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VOLUME XLVI

# The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

MAY 1999



NUMBER 2

## EXTENDING OUR "MISSION OF LOVE"

MASONIC HOMES  
ELIZABETHTOWN

EASTERN STAR HOME - WEST  
PITTSBURGH

EASTERN STAR HOME - EAST  
WARMINSTER

VALLEY CARE MASONIC CENTER  
SEWICKLEY (page 3)





# The Grand Master's Message



Brethren:

Have you ever watched vision become reality? It seems to me that's what is happening among the Freemasons of Pennsylvania.

Sixteen months ago – on Dec. 27, 1997 – I said:

"It is my vision that, with a common resolve, the Masons in our lodges across the Commonwealth will demonstrate, personally and actively, the vitality of Freemasonry among the brethren **in their lodges, throughout the fraternity, with their families, and in their communities.**"

I'm sure that you will observe the reality of it as you read through your issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*. You will see the vitality of Masons who are earnestly involved ...

**... in their lodges.** The high level of participation in the OVERTURE Program — only a few percentage points away from the maximum — amplifies the dedication and determination of lodge leadership across the Commonwealth. Responsible brethren are tackling today's tough problems of fraternal management, creating and grasping solutions, and motivating the brethren in their lodges. OVERTURE is making good leaders better leaders, enabling them to make good men better men as our Fraternity grows toward the twenty-first century. At the same time, the programs and materials upgraded, revised, and expanded by the Masonic Education Committee fit hand-in-glove in building for tomorrow.

**... throughout the fraternity.** The dynamics of facing today's problems head-on and working in unanimity for the benefit of all came through loud and clear when the leaders of Grand Lodge and the leaders of virtually all of the appendant bodies of Freemasonry came together to consider not just mutual survival, but mutual progress. Adding to the excitement is the reality that those leaders want to keep on with the unified "Partners For Progress" approach toward the vision for the twenty-first century.

**...with their families and in their communities.** I always have believed – and I have said so often – that as a Brotherhood of Service to Mankind, "The community is the place we have to be." Across Pennsylvania, Masons and their families are serving others unselfishly. With the pending acquisition of the Valley Care Center near Pittsburgh, the caring services of the Masonic Homes now become available to the brethren and their loved ones at four locations across the state.

There's no equal to the extent and the ways that Pennsylvania "Masons Care" about youth. We all know of the scholarships, leadership, and character-building programs of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation. But, it seems like just about every day The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children steps forward to offer more and more help and opportunities for at-risk youth. You've read so much about the programs with D.A.R.E.; how we enable the training of educators for the Student Assistance Program, just to mention two.

In this issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*, don't miss the article about the upcoming Aug. 7 Unity Banquet. All Pennsylvania Masons – this Grand Lodge and that of the Prince Hall Affiliation – will be joining hands with the Pennsylvania State Police and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board to create, produce, and present an outstanding, new drug and alcohol awareness program at the high school level.

The Grand Lodge Matching Charity Grants Program not only has made it possible for many lodges to become involved significantly in their communities, but it also has energized many brethren to become involved personally in community projects. You will find some of those activities reported in this issue, but there are literally hundreds more out there serving at the grassroots level.

For instance, who could have imagined that the public service program of Isaac Hiester Lodge No. 660 in Reading would be the talk of the Grand Masters of North America at their meeting a half a world away in Honolulu. The community program those brethren undertook to benefit the youngsters at Jacksonwald Elementary School in nearby Exeter Twp. stands as an excellent model that other lodges might want to pursue. Their story is a great one, but it's only one of hundreds, large and small, serving mankind across the Commonwealth.

I commend the dedicated Pennsylvania Masons who are transforming vision into reality by demonstrating personally and actively, the vitality of Freemasonry.

Sincerely and fraternally,

*James L. Ernette*

James L. Ernette,  
R.W. Grand Master



## Traveling Gavel Brings Out Brethren, Fosters Fellowship

There's a hand-crafted "traveling gavel" that moves among the nine lodges of the 17th Masonic District bringing out members and visiting brethren in increasing numbers and fostering fellowship at their meetings. Pride of ownership has the brethren of the lodges "going for the gavel" because it gets passed to the lodge with the most visitors.

For example, on a typically cold wintry evening the first week of January in the north-central mountains of Pennsylvania, 34 brethren from the other eight lodges — some driving 40 miles — visited Cowanesque Lodge No. 351 in Knoxville. Take note that Cowanesque is a small, rural lodge of only 80 members; yet there were 53 brethren attending that night for the passing of the gavel. Thirty-four were visitors.

After recognizing all visitors, it was determined that Ossea Lodge No. 317, Wellsboro, had the largest number present, seven. Gary B. Stahley, D.D.G.M., 17th Masonic District, presented the traveling gavel to Kenneth W. Mettler, W.M., of Ossea Lodge.

A few weeks later, at the stated meeting of Ossea Lodge, Cowanesque Lodge, with seven visitors, outnumbered Tioga Lodge No. 373 with five visitors, and took the gavel back. But it was only for two days, because Tioga brethren visited Cowanesque and claimed the gavel.



### The Traveling Gavel of the 17th Masonic District

The rules of the traveling gavel competition are simple: A minimum of three visiting brethren from any lodge in the District is necessary to take the gavel with them to their lodge. If there are visiting brethren from two or more lodges, the largest number of visitors determines who will take the gavel. In a tie, the visitors who traveled the farthest will take the gavel.

The unique gavel was handcrafted by two past masters of Cowanesque Lodge, Hal D. Dibble, and Lynn C. Clark. It was fashioned from a piece of wood that Bro. Clark kept from a cherry tree that was cut down eight years ago by Bro. Dibble on the farm of another brother, the late Keith Owlett, P.M.. The title, "The Traveling Gavel" was laser-engraved on its head and "17th Masonic District" on its handle. The names of the nine lodges of the district are etched on a wooden resting block. While the gavel was possessed briefly by Ossea Lodge, Timothy McConnell crafted a copper carrying case.

D.D.G.M. Stahley said that "The goal for the traveling gavel is to encourage visitation among the lodges in the district and result in fun and more opportunities for fellowship. It is obviously working toward that goal." The idea for the traveling gavel came to him from Bradley A. Lewis, D.D.G.M., 22nd Masonic District.

**Gary B. Stahley, D.D.G.M. (second from right), after accepting the traveling gavel from Paul P. Green, W.M., Cowanesque Lodge No. 351 (center), passes it to Kenneth W. Mettler, W.M., Ossea Lodge No. 317 (right). At left are Hal D. Dibble, P.M., and Lynn C. Clark, P.M., both of Cowanesque Lodge, who handcrafted the gavel.**



## COVER STORY

### Sewickley Nursing Home Will Be The "Valley Care Masonic Center"

With a formal settlement on June 1, the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will acquire the Valley Care Nursing Home in Sewickley, a quality 128-bed Medicare- and Medicaid- approved facility located within eight miles of the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West north of Pittsburgh. After the settlement, the Committee on Masonic Homes and the Board of Directors of Valley Care will unveil a sign identifying the facility as "Valley Care Masonic Center."

"The addition of this facility enhances the Fraternity's benefits of the Masonic Homes' caring services to the brethren and their loved ones statewide," said R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette, who also is Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Homes.

Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO, of the Masonic Homes, added enthusiastically, "We are extending even further the Masonic Homes' 'Mission of Love' so that more individuals now can choose to receive services in their preferred area of the Commonwealth. This allows the Masonic Homes to meet our goal of providing Medicare and Medicaid services to members in areas convenient to them across the state."

Valley Care is the fourth location for the Masonic Homes, spanning the state from east to west. The magnificent Masonic Homes Campus at Elizabethtown is the flagship operation for the residential, assisted living, and health care services for the Fraternity. In addition to the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West mentioned earlier, there is the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East, located in Warminster, northwest of Philadelphia.

The forthcoming settlement will culminate the results of a decision made by the Committee on Masonic Homes some months ago. That decision was made necessary when it was determined that the Pennsylvania Department of Welfare would not provide Medicaid certification for the

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



# "Partners For Progress"

## Bodies of Freemasonry Seek Unity In Planning a Strategy for the Future

It was an "exhilarating day" on Feb. 6 when 35 leaders of Freemasonry and appendant bodies – Grand Lodge, Shrine, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Tall Cedars, and Grotto – met in the new Samuel C. Williamson Multimedia Center on the Patton Campus in Elizabethtown.

"The Partners for Progress Seminar was the first held anywhere in North America, as far as we can tell," said R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette. "It was designed to see if the leaders of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania could agree that there needed to be a unified effort designed to stop the losses of members by developing a strategic plan for the future."

The seminar was facilitated by Bro. Dudley Davis, the consultant for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and its effective OVERTURE program. Partners for Progress was viewed by some as a risky venture in light of its never having been done before. "Actually, I was looking forward to the meeting," said Bro. Davis. "It was a rare chance to make an impassioned plea to a group of men who had the capacity to make a unified effort for renewal of the Craft if they would only agree that continuity of purpose was essential. Judging from the reactions and the reception of the ideas of a unified plan for the future, we may have accomplished our goal. However, only time will tell."

"Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Dluge, Jr., said that the concept of cooperation among all the leadership of Freemasonry is necessary, as is their collective efforts to unify the fraternity in working toward common goals."

R.W. Senior Grand Warden Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., and R.W. Junior Grand Warden William Slater II agreed, "We need to keep this moving. We can't afford to let this stop. We're going to have to keep this enthusiasm rolling."

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The organizers and presenters for the Partners for Progress Seminar are (l-r): A. J. Garvey, Chief of Staff, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; G. Kent Hackney, Deputy Chief of Staff; Bro. Dudley Davis, Consultant and Facilitator; Ms. Debra Moxley, Executive Director of the Westmoreland Council, Girl Scouts of America; and James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master.

full!" Moxley said that by listening to members and analyzing their needs and providing benefits to joiners, the Girl Scouts had grown over the last five years at a rate unlike many other organizations.

### The Message is Clear

So, what is the message of "Partners for Progress?" It boils down to three points:

1. Men need to find Freemasonry more appealing and more in line with their needs when they join.
2. We need to change the way we treat members in all Masonic organizations, cooperate with one another, and build a helpful strategy for the future.
3. No plan will work for only one year. Continuity of a vision and a strategy for the future is imperative for our survival.

Look for more about "Partners for Progress" in future issues of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*.



Leaders from the Grand Lodge and the various appendant organizations of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania met in the new Williamson Multimedia Center to discuss unified strategy for the Craft in the future.



# The New Freemason Pavilion at VA Hospital To Be Dedicated on Armed Forces Day, May 15



INSET: An artist's rendition of the new Freemasons Pavilion

The Freemasons Pavilion at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Aspinwall near Pittsburgh will be dedicated on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 15, by James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge officers.

There will be a short parade and the dedication ceremonies at the site at 2:15 p.m.

The parade will include an entourage of invited local, state, and federal Veterans Administration officials accompanying the Grand Master and Grand Lodge personnel, preceded by a Marine Corps color guard, marching band, and the Pennsylvania State Police Mounted Unit.

The Freemasons Pavilion was built and donated by the Pennsylvania Freemasons as a way for a grateful nation to say "thank you" to those who served their country and their countrymen so well. It 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.

The Pavilion was constructed on approximately two acres of hospital grounds. A new entrance provides

access from the hospital to the courtyard setting with lighted walkways leading to private, furnished meeting areas and a 3,000 square-foot, covered pavilion with an additional 1,400 square-foot patio. The Pavilion contains a full kitchen and facilities wired to the hospital nurses' stations to ensure the comfort and safety of the patients and their families.

Also, for the serenity and enjoyment of all, a beautifully landscaped, fiber optic-lighted, granite fountain pool with seating areas has been installed. A granite monument 13 feet wide and ten feet high with three bronze "Tribute to American Veterans" plaques salutes all those who served our country.

William M. Kratzenberg, D.D.G.M., 54th Masonic District, Chairman of the VA Pavilion Committee, said that the Masons of Pennsylvania can be proud of the Pavilion they have provided for those who gave so much for our country. He said that the contributions already received from lodges and brethren that helped make it possible are very much appreciated. He noted that contributions continue to be welcome even though the facility is in place. Bro. Kratzenberg noted that the contributions are to a program of the Fraternity and, therefore, are not eligible for participation in the Matching Charity Grants Program.

## EVERYONE IS INVITED TO PARADE AND DEDICATION

No reservations or tickets are necessary for the parade and dedication ceremonies at the VA Hospital.

To drive to the Veterans Hospital, travel on Rt. 28 (north or south) and take Exit 7. Follow the signs for about one mile to the site.





## Father, 3 Sons Raised

It was an unusually memorable time during an extra meeting of Pollock Lodge No. 502, Tarentum, on Nov. 21, when a father and his three sons were raised on the same day. The new Master Masons are: the father, Vincent Andrew Bachar (second from right), and his sons (l-r), Scott Eric, Jeffrey Randall, and Brian Andrew. All four degrees were conferred by the Worshipful Master, James W. Anderson, II (center). Pollock Lodge is in the 54th Masonic District.



## June Quarterly Communication Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania

Wednesday, June 2, 1999 - 10:00 a.m.  
Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette cordially invites all Master Masons to attend the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on Wednesday, June 2, 1999 at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center at 10:00 a.m.

(Take I-279 North to exit 19. Continue straight at the traffic light at Perrysville Avenue onto Cemetery Lane. The Masonic Center is located approximately three-quarters mile on the right side of Cemetery Lane.)



## The Grand Lodge Quarterly Banquet

Wednesday, Evening, June 2, 1999  
Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel

Masons and guests are cordially invited to attend the Grand Lodge Banquet following the June Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel, downtown Pittsburgh, Commonwealth Place and Point State Park. Social hour: 5:30 p.m. Dinner served: 6:30 p.m. with music by the Jack Purcell Orchestra. Tickets: \$25.00 per person



### GRAND LODGE QUARTERLY BANQUET

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## Masons of Note

R.W. Past Grand Master Edward H. Fowler, Jr., (center) con-

ferred the three degrees on his grandson, Geary L. O'Neil, Jr. (left) in Avalon Lodge No. 657, Bellevue on Feb. 9. At right is the new Mason's father, Geary L. O'Neil, Sr., who was made a Mason-at-Sight in 1993 when Bro. Fowler was Grand Master. Geary L., Sr. then affiliated with Avalon Lodge. R.W.P.G.M. Fowler also had conferred all of the degrees on his father, the late Edward H., Sr., in Avalon Lodge. Thus, four generations of the family have been members of Avalon Lodge. Geary L. Jr., is a police officer.



Bro. and Dr. F. William

Sunderman took a week from work in March to go to Washington to be recognized as the "Oldest U.S. Worker." He is over 100 - born Oct. 23, 1898 - and works every day at the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia editing the medical journal he founded 30 years ago. He is widely known as a physician, author, teacher, photographer, editor, scientist, and musician. He says, "I have too many interests to retire." He still plays his 17th century Stradivarius violin every evening and on his 100th birthday performed a solo at his alma mater, Gettysburg College. He has played in Carnegie Hall. Bro. Sunderman was made a Mason-at-Sight by Earl F. Herold, R.W. Grand Master, on June 2, 1964, and affiliated with Thomas R. Patton Lodge No. 659, Philadelphia.

Robert Boyd Roemer, Jr.

(center) was raised Nov. 16 to the degree of a Master Mason by his grandfather, W. Chester Ramsey, P.M. (left) while his father, Robert Boyd Roemer, Sr. (right), served as the Guide.



## Record Turnout to OVERTURE II Shows Value of Program

An overflow crowd of more than 220 lodge leaders met in the Adams Mark Hotel in Philadelphia on Feb. 13 for the second Spring OVERTURE Series. Additional chairs had to be added to a huge ballroom to accommodate the leaders of the 72 lodges, together with nine district deputy grand masters and the district membership chairmen who joined the session.

The purpose of this Spring's session was to respond with a program that met the expectations of lodge leaders who had attended both last Spring's OVERTURE Series and the Conductor Series in the Fall.

From their responses and recommendations, a program was designed to offer practical solutions to issues of the lodge. In constructing the program, G. Kent Hackney, Deputy Chief of Staff, said, "We are committed to building on the OVERTURE Program to date while adding the input from participants. They were clear in their message: 'Keep it simple; keep it practical; give us help in areas we identify; and get us out by 4 p.m.' From the reactions of participants after the session, we accomplished all four goals."

### Lodge-Related Success Stories

The sessions began with a series of success stories. Lodge spokesmen told of the success of their lodges over the last year, particularly in the areas presented during the prior two seminars. While some of their success stories were familiar to participants, there were a number of new ideas. Participants were anxious to learn from those lodge leaders offering success stories whom they could contact in the respective lodges for additional information.

About one-half of those were first-time participants. As a result, the facilitator, Bro. Dudley Davis, spent the initial 40 minutes presenting the hard facts that lodge leaders needed to hear about the imperative for change. According to Bro. Davis, "This is always an interesting period of discussion because the participants are able to see that they have been part of the problem and that they need to be a part of the solution. After 40 years of continuous losses, some while their fathers were the masters of Pennsylvania

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania  
Overture Program



lodges, it's clear to most that a multi-year effort is essential. They immediately see as well that, with only a single year in the East, it will require a team of leaders to effect real change."

The agenda for the conference then proceeded with the development of three workshops. The first addressed involving the family with the lodge. The second was on developing a plan and a budget for the lodge. The third was about developing a lodge community action program. Participants used workbooks provided by Grand Lodge to give them tools they could not only work with during the seminar, but also use later in their lodges.

### New Video Featured

One of the highlights of the seminar was the premier showing of the video, "Partners for Progress," featuring the important accomplishment of Isaac Hiester Lodge No. 660, Reading, and its partnership with the Jacksonwald Elementary School. The video, which has been sent to all lodges, was a very big hit with the participants. They saw the potential for that type of involvement increasing the interest and activities among existing members and creating appeal among those who might want to join.

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette attended the seminar and spoke briefly. Speaking to the leaders of the lodges as "the guys in the trenches," he stressed the fact that "... change would only happen if they take the lead and make it happen."

As promised, participants were on their way home exactly at 4 p.m.

The remaining sessions of the Spring OVERTURE Seminars will be:

**May 8**  
Harrisburg Marriott

**May 22**  
Holiday Inn Conference Center, Bethlehem

**June 5**  
Woodlands Inn and Resort, Wilkes-Barre



EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA MASONS  
FAMILY PICNIC, SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Masons, their families, and friends in Eastern Pennsylvania will picnic June 12 at Dorney Park-Wildwater Kingdom, Allentown, featuring an all-you-can-eat menu. Dorney Park will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Wildwater Kingdom from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission pays for both parks. Make your reservations promptly to beat the May 26 deadline.

Coupons for parking to be paid at the gate can be obtained in advance upon request with your reservation. (Please include a self-addressed envelope with 55¢ postage for return of tickets and discount parking coupon.)

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\_\_\_\_\_ No. of Adult Tickets @ \$25

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DEADLINE: MAY 26

Largest Masonic Emblem to be  
Dedicated During Historic  
Alexandria Commemoration



The world's largest Masonic emblem – a gigantic square and compasses – has been constructed on the front terrace of The George Washington Masonic National

Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, and will be dedicated Saturday, June 26 as part of a historic observance commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the death of Brother and President George Washington.

George H. Chapin, M.W. Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, and the officers of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, will dedicate the huge square and compasses at 3 p.m., continuing the tradition of dedicating great buildings and memorials with Masonic Honors.

Following the dedication ceremony in the afternoon, the attendees will be entertained by recording artist and Bro. Dan Hall. In his repertoire, Bro. Hall will include a song written especially for the dedication ceremony. A picnic dinner will be served on the grounds of the Memorial from 4 to 7 p.m. The US Army Concert Band will perform at 7:30 p.m. The festivities will culminate at dusk in front of the Memorial with a fireworks display.

Prior to erecting this symbol, there was nothing to identify The George Washington Memorial as a Masonic edifice. All Grand Lodges in the United States, and many foreign jurisdictions, are expected to be represented at the historic event. The public is welcome to join in commemorating the memory and celebrating the life and principles of Bro. George Washington, Founding Father, First President, and truly the Father of Our Country.

All Grand Lodge jurisdictions support The George Washington Masonic National Memorial. R. W. Past Grand Master W. Scott Stoner is Third Vice President of the Memorial Association.

PA Mason Composed Anthem  
For Washington Celebration

Music written by Dr. Will G. Butler, a Pennsylvania Freemason, was the official anthem for the 1932 bicentennial celebration of the birth of Bro. George Washington. Bro. Richard L. Mix, of Williamsport Lodge No. 106, provided a clipping from the Oct. 2, 1931, *Washington (D.C.) Herald* that reports:

"The patriotic anthem, 'Long Live America' has been selected by the Washington Bicentennial Commission as the official song of the celebration next year.

"The anthem was written by Dr. Will George Butler, of Philadelphia, Director of the Conservatory of Music at the Mansfield State Normal School."

Bro. Butler lived in Williamsport at the turn of the century and taught music at Dickinson Seminary, which is now Lycoming College. He later went to Mansfield State Normal School, now Mansfield University, to head the music department. The Music Building there is named in his honor.

Records at Williamsport Lodge indicate that he was made a Mason April 18, 1906, and died in 1955.

Dad Confers Three Degrees



At an extra meeting of Cochranon Lodge No. 790, on Halloween, Frank L. Baranyal, P.M., W.M. (front right), conferred all three degrees upon his son, Phillip P. Baranyal (front left). A dispensation was granted for the conferral of the degrees in one day because the Master Mason is in the U.S. Air Force stationed in Washington, D.C.

Assisting in the conferral were (l-r): first row - James P. Averill; William T. White, P.M.; James A. Cokley, P.M.; Klaus Sturzebecher; Kevin Park; Adam J. Falkenburg; and Edward Loper. Rear - William Coleman, Daniel M. Bresee, Allan M. Steadman, David McClain, and Harry Pierce.

Join Grand Master James L. Ernette & Potentate James W. Allison



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
MASONIC FAMILY PICNIC

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 10:30 A.M. - 11:00 P.M.



KENNYWOOD PARK



- ★ Ride-All-Day Tickets
- ★ Bring Your Picnic Baskets
- ★ Free Gift for Kids

- ★ Free Buttermilk & Chocolate Milk
- ★ Senior & Youth Games, Door Prizes
- ★ Entertainment & Fellowship



- ★ Units from Zem Zem Shrine in Erie
- ★ The Grand Parade
- ★ Fireworks Under the Stars



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★ THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA & SYRIA SHRINE ★

In association with  
The Blue Lodges of Western Pennsylvania - Valley of Pittsburgh, AASR - York Rite Bodies  
The Grotto - The Tall Cedars - Order of DeMolay - Rainbow - Job's Daughters  
Eastern Star - Daughters of the Nile

ALL MASONS FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!

Pavilions are reserved for your picnic! Plenty of Free Parking!  
Grand Master James Ernette and Syria Potentate James Allison lead the colorful parade! Need information? Call Dom Santaguida at 412-

561-1009 or William Roberts at 412- 683-0359 or Robert Matasich at 412- 931-1996 or Valley of Pittsburgh office at 412-939-3579 or Syria Shrine office at 724-274-7000.

★★★★★

ORDER TICKETS NOW!

Ride-all-day tickets...\$14.00 - General Admission...\$4.00  
Enclosed is check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for tickets as indicated below.  
Ride tickets \$14. General Admission \$4.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Send self-addressed, stamped envelope & check payable to:  
Masonic Picnic, Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center  
3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-2700



## Matching Charity Grants Improving Quality Of Life

The Masonic Matching Charity Grants program continues to make an impact throughout the Commonwealth in 1999. The caring of Masons is becoming known in their communities and remembered in the hearts of the many lives they are touching.

Among the many touched by Pennsylvania Masons is that of a young man in Tarentum, who needs a kidney transplant. Masons of the 54th Masonic District joined the community in raising funds to assist in the operation. A local church held a spaghetti dinner and the Masons of Pollock Lodge No. 502 held a pancake breakfast.



**Westmoreland Lodge No. 518** contributed \$10,800 to the Westmoreland-Fayette Council, Boy Scouts of America, to be used for building a handicapped-accessible health lodge at the Eberly Scout Reservation (Camp Conestoga) in the Laurel Mountains. Westmoreland Council serves more than 13,000 youth and leaders. Funds were raised through voluntary contributions by members of the lodge. Gerald A. Sutherland (left center), W.M. of Westmoreland Lodge, and Bro. and Dr. Edward Lewis (right center), President of the Scout Council, hold the ceremonial check. Looking on are Charles Kapalka (left), Secretary of the Lodge, and Jeff Morris (right), Scout Executive.

## CONCORD LODGE PRESENTS GIFT



Recently at the Concordville Fire House, the Worshipful Master of Concord Lodge No. 625, N. James Murphy (left) presented a check for \$3,500 to Lee Weersing, President of the Concordville Fire and Protective Association to pay for one of the fire company's new "Lifepack 3000, Automatic External Defibrillators" displayed by Senior Warden Curt Barrett and Junior Warden Greg Harding. This piece of equipment is the latest state-of-the-art device to enable the emergency medical technicians to shock the heart back into its proper rhythm and save lives. Each year the members of Concord Lodge raise funds for their charitable contributions by sponsoring a charity golf outing, a flea market, and an art auction.

The breakfast became a community effort to save the life of a young man and brought everyone from the community together. Helped by the Matching Charity Grants program, the Masons of Pollock Lodge became part of the life of a special young man, B. J. Taraszewski, son of Floyd Taraszewski, a detective in Harrison. At the benefit breakfast, Detective Taraszewski recognized a man whom he had arrested three times for burglary, who shook Detective Taraszewski's hand and said, "Don't worry, you were just doing your job. I have no hard feelings. I'm here for your kid."

Is your lodge improving the quality of life in its community and touching the lives of individuals with the help of the Masonic Matching Charity Grants program? If not, then ask your lodge why not. Each lodge can apply for up to a total of \$5,000 this year in Matching Charity Grants. The program was designed to assist lodges in making an impact in their communities. Raising

**Orient Lodge No. 683**, Penn Hills, contributed \$1,000 to the Penn-Trafford Hockey Club. Dropping the hockey puck at the Center Ice Arena in Dormont is James B. Woleslagle, P.M.



the funds for a specific project isn't the most rewarding experience of the program, it's knowing that you made a difference.

Ideas for lodge charity programs can be found on the Grand Lodge web site <<www.pagrandlodge.org>>. All applications are processed by the Masonic Matching Charity Grants Committee in the offices of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, Elizabethtown.

## Warrant Members Get 50-Year Awards

Three warrant members of Wilmington Lodge No. 804, New Wilmington, PA, were presented with 50-Year Emblems of Gold by W. Thomas Marlowe, Jr., D.D.G.M., 26th Masonic District. Wilmington Lodge is 28 years old, constituted in 1965. The warrant members honored for fifty years in Masonry are (l-r): Carl Elder, formerly a member of Lodge of the Craft No. 433, New Castle, PA; Leon Radaker, formerly of Victory Lodge No. 694, Butler, PA; and Jim Miller, formerly of St. Alban's Lodge No. 677, Youngstown, OH.



## Two New Directors at Masonic Homes



### Beth Bossert, Director of Nursing

Beth Bossert, R.N., B.S.N., previously the Assistant Director of Nursing and Ancillary Services for the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, has been promoted to Director of Nursing. Beth has worked at the Masonic Homes since 1992. She is responsible for nursing administration on resident care units, rehabilitation services, respiratory services, and health information management.



### Donna N. Hershey, Director of Care and Outcomes

Donna N. Hershey, R.N., M.S., CCRP, has been promoted to Director of Care and Outcomes. Donna joined the Masonic Homes in the spring of 1998. She is a geriatric clinical nurse specialist and nurse practitioner. Hershey is responsible for assuring the quality of care and maximizing the health and independence of residents, children, and clients of the Masonic Homes. She oversees the outpatient/employee health department and the dental, podiatry, pharmacy, laboratory, x-ray, cardiology, and eye clinics.

## Valentine Sweethearts Celebrate 70 Years Together

On Valentine's Day, Bro. Charles and Ellen Cummings celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.

Their secret to a long, happy marriage? "Just love each other," Mrs. Cummings said.

Bro. and Mrs. Cummings were married on Feb. 14, 1929, in Elkton, MD. They were 19 and very sure of their decision.

Ellen and Charles grew up in Fleetwood, PA, just seven doors from one another. Ellen would walk to work every morning and often, as she passed Charles' house, he was getting into his car.

"She snared me!" Bro. Cummings said.

"He was a wonderful man, and I knew I wanted to marry him," Mrs. Cummings said.



**Bro. Charles and  
Ellen Cummings**

Bro. Cummings, a member of Olivet-Oriental Lodge No. 385, Philadelphia, was a construction supervisor in both the Philadelphia and the Tampa Bay, FL areas. Mrs. Cummings worked as a riveter and inspector during WWII. They have two daughters, Janet and Lois, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

The Cummings reside in the Village Green Area. Every Thursday afternoon, they visit the residents at the Masonic Health Care Center. Bro. Cummings plays the organ for the residents. "I play pieces that people like to hear: music from the 1950's and 1960's," Bro. Cummings said. When he plays songs like "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "Home on the Range," the residents sing and hum along.

As Bro. Cummings plays the organ, Mrs. Cummings visits with residents

who gather to hear the music.

"His organ playing is a way for me to start conversations with the residents. I ask them if they like the song or if they like the organ music," Mrs. Cummings said.

The Cummings came to the Masonic Homes in August 1998. This residential living area offers three meals daily in the beautiful Grand Lodge Hall Dining Room, bi-weekly housekeeping services, personal laundry service, reg-

ularly scheduled transportation, social events, around-the-clock emergency nurse call response, and all utilities except telephone and cable TV.

Currently accommodations in this area are available immediately. If you are interested in experiencing life first-hand at the Masonic Homes, you may either call the Masonic Homes Admissions Office at 1-800-422-1207 or write to the Admissions Office at the

Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA, 17022-2199. An appointment will be scheduled with one of the Admissions Representatives to tour the facility or send you our Masonic Homes brochure.

## Send me more information about Masonic Homes' Village Green Area.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete coupon and return to:  
**Admissions Office**  
Masonic Homes  
One Masonic Drive  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022



Masonic Eastern Star Home-East Serves Philadelphia Area in a Suburban Setting

The Masonic Eastern Star Home-East provides services to people in the Philadelphia area. Specifically there is help for day-one Medicaid recipients in Philadelphia County.

A Medicare and Medicaid-certified facility, the home has nursing accommodations for 28 residents and assisted living accommodations for 34 residents.

Services are provided under a registered nurse's supervision and a physician is on call at all times. The home has transfer agreements with area hospitals for inpatient and outpatient services.

Meals are prepared under the supervision of a licensed dietitian consultant and served in a cozy dining room.

Residents receive personal beauty care in the home's salon.

A complete religious program of interdenominational and secular services are conducted regularly in the beautiful chapel.

Residents participate in many recreational activities such as arts and crafts, games, sing-alongs, planned entertainment, shopping trips, and picnics.

For more information, availability, or rate information, call (215) 672-2500.



The setting is beautiful at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East!

Respite Program Will Offer Long-term Accommodations

The Respite Program at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown has been successful during its first year of operation, in providing quality respite services to adults with mild to moderate mental retardation. Throughout this initial roll-out of the program, the staff has continued to listen to the desires of the membership in an effort to offer the maximum amount of flexibility and responsiveness to concerns.

From these suggestions and requests, the Masonic Homes has recognized that the cottage could accommodate four adults on a permanent residential basis, while continuing to offer four respite beds for adult guests. Over the next several months, the program will be assessed to determine the level of need for this new service.

The Masonic Homes already has a list of persons who are interested in pursuing this long-term residential service for their loved ones with mild to moderate mental retardation. The staff will continue to maintain a list of interested families. The first four beds will be offered systematically on a first-come, first-served basis. If there is a greater need or desire for this type of long-term care service, the Masonic Homes will consider renovating the cottage adjacent to the present Respite Cottage for additional long-term care beds for adults with mild to moderate mental retardation.

For more information about the services provided in the Respite or Residential Program, to schedule a visit, or to place your loved on the long-term Residential list, call Brian Luzier, Program Specialist: (717) 367-1121, ext. 33751.

Grand Master's Day September 25

Mark your calendar for the annual, exciting, fun-filled Grand Master's Day 1999 at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25 for Pennsylvania Masons, Eastern Star members, families, and friends. You'll get full details in the August issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*.



Cottage Construction Complete; Few Still Available

Twenty-eight new cottages have been completed at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, bringing the new Independent Living cottage total to 100. Many of the new cottages are occupied already, while other units are reserved and will be occupied soon. A few sites still exist for immediate reservation.

The five different floor plans offered in Phase I and II of the cottage project also are featured in our newly-constructed cottages. All units feature a garage, screened porch, sky-light, wall-to-wall carpeting, sheer curtains, emergency call system, and individually controlled heating and air-conditioning systems.

With completion of the 28 cottages, Independent Living at the Masonic Homes is able to offer a total of 450 Retirement Living options to Pennsylvania Masons and their eligible family members as well as Pennsylvania Eastern Star members and their spouses.

New residents, Bro. Thomas H. and Jeanne Burgess, moved into their new home last November. Approaching his 50th year as a Mason in Azalea Lodge No. 687, Hazleton, Bro. Burgess is a R.W. Past Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and is happy to be "back home" at the Masonic Homes along with his wife. During his career, he has served in a variety of roles within the Fraternity.

Moving from Hendersonville, NC, the couple is thrilled to be in a retirement community where all the normal home ownership problems are "off their shoulders." Freedom from home maintenance enables them the time to do the things they enjoy: swimming, watching movies, and meeting people. Tom reports that he keeps running into people he has met at various Masonic functions in the past. In addition to his other activities, Tom finds time to volunteer in the mail room.

Excited to be in Elizabethtown, they relate everything has been "top-of-the-line" with special recognition going to the staff. Jeanne comments that everyone has gone overboard, helping them in every way possible to make their new home a wonderful experience. Their only regret is that they didn't do it five years ago!

For more information on Retirement Living options at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, call 1-800-676-6452 or complete and mail the attached coupon. Staff members are eager to assist you.



R.W. Past Grand Warden Thomas H. and Jeanne Burgess

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

Three Regional Charity Golf Outings to Benefit The Masonic Children's Home at Elizabethtown

James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania, will host three Regional Golf Outings to benefit the Masonic Children's Home of Pennsylvania.

- Western, August 16 at Quicksilver Country Club, Midway. Limit: 120 golfers
- Central, August 23 at Felicita Resort, Harrisburg. Limit: 120 golfers
- Eastern, August 30, at LuLu Country Club, North Hills. Limit: 120 golfers

Join the Grand Master in providing quality care for those children from families in which the parent or guardian can no longer cope with the complexities of child rearing. Your participation in the Charity Golf Outings will help the Masonic Children's Home continue to provide services for up to 40 school-aged children within comfortable home-like cottages on the Masonic Homes' campus. Medical, dental, educational, physical, social, and recreational needs are all provided to the children at no cost to them or their families. Children need not have any Masonic affiliation to receive services.

All tournaments will be a shotgun start with a 12:30 p.m. tee off.

Registration and luncheon will be held prior to tee off at 10:45 a.m. After golf, there will be a reception at 6:00 p.m. and a buffet dinner at 7:00 p.m. followed by a program to award prizes.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$125 Includes green fees, carts, refreshments on course, lunch, reception, dinner, and program.

**NON-GOLFERS:** \$30 Includes reception, dinner, and program.

Mail Reservation Form to:

**For Western** - August 16 at Quicksilver Country Club, Midway

**William Hartland**  
2030 North View Drive  
North Huntingdon, PA 15642  
Telephone: (412) 863-6469

**For Central** - August 23 at Felicita Resort, Harrisburg

**John L. Winkelman**  
513 North Fourth Street  
Reading, PA 19601-2836  
Telephone: (610) 374-1286

**For Eastern** - August 30 at LuLu Country Club, North Hills

**William Greet**  
2125 Parkdale Avenue  
Glenside, PA 19038  
Telephone: (215) 887-4915

Golf Reservation Form

Please enter the golfers listed below at \$125 per person in the Grand Master's Golf Tournament(s). Enclosed is my check made payable to "Masonic Charities Fund" in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Individual golf entrants will be assigned to a foursome.

**Deadline for golf reservations is August 1, unless the maximum number of golfers is reached before then.**

**Payment must accompany your reservations.**

1.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, St., Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodge Number (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
2.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, St., Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodge Number (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
3.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, St., Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodge Number (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
4.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, St., Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodge Number (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_



## Adult Daily Living Center Meets the Needs of Younger Adults

When adult day care services were established in the early 1970's, their mission was to serve older adults with dementia who require programming and supervision. As services became more available and better known, older adults who had experienced strokes or other debilitating illnesses soon found that adult day care services could benefit them by providing a structured and supportive environment for continued recovery. Now, another group of individuals is finding benefits within adult day care services: younger adults with physical and/or cognitive disabilities.

When it opened in August 1995, the Masonic Homes' Adult Daily Living Center recognized the need for day services for adults under the age of 60 who had experienced brain injuries or other neurological conditions (i.e., multiple sclerosis). In a traditional rehabilitation setting, a young adult who experienced a brain injury would work through treatment

sessions with the eventual goal to live at home and return to work.

However, sometimes a person's injury is so great that vocational placement is not always possible. The caregiver, usually a parent or a spouse who must continue to work, is faced with the decision of placement in a nursing home or expensive in-home care. Adult day care becomes a viable option as it provides cost-effective daytime care that allows the person to continue living at home. The therapeutic environment of the adult day care setting readily supports rehabilitative goals and can assist in a person's recovery.

Fourteen adults under the age of 60 have been served by the Adult Daily Living Center since it opened. Of this group, more than half had either a traumatic brain injury or a neurological disorder. The Adult Daily Living Center, working closely with the referring rehabilitation hospital or

case manager, assists the participant in working towards his or her recovery goals. Examples of these recovery goals include improving walking or wheelchair skills, transfer training, support in regaining self-care skills, participation in community reintegration outings, improvement of speech and language skills, leisure education, and behavior management. With many of these participants, staff members have been able to document progression toward meeting their goals. One participant who experienced a traumatic brain injury is now looking forward to vocational placement after attending the center for one and one-half years.

As the need for adult day care services for adults under 60 grows, the Adult Daily Living Center will continue to reach out to these individuals and their loved ones to provide a caring and supportive environment in which they can continue to recover.

The center currently has 30 participants, eight of whom are under 60. The ages of the participants range from 26 to 90.

## You Can Enjoy Making a Difference As A Health Care Center Volunteer

Volunteers were asked at the Masonic Health Care Center: "Why do you volunteer? What keeps you coming back each week?"

Their answers were interesting, such as: "I'm needed." "I'm so glad I was here today." "It gives me great reward to see the joy on a resident's face as I escort her from physical therapy, giving her a hug or a handshake as we go." "The nursing staff took such loving care of my father, it's my way of showing gratitude." "If I can add one more smile to a resident's day, why not?" "The residents here have such history and stories to share." "Because I get much more than I give."

Presently, the Volunteer Services Department in Elizabethtown has several volunteer opportunities available. Some opportunities work best with specific weekly time commitments, while others offer flexibility according to the volunteer's schedule. You could choose to be: a courier in a resident care unit, helping in ways such as: reading mail or filling pitchers; an escort in the Rehab Department or the Beauty Salon and Barber Shop; an assistant with staff personnel in the Therapeutic Recreation Department offering programs, special events, or crafts; an escort to and from the 2 p.m. Sunday church

service (there's a great idea for a lodge to consider); a volunteer visitor for residents who have no family or friends nearby; or a volunteer assisting the music therapist.

Mother Teresa said, "We can do no great things; only small things with great love." To volunteer, call today to see how you or your lodge can make a difference doing small things with great compassion: (717) 367-1121, Ext. 33175.

**Gretchen Johnson, a youth volunteer, and resident Edna Rhoads enjoy looking over books in the Masonic Health Care Center Library.**



## Woman Learns to Walk Again in Renaissance Unit



**Bro. Charles M. and Kathleen Wiest**

The Renaissance Unit at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown offers quality subacute care with the goal of getting patients home healthy! The unit provides services to Masonic Homes' residents as well as anyone in the community. Since its opening in February 1996, the unit's goal has been to help patients experience a smoother transition from the hospital back to home.

Mrs. Kathleen Wiest, wife of Bro. Charles M. Wiest, of Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 704, Lebanon, spent one and a half months in the Renaissance Unit following a two-month stay at Hershey Medical Center.

"They were great! The nurses and aides were wonderful to me," she said.

While staying in the Renaissance Unit, Mrs. Wiest spent time in the whirlpool once a day, and she went through physical therapy because she hadn't walked for months. She had to learn to walk again. An appreciative Mrs. Wiest said, "They were good to me. They got me to do things I never would do before."

She is now at home getting around with a walker. A visiting nurse comes once a day.

The 51-bed Renaissance Unit in the Ben Franklin Building is designed with capabilities to perform subacute care services for persons who may require complex medical management following, or instead of, acute hospitalization. They can receive a full array of active, comprehensive medical treatments until stabilization occurs. Services and programs are designed to meet the individual needs of each patient for recovery, with the goal of discharge back to home or to a more independent environment.

The unit currently provides all of the services available at a hospital subacute unit for a much lower cost and in a more home-like environment. Often, the services are covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or other insurers.

For more information about the Renaissance Unit, call the Masonic Homes' Admissions Office at 1-800-422-1207.

## Children's Home Alumnus Rev. Van Deursen to Lead Masonic Homes Ministries; Associate Positions Available

Thirty-six years ago, the Rev. A. Preston Van Deursen first arrived at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, as a struggling child from a troubled home. Four years ago, he returned to his home... this time not to reap the benefits of charity, but to give something back.

"This way I could give something back to the Masonic Homes and the people who took care of me," he said.



**Rev. A. Preston Van Deursen**

That is exactly what he has done. Since July 3, 1995, Pastor Van Deursen has served as Assistant in Pastoral Care at the Masonic Homes. On September 1, he will take over the leadership position of Director of Pastoral Care upon the retirement of the Rev. Charles H. Lacquement, D.D.

"I am very pleased to know that my 25 years in ministry at the Masonic Homes will be carried on by such a caring and compassionate minister," Pastor Lacquement said.

Pastor Van Deursen came to the Masonic Homes from inner-city Philadelphia in 1963 at age nine, along with his four younger sisters, ranging in age from one to six.

"I'm grateful for growing up here because our home situation was less than ideal," Pastor Van Deursen said.

Pastor Van Deursen spent eight years in the Masonic Children's Home and was graduated from Elizabethtown Area High School in 1972 at age 17. In 1976, Van Deursen was graduated from Lenoir-Phyne College in Hickory, NC,

with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Psychology, then from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC, in 1980 with a Master's Degree of Divinity.

Prior to his employment with the Masonic Homes, Pastor Van Deursen assisted in, and led, various Lutheran congregations in Ohio; the most recent was the First Lutheran Church in Bellefontaine. He also founded and organized two soup

kitchens in Logan County that fed 300-plus people per evening, served as executive director for Lutheran Community Services, and was responsible for the Church's interaction with Luther Manor, a federally-subsidized housing project for low income elderly and disabled individuals.

Pastor Van Deursen lives in Elizabethtown with his wife, Brenda, who works as an administrative assistant for the Masonic Homes; his daughters, Ashley Nicole, 14, and Allison Lee, 13; and his son, Aaron William, 11.

Pastor Van Deursen feels that he may have been destined for his profession; "Preston" by definition means: "He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest" — Heb. 3:17. Indeed, Pastor Van Deursen strives to live his life in accordance to this definition.

### Associate Applicants Sought

Due to the upcoming retirements of Pastor Lacquement and Pastor Theodore Bowers from the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, candidates are being sought to fill several associate pastor positions. Anyone interested in joining the Pastoral Care team at the Masonic Homes may send his or her resume to: Mrs. Carolyn J. Bair, Director of Human Resources, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, or call (717) 361-4522 for more information. The Masonic Homes is an equal opportunity employer.



## W. Pennsylvania Masonic Family Night at the Ball Yard

### W. PA MASONIC NIGHT AT THE BALL YARD

Wednesday, June 30

7:05 p.m.

Three Rivers Stadium

Reserved Seats for only \$10.00!

R.W. Grand Master James L.

Ernette throws out the first pitch to Junior Grand Warden William Slater II!

All members of the Family of Freemasonry are welcome! Take a guest and enjoy the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia ballgame!

I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$10. each for the **PIRATES - PHILLIES** game on June 30 at 7:05 p.m. at Three Rivers Stadium.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

LODGE NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LODGE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **Gourgas Lodge** & mail with a **stamped, self-addressed** envelope to Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. 412-939-3579.

## Unity Banquet, Aug. 7

## All Pennsylvania Masons to Support Statewide Substance Abuse Education

Masons of Pennsylvania will come together at a Unity Banquet in Harrisburg on Saturday, Aug. 7 to announce their support of an impressive new program being undertaken jointly by the Pennsylvania State Police and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. Together the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Prince Hall Grand Lodge will commit both financial support

and membership involvement in a program designed to help young Pennsylvanians recognize, identify, and deal with substance abuse.

"This will be a dramatic, true-to-life - or, even more dramatically, a true-to-death - presentation targeting the high school audience," said R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette. "The whole program will demonstrate unity in action. When presented in a school, the program will involve the entire community - the police, the firemen, the ambulance corps, parents, teachers, and the citizens. Its message and impact is a community service for all of Pennsylvania," the Grand Master added.

Joseph W. Witte, Executive Director of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children, will chair the project for the Masons. District Representatives of the Foundation will play major roles in membership involvement.

The Unity Banquet will be in the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel at Camp Hill, west of Harrisburg. The dinner at \$25 per person will be at 6 p.m., preceded by a social hour at 5 p.m. Beginning at 3 p.m., there will be tours conducted at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.

### COUPON FOR UNITY BANQUET

Please make the following reservations at \$25 per person for the Unity Banquet, Aug. 7, at the Radisson Penn Harris, Camp Hill, PA.

\_\_\_\_\_ No. of Persons at \$25 per person

Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### Our food selection:

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Roast Sirloin of Beef

\_\_\_\_\_ # Chicken Marsala

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this coupon with check to:

Office of the Grand Master

Masonic Temple

One North Broad St.

Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598

## TROOPERS VISIT CHILDREN'S HOME



Pennsylvania State Troopers Nicole Palmer and Joseph Reeves visited the Children's Home twice. In January, they enjoyed dinner with the boys in Lloyd Cottage and in February they shared pizza with the younger children in Smith Cottage. (In the photo, Trooper Palmer spends quality time with the children at Smith Cottage.) Each visit ended with a tour of all of the cottages to meet all of the children. The children's favorite part of the visits was a ride around the Masonic Homes campus in Trooper Palmer's cruiser. They all were amazed at the equipment in the cruiser, especially the siren and lights. The troopers plan to return periodically to meet with the children at the other cottages.

## Valley Care Masonic Center

continued from page 3

nursing beds at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West. The actions taken were based on a Masonic Homes' market demand analysis and a market study of local Masons and residents of the Sewickley community. It was decided to move forward with plans to develop assisted living accommodations, and to design and market independent living accommodations at Valley Care.

Valley Care's 40 acres could provide many possibilities for expanding the types of services produced there.

Grand Master Ernette and Executive Director Murphy agreed that, "We see ourselves as partners for progress providing a full continuum of quality care services to those in need in the Sewickley area."

The Dedication Ceremony will be at 5 p.m. on June 1. There will be tours during the afternoon.

## MUSEUM CELEBRATES 100th ANNIVERSARY OF COMPLETION

The decoration of one of the spectacular rooms in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia was completed 100 years ago. Originally planned and serving for many years as Library Hall, the present Museum is the first ornately decorated room that the visitor to the Temple encounters.

The Hall, forming the southeast corner of the building, is 40 feet wide by 60 feet long. Its main ceiling beam rests on four Corinthian columns, and divides the ceiling. Each half is further divided into 66 coffers by lighter beams. All of the woodwork is walnut. The entire room, including the floor is decorated in Byzantine style, with some Renaissance flavoring, and was done by Bro. George Herzog, who decorated many other areas, among them Norman, Egyptian, Ionic, Corinthian, and Grand Banquet Halls, as well as the upper walls of the Rear Staircase.

Bro. Herzog also painted the official portraits of R.W. Past Grand Masters Matthias H. Henderson, William J. Kelly, Samuel C. Perkins, and Edgar A. Tennis. He spared no effort with the painting in Library Hall: depicted on the walls are allegorical figures of "natural happiness," e.g., Charity, Peace, International Commerce; Fidelity and Virtue; the mediaeval departments of human knowledge; and the important cities of the ancient world. Each of the 66 ceiling coffers has its own painting: 20 of them are of seals of various Grand Lodges, including Pennsylvania, and other Masonic bodies; the other 44 are of ancient stonemasons' marks. Recesses and borders have beautiful interwoven tracery, and the friezes are decorated with Latin mottoes.

On Dec. 19, 1898, the Committee on Temple held a special meeting. The minutes recorded that Bro. Herzog was paid \$7,000 for "decorating the walls and ceiling, mosaic floor, leaded glass transoms and refinishing woodwork." Everything else - the conversion of the gas fixtures to electricity and other wiring, bookcases, new furniture, and repairs to old, leaded glass windows, window shades, and brass foot rails together - cost \$3,140.75. The Library Hall was reopened in January 1899 and on June 7, 1899, the decorations executed by Bro. Herzog under the supervision of the Art Association were turned over formally to Grand Lodge.

Library Hall, circa 1909, now the Museum of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.



Bro. Herzog (1851-1920) was born and trained in Munich, Germany. He was a member of Lodge No. 51 (now University Lodge No. 51). He also was known for his work in New York and especially throughout Philadelphia, where he decorated many interiors, including some in City Hall, the Union League, the Academy of Music, Girard College for the Centennial Exposition, and several churches and private mansions.

## Doylestown Lodge Holds Black History Month Event

Extra chairs were needed to accommodate 118 brethren for the February stated meeting of Doylestown Lodge No. 245 when the program was "Black History Month" and 24 members of four Prince Hall Lodges were among the invited guests.

The guest speaker was Michael Askew, P.M., Christian Lodge No. 12, Prince Hall Affiliation, who reviewed the history of Prince Hall Masonry.

Officers among those present are shown (l-r): Martino Flemming, W.M., Bethel Lodge No. 47; the speaker, Michael Askew, P.M.; Andrew Davis, W.M., Star in the East Lodge No. 55; Kenneth McCarty, S.W., Hurley M. McBrierty, W.M., and Jeffrey L. Eichen, J.W., all of Doylestown Lodge; Thomas R. Eynon, D.D.G.M., 8th Masonic District; and Qadir Martin, W.M., Light of Elmwood Lodge No. 45.



Members of Doylestown Lodge have been invited to visit Star in the East Lodge in June when a Master Mason's Degree will be conferred.



The Grand Master's Itinerary

MAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER

- May 1 Acacia Fraternity, Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center - 9 a.m. 150th Anniversary Open Meeting of Pleasant Hills-Guthrie Lodge No. 759, 57th District - 3 p.m.
- May 3 Visitation at the Stated Meeting of Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275.
- May 7 Valley of Altoona, A.A.S.R., Spring Reunion Dinner - 6 p.m.
- May 8 OVERTURE Series Seminar, Harrisburg, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 150th Anniversary of Tamaqua Lodge No. 238, 45th District.
- May 15 Dedication of Freemasons Pavilion at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Pittsburgh. Parade and Dedication on site at Aspinwall, 2:15 p.m. Central Pennsylvania Picnic - Knoebels Park, Elysburg.
- May 20-21 Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Wildwood, NJ.
- May 22 OVERTURE Series Seminar, Bethlehem, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Western Pennsylvania Scottish Rite and Shrine One-Day Class, Scottish Rite Cathedral, New Castle.
- May 24 PIN Club Golf Outing, Pittsburgh.
- May 26 Visitation Eureka Lodge No. 404, Northumberland, 46th District - 7:30 p.m.
- May 27 Meetings at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown: 9 a.m. - M&R Presentation; 9:30 a.m. - Consolidated Fund; 11 a.m. - Administrators of the Pension Fund; 1 p.m. - Finance Committee; 3 p.m. - Staff Meeting, Grand Lodge Elected Officers.
- May 28 Meetings at Masonic Homes, 8 a.m. - Elizabethtown: Building and Grounds Sub-Committee; 10 a.m. - Committee on Masonic Homes; 12 Noon - Youth Appreciation Luncheon and Awards Program.
- June 1 Dedication of Valley Care Nursing Center. Dedication Ceremony, 5 p.m.; Tours during the afternoon.
- June 2 Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center: Rehearsal for Grand Lodge Elected and Appointed Floor Officers and Regional Instructors, 8 a.m.; Quarterly Communication 10 a.m.; Lunch, Noon; D.D.G.M.'s Meeting, 1:30 p.m.; Social Hour, 5:30 p.m., and Grand Master's Dinner 6:30 p.m., at Hilton Hotel.
- June 4 Masonic Homes Major Donors Dinner, Elizabethtown: Social Hour, 6 p.m.; Dinner, 6:45 p.m.
- June 5 OVERTURE Series Seminar, Wilkes-Barre, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 150th Anniversary of Warren Lodge No. 240, Montrose, 15th District - Special Meeting - 10:30 a.m.; Banquet - Noon.
- June 6-9 Leadership Seminar, Lake Buena Vista, FL.
- June 12 Eastern Pennsylvania Masonic Family Day Picnic, Dorney Park, Allentown. Pennsylvania - New Jersey - Delaware DeMolay Conclave, Wildwood, NJ.
- June 15 Presentation of 25-Year Emblem to R.W. Grand Master in Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, Greensburg - 7:30 p.m.
- June 19 Special Communication of Grand Lodge for the Dedication of Lodge Room and Cornerstone Laying for William Barger Lodge No. 325 and J. Simpson Africa Lodge No. 628, Cresco, 50th Masonic District.
- June 20 Order of The Eastern Star Banquet, York.
- June 21 25th Anniversary of Grand Master Being Made a Mason.
- June 26 200th Anniversary Observance of the death of Brother George Washington and Dedication of World's Largest Masonic Emblem at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Alexandria, VA.
- June 30 Western Pennsylvania Masonic Night at Three Rivers Stadium. Philadelphia Phillies vs Pittsburgh Pirates - 7:00 p.m.
- July 3 Parade in Latrobe - 10 a.m.
- July 4-7 Imperial Shrine Sessions, Dallas, TX.
- July 9-11 Northeast Conference of Grand Masters, Portsmouth, NH
- July 12 AWOL! Brenda and Jay's 30th Wedding Anniversary. (Grand Master requested a day off.)
- July 14 Grand Assembly of International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Altoona - 7 p.m.

- July 17 Family Picnic at the Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus, Elizabethtown.
- July 22 Staff Meeting, Grand Lodge Elected Officers, Harrisburg Marriott - 7 p.m.
- July 23 Meetings at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown: 8 a.m. - Building and Grounds Sub-Committee; 10 a.m. - Human Resources Committee; 1 p.m. - Committee on Masonic Homes; 4 p.m. - Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children Board Meeting.
- July 23-24 Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation, Seven Springs.
- July 31 York Rite Sovereign College of North America, Houston, TX.
- Aug. 1 Organ Recital, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 4:30 p.m.
- Aug. 6 Western Pennsylvania Masonic Picnic, Kennywood Park.
- Aug. 7 Unity Banquet sponsored by Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Radisson Penn Harris Hotel, Camp Hill. Tours at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, 3 p.m.; Social Hour, 5 p.m. and Dinner 6 p.m. at the Hotel.
- Aug. 14 150th Anniversary, Armstrong Lodge No. 239, Freeport, 27th District.
- Aug. 16 Grand Master's Western Region Charity Golf Tournament, Quicksilver Golf Course, southwest of Pittsburgh.
- Aug. 21 New D.D.G.M.'s Orientation, Masonic Homes - 8 a.m. Concert on the Green, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
- Aug. 23 Grand Master's Central Region Charity Golf Tournament, Golf Course at Felcitta, east of Harrisburg.
- Aug. 30 Grand Master's Eastern Region Charity Golf Tournament, LuLu Country Club, Northwest of Philadelphia.
- Aug. 31 Meetings at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia: 9 a.m. - M&R Presentation; 9:30 a.m. - Consolidated Fund; 11 a.m. - Administrators of the Pension Plan; 1 p.m. - Committee on Finance.

Grand Master Invites All Masons To Join in July 3 Parade in Latrobe

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette is looking forward to leading a large contingent of Freemasons, along with an impressive "Brotherhood Serving Mankind" float, on Saturday morning, July 3, in the 30th annual Fourth of July holiday parade in Latrobe.

The Grand Master has invited the Masons in all of the lodges, appendant bodies, and allied organizations throughout Western Pennsylvania (or all of Pennsylvania) to come to Latrobe and join him in the line of march. "I would like to demonstrate the impact that Freemasons and Freemasonry have on their communities," the Grand Master said.

Bro. Richard J. Stemmler, D.D.G.M., 30th Masonic District, who is the chairman of the Latrobe Parade Committee, said that all of the Freemasons will appear as a division behind the Grand Master. All D.D.G.M.s will parade as a group, as will all elected and appointed officers of the lodges, followed by all of the Master Masons present and the various Masonic appendant and allied bodies and units. The Pennsylvania State Police mounted unit will lead the parade.

The D.D.G.M.s and lodge elected and appointed officers are to wear Masonic attire, including their aprons and collars. Masons who are not officers should dress conservatively in suits and bring their lodge aprons. All who want to participate should report to the parade staging area by 9:30 a.m.

Masonic Ed. Handbook for Candidate Instruction is now Being Distributed

The Masonic Education Steering Committee has distributed a new tool to assist the lodges' Masonic Education Chairmen and their committees in providing instruction for the candidates as they receive their degrees. The new *Handbook for Candidate Instruction*, was developed by the Committee and edited by Committee Member Matthew Dupee, P.M., Shiloh Lodge No. 55, Lansdale. It is streamlined to the point where it will leave the new Master Mason more informed about Freemasonry and better able to discuss the Fraternity with those whom he comes into daily contact.

Being introduced at the Regional Masonic Education Spring Seminars across the Commonwealth, the *Handbook for Candidate Instruction* is being met with great enthusiasm and support. James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, feels that: "If our members accurately and clearly

understand the principles of Freemasonry and appreciate how our many activities are designed to come together to develop the character of our members and improve the quality of life in our communities, then every knowledgeable Mason can become an effective ambassador for Freemasonry."

The handbook consists of three modules, each of which should take 35 to 45 minutes to present. The first module deals with the qualifications necessary to be a Mason, secrecy, and the relationship between religious faith and Freemasonry. This module is designed to acquaint the candidate with the values, beliefs, and facts of the Fraternity. Module Two examines a brief "History of Freemasonry" and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. It contains information about the several charitable programs and activities sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Module Three is designed to explain the "Benefits and Duties of Membership in the Fraternity" and should be used by lodges to give the candidate an orientation into the individual lodge's activities and programs. The goal of

the last module is to encourage the candidate to return to the lodge to participate in its programs and to make the candidate feel more comfortable when he does.

*The Handbook for Candidate Instruction*, if properly used, will provide the candidate with useful information about the Fraternity, its beliefs and ideals, its history and programs, and the benefits of Masonic membership.

Each lodge will be given seven *Masonic Education Handbooks for Candidate Instruction*. The Worshipful Master, Wardens, Secretary, and the Masonic Education Chairman will each have a copy of the handbook. The two other copies are for the lodge's Masonic Education Committee. Each District and Lodge Chairman also will receive a copy of the recently completed statistical survey of 5,000 newly made Masons. After reviewing the handbook, the Masonic Education Steering Committee would like to hear your comments. Send comments to the Masonic Education Office, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

GERMANY

July 21st - August 1st, 2000



**The Grand Lodge and R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Robert L. Dluge, Jr. and his wife Debra**, invite you along with your family and friends to a once in a lifetime deluxe vacation to Germany with an option to attend the "Passion Play," an event that only happens every ten years.

**Featuring:** Exclusive charter jet, Frankfurt, Koblenz, cruising the Rhine to St. Goar, wine tasting, Munich, Rothenburg, Weimer, Leipzig, Berlin, the "Passion Play," and much more! (Itinerary available upon request.)

**Includes:** Round trip air from Philadelphia to Germany on an exclusive charter jet • Eleven night deluxe hotel accommodations including taxes • Round trip airport transfers in Germany • Breakfast daily and two dinners • Full-time professional escort(s) • "Passion Play" tickets (for those attending) • Special events with our brethren who live in Germany.

**Price:** (Based only on double occupancy) \$3,900 per person attending play \$3,700 per person not attending play

**Payment Requirements:**  
**1st Deposit** - \$1,000 per person is due within ten days of confirming reservation.  
**2nd Deposit** - \$1,000 per person is due prior to November 30, 1999.  
**Final Payment** - Due March 30, 2000.

**For information and reservations** call Staci, **King Coal Travel**, Rt. 61, P.O. Box 446, Mount Carmel, PA 17851, (800) 332-8556 or (570) 373-1525.

"Passion Play"

The quaint village of Oberammergau is set amidst a mountaintop backdrop and is the perfect setting for this show of pageantry that has been held throughout the centuries. Oberammergau will delight you with its beauty, breathtaking scenery and crisp air. The "Passion Play," an outstanding cultural event and a testimonial of religious faith, will enthrall you.



## Brotherly Love: Give and Receive It

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



Most of us as Masons are aware, at least to some extent, of the importance of Freemasonry to the development of civil society. This organization has made considerable contributions to the world benefitting many outside the Fraternity. I wonder, however, how many of us truly appreciate how much our Craft can mean to the individual Mason. Due to your membership, my Brothers, there are few places in the free world where you can travel today that you will not have friends.

There are so many doors open to you because you are a member of this Craft; and, yet, I suspect that there are very few who truly appreciate that aspect of membership. I am well aware that we do not join this Fraternity for what we will receive from it; but, there is nothing wrong in recognizing what the true concept of brotherly love is and opening ourselves to receive it.

I have been extremely fortunate in having the opportunities to experience this feeling of brotherhood far beyond the opportunities that most members will ever have. It is there for all, yet few accept it. Regrettably, also in recent years, too few extend it. It is this expression of brotherly love to one another that probably has meant more to me than any other aspect of Freemasonry. To the world and to society in general, the Craft offers an ethical and moral base of principles by which it guides its members. To the individual member, this Fraternity offers an opportunity to experience a feeling rarely known outside of it.

I recently returned from the Conference of Grand Secretaries held in Honolulu. There, once again, I had the privilege of experiencing the true feeling of Masonic brotherhood from grand officers around the world when I announced to the Conference my intent to retire as an active Grand Secretary. It was an experience that I will never forget. I wish there were a way of transfusing into each of you that feeling, because I am convinced that, should you know it, it would change your life in respect to your commitment to the Craft.

All of us are aware today of the declining numbers on the membership rolls of Freemasonry. This loss in numbers has been impressed upon us for well over a decade and we look with regret that men of society today fail to show the interest in an organization such as ours. My greatest sadness, however, is not directed toward our loss in members, but to the failure of the numbers that we do have to direct the feeling of brotherhood to each other. As Grand Secretary, I have listened to countless stories from our brothers who were ill, or from widows of our brothers, who want nothing more than a compassionate contact with a brother. I would like to ask the question of them, when they were able, how much they offered. But, I don't. Some day, my Brothers, that may be all we want.

If we could recapture that quality which so greatly characterized the Craft in earlier America, it probably would go a long way toward reversing our decline in numbers. I encourage you to give and receive what is perhaps the greatest advantage of being a Freemason – the feeling of truly being a brother and experiencing brotherly love.

## Phil Found More Than His Shadow When He Visited Punxsutawney Masons

Famed weather prognosticator, Punxsutawney Phil, found more than his shadow this Groundhog Day when he ventured from Gobbler's Nob to the Punxsutawney Country Club to accept a \$5,000 gift on behalf of the Punxsutawney Area Community Center from Masons of John W. Jenks Lodge No. 534.

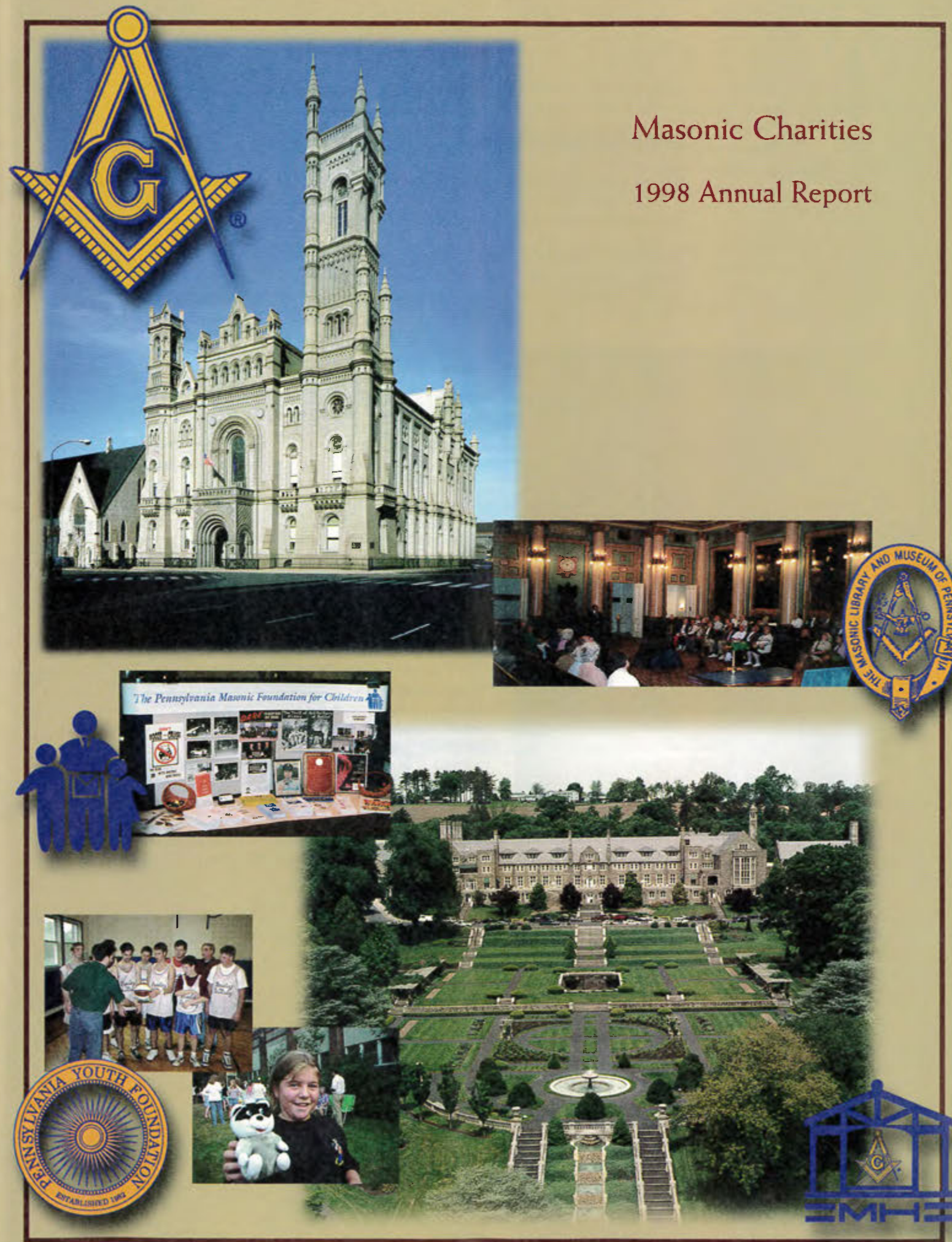
On the evening of Groundhog Day, more than 200 citizens of Punxsutawney gathered for a banquet to honor the members of the local Masonic lodge for their generous support to the Community Center. Elected Officials from the surrounding area and the State were in attendance to hear guest speaker James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania Masons, address the community. The Grand Master presented Punxsutawney Phil with a Proclamation commending him "as a universally recognized symbol of community spirit ... a representation of that special unanimity among neighbors in furthering the community for the benefit of all mankind."

The Worshipful Master of John W. Jenks Lodge, Donald L. Hendricks, then presented the \$5,000 donation to Kae Ploucha, Executive Director of the Community Center, stating that the caring of Masons "... is doing things like we've gathered for this evening." Masonry is about serving mankind.

The donation will be used to aid the Community Center's programs and services, both cultural and recreational. The Center is open to all community organizations and is commonly called "the community's hub for fellowship." The Center is also the designated meeting place for the organizers of Groundhog Day, the Inner Circle.



**Donald L. Hendricks, W.M., of Punxsutawney Lodge (left, upper photo), presents an oversized check to Kae Ploucha and Pat Prushnok of the Community Center. Groundhog Handler Bro. William Deeley holds Punxsutawney Phil (left in lower photo), as the famed prognosticator receives a proclamation for James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master.**



Masonic Charities

1998 Annual Report





## Brethren and Friends,

You will want to read this Annual Report from cover to cover. It relates a positive chapter about charity in the history of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania, a "Brotherhood Serving Mankind." Reports throughout these pages reconfirm that "Masons Care" and we are there to help where needs exist.

The Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania experienced another banner year in 1998. It began with the announcement of our affiliation with the two Eastern Star Homes - one in each end of the state - giving our brothers and sisters and their loved ones the availability of the Masonic Homes' "Mission of Love" services closer to their home areas.



During the year, we heralded the completion of the Masonic Health Care Center, culminating a ten-year project to construct new wings and renovate existing areas to provide the residents with facilities and services to meet their varying levels of health care needs. A new Respite Cottage was opened to serve both our members and the community. Those are just hints of the extensive caring and service-oriented progress at our Masonic Homes and the Masonic Children's Home in 1998.

Masons Care About Youth. Read on in this Annual Report and appreciate the character-building and educational development efforts that the Masonic Charities provide to help our youth. The opening line of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation report states it well: "Teaching responsibility is a key theme of our Masonic youth groups." That Foundation leads the way with a myriad of programs, activities and scholarship opportunities for DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughters, and Knights of Pythagoras.

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children works with experts in their fields to cope with drug and alcohol abuse. There's an interesting story to be found in this report about the Foundation for Children, which makes possible the ongoing training of educators for the Student Assistance Program in schools across the Commonwealth and in the training of law enforcement officers in the D.A.R.E. program.

As Freemasons and Americans, we cherish and preserve our heritage and culture. The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania in the 125-year-old Masonic Temple, home of the Grand Lodge in Philadelphia, is world-renowned for its historical collections, archives, resources for research, exhibits, and displays.

Among the Masonic Charities, there is the Grand Lodge Masonic Charities Fund. It quietly, but effectively, helps people and communities, supporting worthy programs for education, treatment, personal relief, and disaster relief when and where it is needed.

This Annual Report reconfirms our dedication to serving mankind. It also tells a proud story of stewardship. Your support has made all of it possible. You can make a tax-deductible contribution anytime to all of the Masonic Charities, or directly to one of them, simply by designating where you want your gift directed. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely and fraternally,

*James L. Ernette*

James L. Ernette,  
R.W. Grand Master



## MASONIC HOMES

During 1998, the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania expanded its continuum of quality care services, as well as the locations in which the services are available. Through the affiliation of the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania with the two Eastern Star homes, now the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East in Warminster and the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West in Pittsburgh, the membership has gained more choices. This venture expanded the Masonic Homes family in that more individuals can now choose to receive services in their preferred area of the Commonwealth.



**A resident enjoying a fun-filled and successful day of fishing in one of the beautiful ponds on the campus at Elizabethtown.**

At the time of the affiliation, both Eastern Star facilities were between 60 and 65 percent occupied. One of the highlights of 1998 was achieving more than 90 percent occupancy at both facilities. In October 1998, an agreement with the Department of Public Welfare was signed to provide Medical Assistance at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East.

Other notable achievements during 1998 included the completion of the last renovated Independent Living apartments as well as the first phase of the Independent Living Cottage Construction Project. As of December 31, 1998, 523 residents occupied 363 Independent Living units on the Masonic Homes' campus.

The Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) came for an accreditation survey in November, and the Masonic Homes scored well: Ambulatory Care, 92%; Long-term Care, 94%; Subacute, 96%; and Laboratory, 98%. The survey team was impressed with Masonic Homes' process improvements, and granted the Masonic Homes accreditation for the above service areas.

The completion of the 10-year construction/renovation of the Masonic Health Care Center was met with much enthusiasm. The new Freemasons Building opened for residents on May 18, 1998, providing 127 beds for assisted living services. This was the last phase of the Masonic Health Care Center Project, which involved completely renovating the Masons Care

Building to provide Assisted Living Services in this area. Residents in this area receive services and assistance in areas of dressing, bathing, diet, financial management, medication, and other activities of daily living.

The renovation of the Masonic Conference Center Memorial Hall building and the addition of the new Samuel C. Williamson Multimedia Center allow for more flexibility of programming. The Masonic Homes' mission is extended through the use of the Masonic Conference Center by the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children.

The Masonic Homes opened its new Respite Cottage in March 1998 to serve our members and the community. This not-for-profit program offers quality, short-term respite services to caregivers, enabling them to have time away from their responsibilities and enhancing their quality of life. The Respite Cottage accommodates up to eight adult guests, ages 18 and over, diagnosed with mild to moderate mental retardation and/or similar developmental challenges.

Another exciting addition to the Masonic Homes was the Masonic Life Center in May 1998. The center provides residents, volunteers, employees and their spouses, and retirees and their spouses, the opportunity to participate in state-of-the-art wellness and fit-



**The Recreation Services Department provides a full calendar of one-on-one and group activities for residents. The certified staff is creative and enthusiastic with the goal of enhancing the residents quality of life.**





ness programs. Located on the terrace level of the Freemasons Building, the center is equipped with aerobic and strength building equipment, a conference area, and men's and women's locker rooms with showers. Three full-time professional instructors organize and oversee group fitness classes in various areas on campus and provide wellness workshops, seminars and information on a variety of topics related to the mind, body, and spirit connection.

Masonic Homes' Adult Daily Living Center continues to provide a quality, cost-effective adult day care service to our community. The center assists clients, who in some cases would otherwise require nursing facility care, to stay more independent and at home with their loved ones. The center has expanded its service base to include mentally retarded clients who will fit into the current programming, along with the aged clients. An additional license was secured this year from the Bureau of Mental Retardation, Department of Public Welfare, that allows the center the opportunity to accept clients served by this bureau.

The Outreach Program provides education, information, and direction to Masonic and non-Masonic families across the United States. Information and referral services help locate service agencies, nursing homes, transportation services, hot meals, and health providers. Representatives for the Outreach Program attended the Grand Master's Reunion in Florida, which provided the opportunity to expand contacts and serve a greater portion of the Masonic family that lives or spends time there. The Outreach Director also addressed the brethren and/or their families in nine Blue Lodges in 1998 and sponsored a Community Health Night with Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682 in Elizabethtown, providing education and information to more than 100 members of our local community.

The Masonic Homes recognizes and encourages both community and resident participation in its Volunteer Services Department. Volunteers enhance the professional staff as they provide assistance and support in services which directly benefit our residents.

The summer youth volunteer program provided 64 teens who provided 3,200 hours of service, mostly on resident care units.

The total number of new volunteers during 1998, including youth, college interns, and all others, was 108.

The Masonic Children's Home cares for those children from families in which the parent/guardian can no longer cope with the complexities of child rearing. The home's population during 1998 averaged at its capacity of 40 children. By providing a modern, attractive and homelike environment for the care of these young people, Freemasons are preparing them to be productive citizens of the future. The children attend public schools and are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities and the religious institution of their choice.

The list of youth program activities continues to grow, giving each child the opportunity to experience a well-rounded variety of activities. These include school activities, sports, clubs, crafts, inter-generational and community activities, group vacations, summer camps, Demolay, D.A.R.E. program activities, volunteering, working, Boy Scouts, Brownies, music lessons, philanthropic projects, alumni activities, and the college intern and mentoring programs.

The Masonic Homes-Patton School Alumni Association continues to provide support to the program through scholarships to the Children's Home graduates attending college.



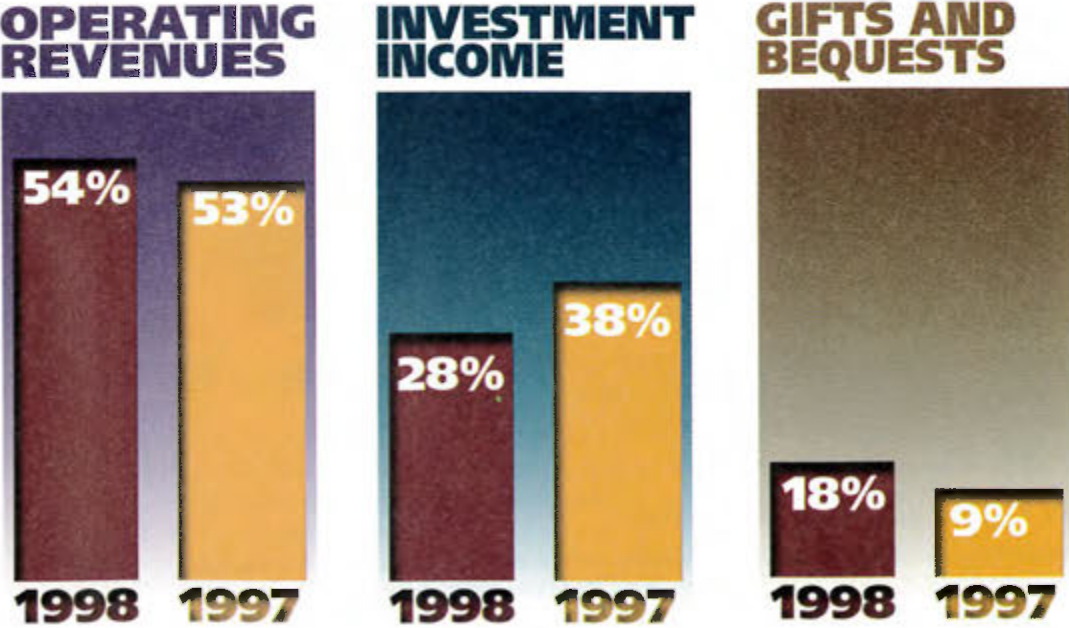
**Tours of the Model Railroad Club collections and displays are enjoyed by many visitors. A group of residents who share a common interest of collecting and displaying model railroads have joined together to form the Masonic Homes and Elizabethtown Model Railroad Club. The purpose of the club is to develop, build, and operate model railroads and related scenery.**

# MASONIC HOMES

Condensed Statements of Unrestricted Activities for the years ended December 31, 1998 and 1997  
(Dollars in thousands)

|  | 1998            | 1997            |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Operating revenues   | \$45,069        | \$39,760        |
| Operating expenses   | <u>60,071</u>   | <u>50,532</u>   |
| Loss incurred in the fulfillment<br>of our charitable mission  | (15,002)        | (10,772)        |
| This loss was covered by the following<br>support from the Members and friends<br>of the Fraternity: |                 |                 |
| Gifts and Bequests   | 15,285          | 6,615           |
| Investment income earned on<br>accumulated past support  | <u>23,464</u>   | <u>28,951</u>   |
| Revenues and support<br>in excess of expenses  | <u>\$23,747</u> | <u>\$24,794</u> |

The operating expenses of the Masonic Homes have historically exceeded our operating revenues. Through the generosity of Freemasons and friends of the Fraternity, contributions, and bequests enable us to cover this deficit. The bequests which have been generously donated to the Masonic Homes have been invested and the investment income earned on these funds allows us to continue and expand our "mission of love." Any excess of revenues over expenses (after these nonoperating revenues are applied) are reinvested so we can continue to meet the Fraternity's charitable goals via capital improvements and expanded services to our residents and the community.







## PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH FOUNDATION

Teaching responsibility is a key theme of our Masonic youth groups. Helping young people accept greater responsibility for their actions prepares them for adulthood. Through the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, Freemasonry gives young people the chance to create their own programs, lead their peers, enact their plans, celebrate their successes, and learn from their mistakes. This is a proven and successful method for personal growth and development—to learn by doing.



**The Samuel C. Williamson Multimedia Center includes state-of-the-art presentation equipment to provide high-tech educational programming for all participants at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus in Elizabethtown.**

sponsored three significant seminars in 1998 to help train volunteers in areas of programming, risk management, youth protection and teaching responsibility. The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation also provided programming, meals and housing for 2,601 youth group members in 39 different programs at the Masonic Conference Center-Patton Campus in Elizabethtown.

A major addition to the Masonic Conference Center was completed in December 1998 without causing the cancellation of any planned event. With the construction of a state-of-the-art multimedia center, and the creation of new meeting and registration space, the campus will better serve our youth and adult programs. Following the 1999 renovation of our major dormitories, the entire facility will include air-conditioned living with private bathrooms in each bedroom.

The upgrade of this facility further demonstrates the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania's commitment to young people, and its confidence that they will accept the responsibility of using this improved campus as young adults.

Please support our uniquely Masonic Youth Programs!

Freemasons are there for guidance and support, providing opportunities for public speaking, teambuilding, and character development. The Masonic principles which inspire us are instilled in youth through the unique rituals and customs of the Order of DeMolay, the Order of Job's Daughters, and the Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

Your help is needed! Whether it be financial assistance, or a time of service with one of these youth groups, every Pennsylvania Mason should give something to support the leaders of our future. Our Masonic Youth Programs are reliant on quality volunteers to keep their programs strong.

The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation assists the adult leaders of these organizations to ensure that quality programming and high standards of conduct are their top priorities. The Foundation



**Athletic competitions provide the opportunity to teach teamwork, character development, sportsmanship, and leadership, while developing physical fitness skills.**



**In 1998, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation presented more than \$58,817 in 33 scholarships to young people through the continued support of its Educational Endowment Fund.**



## The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation For Children

January 1, 1998, was effective date of the name change from The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children to The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children. The mission of reducing drug and alcohol abuse by young people, through education, intervention, and counseling remained the same. The new name actually reflects the diverse concerns that are addressed by the major programs supported by the Foundation. The Student Assistance and D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Programs expanded through the years to encompass other vices such as, tobacco and gambling. Other issues addressed by these programs are conflict resolution skills and emotional issues faced by adolescents. The name now reflects the universal mission of helping children become vice free, well adjusted, upstanding adults.



**January 1998 - D.A.R.E. Class at the Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus.**

In 1998, The Foundation continued to support the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Student Assistance Program. There are now student assistance teams in place in every high school and junior high school in the Commonwealth. During 1998, the number of teachers trained since 1985 topped the 10,000 mark. The latest statistics show that these teams saw 59,092 students during the 1997-98 school year. They provided 49,652 students with required further "in school" or "out of school" services. The good news is that 91 percent of all students referred to the Student Assistance Program for drug and alcohol violations had no additional violations since initial referral. This success rate is up by 20 percent from the previous year. Pennsylvania has a successful Student Assistance Program, thanks to Pennsylvania Masons.

In the Spring of 1998, the selection committee for the Carl W. Stenberg Scholarship met in Philadelphia. This committee awarded seven college scholarships of \$1,000 per year for four years. The applicants are students, recommended by their student assistance team, who successfully completed a counseling program and turned their lives around.

Thanks to Student Assistance and the help of the Foundation, these young people are now getting the chance at a college education. They must maintain a "C" average and be drug and alcohol free. Twenty-six of these scholarships were awarded since 1993.

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children continued its support of D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). The Foundation supplied the Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. At this facility, Law Enforcement Officers from throughout the Commonwealth train, to teach this program to 5th and 6th grade elementary school students. Since 1994, The Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus has been designated the D.A.R.E. Training Center of Pennsylvania.



**Pennsylvanians Against Underaged Drinking, 1998 Summer Camp, Fort Indiantown Gap.**

The Foundation began administering a new Scholarship Program. On December 27, 1998, James L. Ernette, R.W.G.M., instituted the Grand Masters Law Enforcement Scholarship Program. This scholarship is for sons, daughters, grandsons or granddaughters of Pennsylvania Masons seeking a degree in Criminal Justice and a career in Law Enforcement. It provides up to \$2,500 per year for up to four years to these students. They must maintain a 2.5 Grade Point Average for continuation of the scholarship. This program has received overwhelming support from the lodges and as a result four awards were given in 1998. Thanks to this program the Fraternity assures that the future includes well-educated Law Enforcement Officers.

The public is being made aware of the resources of the Foundation and the Fraternity. The quarterly newsletter continued in 1998. It keeps all grand lodge officers including the district deputy grand masters, district chairmen, and speakers aware of the activities of the Foundation.

The Foundation's work would not be possible without your help. I thank you for all your support in the past and ask that you remember us through your Masonic Charity Contributions.



**Larisa Palmenter, who will be attending Marywood University, receives one of seven Carl Stenberg Scholarship for \$1,000 from Harold Snyder, D.D.G.M.**





## THE MASONIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Board of Directors of The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania is pleased to submit the following report for the year 1998:

The Staff of The Masonic Library and Museum were happy to help host the Annual Meeting of The Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries earlier this year in February. Brother John H. C. Minott, our Curator, mounted an exhibit entitled *A Short History of The Conference of Grand Masters of Masons of North America*, which will be on display until the end of 1998.

October of this year saw two important and positive meetings here at the Temple, both sponsored by the Library and Museum. The first was the Sixth Annual meeting of the Masonic Library and Museum Association, An International Organization of Librarians, Curators & Directors. The group was founded as an off shoot of the Northeast Conference on Masonic Education and Libraries, by the Executive Director, Brother John H. Platt, Jr., the current President of the organization. The group met here for three days, October 15 through the 17, we were happy to have members attending from England, Canada, and throughout the United States. The meeting had a full agenda that was well received by all of those attending. To quote just one of the persons attending, Illustrious Brother Thomas W. Leavitt, Executive Director of the Museum of Our National Heritage, "You have set a standard for the rest of us to try to live up to," you will get a feeling of the thoughts of the entire group.

The second meeting held in connection with the Masonic Library and Museum Association meeting was in conjunction with our Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Library and Museum of Pennsylvania on Thursday evening October 15. It began with dinner in the Grand Banquet Hall and then moved to Ionic Hall, where Edward Voves of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, presented a paper on Brother and President Theodore Roosevelt. This year was the 140th Anniversary of the birth of Brother Roosevelt.

In addition to the Conference of Grand Master's Exhibit, there were three other interesting exhibits mounted by our Curator, Brother John H. C. Minott one entitled *T. R. President, Freemason & Rough Rider 1858-1919*; another one was the *125th Anniversary Of The New Masonic Temple 1873-1998*; and the third one was *U.S.S. OLYMPIA, Flagship of [the] American Asiatic Squadron, Battle of Manila Bay, Philippines: May 1898*. The last exhibit resulted from one of our lodges, St. Alban-Swain Lodge No. 529's participation in Grand Master Ernette's Matching Grant Program.

In connection with the 125th Anniversary celebration of the Temple, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania was pleased to sponsor an exciting Organ Recital in Corinthian Hall on Sunday afternoon November 8, 1998. This event was the Dedicatory Recital on our new three Manual Rodgers Organ and was played by Dr. John Weaver, World Renowned Organist. Dr. Weaver is head of the Organ Department of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, Chair of the Organ Department of The Julliard School of Music in New York City, and has been Director of Music at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church since 1970. Five hundred persons attended. Refreshments were served in the Grand Banquet Hall following the performance. We are happy to announce that this recital was the first of a series to be sponsored by The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania.

Through the generosity of St. John's Lodge No. 115 and the Maxwell Somerville Fund, we are happy to inform our members and friends that we have secured a new custom made display case for the original plaster model of The Friend To Friend Statue. The case was given in memory of Brother Ronald N. Hayes, Brother Hayes was a former Tour Guide at the Temple here in Philadelphia and Organist of St. John's for many years.

Two interesting Masonic items which we received for the Museum were figurines of Brother George Washington and Brother Benjamin Franklin sculpted by the Goebel company, which is the same manufacturer that makes the world famous Hummel figurines. Carolyn S. Ringsdorf presented them in memory of her father the late Brother William P. Ringsdorf and her brother, the late Illustrious Brother W. Dale Ringsdorf.

Our Library Acquisitions Highlights for 1998 are as follows: Sanger, Martha Frick Symington. *Henry Clay Frick: an Intimate Portrait*. A Presentation copy; the author is a great-granddaughter of Brother Frick. Includes many color plates of art from the Frick Collection. New York: Abbeville Press. [B F8975 Sa2252]; Beltman, Clarence. *Masonic Stamps of the World*. Milwaukee: American Tropical Association, 1964. Gift of Brother Irving Berg. [N\* P8572 B5435 1964]; Kane Joseph Nathan. *Necessity's Child: the Story of Walter Hunt, America's Forgotten Inventor*. Jefferson, N. C.: McFarland, 1997. Brother Hunt was inventor of, among other things, the safety pin. [B H9435 K1633]; and Beresniak, Daniel. *Symbols of Freemasonry*. Paris: Editions Assouline, 1997. Superb illustrations. [A Sy986 B491]

In keeping with our endeavors of collecting artifacts from various fraternal organizations, which share similar traits with Freemasonry, we were delighted to receive a collection of very interesting Odd Fellows items from Brother Robert L. Dluze, Sr., the father of our Deputy Grand Master.

The Executive Director and the Board wishes to thank all of the members of the Masonic Library and Museum staff for their continued support and good work during 1998!

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Restoration of windows in the Museum at the Masonic Temple during 1998.



Dr. John Weaver at the console of the new organ in Corinthian Hall. Dedication Recital was on Sunday, November 8, 1998.



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our records. Thank you.



# A GIFT THAT ENDURES

Do you want to make a difference in the lives of those individuals who benefit from the Masonic Charities of The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania? If so, you may wish to consider a charitable bequest.

## Why a Bequest?

A charitable bequest is a method for Masons and friends to perpetuate their interest in Masonic Charities.

Your Will can be drafted to leave either a specific gift or a percentage of your estate to a Masonic Charity. A specific gift can be a dollar amount, a particular piece of real estate or personal property. A residuary gift is either a specific percentage of your estate or it can be the remainder of your estate after you have provided for your family, church, college, Blue Lodge or other such charitable organizations which are important to you.

More complex bequests can involve the creation of trusts providing financial security for one or more loved ones during their lifetime and later for the Masonic Charity(ies) of your choice.

## Where should you start?

We suggest you begin by determining the Masonic Charity(ies) you wish to remember. You may choose from any or all of the following: the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, the Eastern Star Home - East or West, The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania.

You should then make an appointment with your attorney. Your attorney will advise you whether you can give to Masonic Charity(ies) simply by adding an admendment known as a Codicil to your Will or whether it would be better to draft an entirely new Will.

While your attorney will be able to provide you with the exact wording for your gift, the following suggestions may be helpful. Simply insert the proper name for the specific Masonic Charity(ies) you wish to remember in the appropriate blanks.

**Devise of Real Estate:** I give and devise unto the \_\_\_\_\_ and its successors, whose address is One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107, free and clear of all death taxes, ALL THAT CERTAIN lot or piece of ground with the improvements thereon erected situate and known as (here fully describe the real estate). I direct that the said real estate and the proceeds derived from the sale thereof shall be used and applied for the purpose of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Bequests of Personal Property:** I give and devise unto the \_\_\_\_\_ and its successors, whose address is One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ free of all death taxes.

**Bequests and Devise of Residuary Estate:** The rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, real or personal, of every nature and whatsoever situate, free of all death taxes, I give, devise, and bequeath unto \_\_\_\_\_ and its successors, whose address is One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

## Are there Other Giving Opportunities?

Yes. Depending on your personal circumstances, you may wish to consider an outright gift of cash, securities, real or personal property, or life insurance. You may find the benefits offered by a charitable gift annuity, pooled income fund, or charitable remainder trust compelling. Such methods typically offer a life income for up to two persons and can provide welcome savings in taxes.

To learn more about charitable bequests and other methods of giving, please call the Development Office at the Masonic Homes at (717)367-1121, extension 33311 or (800) 599-6454.

The official registration and financial information for each of the Masonic Charities may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.