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VOLUME XLV

# The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

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NUMBER 4

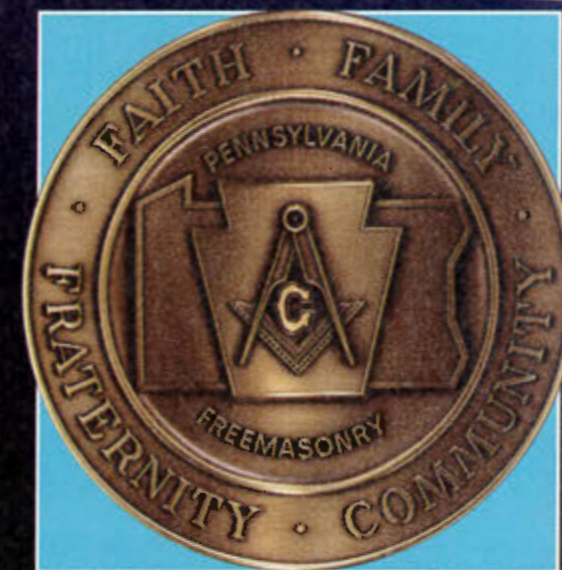
## Brotherhood Serving Mankind



FREEMASONS PAVILION GROUNDBREAKING ON PAGE 6



MASONS-AT-SIGHT ON PAGE 3



NEW HOME FOR LODGE N<sup>o</sup>. 307 ON PG. 8



55<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT IN MINI-GRAND PRIX ON PAGE 9





# The Grand Master's Message

## The Bonds of Brotherhood

### Brethren:

*The bonds of brotherhood reigned supreme in Philadelphia on August 22. It was a day that Masons will remember for a long time — first historically, because three distinguished members of the Pennsylvania State Police were made Masons-at-Sight; impressively, for the outstanding conferral by the three Pennsylvania State Police Masonic Degree Teams; and emotionally for the grand spirit of fraternalism that pervaded the day's activities.*

*Following is my message delivered at the banquet held in the historic Wanamaker Building celebrating that important event and honoring the new Masons.*

Today, Pennsylvania Masons and law enforcement officers added a new page to the history of Philadelphia. The Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police, Colonel Paul J. Evanko; Deputy Commissioner, Lieutenant Colonel Joseph H. Westcott; and Trooper Roberto Soto were made Masons-at-Sight.

It is fitting that this memorable event took place in our historic Masonic Temple in the City of Brotherly Love and the Cradle of Liberty ... famous for so many dedicated Brethren, like Benjamin Franklin who served twice as Grand Master of Masons ... and where many Masons were among the signers of the Constitution of the United States. This evening, we join in fellowship in this building, a national historic site that bears the name of a renowned merchant and philanthropist, Brother John Wanamaker.

Masonry in America grew up in Philadelphia. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania lays claim to being the oldest in America.

It is evident that, nearly three centuries later, the brotherhood exists in this, the oldest, largest, greatest, and most charitable Fraternity in the world. The participation of so many Brethren — especially the law enforcement officers who are friends, associates, and co-workers of our new Masons — is a testimony to the solidarity of brotherhood.

Freemasonry and Law Enforcement are a **perfect match**; they naturally come together as a band of brothers. Both are prestigious groups with men of quality ... both espouse the highest of principles and values ... we are elite groups of professional men; both stand for the same high qualities, not only in our careers, but also in our personal lives.

As Masons, we have tremendous opportunities to make favorable and progressive impacts on our communities. That is why the Grand Lodge put a Matching Grants Program with hometown-impact in place this year. Pennsylvania's 151,000 Masons in the 484 lodges throughout 66 of our 67 counties are encouraged to be directly involved in local charity and hometown improvement projects. The lodges commit their time and funds and Grand Lodge matches the money, up to \$5,000 a year, making it possible for each of the lodges to double its hometown charitable contributions.

After only six months since the program was announced, there had been 386 **perfect matches** for grants totalling nearly \$284,000. That means that there are well over a half-million dollars available

to benefit communities across the state. Many of the grants are for community improvement programs, some including help to support and buy equipment for law enforcement agencies.

This year the Grand Lodge established a new Law Enforcement Scholarship Program. In the Spring, the first four scholarships were awarded. Two high school graduates planning careers in law enforcement were granted \$2,500 a year for four years; and two who already are in college were granted \$2,500 a year until their graduation.

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children is closely allied to law enforcement. All of you should know the Executive Director, Bro. Joe Witte, a former Philadelphia police lieutenant. He has several dynamic programs actively combatting the scourge of drug and alcohol abuse.

You know about D.A.R.E. and the dedicated job it does in teaching drug resistance to youth. What you also should know is that our Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus in Elizabethtown is now the Center for D.A.R.E. Training in Pennsylvania, so designated by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. We're proud of the association and the success of the program. Since 1994, 387 officers have been trained there to teach fifth and sixth grade students about the dangers of drugs, how to "Say No to Drugs," and ways to resist peer pressure.

For an even longer time — since 1985 — more than 10,000 educators have been trained at the same facilities at the Masonic Conference Center for the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Student Assistance Program. It has been stated by a Department official that, "Without the help of the Masons there wouldn't be a Student Assistance Program in Pennsylvania."

As an adjunct to the Student Assistance Program, the Foundation for Children awards scholarships to high school seniors who had been at-risk, but turned their lives around as a result of participating in the Student Assistance Program. Since 1993, 26 young people have been awarded four-year scholarships of \$1,000 a year.

Masons care! The world is a better place because of what we do — in Freemasonry and in law enforcement.

Law and order, security, and peace of mind reigns in our communi-



## THREE MADE MASONS-AT-SIGHT

On Aug. 22, in the presence of the Right Worshipful Grand Master James L. Ernette, three distinguished members of the Pennsylvania State Police were made Masons-at-Sight in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. They are: Colonel Paul J. Evanko, Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police; Lieutenant Colonel Joseph H. Westcott, Deputy Commissioner; and Trooper Roberto Soto.



With an honor guard of troopers standing at ease, Anthony J. Garvey (center), Chief of Staff of the Grand Lodge, flanked by Lt. Col. George P. March, P.M. (left), and Lt. Col. Thomas K. Coury (right), both Deputy Commissioners of the Pennsylvania State Police, await the arrival of Col. Paul J. Evanko, Commissioner.

Corinthian Hall was filled to capacity, including more than a hundred brethren who are troopers and municipal law enforcement officers.

The brethren who served as the conferring Worshipful Masters were: Entered Apprentice Mason's Degree, Trooper Edward J. Lizewski; Fellowcraft Mason's Degree, Trooper Charles J. McBreen; and Master Mason's Degree, Lt. Col. George P. March, P.M.



The brethren of the Pennsylvania State Police Masonic Degree Team who participated in conferring the three degrees are pictured above with the R.W. Grand Lodge Officers and the new Masons. They are (listed alphabetically): James J. Carey; Thomas K. Coury; Walter C. Ditzler, P.M.; Gerald Eaton, J.D.; David W. Escalet; Patrick Foy, J.W.; Bruce Gatton; Stephen S. Heitz; George F. Himmelright, Jr.; Edward M. Kauffman, S.W.; Edward J. Lizewski,

J.W.; George P. March, P.M.; Douglas Martin; Charles J. McBreen, J.D.; Charles L. McBreen, P.M.; Carl E. Mease; Kevin M. Organtini; John G. Richards; Phillip Rickert, J.W.; Robert Robbins, W.M.; James J. Schultz; Vaughn Schwalm; Louis M. Vittor, P.M.; and Serell I. Ulrich.



Grand Master Ernette greets the three candidates prior to the opening of Grand Lodge (l-r): Lt. Col. Joseph H. Westcott, Col. Paul J. Evanko, and Trooper Roberto Soto.



Grand Master Ernette (center) is joined (at left) by Deputy Commissioners Lt. Col. Coury and Lt. Col. March to congratulate (at right) Col. Evanko and Lt. Col. Westcott.

## The Grand Master's Message

### The Bonds of Brotherhood

*continued from page 2*

ties because of your dedication, loyalty, devotion, and often valor. As a law enforcement officer, you live and work in an environment that is like a fraternity unto itself, relying upon each other in virtually everything you do — for your success, your safety, and sometimes even your survival. It is a unique kinship — bonded as a "brotherhood with a purpose" — to keep and protect your fellow man and uphold the principles of liberty and justice.

We are all proud to be involved in law enforcement and in Freemasonry.

Thank you for being here today. You have all come here not only to be part of a memorable occasion, but to extend your hands in a token of friendship and brotherly love to Brothers Evanko, Westcott and Soto. It is my personal honor and privilege to greet them as "Brothers" in our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

*James L. Ernette*

James L. Ernette,  
R.W. Grand Master



**VISIT US ON THE INTERNET:**  
[pagrandlodge.org](http://pagrandlodge.org)

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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## MATCHING GRANTS PROGRAM CONTINUED IN HIGH GEAR THROUGH THE SUMMER.

While the business operations of most of the lodges slowed during the summer, many of the members of the lodges were quite active in their communities. Across the state Masons continue to exemplify the Grand Master's philosophy of "Faith, Family, Fraternity, and Community" through their active participation in the Matching Charity Grants Program.

In only seven months since the program began, nearly a half-million dollars have gone to assist in meeting community needs. As of Sept. 1, six Masonic Districts — 1, 14, 47, 49, 52 and 55 — had 100 per cent lodge participation. Another 21 districts have at least 50 per cent of their lodges involved. (Status reports and the types of lodge programs are reported on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge web site at <<pagrandlodge.org>>.)

Among the achievements, several outstanding community projects have been funded through the unanimity of efforts among neighboring lodges.

Ronald Little, Jr., D.D.G.M. of the 49th Masonic District, reports that eight lodges joined together to raise the moneys needed for the completion of a playground at the Long Run Road Learning Center for Exceptional Children. The Center is an integrated preschool for children of ages three to five with exceptional needs.

The District's lodges that raised more than \$23,000 for the project are: Aliquippa Lodge No. 375, McKeesport; Stephen Bayard Lodge No. 526, Elizabeth; Homestead-Amity-McCandless Lodge No. 582, Dravosburg; Youighioheny Lodge No. 583, McKeesport; McKeesport Lodge No. 641; Wilson Lodge No. 714, Dravosburg; Duquesne Lodge No. 731, McKeesport; and East McKeesport Lodge No. 765.

Another successful joint project was the united efforts of Melita Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia, and Thompson Lodge No. 340, Paoli, in District B, where John R. Miller is the D.D.G.M. When the two lodges learned that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Challenger Day was going to be held in Berwin and the Little League "Field of Dreams" needed assistance and funding for two handicap ramps, the lodges were quick to lend a hand.

The two lodges decided to sponsor the event, which hosted approximately 250 physically and mentally disadvantaged youths between the ages of five and 18. Melita Lodge covered the cost for building the two ramps, and Thompson Lodge supplied the needed chairs and tables for the event.

Those are just two of the more than 200 community projects to which lodges have been donating their time and financial resources as part of the Matching Charity Grants Program. Other charitable contributions have been going to assist Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, children's camps, Little Leagues, YMCAs, community playgrounds, and drug and alcohol treatment centers, to name a few.



**THE BUILDERS** — Officers of Montgomery Lodge No. 19, Philadelphia, went to the Habitat for Humanity work site in the Germantown section of the city to present a contribution. Making the presentation are (l-r) Brian Fegley, S.W., and Edwin Schultz, P.M., W.M., to Shelly Halloran, Coordinator and Acting Director of Habitat for Humanity; Jon Hoffman, Construction Supervisor; and James Chew, member of the Executive Committee.



**ON THE TRAIL** — In a ceremony at the West Newton Main Access area to the Youighioheny River Trail, Blyth Lodge No. 593, West Newton, presented a check for \$2,000 to be used to install a drinking fountain there. The money was raised at a spaghetti dinner held at the lodge for which members and their families donated the supplies and the time. Making the presentation to the trail manager, Robert McKinley (center), are (l-r): William Kable, Secretary; Jerome Ross, S.W.; George Hoff, Jr., D.D.G.M., 31st Masonic District; Hartland Tarr, Jr., W.M.; Robert Jones, Committee Chairman; and Earl Greenawalt, Treasurer.

**BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT** — Washington Lodge No. 164 presented \$11,134.50 to the family of six-year-old Jordon Lynn Wingate to help pay for a bone marrow transplant. Jordon (front, left) is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wingate of Shreveport, LA, and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Martin, P.M. (front right) of Washington. Her nine-year-old sister, Courtney (front center), was a perfect match and the transplant was accomplished in St. Jude's Children's Cancer Hospital in Memphis, TN in January. Jordon was released from the hospital in May. The lodge conducted a spaghetti dinner and vidalia onion sales to raise the money. In the rear are (l-r) David L. Richards, W.M.; Wilbur E. Meeks, Secretary; and D. Everette Plants, P.M., Treasurer.



## WHAT THE MASONIC FAMILY IS ALL ABOUT!

[The following letter was sent Aug. 2 by e-mail to James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, by Pamela Caskey, Past Matron and Member of the Grand Executive Committee for New Hampshire Rainbow Assembly.]

To The Grand Master:

I knocked and the door was opened.

Recently, I was transporting members of Rochester Rainbow Assembly No. 11 in New Hampshire to the Supreme Assembly in St. Louis for the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Rochester Assembly is the home assembly of the Acting Supreme Worthy Advisor. The girls, eight in all, wanted to attend Supreme and see Marsha preside. Most of them could not afford to travel with the State (Assembly group) on Amtrak and stay in hotels. I chose to make sure that all who wanted to go would, so we took them in my motor home and a van owned by one of our O.E.S. members.

While in Pennsylvania, we had problems with the motor home — the new fuel pump my husband (had) put in was defective and we were spraying gas all over the highway.

After being towed into Half Moon Valley and finding out that the work could not be done until the next day, I was wondering how I could put us all up in a hotel and pay for the repairs and still continue on for Supreme.

I took a chance and called the nearest Masonic Hall to ask if they might have a floor that we could all sleep on for the night while the repairs were done and we could be on our way.

I guess God was watching over us, because we were able to get someone at the Masonic Hall and Worshipful Master Donn Wonderling and Bros. Bruce Grinder, P.M. and Gary Crownover, S.W. came to our rescue. We had no floor to sleep on, but they put us up in a hotel, got pizza for us all for supper, and took us out to breakfast. Then, they showed us all around State College while we waited for the motor home to be repaired.

Once the work was done, I went to pay the bill and the folks at the garage said the bill was taken care of by the Masons.

I just want to let you know how wonderful the members of State College Lodge No. 700 were to us and how much we appreciate what they did for us. I will let our Grand Master in New Hampshire know about this, and Supreme Assembly already knows.

Among the girls who were with me, only one, my daughter, had a dad who was a Mason. I want you to know that some of the other dads are now thinking about becoming members. The Pennsylvania Masons showed them what the Masonic Family is all about.

Sincerely,

Pamela Caskey, P.M. and Member of the Grand Executive Committee for NH Rainbow



Rainbow Girls from New Hampshire are shown in State College with the Masons who helped them (back, l-r): Bruce Grinder, Gary Crownover, and Donn Wonderling.

## Acting Deputy Grand Secretary

Donald L. Albert, Jr., P.M., has been appointed Acting Deputy Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and began serving in that capacity on Oct. 5. A resolution will be presented at the Quarterly Communication in December to establish the position of Deputy Secretary.

Bro. Albert, a member of Euclid Lodge No. 698, Harrisburg, has been serving as Grand Marshal for five years.



## Testimonial For Two Grand Masters



On the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, several hundred Pennsylvania and New Jersey Masons, most of whom are law enforcement officers, and their ladies honored the Grand Masters from their respective states at a testimonial dinner in the Harrisburg Hilton. Both M.W. Grand Master Ross Van Ness Bayer of New Jersey and R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette of Pennsylvania are retired from the state police of their respective states.

Bro. and Hon. Seamus P. McCaffery, Judge of the Municipal Court of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, served as the master of ceremonies. Bro. and Trooper Howard Silbaugh of the Pennsylvania State Police and on Aide to the Grand Master, offered the testimonial to Grand Master Ernette and introduced him for remarks. Bro. John R. Foglia, a Lieutenant of the New Jersey State Police and R.W. Senior Grand Deacon, offered the testimonial to Grand Master Bayer.

The two honored Grand Masters (center) are shown with the two-state Testimonial Planning Committee (l-r): to the left of the Grand Masters, from Pennsylvania, Howard Silbaugh, Robert Plata, and Joseph Witte; to the right, from New Jersey, J. Michael Aaron, John Foglia, and William Berman.

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Robert L. Dlupe, Jr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master  
Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden  
William Slater II, R.W. Junior Grand Warden  
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## Ground Broken for Freemasons Pavilion at VA Hospital

Ground was broken Aug. 15 by James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, along with other Grand Lodge officers, Masonic dignitaries, and government officials, to begin the construction of the Freemasons Pavilion at the Pittsburgh Veterans Administration Health Care Center in Aspinwall, O'Hara Township.



The new facility will provide a place for residents of the VA Hospital and their families to visit, an outdoor place for entertainment, and a focal point for special activities.

In his remarks at the ground breaking ceremony, Grand Master Ernette said, "We are a nation grateful to those who won us our independence, and those who fought and sacrificed through more than two centuries to protect and preserve life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all Americans.... (This is) a way to say 'thank you' to those who served their country, and their countrymen so well."

William M. Kratzenberg, D.D.G.M., 54th Masanic District, is the chairman for the project, which includes accepting lodge and individual contributions to support the Grand Lodge commitment. He said that plans are being made for formal dedication of the pavilion on May 15, 1999.

## What to do If You Need Blood

The Masonic Blood Donor Club of Pennsylvania reissued handy references about the coverage, membership requirements, and procedures.

COVERAGE is for the Mason, his spouse, and all of his children. There are no geographic limits nor on the number of units of blood.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS are simple. It is open to all Pennsylvania Freemasons and to members of Pennsylvania women's groups that have a Masonic affiliation as a requisite for their membership. Write to the Secretary, 408 Cooper Ct., Cinnaminson, NJ 08077. Widows of all Pennsylvania Freemasons are covered automatically upon application, without the required one unit of blood. There is no monetary obligation for membership.

WHAT TO DO WHEN BLOOD IS NEEDED: Inform the hospital that the patient is a member of the Masonic Blood Club of Pennsylvania (that is normally all that is needed). If the hospital bills for the blood, do not pay for the units. The patient is responsible for the cost of administering of the blood, not the blood, itself. The administering costs are normally covered by insurance.

Contact the Secretary of the Blood Club (his address is on the membership card) and give him the date of the procedure, name of the patient and place where the procedure was done, plus any other pertinent information. The Secretary will arrange to have the required units of blood replaced.

If another bill is received showing the same charges, it can be ignored because there may have been an overlap in billing cycles. If more bills are received, call the Secretary of the Blood Club for follow-up.

## Masonic Education ON THE MOVE

Edward H. Fowler, Jr., R.W.P.G.M., Chairman, Masonic Education Steering Committee, said that each lodge should have, and should be using, the pre-initiation videotape, "I've heard the name; what does it mean?" It is a great educational tool to inform candidates and their families about Freemasonry and what Freemasons do.

It is also an excellent vehicle for a Committee on Inquiry to provide answers to questions and generate meaningful discussions. The committee is in the process of completing a laminated instruction card to use with the video, which will be forwarded to each lodge. The committee would appreciate your constructive feedback after the materials are reviewed.

Other videos which have been produced by the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America are being reviewed. At the same time, they are looking into the possibility of developing a series of candidate teaching tools to be used in connection with the existing booklets. This will have a positive effect on those who are entering the Fraternity, helping to make them better prepared for their initiation and subsequent membership.

The Committee expected the "Speakers

Booklet" to be available for distribution to the lodges by the end of October. As the result of Grand Lodge's Web Page, requests are anticipated for Masonic speakers at non-Masonic functions. Those speakers who do not wish to participate in this assignment are so noted in the booklet. In addition, the following booklets are being updated: "Masonic Questions and Answers," "The Making of a Mason," (to cover the use of the pre-initiate video), and "The Masonic Education Handbook."

Special thanks go to those who stepped forward to serve as Regional, District, or Lodge Chairmen of Masonic Education. Each represents the "eyes and ears" of the Masonic Education Steering Committee throughout the Commonwealth and is the link between the subordinate lodge and the candidate. It is the lodges' duty to inform every candidate sufficiently to result in their being more informed and active Masons, as well as potential lodge officers.

Seven Regional Masonic Education Seminars are being planned for 1999. All will be one-day sessions on Saturdays, tentatively planned for: Region 1, Mar. 13; Region 3, Mar. 27; Region 6, Apr. 10; Region 5, Apr. 24; Region 4, May 8; Region 2, May 15; and Region 7, May 29. Locations for the seminar will be announced later.

## MASONS OF NOTE

When Lynwood Dixon (left), D.D.G.M., 36th Masanic District, was Worshipful Master of Prospect Lodge No. 578, Prospect Park, H. Dean Smith (center) was the D.D.G.M. This year, Bro. Dixon had the honor of awarding "his District Deputy" his 50-Year Emblem of Gold. In his impressive Masonic career, Bro. Smith also has served as Worshipful Master and Treasurer of Chester Lodge No. 236 and Grand Sword Bearer in 1984 and 1985. He has received The Jesse Green Award from the Grand Lodge of Delaware. At right is Kevin B. Royer, W.M. of Chester Lodge.



## Lodge No. 143 Noting Anniversary Of Its Unique, Historic Building

By Carl R. Flohr, P.M.

Members of George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg, set aside three days late in October to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the lodge hall that has a most unique history.

A meeting of the lodge was scheduled for Friday, Oct. 23, during which James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, was to present 50-Year Emblems of Gold. An anniversary banquet was to follow in the evening. On Saturday, the historic temple was to be open for public tours.

A worship service was scheduled for Trinity Episcopal Church for 4 p.m., Sunday.

An official marker by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission stands in front of the temple proclaiming it "Built 1823-1824. Oldest Pennsylvania building erected solely for Masonic use and now used exclusively for that purpose." Further, the marker notes that the historic building was "Spared when Confederates burned the town on July 30, 1864."

The warrant was issued for George Washington Lodge No. 143 in 1815. The land for the Masonic Temple was purchased in 1823, but, due to various circumstances, there is quite a convoluted history of ownership of

the property through the years. The Morgan incident and the anti-Masonic movement impacted George Washington Lodge. Its membership was 25 at the end of 1830 and the charter was returned to Grand Lodge in November, 1831. In 1845, George Washington Lodge was reconstituted and returned to labor.

For some time, lodge meetings were held at various locations in Chambersburg. While the temple was not the property of the lodge, it was used as a church printing house. The temple became available in February of 1860 and returned to the possession of George Washington Lodge at a cost of \$2,000.

On July 30, 1864, General John McCausland of the Confederate forces marched into Chambersburg and demanded \$100,000 in gold, or \$50,000 in U.S. currency, or he would burn the town. The ransom was not paid and the town was burned. However, the buildings in the half-block where the Masonic Temple stands were unharmed.

According to fairly well authenticated legend, a Confederate officer of high rank was riding south on Second Street when he saw the building and recognized its character. Supposedly at his instructions, guards were posted to prevent the firing of the temple and such nearby buildings which would have endangered it.



## Ritualistic Instructors Kept Busy

The Regional Instructors of Ritualistic Work from across the state have been especially busy this year preparing lodge officers for the sectional schools, presentations of District Deputy Grand Masters, anniversaries, lodge room dedications, cornerstone-laying and ground breaking ceremonies, and the highlight of the year, the Making of Masons-at-Sight in Corinthian Hall on Aug. 22. The Instructors are (l-r): Front - William M. Jones, Director of Ritualistic Work, Chartiers Lodge No. 297, Canonsburg; and H. Alvin Sallack, Assistant Director, James W. Brown Lodge No. 675, Johnsonburg. Middle - Byrl J. Johnson, Sr., Region 4, Tyrian Lodge No. 644, New Kensington; Richard L. Tubo, Region 4, Osceola Lodge No. 515, Osceola Mills; Larry A. Buzzard, Region 2, Howell Lodge No. 405, Honey Brook; and Howard E. Vaughan, Region 1, Newtown Lodge No. 427, Woodside. Back - George Vierkorn, Region 5, Oasis Lodge No. 416, Edinboro; Clifford Reed, Sr., Region 3, Osceola Lodge No. 515, Osceola Mills; and Walter F. Lindemuth, Region 7, Acacia Lodge No. 579, Taylor.



[Note there is one change from the listing in the last issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*. The Mar. 6 location is changed to McKeesport.]

The dates and locations for the ten Sectional Schools of Instruction for 1999.

Feb. 20	Scranton
Feb. 27	Clearfield
Mar. 6	McKeesport
Mar. 13	New Castle
Mar. 20	Pittsburgh
Mar. 27	Harrisburg
Apr. 10	Everett
Apr. 24	Philadelphia
May 1	Oil City
May 8	Williamsport

Richmond Lodge No. 230, Philadelphia, was honored with a visitation by James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, when it celebrated its 150th Anniversary on April 21. Also attending were Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; and R.W. Past Grand Masters Joseph E. Trate, Samuel C. Williamson, Edward H. Fowler, Jr., and Edward O. Weissner. Along with Thomas J. Miller, D.D.G.M., all of the officers of the lodges in Masanic District A were among the 225 brethren who filled Renaissance Hall of the Masonic Temple.

During the evening, the Grand Master presented 50-Year Emblems of Gold to three brethren: William C. Young, William H. Kavish, P.M., and Michael J. Peters, P.M.

Annually, Richmond Lodge presents a special service award to a "Brother of the Craft" who is not a member of that lodge. The honor was bestowed upon Bro. Jackson, the Grand Secretary.



## Linda Herbert Recognized For 36 Years at Grand Lodge



Not many can say that they have been on the staff of the Grand Lodge for 36 years; but Linda Herbert can!

Those 36 years of dedicated service were specially recognized on Aug. 20 when Grand Master James L. Ernette presented Linda with a crystal bowl. Linda began her career at the Masonic Temple, Phila-

delphia, in June 1962 working for the late Past Grand Secretary, Ashby B. Paul. In 1974, she became Administrative Assistant to then - Superintendent of the Temple, William O. Vogt. Today, she serves as the Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Daniel J. Hinds.

Not only is Linda supportive of Freemasonry through her career at the Grand Lodge, she also has served in many leadership capacities of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Order of Rainbow for Girls. She is a Past District Deputy and Past Grand Adah of the Grand Chapter of the Pennsylvania Order of the Eastern Star and Past Matron and current Secretary of Eastern Star Chapter No. 428.

## PIN Makes D.A.R.E. The Winner

The PIN Club Golf Outing at Alcoma Country Club in Western Pennsylvania raised funds as a contribution to D.A.R.E. James Wabby (left), a Trustee of the PIN Club and Chairman of the tournament, presents the check to Grand Master James L. Ernette to forward to D.A.R.E. On behalf of the PIN Club, Robert L. Plata (right), a Past President and Co-chairman of the tournament, gave the Grand Master a putter.



## Grand Lodge P.R. Coordinator

James N. Katsaounis, 23, became the Coordinator of Public Relations for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on Aug. 3, reporting to the Chief of Staff of Grand Lodge Operations.



He is a native of Cincinnati, OH, and was made a Mason in Sharonville Lodge No. 204, OH. He was graduated cum laude from Ohio University in 1997, having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a certificate in political communication.

Prior to coming to the Grand Lodge, he was Communications Director for the Acacia Fraternity International Headquarters, IN.

## Dedication of New Conference Facility Scheduled



Inside and out, renovation of Memorial Hall and construction of the new Multi-media Center progresses at the Masonic Conference Center.

The renovation of Memorial Hall and the construction of the multi-media theater and meeting facilities at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus is proceeding on schedule. James L. Ernette, R. W. Grand Master, will dedicate the new facilities on Saturday morning, Dec. 12, with an indoor datestone laying ceremony, and the unveiling of a special floor stone commemorating the erection of the new facility.

This will be a special weekend for the R. W. Grand Master because it is also the day of the Order of DeMolay's semi-annual Grand Master's Class to initiate new members in his honor. Following the dedication of the building, a luncheon will be served prior to the beginning of the DeMolay ceremonies of initiation. The Initiatory Degree will be conferred in the Function Room beginning at 1:30 p.m., followed by the DeMolay Degree in the Carpenter Chapel at 2:30 p.m. The Flower Talk will end the ceremonies at 3:30 PM and the entire program will conclude by 4:00 p.m. A dinner will be followed by a gala dance for DeMolays and invited Rainbow Girls and Job's Daughters.

## 55th District Charities Car Races in Mini-Grand Prix

On Saturday, Aug. 29, the 55th Masonic District, strongly supported by its lodges, participated in the fifth annual Pittsburgh Arthritis Foundation Mini-Grand Prix Race. There were winners on the track, in the pits and behind the scenes, but, the real winners were the 52,000 people in the Pittsburgh area suffering from arthritis.

It took three races totaling 35 laps and eight hours of competitions, superb driving and stellar pit crew work to settle the issue on the track. Although not "official" race winners in the event, the Masons of the 55th District were awarded first place for fund-raising.

Donald M. Murphy, D.D.G.M., reported, "Through the generous contributions from the lodges and the Grand Lodge Matching Grants Program, \$3,750 were contributed to this worthy cause. That first place award made the day extra worthwhile for everyone. I would like to thank the lodges of the district. Once more, it has been proven that when Freemasons go hand-in-hand with unanimity, success generally crowns their efforts."



The brethren in the pit crew tune up the 55th Masonic District entry in the Pittsburgh Arthritis Mini-Grand Prix Race.

## ASERBs Award Scholarships At 34th Annual Banquet



Natalia Paich, and Anthony Cervo. In the rear are: Barbara and Michael Mochan, ASERB President and master of ceremonies; Maria and William Slater II, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, who were the special guests; and Mary Ann and Dr. Nicholas Tomich, keynote speaker. In his address, Dr. Tomich reminded the scholarship honorees of the tremendous sacrifices made by our pioneer forefathers to

For the 34th year, the American Serbian Eastern Rite Brothers (ASERB) held their annual scholarship awards banquet at the American Serbian Club in Aliquippa and presented six \$1,000 awards. To date, more than 150 scholarships have been granted for a total of \$107,350.

create the educational and career opportunities available to this generation, then contrasted and compared the lifestyles and problems of the past with those of the present.

The ASERB announced that the 35th annual banquet will be a reunion of all past scholarship recipients on June 19, 1999 at the Serbian American Cultural Center in Weirton, WV.

Recipients of the awards are (front, l-r): Heather Vukulic, Daniel Silianoff, Christopher Rocknage, Geno Raseta,



## New Home For Lodge No. 307 After 142 Years

The cornerstone was laid symbolically and the lodge room was dedicated in ceremonies Aug. 29 at the new home of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf. The lodge, with more than 300 members, recently began meeting in the new building, the only move in its 142-year history. Pictured at the cornerstone are (l-r): Robert W. Gilbert, W.M.; James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master; Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer; and William S. Arnold, Sr., D.D.G.M., 60th Masonic District. Bro. Speicher is a Past Master of Williamson Lodge and a P.D.D.G.M. of the 60th District.

## Ring in Christmas in July

Lodge No. 106, Williamsport, and St. John Lodge No. 26, Prince Hall Affiliation, celebrated "Christmas in July" by ringing bells in Lycoming Mall to raise money for the Salvation Army. The two lodges raised \$246.72, which Rick Betron (left), W.M. of Lodge 106, and Gus Wilson, (right) W.M. of St. John Lodge, heralded as quite a success since the charitable endeavor was a spur of the moment idea. Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., D.D.G.M., 18th Masonic District, said that both lodges hope to make this an annual summer event in addition to participating in the Christmas Season bell-ringing.



## New Lodge Building in Jeannette



R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette and the Grand Lodge Officers dedicated the lodge room and symbolically laid the cornerstone for the new lodge hall at Jeannette Lodge No. 750 on July 25. The lodge room was filled to capacity for the dedication and a large crowd assembled in the ceremonial area staged in the street in front of the building.



## Masonic Homes and Elizabethtown Model Railroad Club Opens on Grand Master's Day



Bro. Lou Reilly, Treasurer of the club, (right) shows off some of the model railroad scenery to (l-r) Bro. Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; Bro. Robert L. Dluge, Jr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master; and R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette.

With all of the growth that the Masonic Homes has experienced over the years, one might not be surprised to see the community build its own railroad station on the grounds in Elizabethtown.

The old cannery building on Freemasons Drive now closely resembles an old-fashioned railroad station, and locomotives and trollies bustle amidst beautiful scenery. This newly renovated attraction can only take would-be travelers to one destination: the past.

Residents from the Masonic Homes have engineered a model railroad club and museum that, through generous donations, hard work, and vision, can recreate vivid memories of past travels. The 5,100-square-foot building, renovated to look like an old-fashioned railroad station, houses O gauge and HO gauge trains and a trolley for starters.

In the reception area, former church pews are set back-to-back, just as you would find in old-time railroad stations.

The station also has a workshop for members to construct items for the display. Much of the displays were made by hand with care and skill by members of the club, such as the

platform, which is designed so that the members can get to and from the control panels, and to and from the platform display.

Walter Weidner, Lodge No. 665, Ephrata, a resident of the Masonic Homes' independent living area and Second Vice President of the club, designed the table work and other club members helped to build it. The outside detail and the old-fashioned lights were contributed by the Masonic Homes.

Past the workshop is the 300+ square-foot, \$45,000 HO gauge track, a gift to the club from David Foster. This spectacular display is complete with miniature figurines of people, street lights, stop lights, mountains, tunnels, and, of course, trains.

In the rear of the station are 1,024 square feet of O-gauge track, covered with Pullman, baggage, and observation cars, and a steam engine.

The club meeting room has large windows overlooking the surrounding farmland, as well as chairs for members and a table for the officers of the club.

As of August, before the grand opening of the attraction, the club already had more than 30 members. What's unique about membership in the club is that a man and his wife can belong on one membership and share one vote. And you don't have to be a Mason to join. "Anyone can belong as long as they have an interest in model railroads," Bro. Weidner said.

The idea for the model railroad club started with some residents discussing the idea in May 1997. The group spoke to Raymond E. Tierney, Administrator, Independent Living, and Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO of the Masonic Homes, who agreed that the gentlemen's idea would not only provide the club's members with a hobby, but would also add a valuable attraction for the Elizabethtown and surrounding communities.

By the end of August, the club had received a variety of valuable donations, including old photographs, a large map from 1929 showing old railroads in Pennsylvania, which was a "high spot of railroading in the country," Bro. Weidner said. Many of these contributions came about from previous articles in *The Pennsylvania Freeman*.

"We appreciate the interest we received from those who already contributed, and we'd like them to know that their donations are well taken care of," said Elwood Schmidt, Pennsylvania Meridian Sun Lodge No. 2, Philadelphia, a resident of Masonic Homes' independent living area and President of the club. The club has ample storage for keeping the items while the renovations and decorating are being completed.

The station opened for tours on Grand Master's Day, even though the displays were not completely finished, so visitors could see the work that the club members had done and the donations they had received. The club hopes to hold a grand opening for the community in November, wants to encourage school children to visit, and let the community know that they are welcome to tour the station and to become club members.

To receive an application for membership to the Masonic Homes and Elizabethtown Model Railroad, obtain more information, or to make a contribution or donation to the club, contact the following brethren: Elwood L. Schmidt, President of Masonic Homes' Model Railroad Club, 2318 James Buchanan Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-3101; (717) 361-0861 or Walter Weidner, Vice President of Masonic Homes' Model Railroad Club, 3320 James Buchanan Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-3101; (717) 367-5328.

To visit the station, follow the yellow railroad signs to make sure you're on the right track!



Brian Luzier, a Program Specialist at the Masonic Homes, serves lunch to the guests at the Respite Cottage.

For further information about the Respite Cottage or to schedule a tour, visit or stay, call (717) 367-1121, ext. 33751 or write to: Respite Cottage, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.



# GRAND MASTER'S DAY 1998



Saturday, Sept. 26 was a great day of fun, excitement and fellowship, as thousands of Pennsylvania Masons, their families and friends, visited the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown for the annual open house and celebration.



## Respite Cottage is a Home Away From Home

From the time the Masonic Homes' Respite Cottage opened in March through the end of August, it had provided its services to 27 visitors. The staff frequently receives positive comments from guests and families telling them how much they enjoyed the stay at the cottage and they can't wait to come back.

The Masonic Homes' Respite Cottage in Elizabethtown accommodates eight adult guests with mild to moderate mental retardation and similar developmental challenges. The program serves as a temporary home for these special adults, which allows their parents or caregivers to take a vacation or enjoy respite. Within the caring, secure environment of the Masonic Homes, the program provides quality services to ensure the well-

being of the adult guests during their stay. This program also offers its services to the community.

The warm, inviting cottage is staffed by friendly, compassionate, and experienced professionals who work with the philosophy that the guests deserve dignity and respect. The staff cares for each guest's medical and physical needs, including the administration of medications. But more importantly, they embrace the holistic approach to providing exceptional care for the mind, body, and spirit within a nurturing environment.

Some of the services that the Masonic Homes' Respite Cottage provides are three nutritious meals a day and snacks, social and recreational activities, and assistance with personal care.

## "Concert on the Green"

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette and his wife, Brenda, hosted a "Concert on the Green" at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown on Saturday, Aug. 15 in the Formal Gardens. The Lancaster Pops Orchestra performed, featuring light classics, popular songs, show tunes, old time favorites, and marches. Residents and guests who attended the festive occasion enjoyed the opportunity to socialize, cool off with ice cream, and listen to the entertainment.





## Masonic Health Care Center Provides Quality Services, Immediate Openings Are Available!

At the Masonic Homes, quality of life is first priority. "Serving satisfied residents is our business," says Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO. "That's why we continue to renovate our facilities and update our equipment. We believe our residents deserve the very best, and it is our privilege to serve them in their home. Right now, the Masonic Health Care Center has immediate accommodations available, and we look forward to serving you or a loved one."



**Volunteer Dick Pieffer walks with Sara Busn, a resident of the Masonic Health Care Center in the outer courtyard.**

The Masonic Health Care Center is licensed to provide nursing accommodations for 453 residents and provides outpatient, physician, and ancillary services to residents throughout the campus. Within the Masonic Health Care Center, a continuum of medical health care services are offered, including: podiatry, radiology, cardiology, laboratory, pharmacy, dentistry, ophthalmology, optometry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, dermatology, urology, audiology, and mental health services. The Lafayette Special Care Unit provides quality, state-of-the-art care services designed for residents living their lives with dementia. Individuals who require complex medical management following a hospital stay can receive subacute care on the Renaissance Unit, and return home after rehabilitation.

Daily therapeutic recreation activities are offered and implemented by a staff of certified personnel. The Recreation Services Department believes that quality of life is an enduring human need. How an individual defines enjoyment is a never-ending catalyst for growth, self-definition, and dignity. Thus, therapeutic recreation programs are offered on resident care units and in the Recreation Area and Assembly Room of the Masonic Health Care Center. Some program examples are: aquatic therapy, bowling, ceramics, fishing, pet therapy, religious programs, seasonal crafts, shopping trips, and socials.

A full complement of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants assist the physician staff in the provision of round-the-clock care. Dietary services, housekeeping, social services, pastoral care services, and support staff create an environment that

enhances the well-being of each resident. To make all residents feel more comfortable, every resident room is designed to feel like home.

Think about joining the Masonic Homes' family today, where you or your loved one will be cared for with dignity and respect. Call now to make an appointment for a visit and tour. For more information or an application to the Masonic Health Care Center, return the coupon or call 1-800-422-1207.

## Masonic Homes Gallery Opens its Doors



**Artist and curator, Bro. Edward Praediger, joins R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette in cutting the ribbon to open the new Masonic Homes' Art Gallery.**

Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO of the Masonic Homes, said, "We try to encourage residents to continue their interests when they come to live here, and if we find that a number of individuals share a common interest, we do what we can to provide them with the resources they need to pursue that interest."

Some of them created art for a living, some studied

art in college, some enjoyed art as a hobby, and some had never tried their hand at art, but had a desire to learn. They are a group of people who want to enjoy art and learn from one another. They want to have the opportunity to use different media such as pen and ink, oils, watercolor and charcoal, to create their art.

Bro. Praediger has taught painting in Philadelphia; Somers Point, NJ; and Florida. Now he is teaching weekly classes in the new studio.

"It is an honor to work with a man who is 99 years old (Bro. Praediger) and is still a good teacher," remarks Ralph Barisci, also of Lodge No. 520, an independent living resident.

Any resident of the Masonic Homes who has an interest in art is welcome to become a member of the Masonic Homes Art Association. The gallery is located in the independent living area and is a place where members can create artwork and learn new techniques. The members' artwork is also displayed in the gallery.

Again, Masonic Homes' residents have come together to express an interest. And, again, the Masonic Homes has recognized their interests and accommodated them with the resources to make it a reality.

Members of the Masonic Homes Art Association were joined by R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette on Aug. 15 for the ribbon-cutting ceremony at a new studio and gallery. Then, on Sept. 17, the Masonic Homes Art Association and Gallery held an open house for Masonic Homes residents and the community. Visitors were invited to view the gallery and its exhibits, as well as enjoy refreshments and the company of artist and curator, Edward Praediger, Canby Lodge No. 520, St. Petersburg, PA.

The idea for an art association began when Bro. Praediger and his wife, Wilma, moved to the Masonic Homes' independent living area in August 1997. He expressed an interest in starting an art association and found that many of the residents were eager to join him in this new endeavor.

## Availability in Pittsburgh and Warminster Homes!

The Masonic Eastern Star Home-East in Warminster, and the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West in Pittsburgh, provide quality skilled nursing and assisted living services. Each home offers personalized care services and amenities to serve residents, including a cozy dining room, hair and beauty salon, a chapel, recreational and fraternal activities, and planned trips.

Both homes have availability to serve residents in their assisted living and nursing areas. For more information about the home of your choice, call Masonic Eastern Star Home-East at (215) 672-2500, or Masonic Eastern Star Home-West at (412) 931-8300.

## Masonic Homes' Outreach Program: Sharing Our Mission for Caring

The Masonic Homes Outreach Program provides information and direction to Masonic and non-Masonic families throughout the United States.

The Information & Referral service helps locate service providers, nursing homes, transportation services, hot meals, and health providers.

Resource Coordination service helps put services in place whenever persons are unable to do it for themselves.

The Education and Support service provides comfort to caregivers and direction to counseling and children's service providers.

The Home Assistance program offers financial assistance to Pennsylvania Masons in times of need.

Many people take advantage of the availability of these services. Outreach receives nearly 80 calls each month asking for help, information, or direction. Here's just one recent example:

Outreach was contacted by the widow of a Pennsylvania Mason who not only was distressed by her own situation, but also was concerned about the well being of her son. Living together in their home, meeting their obligations, and keeping up with the daily demands of life had become more and more difficult as each of them experienced health problems. Growing deeper in debt and unable to make monthly payments, it seemed to them that their only way out might have been to declare bankruptcy.

They always had been self-reliant and were too embarrassed to ask for help. But an article in *The Pennsylvania Freemason* caught their eyes and they gave the Outreach Program a call. From their first conversation, it was easy to see that they were unsure of what it would take to improve their lives. Although reluctant to ask for help, it was their belief that financial aid from the Masonic Homes might be able to alleviate their problem. Though it appeared that Home Assistance might provide them with a short-term solution, a closer look revealed that they had the means within themselves to solve their difficulties.

Enrollment in PACE and Social Security Disability programs offered a reduction in their monthly expenses which previously had been paid with credit cards. Equity in their home offered them the opportunity to consolidate their debts, reduce their interest rates, and decrease the monthly expenses even further. County transportation services allowed for a reduction in the use of the aging and ailing vehicle... another reduction in expenses. And lastly, enrollment with the county Office of Aging Case Management made certain that their condition would be monitored monthly.

Financial Assistance is often the first thing considered when people encounter difficult times. Though the Outreach Program is privileged to offer Home Assistance to brothers in need, frequently the answer to a person's need is met by using contacts in the community to put worthwhile services in place. If you, or someone you know, needs help, call the Masonic Homes' Outreach Program, serving Pennsylvania Masons, and their families and friends. You can reach the Outreach Program by dialing 1-800-462-7664 from anywhere in the United States.

## 200+ Attend Independent Living Presentation at Elizabethtown

More than 200 brethren and their ladies from Region 2 attended a presentation of independent living options and health care services available at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. The presentation took place in the Assembly Room of the Masonic Health Care Center.

The purpose of the presentation was to inform visitors of the many options available in independent living and the vast array of health care services available at the Masonic Health Care Center.

Tours of independent living included several types of apartments and cottages offered in an entrance fee plan and apartments available as a rental option. Independent living resident volunteers assisted with tours while other residents opened their doors for prospective residents to see their beautiful homes.

Masonic Health Care Center tours included outpatient, podiatry, ophthalmology, and dental clinics, Renaissance Unit, wellness center, therapy pool, courtyard areas, library, beauty shop, chapel, and gift shop.

Many people expressed appreciation in learning more about independent living and services provided at the Masonic Health Care Center.

For more information on retirement living, mail the coupon or call 1-800-676-6452. The Marketing Office will be happy to provide additional information or arrange an appointment for a personal tour.



**Bro. Ralph and Anna Barisci enjoy life on the front porch of their independent living cottage.**

**Send me more information about the Masonic Health Care Center!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete coupon and return to:

**Admissions Office  
Masonic Homes  
One Masonic Drive  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022**

**Send me more information about Independent Living at the Masonic Homes!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete coupon and return to: **Marketing Office**

**Masonic Homes  
One Masonic Drive  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022**



## At the Masonic Homes, Services are Resident Driven; Openings Available in Village Green Area

This summer brought a new addition to services in the Village Green Area . . . a delicious breakfast buffet! Residents now may enjoy breakfast any time between 7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Prior to the buffet's availability, residents ordered breakfasts in advance, and the meals were served at a designated time.

Many residents wanted a more flexible schedule in the morning so they could attend meetings, doctors' appointments, or other activities. They also wanted more variety and quality in certain breakfast foods they received.

Daphne Gulick, Director of Food Services, meets with her team of chefs, dining room supervisors, and the dietitian to discuss

improvements to the food services in the Village Green Area and to consider recommendations from residents.

"We are very open to suggestions," Mrs. Gulick said. "It is important to establish a partnership with the residents so that we can ensure that the services we provide are meeting our customers' desires."

At the Masonic Homes, residents have more than a voice, they have influence. Residents choose their lifestyle. When the Food Services Department suggested the buffet, Henry Nickol, of William D. McIlroy Lodge No. 758, Dormont, a resident and President of the Village Green Area Resident Council, took the suggestion to the Food Committee. It was decided to try it, and now that it is a huge success, they intend to keep it.

Mrs. Alma Wilson, O.E.S. Mt. Olive Chapter No. 232, Churchville, daughter of the late Harvey H. Wilson, Jr., of Pennsylvania Meridian Sun Lodge No. 2, Philadelphia, and a resident in the Village Green Area, is also pleased with the new breakfast buffet. "I love the flexible time. On the days I volunteer, I can have an early breakfast, but the days I don't volunteer, I can sleep a little later. I also love the variety of foods, like the eggs, breakfast breads, and fruit."

The Village Green Area comprises eight buildings and 270 residential accommodations for residents who live independently. Three meals daily, organized activities, and religious programs are provided to meet the daily needs of residents. Many recreational facilities are located within walking distance, such as the Deike Auditorium, ball-



**Helen Weimer, a resident of the Village Green Area, enjoys the newly instituted breakfast buffet.**

room, Masonic Lodge building, ice cream parlor, chapel, museum, and the Grand Lodge Hall dining room. Regularly scheduled transportation is provided for on-campus appointments and activities, as well as community outings.

Think about joining the Masonic Homes' family today, where residents choose their lifestyle! Call now to make an appointment for a visit and tour. For more information or an application to the Masonic Homes' Village Green Area, return the coupon or call 1-800-422-1207. Start planning your future today!

## Elsie Brooks Celebrates 102 at Warminster

On June 17, more than 100 family, friends, and guests of the Eastern Star Home in Warminster celebrated the 102nd birthday of Elsie M. Brooks, Past Matron of Covenant Chapter No. 199, O.E.S.

Mrs. Brooks was born in 1896 in the Germantown section of Philadelphia, the fourth of seven children to Charles and Alice Townsend. On June 27, 1917, Elsie Townsend married Frank Brooks and they were married for 67 years until Frank's death in 1985.

Elsie became a member of the O.E.S. on Nov. 9, 1923 and was Matron in 1945 and 46. Her husband Frank was a member of St. Alban-Swain Lodge No. 529, Philadelphia.



## Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Weekend at Gettysburg

On the weekend of Aug. 7, Susquehanna Chapter, Order of DeMolay, sponsored a trip to historic Gettysburg. Several DeMolay chapters and Job's Daughters' bethels participated in the weekend which included sleeping in authentic Civil War style tents, eating authentic Civil War style cooking, living history demonstrations, a musket firing demonstration, an artillery demonstration, and battlefield tours. On Sunday morning, a wreath was laid at the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial in the Gettysburg National Park.



**Pictured at the wreath laying ceremony are: (L-R) Kneeling in front - Lorna Beaton, Rebecca Hoffman, and Renea Hoffman; middle row - "Dad" Barry Stocker, Terry Thomas, Bro. Roger Beaton, Josh Sawyer, John English, Bro. Gary Hoover, P.M., and Billy Kilorsky; back row - "Dad" Robert Donahue, Sr., Robert Donahue, Jr., "Dad" Eric Stahley, J.T. Wineski, "Dad" Marty Braen, Paul Wisneski, Bro. Dick Hoffman, Ben Coslett, and Matt Haddle.**

## Perseverance Lodge Dates to 1779

By Donald B. Morgan, P.M.

Noting its 219th anniversary this month, Perseverance Lodge No. 21 in Harrisburg is the oldest Masonic Lodge in continuous existence outside of Philadelphia and the oldest lodge in Dauphin County. The Lodge was constituted on Nov. 10, 1779 in an area that was then called "Pextang," where the Susquehanna Indians lived in villages made up of communal houses. Pextang encompassed a large area which is now known as Harrisburg, the state capital.

In 1785, John Harris, son of the first settler on the site of Harrisburg, hired William McClay

(who was the first U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania) to lay out a plot plan for a town. Harris allotted a square of four acres to the State of Pennsylvania "... for such purposes as the government may apply the same ...." Pennsylvania's State Capitol now stands on those grounds. The town grew and was incorporated into a borough on Apr. 13, 1791, and finally as a city on Mar. 19, 1860.

During the nearly 220 years of the Lodge's existence, two Grand Masters, a Grand Secretary, at least 15 D.D.G.M.s were members of Perseverance.

## Family Vacation and Education in Elizabethtown

The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation has developed a Masonic Family Enrichment program to provide an affordable opportunity for new Master Masons and their young families to visit the Masonic Homes and Masonic Conference Center in Elizabethtown. In the summer of 1999 Pennsylvania Masons will have the opportunity to travel to Elizabethtown to participate in a new program designed to provide an educational and fun experience learning about Freemasonry and the services offered in Elizabethtown. It will also be an inexpensive way to vacation for a few days in central Pennsylvania, taking in the Pennsylvania Dutch country, Hershey Park, and the Gettysburg National Historic Battlefield.

During the periods of July 20-23 and August 2-5 a limited number of families will be permitted to stay in the newly-renovated Memorial Hall at the Masonic Conference Center, participate in some group meals and educational sessions, tour the grounds of the Masonic Homes, and stay for one or two optional extra days and nights for vacation touring. There will be no cost for the housing, and food services will be prepared as a low cost meal package.

For further information, contact the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation at 1244 Bainbridge Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; phone 1-(800)-266-8424; or e-mail <<pyf@pagrandlodge.org>>. Details and reservation forms will be sent to all lodge secretaries.

## Blazer, Ties Available

Pictured are the exclusively designed navy blue Masonic blazer and 100 per cent silk tie. Both are available from the Gift Shop of the Masonic Library and Museum.

The blazer is tailored from the finest worsted wool and has two-toned gold buttons that bear the Pennsylvania Masons' insignia. Each coat will have a removable silver bullion pocket crest of the same insignia. (Since the pocket crest is normally attached magnetically, a person with a pacemaker should so indicate and a special attachment will be provided.)

To order the jacket, tie, or both, complete the request form and send it with a check or money order to: "The Masonic Library and Museum of PA," Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2520. (You can fax a credit card order to the Masonic Temple, attention John H. Platt, Jr., at 215-988-1972. Be sure to include all necessary credit card information.)



### REQUEST FORM

I am ordering \_\_\_\_\_ Pennsylvania Masonic Blazer(s), size(s) \_\_\_\_\_ at \$200 each, which includes S&H.

I am ordering \_\_\_\_\_ maroon tie(s) and/or \_\_\_\_\_ navy tie(s) at \$26.50 each plus \$6 S&H.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE, ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* Sizes: Regular, 36-52; Short 38-46; Long, 38-50; Extra Long, 40-48. Any questions re. sizing, call Mr. Ali Khalama toll-free at 1-800-251-2323.

## Pastor Lacquement to Retire in 1999, Successor to be Sought

Bro. and Pastor Charles H. Lacquement, Th.D., D.D., Grand Chaplain and Senior Pastor/Director of Pastoral Care at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown recently announced his plan to retire from the Masonic Homes effective Sept. 1, 1999.

Earlier this year, there was a grand celebration of Pastor Lacquement's 25 years of ministry at the Masonic Homes. Pastor Lacquement is a member of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown.

Pastor Lacquement provided a year's notice of his plan to retire in consideration of his care and concern for the residents, employees, and Committee on Masonic Homes. This will allow time for his successor to be selected and to assure that the ministry and the services he and his two assistants have provided will continue.

At the same time, applications will be accepted to fill his position as Senior Pastor/Director of Pastoral Care. Anyone who is interested in applying for this position with the Masonic Homes can send a resume/curriculum vitae to: Mrs. Carolyn J. Bair, Director of Human Resources, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, phone: (717) 361-4522, fax: (717) 361-5300.



## Organ Dedicatory Recital Nov. 8

At 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8, Dr. John Weaver, head of the Organ Department of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and Chair of the Organ Department of the Julliard School in New York, will play the Dedicatory Recital on the new three-manual Rodgers organ in Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. The public is invited.

## Franklin Medal Presented



R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette (left) presented the Benjamin Franklin Medal, the most significant honor by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for outstanding service to the Masonic Fraternity, to Jack H. Jones, the Imperial Recorder for the Imperial Council, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. The presentation was made during the Imperial sessions of Shrine in Orlando, FL.

## Reunion for Melita's 1948 Officers



It was a 50th anniversary reunion for the 1948 elected officers who returned to fill the chairs of Melita Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia. They are pictured with the current officers (l-r): Ed Germer, P.M., Secretary; Senior Wardens, Francis J. Hoffman ('98) and Harry L. Ross, P.M. ('48); Worshipful Masters, Robert A. Detweiler, P.M. ('48), and Edwin J. Winner, ('98); and Junior Wardens, John K. Young, R.W.P.G.M. ('48), and John T. Evans ('98).



## Conductor Series to Build Leadership Management Skills

Senior and Junior Wardens are going back to school this Fall as part of the Grand Lodge's Overture Series of leadership seminars. This second phase, the Conductor Series, emphasizes the importance of lodge management and focuses on improving some fundamental skills in several key areas.

One-day Conductor seminars were held during September and October in Allentown, State College, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh North, and the Titusville/Meadville area. There will be seminars in Wilkes-Barre, Nov. 14; Harrisburg, Nov. 21; and Pittsburgh South, Dec. 5.

In high-impact, day-long sessions, the seminars in the Conductor Series build upon the skills introduced in the Overture Series, putting a stronger emphasis on getting a man ready to assume his new duties in his lodge. "In this series," said G. Kent Hackney, Deputy Chief of Staff for Grand Lodge and Director of the Overture Program, "Junior and Senior Wardens, together with those involved with membership development, come to grips with the realities of being a lodge leader. Only this time, we are emphasizing the important skills of management unique to a Masonic lodge."

Participants in the eight seminars across the state address topics such as: "Understanding Your Role in Your Lodge;" "The Role and Function of Your Grand Lodge;" "Team-Building and Getting Started on Important Tasks;" "A Focus on Membership;" "Project Management Skills;" "Creating More Effective Communications;" "Change Management;" and "The Importance of Planning."

James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, said, "What I like about the direction this Conductor Series is taking is that it not only builds upon the skills offered in the Overture Series, but it also adds a practical note to the lessons learned."

Hackney added, "The concepts and decisions about what to include in these seminars

came from leaders of Pennsylvania lodges who have said over the years that these are the issues they need to learn more about. With this input as background and working with Bro. Dudley Davis, the principal author of the Overture Program, we developed the material for the Conductor Series."

The Conductor Series uses the books and guides presented during the Overture Seminars and helps participants understand how they can be used in the lodge. One copy of a new book, titled "Who Moved My Cheese?" by Spencer Johnson, M.D., will be added to the Membership Development Kit issued during the Spring seminars.

One of the features of the Conductor seminars will be an early discussion of what has been happening in lodges since the first Overture seminar last February. Participants are encouraged to speak about what has been working and what has not. The Conductor seminar's day ends with help on developing long- and short-range plans for the lodge. These will be explored in more detail in the second round of Overture Series in 1999.

### OVERTURE 1999 DATES

The second round of Overture Series seminars will be held early in 1999 and continue through mid-Spring. District Deputies and District Overture Chairmen should note the first two dates for their training. The Junior and Senior Wardens and the brother involved as leader in membership development should note the date for the seminar in their area.

Jan. 9 Philadelphia (D.D. and D.Chmn)  
Jan. 16 Greensburg (D.D. and D.Chmn)  
Feb. 13 Philadelphia  
Mar. 6 State College  
Mar. 20 Oil City-Titusville  
Apr. 10 Pittsburgh South (Region 4)  
Apr. 24 Pittsburgh North (Region 5)  
May 8 Harrisburg  
May 22 Bethlehem  
June 5 Wilkes-Barre

## Grand Master's Golf Tournaments Successful

Three hundred and fifty-two golfers participated in the Grand Master's three successful Charity Golf Tournaments held across the state on Aug. 31, Sept. 2 and Sept. 3 to benefit the Masonic Homes and the Masonic Eastern Star Homes. There were 98 participants at Lulu Country Club; 132 at Hershey Country Club; and 120 at Latrobe Country Club.

Grand Master James L. Ernette attended all of the evening banquets and awards programs and expressed thanks to participants and the support of the generous sponsors, especially Smith Barney, the primary sponsor for all three of the tournaments. In addition, there were major sponsors of amenities, such as luncheon, dinner, hole-in-one contests, and registration, and general sponsors of the tees. The Grand Master relayed the appreciation of Grand Lodge, the three Masonic Homes, and, especially, the residents who are the ultimate beneficiaries of the charity.

# This is your last chance to be a part of the Masonic Travel Event of the Century...



**ALOHA!**  
It's my pleasure to invite you to join Brenda and me, your fellow Masons, and their families, in beautiful HAWAII in February, 1999. You can choose from three high-quality travel programs arranged by our friends at Vantage Deluxe World Travel. Upon your arrival, Brenda and I will offer you special gifts, and you'll be our guests at a Grand Master's Welcoming Banquet. Those on the extended vacations will also enjoy a traditional Hawaiian Luau. This is your last chance to reserve your place — I hope you'll call and join us today!

Jay Ernette,  
Grand Master



## Join Grand Master and Mrs. Ernette in Hawaii!

Choose from three fun-filled Hawaiian vacations, all of which allow you to be in Waikiki/Honolulu, where you'll enjoy the opportunity to mingle with the Grand Master, Grand Lodge officers, your brethren and friends ... as you discover America's very own enchanted paradise.

**10 NIGHTS.....from \$1,599-\$1,799\***

4 Nights in Waikiki/Honolulu  
Plus 6-Night Hawaiian Islands Discovery Tour  
to the "Big Island" of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui  
February 20 - March 2, 1999

**13 NIGHTS.....from \$1,899-\$2,149\***

7 Nights in Waikiki/Honolulu  
Plus 6-Night Hawaiian Islands Discovery Tour  
to the "Big Island" of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui  
February 17 - March 2, 1999

**7 NIGHTS.....from \$999-\$1,249**

Waikiki/Honolulu  
February 17 - February 24, 1999

All programs include first-class accommodations\*, flower lei greeting, Honolulu city tour, all transfers & baggage handling. The 10- and 13-night programs also include panoramic tours of the "Big Island" of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, with inter-island flights.

\*Deluxe hotel upgrades available. Call for prices.

Round-trip airfare via American Airlines or United Airlines from Philadelphia, Pittsburgh or Harrisburg; from \$749 plus taxes, per person, subject to availability.

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## Quarterly Communication Dec. 2; Evening Dinner, Show, Dance Will Mark 125th Anniversary of Masonic Temple

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be Wednesday, Dec. 2 in Corinthian Hall of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. Grand Lodge will open promptly at 10 a.m.

This is the 125th Anniversary year for the Masonic Temple during which extensive refurbishing and modernizing has been accomplished. Special recognition of the anniversary will be featured during the Communication and the festivities that will follow.

There will be a dinner, show, and dancing in the evening after the Quarterly Communication. A social hour will precede the dinner at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel facilities. Entertainment following the dinner will be the Bobby Mercer Road Show featuring "125 Years of Music," followed by dancing.

For reservations for the dinner, show, and dance, please use the accompanying coupon. Note the Nov. 15 deadline for reservations.

### Reservation Form For December Communication Dinner-Show-Dance

Enclosed is/are \_\_\_\_\_ reservations at \$25 per person for the Banquet, Show, and Dancing after the December Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on Wednesday, December 2. There will be a social hour at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Bobby Mercer Road Show and dancing.

Entree Selection: # Beef \_\_\_\_\_ # Fish \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Member of Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations will be accepted on a "First Come" basis.

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: NOVEMBER 15.**  
Please make checks payable to: "Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania." Send with reservation to:

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

## Quarterly Communication

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 2, 1998 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 Communications of the Grand Lodge

*Whereas*, the Communications of the Grand Lodge are presently held on the first Wednesday of June and December and others may be held on the first Wednesday of March and September by order of the Grand Master; and

*Whereas*, it is recognized that meetings in the middle of the week may offer hardship to those who would attend as well as to Grand Lodge in endeavoring to schedule those events;

*Now, therefore, be it resolved* that Article 8.01 of the *Ahiman Rezon* shall be amended so that the Article shall read as follows:

"8.01. The Grand Lodge shall hold Communications on the first Wednesday of June and December and may hold Communications on the first Wednesday of March and September by order of the Grand Master. Communications may be changed to another day of the month at the direction of the Grand Master.

An Annual Communication shall be held on St. John the Evangelist's Day in those years when Grand Lodge Officers are advanced in rank and a new Grand Master takes office. When St. John the Evangelist's Day falls on Sunday, the Annual Grand Communication shall be held on the day following.

The Grand Lodge may meet in Extra or Special Communications by Order of the Grand Master."

### Amendment No. 2 The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children

*Whereas*, The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with the Department of State on December 23, 1985 as a non-profit corporation to support organizations in the guidance of children in Pennsylvania dealing with drug and alcohol abuse; and

*Whereas*, on September 15, 1997, Articles of Amendment were filed with the Pennsylvania Department of State amending the name of the corporation effective on January 1, 1998, 12:01 a.m. to the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children; and

*Whereas*, the mission and purpose of the Foundation was not changed and remains the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse among children.

*Now, therefore, be it resolved* that Article 13.43 of the *Ahiman Rezon* shall be amended accordingly and shall read as follows:

### THE PENNSYLVANIA MASONIC FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

13.43. The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with the Department of State as of December 23, 1985, as a non-profit corporation, to support organizations in the guidance of children in Pennsylvania dealing with drug and alcohol abuse which purpose is not by way of limitation and there shall be included other charitable purposes as part of its aims.

The Board of Directors of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children shall meet quarterly and shall report all of its proceedings to the Grand Lodge annually at the Quarterly Communication in December.

### Amendment No. 3 Treasurer's Service Jewel

*Whereas*, it has been agreed to produce a Treasurer's Service Jewel which is to be awarded at the completion of six (6) years of service as a Lodge Treasurer, it now becomes necessary to amend Article 16.04 of the *Ahiman Rezon*;

*Now, therefore, be it resolved* that Article 16.04 be amended to read as follows:

16.04. The jewels of the officers of Lodges are as follows:

*Master* - The Square.

A Past Master's jewel shall be a Square and the diagram of the forty-seventh proposition of the First Book of Euclid pendant within it. The sides of the Square to be 2-1/8 and 2-1/2 inches long, respectively, and may have raised borders and be embellished with appropriate Masonic emblems, either engraved or raised upon the Square. The jewel shall be suspended from a blue ribbon or from a hanger or cross bars, the entire jewel and hanger or cross bars to be made of silver only, and no gold, precious or imitation stones shall be used in any part of its construction.

*Senior Warden* - The Level.

*Junior Warden* - The Plumb.

*Treasurer* - The Cross Keys.

*Treasurer's Service Jewel*

The jewel shall be suspended from a pale blue ribbon with the top supporting bar to have the name of the Lodge, the center bar to contain the name of the Treasurer, the lower bar to indicate the years of service, with the completion of service date to be added to the lower bar at the end of the Treasurer's term of office. There shall be suspended from the lower bar a Square and Compasses against a wreath of olive leaves, all of gold color with cross keys of silver color centered upon them.

*Secretary* - The Cross Pens.

*Secretary's Service Jewel*

The jewel shall be suspended from a pale blue ribbon with the top supporting bar to have the name of the Lodge, the center bar to contain the name of the Secretary, the lower bar to indicate the years of service, with the completion of service date to be added to the lower bar at the end of the Secretary's term of office. There shall be suspended from the lower bar a Square and Compasses against a wreath of olive leaves, all of gold color with cross quills of silver color centered upon them.

*Chaplain* - The Open Bible.

*Deacons* - The Dove and the Olive Branch.

*Master of Ceremonies* - The Cross Rods.

*Pursuivant* - The Cross Swords.

*Tyler* - The Sword, with the Key across the Hilt.

Thomas W. Jackson, Grand Secretary

## The Grand Master's Itinerary

- |              |    |   |
|--------------|----|---|
| Nov.         | 7  | 125th Anniversary, New Bethlehem Lodge No. 522, Parker City Lodge, No. 521, and Camby Lodge No. 520.  |
| Nov.         | 8  | Organ Dedication Recital, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 4:30 p.m.  |
| Nov. 13-14   |    | Valley of Allentown, A.A.S.R., Reunion  |
| Nov.         | 17 | Excelsior Mark Lodge No. 216, Philadelphia  |
| Nov.         | 21 | 175th Anniversary, Charity Lodge No. 190, West Norriton   |
| Nov.         | 24 | Meetings at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia:<br>Consolidated Fund, 9:30 a.m.; Administrators of the Pension Plan, 11 a.m.; Finance Committee, 1 p.m.   |
| Dec.         | 1  | Meetings in Philadelphia: Committee on Landmarks, Marriott Hotel, 10 a.m.; District Deputies, Masonic Temple, 1:30 p.m.; Grand Lodge Officers Rehearsal, 3 p.m.   |
| Dec.         | 2  | Quarterly Communication, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, 10 a.m.; Lunch for Brethren, noon; Resume Grand Lodge, 1:15 p.m.; Social hour, 5:30 p.m., dinner, 6:30 p.m., show, and dancing, Marriott Hotel                             |
| Dec.         | 3  | Grand Chapter, Philadelphia   |
| Dec.         | 5  | Valley of Pittsburgh Christmas Luncheon, Allegheny Club, 11 a.m.  |
| Dec.         | 10 | Grand Lodge Officers' Staff Meeting, Elizabethtown, 7 p.m.  |
| Dec.         | 11 | Meetings at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown: Development Sub-Committee, 8 a.m.; Building and Grounds Sub-Committee, 10 a.m.; Masonic Homes Committee Meeting, 1 p.m. Masonic Homes Christmas Party, p.m.                             |
| Dec.         | 12 | Rehearsal for Grand Lodge Elected and Appointed Floor Officers, 8 a.m.; Dedication of Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus, 10 a.m.; Luncheon, noon; Order of DeMolay Grand Master's Class, 2:30 p.m.; Formal Banquet, 6 p.m. |
| Dec.         | 15 | Masonic Temple Employee Christmas Party, Philadelphia, 6 p.m.   |
| Dec.         | 18 | Valley of Philadelphia, A.A.S.R.: Dinner, 5:30; Reunion, 7 p.m.   |
| Dec. 27-29   |    | Grand Lodge of Massachusetts  |
| Jan.         | 4  | Open D.D.G.M. Presentation, Joseph Dows, 60th Masonic District, Spring Creek Lodge No. 802, Hershey, 7 p.m.   |
| Jan.         | 5  | D.D.G.M. Presentation, William Swinehart, 46th Masonic District, Herndon Lodge No. 702, Herndon, 7:30 p.m.  |
| Jan.         | 6  | Retiring Masters' Dinner, 38th Masonic District, Pittsburgh Athletic Association, Pittsburgh, 6:30 p.m.   |
| Jan.         | 9  | D.D.G.M. Presentation, Harvey Fishel, 39th Masonic District, Kiskiminetas Lodge No. 617, Vandergrift<br>Overture Series, District Chairmen Training, Philadelphia   |
| Jan.         | 16 | Overture Series, District Chairmen Training, Greensburg   |
| Jan.         | 22 | Meetings at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown: Staff Meeting, 8 a.m.; Sub-Committee Meeting, 10 a.m.; Committee Meeting, 1 p.m.<br>Shrine Masons Night, Syria Temple, Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.   |
| Jan.         | 23 | Lulu Shrine Masonic Breakfast, Plymouth Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  |
| Feb.         | 6  | Potentate's Ball, Syria Temple, Pittsburgh  |
| Feb.         | 13 | Overture Series Seminar, Philadelphia   |
| Feb. 17-Mar. | 2  | Grand Master's Trip to Hawaii   |
| Feb.         | 17 | 13-Night and 7-Night Passengers Arrive Waikiki  |
| Feb.         | 19 | Royal Order of Scotland, Honolulu   |
| Feb.         | 20 | 10-Night Passengers Arrive Honolulu   |
| Feb.         | 20 | All Arrive Honolulu (4 Nights)  |
| Feb.         | 21 | Grand Master's Dinner, Honolulu   |
| Feb.         | 24 | 7-Night Passengers Depart for Home; 10- and 13-Night Passengers Leave for Outer Islands   |
| Feb.         | 26 | 10- and 13-Night Passengers Leave for Kauai   |
| Feb.         | 28 | 10- and 13-Night Passengers Leave for Maui  |
| Mar.         | 2  | All Passengers leave Hawaii for Home  |



## Where Toleration is Practiced...

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

### My Brethren:

For almost 30 years, I have been writing and speaking to both those within and outside of our Craft concerning the significance of Freemasonry. Those presentations were made to proponents of the Fraternity as well as to opponents.

It has not been difficult to discuss at length those proponents of the Craft, one reason being that so many of them have, or had, names which are so easily recognizable because of their positive contributions to the history of mankind.

Indeed, history is replete with their names. They are men who led their countries in the struggles for what are basically some of the philosophical precepts of Freemasonry and were included as the precepts of their respective countries. Those of liberty, freedom, and equality of man are probably best known to us. It takes little effort to become aware of them. We need only to read American history to become fully cognizant of their significance.

There is, however, one other fundamental precept which characterizes this organization more than any other and establishes the Craft as a friend of those who love the aforementioned precepts and as an enemy to those who do not. This precept is the need to practice toleration of others' beliefs. This quality of the Craft probably has created Freemasonry's greatest friends and its most ardent enemies.

I mentioned that history is replete with the names of Freemasons who led their countries to achieve what are the ideal of the Masonic Fraternity. I have discussed a number of them in the past, and I do not think there is a member of the Craft today who is not acutely aware of at least a few of them.

It is significant that history is also replete with the names of other men whose names are just as well known, but who were the enemies of Freemasonry. They were enemies because they objected to Freemasonry's emphasis on that need for toleration as a human tradition. Most will recognize the names of Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Joseph Stalin, Francisco Franco, and the Ayatollah Khomeini, amongst others. Each one was an avowed enemy to Freemasonry, as well as an avowed enemy to democracy, both proponents of free thought. Where toleration is practiced, the political philosophy of those men cannot survive.

Several months ago, there was a seminar conducted for the purpose of responding to criticism of the Craft by several religious leaders. One observation I made at that seminar which was strikingly evident was that the opposition to the Masonic Fraternity by those men was based upon the same premise as those men I mentioned above. It was made very clear that toleration of others' beliefs is not to be accepted by the minds of those religious leaders who have positioned themselves to be enemies of our Craft. The emphasis we place upon this practice is an antithesis to their methodology.

One of the most discouraging aspects of being a Masonic leader today is the need to attempt to educate those in the field of religious leadership who find Freemasonry incompatible with their doctrine, when we know full well that we encourage member support of their religion probably more than any existing organization on earth.

It is a tragic commentary that the enemies of the Craft have been the world's greatest tyrants and some of the world's religious leaders, both major antagonists of each other. It is probably even more tragic that they oppose us for the same reason — the philosophical principle that man should not only have the right to worship God, but also have the right to worship God as he sees fit. An observation I made when I wrote my first Masonic paper almost 30 years ago was that there was no religion in opposition to Freemasonry, but there are religious leaders in opposition to Freemasonry. I find no reason to change that observation.

The greatest contribution that we as individual Freemasons can make to our Craft along these lines is to let those leaders of religion to whom we look for guidance along theological lines know emphatically that our commitment to the Craft and its principles is not only compatible to God, but, as an organization, it reinforces our responsibilities to our Supreme Being and to our place of worship. Each of us has a stake in that contribution.