose who were joined by the thousands of voices in the crowd.

To that music of "God Bless America," several hundred children came forward to encircle the preserved National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge. They joined hands in unity and sang "We Are the Children, We Are the World." Each of them received a historic memento, a small piece of the granite stone that came from the Arch during the restoration.

Throughout the ceremony, moving patriotic and solemn musical selections were offered by the Foses; organist John E. Goodman, Barger Lodge No. 333, Allentown; Karen M. Jeffries, a statewide Grand Lodge musical talent contest winner; the Continental Fife and Drum Corps; and the Men's and Boys' Choir of the Washington Memorial Chapel.



AUTUMN DAY '97



**Over 8,000
Attend the
Annual Event.**



Masonic Homes' Renaissance Unit Continues to Help Individuals Rehabilitate

Today's health care facilities face cost containment pressures which often lead to shorter hospital stays for individuals who require rehabilitation services. This can be unfortunate for patients if their rehabilitation requires additional care. To help patients experience a smoother transition from the hospital back to home, the Masonic Homes has been providing quality subacute care since February, 1996.

The 51-bed Renaissance Unit, located in the Ben Franklin Building of the Masonic Health Care Center, is designed with capabilities to perform transitional care services for individuals who may require complex medical management following a hospital stay. The staff utilizes equipment conducive to providing services such as: intravenous therapy; respiratory services including ventilators and tracheostomies; feeding tubes; continuous heart monitoring; pain management; and rehabilitation for patients recovering from fractures, strokes, heart attacks, or surgery.

The Renaissance Unit offers a higher level of subacute care for individuals who require less than an acute level of hospital care, but who need medical or rehabilitative services. Immediately after, or instead of, acute hospitalization, an individual who has had an acute illness, injury, or is in the exacerbation stage of a disease process, can receive active, complex medical treatments through subacute care until stabilization occurs. Comprehensive medical, rehabilitation, and consultation programs and services designed to meet the individual needs of each patient are provided. The staff on the new unit received special training and encourages patients to get better and reach their highest level of independence at their own pace. The unit provides all the services available in a hospital transitional unit for

a much lower cost, in a more homelike environment.

The Renaissance Unit's mission is to help patients experience the opportunity for a "new beginning" after a health-related setback. Because the unit provides services to all Pennsylvania Masons and their eligible family members and is not limited to serving only residents of the Masonic Homes, it offers a valuable choice to eligible individuals who require a subacute level of care.



Bro. and Mrs. James D. Brandt

Margaret Brandt, wife of Bro. James D. Brandt, Mount Olivet Lodge No. 704, Lebanon, spent more than 2 1/2 months in the Renaissance Unit following a liver transplant. Mrs. Brandt said she was very impressed with the cleanliness of the facility, and that she enjoyed seeing the Masonic Homes' beautifully landscaped lawns and gardens during her recovery. She also enjoyed the different types of entertainment offered in the Roosevelt Building Assembly Room, and said that the nursing staff was very nice. Mrs. Brandt has since returned to her home in Cleona, and is virtually independent with the use of a walker.

Bro. J. Richard Nissley, a member of Casiphia Lodge No. 551, Mount Joy, entered the Renaissance Unit two weeks after he suffered a severe stroke with complications from a cerebral hemorrhage. His wife, Anna Ruth, said the care he received was "first rate." The Nissleys were familiar with the Masonic Homes, but were not aware that the facility contained a special unit for the purpose of transitional care.



Bro. J. Richard Nissley

Since the couple lives only a few miles away from the Masonic Homes, Mrs. Nissley said the unit was "very advantageous," because she and her family were able to visit every day. "The nurses were friendly and upbeat," she said. Bro. Nissley returned to his home on June 16, and continued to regain his strength.

The Renaissance Unit also is convenient for the residents of the Masonic Homes, because it allows them the option to recover in the comfort and security of the Masonic Health Care Center, where family and friends can take on-campus transportation to visit. As soon as they are able to return to a more independent environment, the residents receive assistance while they become readjusted to their regular home setting.

Helen Brookhart, widow of the late Bro. James F. Brookhart, P.M., Newport Lodge No. 381, and a resident in the Masonic Homes' independent living area, spent time in the Renaissance Unit in February and April. She required assistance while she recuperated from two broken hips which occurred in separate incidents. She deemed the staff "remarkable, just wonderful!" and said that she still likes to "pop in" every now and then to see some of the staff. She said her experience in the unit "couldn't have been better," and feels that during



Mrs. Helen Brookhart

her stay she made lasting friendships. Mrs. Brookhart said her therapy was marvelous. "I think I'm quite fortunate," she said.

For more information about the Renaissance Unit, call 1-800-422-1207.

1998 Masonic Calendars

They're back by popular demand! Look for your 1998 Masonic calendar to arrive in the mail after the holidays. This beautiful calendar will display an array of colorful photographs and will be perfect for keeping all of your appointments and special dates.

Masonic Homes and Eastern Star Homes Merging

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania Order of Eastern Star and the Masonic Homes of the R.W. Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. are pleased to announce that the Eastern Star Homes in Warminster, Bucks County, and in Bellevue, Allegheny County will become part of the Masonic Homes' continuum of services.

On June 23, Eastern Star members voted to accept the agreement from the Masonic Homes to merge their facilities. On Friday, July 25, the Committee on Masonic Homes voted to move forward with the merger, which could take place by January 1, 1998. The preliminary plans for the merger were agreed upon when R.W.G.M. Edward O. Weisser, and Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, NHA, Executive Director/CEO of the Masonic Homes, signed the Letter of Intent on Friday, August 29, and Barbara R. Carson, Worthy Grand Matron and Betty L. MacAdam, PGM, Chairman of the Overview Advisory Board, signed the document the following week.

The merger of the Homes brings an opportunity to expand the Masonic Homes' quality care services to individuals across the Commonwealth. Admission eligibility for all three Homes will then extend to Masons and their family members and to Eastern Star members. Details are being finalized as both facilities work to meet the needs of the residents and employees at the three Homes.

To build and maintain efficient administrative relations among the three Homes, Bro. Murphy, NHA, Executive Director/CEO, has appointed Bro. William C. Davis Jr., NHA, as Administrator and Chief Operating Officer, effective July 25, 1997. In this capacity,



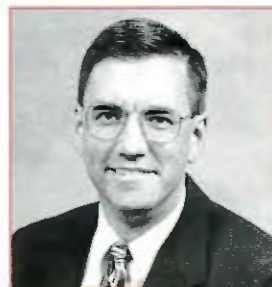
Eastern Star Home, Bucks County



Eastern Star Home, Allegheny County

Bro. Davis is responsible for the services provided in the Masonic Homes' Freemasons Building and Village Green Area, as well as the operations of the two Eastern Star Homes. Brother Davis has been employed by the Masonic Homes since 1990 as Administrator of Health Care Services.

William C. Davis, Jr.



Respite Care Facility to Open at the Masonic Homes

The Committee on Masonic Homes has approved the opening of a respite care facility at the Masonic Homes for developmentally disabled adults. The eight-bed respite care cottage is tentatively scheduled to open March 1998. Masonic Homes' goal in establishing this new service is to help meet the needs of Masons and members of our community in caring for their developmentally disabled and mentally retarded adult children.

Having a family member with mental retardation and/or a developmental disability presents some unique challenges. As children with mental retardation or developmental disabilities grow into adulthood, they often are unable to acquire the skills necessary to become fully functional, independent adults. Many times they remain dependent on their families throughout their adult lives.

The burden of caring for a child diagnosed with mental retardation or a developmental disability falls almost exclusively on the immediate family, and usually on the parents. Parents of children suffering from

deficits in cognitive abilities, learning skills, judgment, and adaptive skills encounter many difficult situations. Children with physical, behavioral, or psychological challenges require additional demands from their parents. As both the parents and the child age, all of those pressures become even more significant.

All parents hold their children in their thoughts: at work, at play, and at home. But, parents of children with mental retardation or a developmental disability experience even more constraints and greater challenges. The time and energy spent caring for their child is interminable. Even something as simple as a weekend at the beach presents unique and difficult questions: Who will care for my child? Will my child be safe without me? Will my child be lonely? How will he or she occupy his or her time? Where can my child go to experience a safe, secure, and nurturing environment? To whom can I turn to help me and my child?

The Masonic Homes' Respite Care Program is an answer to those questions. A home

away from home will soon be available, with around-the-clock supervised care in a comfortable cottage within the safety and security of the Masonic Homes. There, individuals with special needs will receive three nutritious meals a day plus snacks, social, and recreational activities, assistance with personal care, and access to medical care if needed. All of this will be available at a reasonable cost, so care-givers can enjoy a vacation without feeling guilty about leaving their loved one behind. Masonic Homes will make sure their loved one is having a vacation too!

This quality respite care will be available to adults, 18 and older, with mild to moderate retardation or other similar developmental disabilities. Freemasons, as well as their friends in the community, who are faced with providing care for an adult child will be eligible to use this respite care facility.

For more information about the Masonic Homes' Respite Care Program, or to make reservations, call (717) 367-1121, extension 33301.

Outreach Provides Support through Helpline Referrals

Your Masonic Homes' Outreach Program continues to serve Pennsylvania Freemasons all across America. And as you are well aware, the Outreach Program also extends its information and referral services to our friends in our local communities.

To help make the services easily accessible to all who may need them, Outreach has registered with community "helplines" that are offered across the Commonwealth. Many communities offer, with help from the United Way, an information and referral service. A telephone number usually listed in the "Blue Pages" of the telephone directory puts people in touch with an operator who is then able to direct the caller to an appropriate service provider. In some cases, those calling the help line are referred to the Masonic Homes' Outreach Program.

This was exactly the case when a woman in the Pittsburgh area was threatened with eviction from her apartment. She was experiencing financial trouble and was behind in her rent. Her landlord did not consider that she was not well and unable to work. She was put in touch with the Outreach Program in Elizabethtown. After speaking to her and gathering some necessary information, the Outreach Director was able to speak with the landlord and the Area Office of Aging in Allegheny County. Some facts were cleared up, and the woman was able to remain in her apartment while payment arrangements were made.

A completely different referral came from Contact Helpline in the Harrisburg area. Occasionally, when calls are received from families distressed about their children,

their information is passed on to the Masonic Children's Home. When a referral to the Children's Home is not appropriate, other options are investigated, as in the case of a child diagnosed with a pervasive developmental disorder. The child needed special, professional support services in the home and at school to supplement the care already being provided by the family. Outreach located those services and provided the family with the necessary information to accommodate the child's special needs.

As Outreach registers with more of the community helplines, more calls will come from cities and towns across Pennsylvania, helping Outreach fulfill its mission to extend Freemasonry's good work through the Masonic Homes into our communities.

Plan your Future at the Masonic Homes' Village Green Area!

The Masonic Homes continues to make plans for single- and double-room accommodations in the beautiful Village Green Area to be available in the spring of 1998.

If you have been thinking about joining the Masonic Homes' family, call now to make an appointment to visit and tour the facility. If you are traveling a distance, overnight accommodations at the Masonic Homes are available by

reservation at \$32 a night. Autumn is a wonderful time to explore the caring services and various opportunities offered at the Masonic Homes.

Should you be interested in accommodations prior to spring 1998, some double rooms will be available. Now is the time to start planning for your future. You deserve the best that retirement has to offer!



The beautiful Kuhlemeir building in the Village Green Area.



A view of the majestic formal gardens in the Village Green Area.

For more information, or for an application to the Masonic Homes' Village Green Area, please send the coupon to: Admissions Office, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Or, call 1-800-422-1207, and the staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have about retirement living at the Masonic Homes.

Please send me more information about the Masonic Homes' Village Green Area

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

Some Dreams Really Do Come True

Thirty-five residents of the Masonic Children's Home and 14 staff members flew to Disney World on Friday, August 8, and returned August 13. Funds to finance this special trip were raised through the sale of note cards designed by the children.

The morning they left for Florida, the youth and staff were presented with t-shirts imprinted with the Masonic logo and the quote, "Nothing is impossible if you dream. Dreams do come true," compliments of William W. Weisser, Grand Sword Bearer of Grand Lodge, and twin brother of R.W. Grand Master, Edward O. Weisser.

The residents of the Masonic Children's Home extend a big "Thank You!" to Grand Master Weisser for making this dream come true. The youth also appreciate the support given by the Committee on Masonic Homes. They are extremely grateful

to Freemasons across the Commonwealth for supporting this truly wonderful adventure.

And an adventure it was! This trip will have a lasting impression on those young people for the rest of their lives. Words cannot describe the wonderful vacation they experienced; but these quotes from the children come close: "Can we go next year?" one child asked. "This is the best vacation I ever had!" exclaimed another. "I can't believe we're here!" echoed a third. They had a great time.



The trip presented countless highlights, but the heart-stopping rides were the overwhelming favorite. Other exciting events included the fireworks that lit up the Disney World parks in the evenings and Epcott's 25th Anniversary light show. The youth also spent several delightful hours swimming in the pools and relaxing in the spas at the resort where they stayed.

From the time they boarded the plane until they arrived back at the Harrisburg International Airport, the youth were in a world of fantasy and amazement. Their faces wore continuous smiles and expressions of excitement. Thank you to all the Masons throughout the state for touching the lives of these young people. This is one experience they will never forget.

Two-Bedroom Apartments Available in Independent Living Community

YES, I'm interested in hearing more about Independent Living at the Masonic Homes. Please send me a brochure with prices and floor plans.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

There are several very attractive two-bedroom apartments available for immediate occupancy. If you are trying to decide whether independent living at the Masonic Homes is for you, call the Marketing Office at 1-800-676-6452. The Marketing staff will be pleased to schedule an appointment for you to see the apartments and answer any questions you may have regarding retirement living. Moving into a community that has so much to offer can be an enjoyable experience.

Mail the following coupon to: Marketing Office, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

Busy Day on Franklin Drive

The first residents began moving into their new independent living cottages on July 28, and there has been a steady flow of moving vans ever since. Many of the residents are already settled in and enjoying their new homes, while others are waiting for the completion of their homes in Phase 2. There is still a selection of cottages to choose from in Phase 1 and 2, including some with basements. Call the Marketing Office at 1-800-676-6452 for more information on availability and cost.



Considering Success or Failure

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

My Brothers:

For a good many years, I have given thought to the significance of Freemasonry, as well as the purpose of the Craft. Certainly, there are many definitions existing that state its purpose, all of them admirable, some ethereal.

There is no doubt that in many cases, and probably most, we succeed. In others, we fail. The successes and failures depend upon our efforts and systems, as well as our members' willingness to receive and respond to our efforts.

The success or failure of a man in life, however, depends more upon the recipient than upon the giver, and I would suspect that our failures are less of our making than of the Brother's willingness to accept our philosophies and principles.

I was reading the publication of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii recently and I saw a little quotation which impressed me. It was an old Indian saying:

When you were born,
You cried and the world rejoiced.
Live your life in such a manner that
when you die the world cries
and you rejoice.

So great would be the Craft if we simply accomplished instilling that adage into our members. I have expressed a number of times that the value of the life of a man might be determined by the number who are sad when he passes away. That, basically, is what is expressed in the old Indian saying.

It must lie in the responsibility of the subordinate lodges to improve the character of the man. That cannot be the responsibility of the Grand Lodge, or any other higher body. Grand bodies may contribute to the impression on the man, but it will always be the subordinate lodges who reach the brother.

Our definition is to take good men and make them better. How much better could we do than to have the world cry when we die?

District 55 Races For Charity

The 55th Masonic District fielded a racing "car" and crew in the Arthritis Foundation's Mini Grand Prix on August 23 in Pittsburgh's Station Square. Ted Bergfelt, Milnor Lodge No. 287, Pittsburgh, headed the team for the charity event. George H. Hott, D.D.G.M., explained that this is the second year that there has been a Masons' car in the race. Last year, Milnor Lodge participated; now it is a district-wide program.

More than two-dozen teams participated. District 55 didn't make it to the finals; but noting that this is only the second year, the "young team" vouched to be back next year — maybe with two racers. There will be tryouts and practice runs for drivers (wives and daughters over 21 are encouraged to join the competition). Between the go-kart races, elsewhere on the grounds, people inspected booths set up by the teams.

The District 55 booth that was attractively decorated with a banner created by Bro. Gregory Novelli (pictured with his assistant, Linda Stapleton), provided refreshments and featured literature on Freemasonry and tee-shirts with the racing team's logo.



1 to 75 Yrs. of Service Noted at Lodge 648

"Awards Night" at the June stated meeting of Stanley Goodwin Lodge No. 648, Bethlehem, was "... a night of very special rewards," reported Terry E. Minnich, D.D.G.M., 9th Masonic District.

First, 100-year-old Charles J. E. Dubbs was escorted to lodge by his two sons, Richard and Donald, to receive his 75-Year Masonic Recognition Certificate from the District Deputy. They are pictured in the front row below (l-r): Richard; D.D.G.M. Minnich; centenarian Charles J. E.; Charles R. Daniels, W.M.; and Donald.

Then, three brethren — two from Stanley Goodwin Lodge and one from Centennial Lodge No. 544, Carnegie — were presented their 50-Year Emblems of Gold. They are in the rear (l-r) Charles F. Mohr, Sr.; Charles D. Arthur of Centennial Lodge, who is a cousin of the Worshipful Master; and Jack E. Cole. In addition, twenty brethren received 25-Year Grand Lodge Service Emblems; five received **Friend to Friend** Grand Master's purple team jackets; and four newly raised Masons received copies of the *Exemplar*.



The Worshipful Master presented D.D.G.M. Minnich a gavel and wall plaque. All brethren joined in an appropriate "Rededication Service."