

THREE YEAR-END QUESTIONS

As you tidy up your financial affairs for 1999, you will likely be thinking about your charitable giving goals and aspirations. Here are a few questions to help you plan.

1. Am I able to make a charitable gift to the Masonic Charities of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1999, on the doorstep of a new millennium?

As the year closes, you will likely receive mail from various charities requesting your financial assistance. The close of the millennium may bring even more appeals. During this period, we hope you will remember the Masonic Charities and our ongoing financial needs. We are eager to conclude this year in good financial shape so we can confidently face the opportunities and challenges of the future. Your special year-end gift will strengthen us considerably.

A gift may be unrestricted, to be used where most needed. Or, it could be earmarked for a specific purpose. For example, you could designate your gift for capital expenses, such as new construction or remodeling projects. You also could establish an endowment fund to create a legacy or to honor someone you admire.

2. What are my tax obligations for 1999?

Many taxpayers consult with their accountants before the end of the year to determine tax liability. Perhaps you've done that already or maybe you simply have a good idea where you stand. In any case, we encourage you to take advantage of the tax benefits offered by the government. The income tax charitable deduction can allow you to give more than you might otherwise be able to give.

Are your taxes likely to be high this year? Then it may be a good time to increase your giving. You might even consider moving forward some of next year's giving into 1999 so you can utilize the tax benefits this year.

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

Address Service Requested

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID
at Elizabethtown, PA and
Additional Mailing Offices

3. Do I have appreciated stock or real estate I could use to fund an income-for-life gift arrangement?

You may find yourself in a situation where you want to give more to the Masonic Charities of the Grand Lodge but cannot afford to decrease your annual income. Consider our gift annuity program. You can obtain one of these with a gift of stock and in many cases receive more income than you are currently receiving from the stock. Your annuity payments from The Masonic Charities Fund would continue for the rest of your life.

For example, a 75-year-old person currently qualifies for a gift annuity rate of 8.2 percent. A gift of \$25,000 would "yield" quarterly payments of \$512.50 for the rest of his or her life and for income tax itemizers, there is a charitable tax deduction of \$10,817.

Start Now

Perhaps the most important thing about year-end giving is to start early, especially if you are planning to use stock or real estate. Life-income gift arrangements and consultations with your professional advisor(s) also take time. The sooner you begin the process, the less hurried you will feel.

To help you to prepare further for a year-end gift, we want to send you a free brochure. Use the handy coupon below, or call the Development Office at 1-800-599-6454. We are available to assist you on a complimentary basis.

(Complete and return this coupon)

- ☐ Please send me the free brochures about gifts of stocks and real estate.
- ☐ I am interested in obtaining a Masonic Charities gift annuity.
- ☐ Please send me information about remembering the Masonic Charities in my will.
- ☐ Please contact me by phone. The best time to reach me is: _____.
- ☐ Please send me the free *Personal Financial Affairs Record*.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Phone _____

PLACE THE COMPLETED FORM IN AN ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO:

Fred D. Rissinger, *Director of Development* or
John McFadden, *Planned Giving Officer*

Masonic Charities Fund
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022



VOLUME XLVI

The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

NOVEMBER 1999



NUMBER 4

Achieving Together

Grand Master's Message page 2





The Grand Master's Message

Thank You, One and All!

Brethren:

In less than two months, we will install our next Grand Master, so this is my last opportunity to "talk" to every Pennsylvania Freemason in print. I am grateful to have had your support

and thankful for the dedication, teamwork, and accomplishments of the countless brethren across the state who served our great Fraternity.

Twenty-two months ago, I concluded my first message as Grand Master confidently facing the challenges of the times, saying:

"I have no doubt that together, we want to – we must – and we will do it the right way in the best interest of the Fraternity."

As I reflect on what has been accomplished in our Fraternity since then, it is quite obvious that the most important word in that statement was "together." It's a tribute to all of the brethren that the words and phrases that are used so frequently in our writing and speaking are "together," "teamwork," "hand-in-hand-with unanimity," and "the Family of Freemasonry."

I wish I could show my appreciation in person to each brother who added to the successes throughout the Fraternity in 1998 and 1999, but I wouldn't know where to start or which team to call upon first. The several successes reflected in the montage on the cover of this publication are just a hint of Pennsylvania Masons' recent achievements.

A herculean task was accomplished by the Committee on Temple and the Grand Lodge staff. Inside and outside, our beautiful Masonic Temple in Philadelphia — a registered national historic site and architectural wonder of the world — has been restored to its original grandeur and renovated and refurbished to upgrade and modernize facilities and services, carefully adapting to the magnificent decor. Corinthian Hall has a new three-manual organ, new lecterns and furniture for the stations and places, the altar restored to its beautiful walnut finish, and improved sound system and lighting. New organs were installed in all of the other lodge rooms. Improvements were made in just about every area of the Temple, including the addition of the John Wanamaker Room.

So much has been accomplished by the Committee on Masonic Homes, the Masonic Homes' staff, the Family of Freemasonry and the caring support of brethren and friends, not just at Elizabethtown, but across the state. The Masonic Homes' "Mission of Love" caring is now conveniently available from east to west — first, through the merged operations of the two Masonic Eastern Star Homes, then the purchase of Valley Care Masonic Center at Sewickley.

Meanwhile, on the Elizabethtown campus, we completed the last construction phases of the Health Care Center culminating a team effort that spanned most of the decade.

The teamwork of the Masonic Homes and the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation engineered the construction of the new Samuel C. Williamson Multimedia Center at the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campns in Elizabethtown. The new facility and the improved accommodations at Patton offer tremendous benefits for our youth and the entire Family of Freemasonry. The dedication was a high point in realizing the vision of Past Grand Master Sam Williamson. I am personally delighted that it was named in his honor; but, believe me, one of the most difficult assignments in the project was keeping the naming a secret from him.

Masons working together, along with the Veterans Administration, honored America's veterans of all times on Armed Forces Day. In record time, a committee led by Bill Kratzenberg designed and constructed the Freemasons Pavilion at the VA Center near Pittsburgh.

Looking from one generation to another, Pennsylvania Freemasonry welcomed a new relationship with the potential leaders of tomorrow by bringing young men of the Acacia Fraternity to the Family of Freemasonry, providing fraternal encouragement and financial aid to chapters on campuses of colleges and universities in Pennsylvania.

Teamwork in cyberspace has put Freemasonry in tune with the modern times, putting the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on the Internet. The newly created Internet Committee developed one of the most outstanding and most active web sites on the Internet. I say "thank you" to them.

Perhaps nothing emphasizes Masons working together more dramatically than the "service to mankind" of the Grand Lodge Matching Charity Grants Program. Masons are uniting in their lodges, and lodges are joining together in their districts to serve the needs of their communities. Brethren across the Commonwealth are demonstrating the principles of Freemasonry and showing their friends and neighbors who we are, what we do, and what we believe. Again, I thank each of you for that.

I suggest a hardy round of applause for the leaders of lodges across the state who are orchestrating new enthusiasm among their members as a result of their networking and learning experiences in last year's Overture seminars and this year's Conductor series of leadership management and training seminars. The very high percentage of lodges participating in the programs and the keen involvement of lodge leaders underscores the progressive attitude for meeting the fraternity's challenges of the times.

Thanks, also, to the Masonic Education Committee's development of the innovative program just introduced. Our newest Masons will be gaining a better understanding of Pennsylvania Freemasonry. A three-part video series called "Tools of the Craft" is coming to all lodges this month. It is an effective audio-visual aid to be used with the new *Handbook for Candidate Instruction* for quality orientation of candidates as they travel through their degrees.

I cherish the wonderful times and fraternal experiences over these 22 months, all the result of many brethren with unique talents and dedication working together. Corinthian and Renaissance Halls were both filled to capacity when three State Police Troopers — the Commissioner, a Deputy Commissioner, and a Trooper — were made Masons-at-Sight.

Pennsylvania was the focal point of Masonry when this Grand Lodge hosted the Conference of Grand Masters of North America in Philadelphia. There have been memorable cornerstone-laying ceremonies, dedications, special communications, and visitations just about everywhere in the state. Our corps of ritualistic instructors are always involved and quietly do a yeoman's job, along with the district deputies, and lodge officers and committees. Their work is greatly appreciated.

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children is a clear-cut example of teamwork. Consider the good work done through the Student Assistance Program training, Stenberg Scholarships, D.A.R.E. training, law enforcement scholarships, and grants for drug and alcohol addiction prevention education and intervention. Again I say "Thank you."

You can add to all that I've mentioned, special activities such as Charity Golf Tournaments, family picnics, reunions with Masons in Florida, and Masons' nights at baseball games. In addition, there are the 31 standing committees and boards with responsibilities that keep Freemasonry alive and well in Pennsylvania.

I was not exaggerating when I said there are countless brethren involved across the state in serving the Fraternity and serving mankind. Undoubtedly, the figure would be in the thousands.

That's why it is important to me to take this last opportunity to say in print: "Thank you, one and all!"

Sincerely,

James L. Ernette

James L. Ernette,
R.W. Grand Master



COVER STORY

Highlights of achievements for Freemasonry in Pennsylvania during 1998 and 1999 are depicted on the cover of this issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*, many of them referenced in the Grand Master's Message on Page 2. Surrounding R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette in front of the refurbished Masonic Temple are pictures of some notable events (clockwise from top left): Acquisition of Valley Care Masonic Center; dedication of the Samuel C. Williamson Multimedia Center; dedication of the Freemasons Pavilion at the Pittsburgh Veterans Administration Hospital; the Matching Charity Grants Program; making Masons-at-sight; and the Overture Program.

Grand Secretary of Vermont Presents 50-Year Emblem to Pennsylvania Mason



Hempel during a special program July 15, the day before his 88th birthday, in the Mayo Assisted Living Home, Northfield, VT. Harmony Blend, a lady barbershop quartet, accompanied P.G.M. Smith and favored Bro. Hempel with two songs, "Thank You Dear Lord for Music" and "I Believe" and led all attending in singing his favorite hymn, "In the Garden." The quartet (l-r) are: Kathy Rotundi; his daughter, Bonnie (Hempel) Rinehart; Ann Winter; and Mary Slater. The Grand Secretary also presented Bro. Hempel with his 50-year pin from Scottish Rite.

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON®
VOL. XLVI, NOVEMBER 1999, NO. 4
Publication No. USPS 426-140
November 1999 issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason®* at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania.

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS
James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master
Robert L. Dluge, Jr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master
Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden
William Slater II, R.W. Junior Grand Warden
Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer
Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON COMMITTEE
Blaine F. Fabian, Chairman and Editor
Luther J. Black
Paul D. Fisher
James N. Katsaounis
John H. Platt, Jr.
Fred D. Rissinger
D. William Roberts

(Articles and photographs for publication should be sent to The Editor, *The Pennsylvania Freemason®*, P.O. Box 2614, West Lawn, PA 19080-2614. All articles and photographs become the property of the Grand Lodge.)

© - 1999 The R.W. Grand Lodge F&A.M. of Pennsylvania

Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Distribution Office - Mailing Address
The Pennsylvania Freemason
MASONIC HOMES, One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199

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

Periodicals Postage Paid at Elizabethtown, PA and Additional Mailing Offices.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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

November 1, 1999, *The Pennsylvania Freemason®*; published quarterly at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Publishers: The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania. Editor: Blaine F. Fabian. Owner: The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania. Known bondholders: none. No advertising handled. Free distribution averages 158,000 each quarter. I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete:

Blaine F. Fabian, Editor

21st Century Isn't Till Next Year, But Everybody Wants it in 2000

How many people will be singing "I Didn't Know What Day It Was" when they wake up New Year's Day and admit that they really aren't in the 21st century yet? It seems everybody knows the facts; but everybody wants to get the 21st century underway early. Oh well, we can have another "Next Millennium" New Year's Eve party on December 31, 2000. At least it'll be great for the economy!

There was a year numbered "1" but there never was a year "0" — the first time a zero occurred was in the year "10" and then it came up again at the end of each decade thereafter. The year 2000 is actually the end of a decade and the end of this century. The next century actually will begin when the calendar goes from 2000 to 2001.

In an e-mail from his Florida residence, Bob Rodgers of Joseph H. Brown Lodge No. 751, Philadelphia, noted that in each of the last two issues of *The Pennsylvania Freemason* there were references to the ending of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century. He reminded, "Surely you must be aware the 21st century begins on January 1, 2001, NOT on January 1, 2000."

The Committee on *The Pennsylvania Freemason* and the Editor are aware. Last Spring, the Committee discussed the communication dilemma that the universal misinterpretation of time has wrought and decided in order to announce and report the events of these times, we have to go along with the worldwide willingness to rush the coming of the 21st century. So, crooning "With My Eyes Wide Open," the Editor goes with the errant flow toward a new century that'll be here before its time.

High Twelve: A Place for Fellowship, Fun, Food And Service to Others

High Twelve clubs are active in Pennsylvania, providing Masonic fellowship at refreshment as well as important support for youth and youth education programs.

"What is High Twelve?" is probably the question asked most often of the members of that Masonically affiliated club. The simplest answer is that it is a social extension of the Masonic experience.

In days long-gone, noon and midnight were known as "high twelve" and "low twelve." "High twelve" is the time when people call off from labor to refreshment, or as so many call it today, "lunch." Most High Twelve clubs meet during the call-off from labor for the dual purposes of refreshment and Masonic fellowship.

High Twelve is not a lodge; it's a club. It does not hold forth with the Masonic ritual of a Blue Lodge; but strongly encourages active participation of its members in their lodges. At the same time, it promotes the philanthropic objectives of High Twelve.

In August 1920, E.C. (Wallie) Wolcott, a former minister who was the YMCA's General Secretary at the time, met with eight prominent friends at the YMCA in Sioux City, Iowa, for fellowship and camaraderie as business associates who were Master Masons. Thus was born the idea of having Master Masons meet in just such conditions and it was named "High Twelve." Their underlying principle was to help their respective lodges and the Order of DeMolay. The concept was well received and soon High Twelve clubs began to form, first in the surrounding areas, then in other states, and finally into other countries. The parent organization today is called High Twelve International with its headquarters in St. Louis, MO.

The first club in Pennsylvania, which is still active, is High Twelve Club No. 50 in Philadelphia, chartered May 5, 1945. Twenty-seven High Twelve clubs have been chartered in Pennsylvania and 23 of them remain active today. They operate as part of the Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve Clubs, which is the state organization under High Twelve International. Each club decides how often and when to meet (at high twelve or at dinnertime), and the order of its business.

A typical High Twelve meeting includes an invocation and "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag," a speaker with a topic of general interest, and, of course, food. Club business is either very short, or handled by an Executive Committee. Speakers'

subjects range from history, hobbies, charity, travel, medical topics, finance, etc., limited only by the ingenuity of the person arranging the programs. Some clubs have ladies at all meetings, while others have ladies on special occasions. Although only Master Masons can join High Twelve, anyone is welcome at the meetings. Therefore, High Twelve can be a great tool for acquainting a worthy man with men of the Masonic fraternity.

High Twelve clubs are encouraged to get involved with meeting the needs of their communities by whatever means the club can muster. This can be assisting youth, elderly, needy, or the community, itself.

High Twelve has two philanthropic objectives, youth and education, and strongly supports the Order of DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls, and Job's Daughters. Support includes presence at youth meetings and events, as well as financial gifts. In addition to individual club efforts, the Pennsylvania Association provides financially for the groups through scholarships, awards, and general services.

The Wolcott Foundation is its most important educational objective. It provides scholarships to students at George Washington University who seek public service careers in government. In addition to having been accepted by George Washington University, a candidate must undergo High Twelve scrutiny of social and moral values akin to those required to become a Mason. After graduation from George Washington, he or she must serve in a government or international affairs position for four years for the scholarship to be considered a grant; otherwise, only the portion served is considered a grant and the remainder is a loan which must be repaid. The objective, which is being met quite well, is to get persons in highly responsible positions who will provide the moral leadership in solving the many complex problems of the world. During the 1998-99 school year, there were 21 fellows at a cost of \$218,397. Over the past ten years, the Foundation has invested approximately \$2 million in educating 99 fellows (which includes females). Overall, it has assisted 330 students since its founding.

For information about High Twelve, whether it is to learn about clubs in your area, to seek information about joining, or to investigate forming a new club, contact the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve Clubs, Grant Roth, 152 N. Whitfield St., Nazareth, PA 18064 (Phone: 610-759-3531).



The leadership of High Twelve Clubs in Pennsylvania are (l-r): Front - David Jacobs, President of High Twelve International; William Heckman, 3rd V.P., PA Association; and Grant Roth, Secretary, PA Association. Rear - Phillip Garrett, 1st V.P., PA Association; Robert Francis, President, PA Association; Warren Bolton, Trustee of the Wolcott Fund; Richard Showalter, Treas., PA Association; and Fred Engel, 2nd V.P., PA Association.

Master Plan for Expansion of Valley Care Masonic Center Approved

On Sept. 24, the Committee on Masonic Homes approved a master plan for the construction of a continuing care retirement community on the 47 acres of land adjacent to the Valley Care Masonic Center in Sewickley, PA.

The Committee on Masonic Homes has given authorization to the architectural firm, Perkins Eastman, to proceed with the development of a more detailed design from which the community can be built. During the time of development, the plans will be presented to various governmental officials for approval.

The master plan, shown below, adds 60 assisted living accommodations and, depending on interest, up to 263 independent living options to the existing 128 nursing accommodations currently available at the beautiful Sewickley site. The plans also have potential for a wellness center, day care area, clinics, a pool, and a clubhouse, among other convenient features.

The assisted living area is expected to open for residents in

the summer of 2001, and the independent living areas are expected to open in the late summer or early fall of 2002. Reservations for the independent living areas will be accepted as of January 2000; however, individuals interested in having their name placed on a *Priority List* for independent living accommodations may contact:

Marketing Manager
Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
(717) 361-4514 or 1-800-676-6452

or

Executive Director
Valley Care Masonic Center
1190 Merriman Road
Sewickley, PA 15143
(412) 741-1400



Being Visible Through Involvement In Our Communities

As the Masonic Matching Charity Grants program nears the climax of another successful year, Pennsylvania Freemasons can be proud that our Brotherhood has touched thousands of lives since the program's inception.

This year, as of Sept. 10, the Program has assisted lodges in providing more than \$800,000 to charitable causes throughout the Commonwealth. The program has matched approximately 655 grant requests from nearly 300 lodges. There have been 41 Masonic districts with at least 50% participation from lodges and the 11 lodges of the 1st Masonic District can be proud to be the only District with 100% participation at this time.

PARTICIPATION is the key for making your lodge more visible in the community, lodge members more involved in the affairs of the lodge, and Freemasonry known throughout the Commonwealth as a fraternity that truly takes good men and makes them better.

If your lodge has yet to participate in the Masonic Matching Charity Grants program, it's not too late.

Status reports and the types of lodge programs can be found on the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge website <<pagrandlodge.org>>.

Finish '99' Projects by Dec. 27

All 1999 Matching Grants projects must be completed by Dec. 27 to be applied to 1999 lodge maximum allowance. Projects completed later will be applied to the next year's allowance.

The R.W. Deputy Grand Master has announced that the Matching Charity Grants program will continue in the year 2000, and lodges are encouraged to make plans to use this program to become more visible in their communities.

PHILADELPHIA LODGES SUPPORT YOUTH TEAM



Five lodges of Masonic District D in Philadelphia joined to support a state champion "Ten-Year-Old" baseball team in its quest to attend the AABC World Series in Olive Branch, Mississippi in August. Together with matching grants, they contributed \$4,500 to the team's cause.

Although the team had established an exemplary record over the past three years of 75 wins, seven losses, and three state championships, the boys were defeated on the way to the World Series.

The team contacted Kenneth W. Bleiler, D.D.G.M. (shown right rear presenting the contribution to the team). District D lodges that contributed to the support were: Lodge No. 2, Lodge No. 9, Frankford Lodge No. 292, Tacony Lodge No. 600, and Joseph H. Brown Lodge No. 751.

Cassia - Mt. Horeb Lodge No. 273 Sends Boy Scout To Japan

Eagle Scout, Jai Sujan has been challenged all his life with cerebral palsy and his mobility is possible only with the use of a wheelchair. When the Boy Scouts of America's Cradle of Liberty Council, which serves Philadelphia, Montgomery, and Delaware Counties, learned that they were selected to participate in a Boy Scout Exchange in Matsuyama, Ehime, Japan, they chose Scout Sujan to represent them. The event will focus on what young people with disabilities can accomplish. However, the Council needed a sponsor. When Cassia-Mt. Horeb Lodge No. 273, Ardmore, learned about the Eagle Scout's need, the brethren quickly came forward, donating \$750.



Eagle Scout, Jai Sujan visited Cassia-Mt. Horeb Lodge to meet his sponsors. He is pictured with Bros. Winton E. Hewitt, W.M., and William C. Diesinger, Jr., Chaplain.

Lodge Helps Make Easter Seals Big Winner.



Reading Lodge No. 549 contributed \$1,500 to make those served by Easter Seals the real winner of the successful Office Olympix competition held June 21 in Reading and the Lehigh Valley. Easter Seals Representative Patrick McCollough (front left), son of Joseph and Carol McCollough, is shown accepting the presentation check that's almost as big as he is from Peter Szpak, W.M. (left). Another Easter Seals Representative, Logan Rhoads, daughter of Ray and Susan Rhoads, is on the other end of the check. At right is Crystal Seitz, Co-Chairperson of Office Olympix and Community Relations Manager for GPU Energy.

SUPPORTING CAMP CADET

A spaghetti dinner, onion sale, and donations by members of Washington Lodge No. 164 resulted in sufficient proceeds to contribute \$4,116 to the Camp Cadet Program of the Pennsylvania State Police and municipal police officers



for boys and girls of ages 12 through 14. Presentation of the contribution was made by David L. Richards, W.M. (second from left in photo above), to the Camp Director, Trooper Roger Szuminsky (center), and Rainey Sethunan (second from right), the "1999 Cadet of the Year." At left is Wilbur E. Meeks, Secretary, and at right is D. Everett Plance, Treasurer.

In Grove City, \$200 was contributed by Cedar Lodge No. 800 to support the Camp Cadet Program in Mercer and Butler Counties. David A. McCalla (left in photo at left) presented the contribution to Trooper Joseph Katavich while Keith A. McKnight, D.D.G.M., 53rd Masonic District looks on.



17th Masonic District Raises Funds For New School

The Northern Tier Children's Home in Harrison benefitted because of the brethren of the 17th Masonic District having raised \$12,000 to expand the Home's learning center which provides home schooling for children. This is the second year for the brethren of the District's nine lodges to donate their time and effort to an auction selling such items as antiques, used furniture and appliances, tools, lawn equipment, and more at the Northern Tier Children's Home. The brethren also helped with the pickups, delivery, set up and clean up that made the event successful. The auction raised more than \$6,500 for the school and the lodges contributed an additional \$5,800.

Wellsboro; Bloss Lodge No. 350, Blossburg; Cowanesque Lodge No. 351, Knoxville; Tioga Lodge No. 373; Osceola Lodge No. 421, Elkland; Westfield Lodge No. 477; Lewisville Lodge No. 556, Ulysses; and Galeton Lodge No. 602.



The school's Learning Center opened its doors in August 1998. Not long after the school opened, a need to expand was realized. Executive Director for the Northern Tier Children's Home, Bro. J. Merle Herr, said "The support and encouragement of our Masonic friends and others has made this dream come true...the school is expanding from one classroom to five."

The lodges in the 17th Masonic District that made this project possible were: Friendship Lodge No. 247, Mansfield; Ossea Lodge No. 317,

Receiving the proceeds from the benefit auction are (l-r): Front - Bro. William Faughnan, W.M., Bloss Lodge No. 350; Jerry McCaslin, V.P. of NTCH Board of Directors; Warren White, President of NTCH Board; Bro. Gary B. Stahley, D.D.G.M., 17th Masonic District. Rear - Bros. Butch Camp; Tom Hoppe, NTCH Director of Finance; and J. Merle Herr, NTCH Executive Director, Lewisville Lodge No. 556; Ed Baily, Secretary; Frank Everette, S.W.; Rusty Cole; and Harold Ross, Treasurer, Galeton Lodge No. 602. Not pictured is Bro. Larry Gee, J.W., Tioga Lodge No. 373.

55th District Races for Arthritis Research



For the fourth consecutive year, the 55th Masonic District Race Team participated in the Western Pennsylvania Arthritis Mini-Grand Prix and again came away with honors. Most exemplary, the team won the "Highest Contribution" plaque. The sleek mini-racer, with "55" and the square and compasses on its hood, had "55th Masonic District" and "Masonic Charities" emblazoned on its sides. The racing team, all dressed in two-tone purple outfits and caps, captured a second place award for their striking uniforms. More than \$13,000 has been contributed for arthritis research through the support of nine of the lodges of the District and the Matching Charity Grants Program. All of the lodges meet in the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center.

Fall Conductor Seminars Focus on Recent Members

Masonic leaders from lodges throughout Pennsylvania are attending a series of Conductor seminars again this fall. The seminars are a continuation of the Overture series for "Membership Development Through Excellence in Leadership."

The seminars this fall are aimed at helping lodge leaders understand the importance of enrolling their new members and stemming losses from suspension and resignations – a recurring problem in Pennsylvania and elsewhere.

"We believe that our newest members are our customers, too, and we must give them the same care and attention any new customer deserves in order to reinforce and support their decision to join," said G. Kent Hackney, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The Conductor Seminars are based upon the results of a 1998 survey among recent new members.

Special Programs Help

The participants in the fall seminars have three new programs available to help them and their lodge. One of the most interesting is called "ComPak," a selection of 20 of the most frequently used correspondence from a lodge to a member for most occasions from the first time he hears from the lodge to special holiday greetings and other communications he would receive as a Master Mason. Every lodge in Pennsylvania will receive "ComPak" letters and instructions on how to use it.

"ProjectPak" is another helpful package for lodge leaders. "ProjectPak" includes information and step-by-step directions

on how to complete a project successfully in the lodge using traditional project management skills and procedures. "Project management as a methodology has been around for years and we felt that Masons could benefit from understanding it," said Bro. Hackney.

"MemberPak" is a guide for lodge leaders designed to help them plan, design, and develop strategies for new members to increase satisfaction and reduce losses due to suspension and other factors.

According to R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette, "We feel that the second fall Conductor Seminar on Lodge Management really rounds out the leadership and management development skills of the leaders of lodges participating. As a result, I feel we have in place a core group of nearly 1,200 men who know what's right, know what to do, have the materials, and have been exposed to ways to use them more effectively." Grand Master Ernette concluded, "From here we must move to embed these behaviors in every lodge. Because the leaders do change every year, we must continue this initiative until such time as we have 'institutionalized' effective leadership in our lodges to the point that a man who becomes a Mason in Pennsylvania not only sees quality leadership first-hand, but also has the opportunity to learn these skills for himself as a benefit of joining."

There are two Conductor Seminars remaining in Pennsylvania at the dates and places below. Any lodge interested in attending one of the Conductor Seminars may do so by contacting David Meachen in the Office of the Grand Master in Philadelphia. Call (215) 988-1924.

Nov. 13	Wilkes-Barre (Woodland Inn)
Nov. 20	Harrisburg (Harrisburg Marriott)

GERMANY

July 21st - August 1st, 2000



The Grand Lodge and R.W. Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Dlugé, 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, Weimar, 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.

Pennsylvania Masons Unite for "Every 30 Minutes"

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Prince Hall Grand Lodge have come together to combine efforts with the Pennsylvania State Police and the PA DUI Association to give Pennsylvania schools the opportunity to participate in a national prevention program called "Every 30 Minutes." The name of the program is derived from the tragic fact that every half hour, someone in the United States loses his or her life to a substance abuse related traffic accident.



R.W. Grand Master Ernette and M.W. Grand Master Harris affirm their commitment to Pennsylvania's youth as they discuss the "Every 30 Minutes" program with Bro. and Col. Evanko.

On Aug. 7, at the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel in Camp Hill, approximately 800 brethren from both Grand Lodges came together at the "Masonic Unity Banquet" to pledge support to the youth of Pennsylvania. It is the first time that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Prince Hall Grand Lodge will jointly support and actively work together in a community project. The Masonic Fraternity will provide both financial and active support to the "Every 30 Minutes" program. R.W. Grand Master James Ernette spoke of the program as "an eye-opening, motivating enactment of true-to-life circumstances resulting from the dangerous mix of youthful exuberance, drugs and alcohol, automobiles and speed ... its lessons will be poignant; the impact everlasting."

"Success will come through everyone's participation," said Prince Hall M.W. Grand Master Lawrence Harris. Representatives of Pennsylvania law enforcement present were: Bro. and Col. Paul Evanko, Commissioner for the PA State Police; Bro. and Lt. Col. Tom Coury, Deputy Commissioner of Administration; Major Frank Koscelnak, Director of the Bureau

of Liquor Control Enforcement; and Stephen Erni, Executive Director of the PA DUI Association.

"Every 30 Minutes" is an intense two-day program focusing on high school juniors and seniors, which challenges them to think about drinking, personal safety and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved. The program is a creative and comprehensive effort that will involve entire communities. Representatives from the participating schools, fire departments, hospitals, police departments, and

other community leaders will play critical roles in presenting students with the opportunity to experience first-hand the tragedy of driving under the influence. Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Prince Hall Grand Lodge will be encouraged to work with the community in organizing the program with the Pennsylvania State Police under the guidance of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children.

A detailed letter explaining the program from the Pennsylvania DUI Association has already been sent to all high school superintendents seeking those schools with SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) programs who may be interested in becoming one of the first schools in the Commonwealth to participate in this national program. The Pennsylvania Freemasons, Pennsylvania State Police, and the PA DUI Association will chose 20 schools to launch the program this fall. The "Every 30 Minutes" program was originated in Spokane, WA, and is now spreading across the country.

Law Enforcement Scholarship Awarded

William Baily, D.D.G.M., 29th Masonic District (second from left) presented Ryan J. Thomas (center), a graduate of Waynesburg Central High School, with one of three Law Enforcement Scholarships awarded this year by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He will receive \$10,000 over four years while attending Shippensburg University to study criminal justice. He is the son of Robin S. Thomas (left) and Mary Thomas and grandson of Dennis Thomas (second from right). Both are members of Waynesburg Lodge No. 153. At right is his uncle, Richard Thomas, Dietrick Lamade Lodge No. 755, Williamsport.



Ryan Thomas has attended the Pennsylvania State Police Camp Cadet, is an instructor in C.P.R. and first aid, is E.M.T. certified, a volunteer fireman in Waynesburg, and active in numerous community endeavors.

The Law Enforcement Scholarship program was developed and implemented by R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette, a retired Pennsylvania State Police Trooper, to recognize and help young men and women whose goals are to serve others and keep their communities safe.

Accident Victim Grateful For Mason's Help

[Ed. Note: The following excerpted letter of gratitude sent by e-mail to R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette speaks for itself. Brian Rote is a member of Manheim Lodge No. 587.]

Dear Grand Master Ernette:

I wanted to take this opportunity to inform you of [a deed by] one of your members from Lancaster County, Brian Rote.

I was on my way to work in Hershey... [after] I dropped off my son at pre-school. It was a cold, clear morning. ... my car went out of control trying to avoid something in the road. By the time I realized what was happening, it was too late.... I went [across] the left lane, hitting a concrete culvert The next thing I remember was being upside-down and listening to the quiet around me. I kept saying to myself, "Lord, what have I done? Please don't let me die this way." I saw smoke in my car, maybe from the air bags. I was afraid that my car was going to catch fire. It's pretty scary when your life is flashing before you.

I saw a truck pass by overhead, but didn't stop. Not long after that, a man started down the hill. I was trying to bang on the window. I couldn't get out. The man was Brian Rote. He asked me if I was alone and told me that help was on the way. I kept telling him not to leave me. He did a great job in keeping me calm. I didn't give any thought that he wasn't going to be able to get me out. I just knew he would. Another man was there to assist.

Brian managed to get one of the doors open and pulled the seat loose in order to pull me out of the car. My left foot was caught in the dash area after the car landed upside-down. I managed to pull it out. When they both started to pull me up the hill, I realized that something was wrong with my left foot.... Brian and the other man carried me up the embankment and helped me to the side of the road.

Brian had a first-aid kit in his car and ... some kind of blanket. He found something to wrap my foot in to stop the bleeding. He covered me with the blanket to stay warm. Every day now, when I drive past that spot where my accident happened, I can't help but think of Brian Rote who helped me to safety while risking his own life. Who knows what could have happened if he hadn't stopped to help.... One thing is for sure: One never knows when a guardian angel will appear. The day of my accident, Brian Rote was that guardian angel!

Sincerely,

Fran Hadley
(Mrs. Bruce Hadley)

There was an addendum to the letter from Bruce Hadley:

... I am very grateful for the quick thinking and the preparedness of your organization's member, Brian Rote. I was truly thankful that not only did he rescue my wife, but that he was equipped with a blanket, a first aid kit, and a cell phone. He was able to summon help right away and call me to let me know where the ambulance was taking her. He made a very difficult judgment to remove my injured wife from the car [which] he did not do until he was certain of no other serious injuries.

A Fraternal Request for a "Diligent Search"

The Grand Lodge of Arizona needs to locate a traveling Bible that began its journey in Gettysburg in 1984. In 1985, it was reported to have traveled to Florida, but there has been no word of its whereabouts since.

In 1984, it was donated by Robert Conrad, then Master of Tucson Lodge No. 4 and now the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Arizona. It bears his name, address, and that of Tucson Lodge No. 4. It is a "Family Edition" Bible measuring 9 by 11 inches and travels with a blue booklet that contains the instructions for its travels and its permanent address.

The Grand Lodge of Arizona very much would like to have it back in time for Bro. Conrad's installation as Grand Master in June 2000.

Anyone with information as to its location, is asked to write to the Grand Lodge of Arizona at 345 W. Monroe, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1684, or e-mail the Grand Lodge at azgnd_ldg@uswest.net.

Fife & Drum Corps Masons Confer Degree

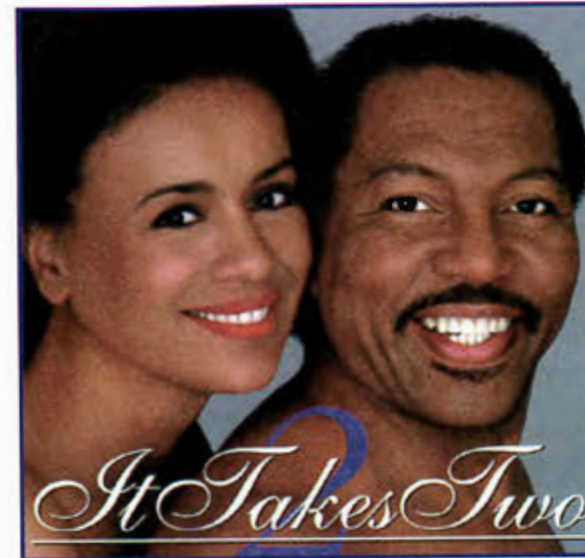


By virtue of a dispensation, a degree team of Masons dressed in their uniforms of the Berlin Fife and Drum Corps conferred the Master Mason's Degree upon one of its members, Charles Lewis Heiple II in Meyersdale Lodge No. 554. Members of the degree team were from Meyersdale Lodge and Somerset Lodge No. 358.

The members of the Fife and Drum Corps and the stations or places in which they served are (l-r): Front - John S. Landis, P.M., as W.M.; Bro. Heiple, the new Master Mason; Jerry L. Lyons, D.D.G.M., 41st Masonic District (not a member of the Corps); and Richard A. Cook, P.M., as S.W. Back - Floyd Alvares as S.M.C.; Red Robb as S.D.; Donald J. Raupach as Pursuivant; Charles Robb as J.D.; Russ Hillegas as J.M.C.; Douglas Bell as Guide; and Jim Darr as J.W. Missing from the picture are Blair S. Krause who served as Treasurer and Richard L. Poorbaugh, P.M., who served as Secretary.

Early Reservations Recommended Next Grand Master's Banquet and Show Will Be A Dynamic Warm-Up for the 21st Century

Plan now to join the next Grand Master and his lady on Dec. 27 to enjoy the glamor, fun, and excitement of Pennsylvania's last big Masonic social event before the year 2000 and be part of an early welcome for the twenty-first century.



The Grand Master's Banquet and Gala will be held in the new ballrooms of the Great American Hall of the Hershey Convention Center. There will be a reception at 6 p.m. and banquet at 7 p.m. followed by a spectacular show, "It Takes Two," starring Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr. The founding headliners of the Original 5th Dimension will perform songs from the 60s, 70s, and 80s. "It Takes Two" is a celebration of love - theirs and the love the public has for their music.

Make your reservations early. The Great American Hall can seat 2,200 for dinner, but, reservations will go fast. The cost is \$30 per person for

the banquet and the show. Seating will be at tables of ten, so you might want to get your group together for a great evening of food, fun and fellowship. Use the attached coupon and forward it with your check payable to "The Grand Lodge of PA" to: Office of the Grand Master, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

[For hotel accommodations for the Annual Meeting, contact the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center directly. Phone 1-717-533-3311, or write to P.O. Box 446, Hershey, PA 17033-0446.]

To: Office of the Grand Master

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for #_____ reservations at \$30 each for the Grand Master's Banquet and Gala at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center on Dec. 27, 1999.

From:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Lodge No.: _____

Mail your check along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

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

HONORED FOR 75 YEARS



S. John Sherman (seated), of Clarion Lodge No. 277, was honored when Clyde P. Minich, P.M., (left) Secretary of the Lodge, and William A. McKissick (right), Chairman of the Visitation Committee, presented him with a certificate in recognition of his 75 years as a Freemason. He was initiated June 4, 1923. The recipient's son, James Sherman (standing behind his father), was present for the recognition at Sena-Kean Manor in Smethport, where Bro. Sherman resides.

"Passing of The Gavel" Ceremony Planned For Retiring Masters and Senior Wardens

Lodges are urged to have their Worshipful Masters who will be retiring on Dec. 27 and Senior Wardens who will move into the East attend the Annual Grand Communication in Hershey and participate in a symbolic "Passing of the Gavel" ceremony. A section of seating will be set aside at the Grand Lodge Communication for the retiring and incoming Worshipful Masters.

After the new Grand Master has been installed, he will conduct a brief ceremony during which each retiring Worshipful Master present will remove the collar and apron of the office and invest his successor with them.

Each retiring Worshipful Master attending the Communication should be sure to have the collar and apron of the office with him. After the investiture, the new Worshipful Master should return the regalia to his lodge.

When entering the Grand Lodge meeting room on Dec. 27, the Worshipful Masters and the Senior Wardens should advise the Tyler that they will be participating in the "Passing of the Gavel" ceremony. The Tyler will direct them to their seating area.

IN MEMORIAM

Hiram Price Ball, Right Worshipful Grand Master 1970-1971 July 13, 1913 - September 10, 1999

Hiram P. Ball was the son of George Loyal Ball, founder of three Pittsburgh chemical companies, and Lilian William Ball. He was educated in the public schools of Pittsburgh and the University School of Pittsburgh, from which he was graduated in 1932. He then attended Lehigh University, but transferred to Franklin and Marshall College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1937. He attended Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1937 and 1938. In 1968, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Thiel College in Pennsylvania.

On Oct. 16, 1943, in Covington, KY, Bro. Ball married Florence H. Campbell of Indianapolis, IN. They had one son and two daughters. The Balls have been members of the Glade Run United Presbyterian Church, Cooperstown, PA.

Bro. Ball's first job (1938-1940) was as a laboratory technician with a small company in New York City that manufactured paint and industrial coatings. He then joined his father's Ball Chemical Co. as secretary-treasurer and director (1940-1959) and later became president and chairman of the board (1959-1984). Bro. Ball also was secretary-treasurer of the family-owned Cleanola Co. (1940-1985). During the same period, he was secretary, director and later president of the family-held Pittsburgh Insulating Co. Later, he also was president and director of B.B.I., Inc. (1967-1981), a company he established and developed a system of mechanics to pull fiberglass and resins through heated molds into various shapes used by the electric industry. His memberships in professional organizations were numerous and he held leadership offices in most of them.

In addition to his industrial interests, Bro. Ball was a partner with his two brothers in Ball Associates (1941-1985), which ran the largest purebred Hereford breeding farm in the East and was the first in Pennsylvania to develop polled (hornless) cattle. He belonged to a number of livestock and breeders associations and served leadership roles in most of them.

He was a trustee of Franklin and Marshall College (1952-1972), a member of the advisory board of the Allegheny Center Branch of the Pittsburgh National Bank (1960-

1969), on the board of trustees of the Union Dale Cemetery Co., and president (1954-1965) of the Middlesex Twp. School Authority.

Hiram P. Ball became a Mason in Harmony Lodge No. 429, Butler County, in 1941 and served as its Worshipful Master in 1944. He resigned in 1947 to become a member of his father's lodge, Corinthian Lodge No. 573, Allegheny County, from which he resigned in 1959 to become Warrant Master and trustee of Col. Henry Bouquet Lodge No. 787. In 1978, that lodge merged with Lodge No. 45 in Pittsburgh.

In Grand Lodge, Bro. Ball served as the 48th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master from 1951 to 1963, and was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1964. He served as R.W. Grand Master in 1970 and 1971. Grand Master Ball advocated stronger administration and increased interest in the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown and toward those ends held the first "Grand Master's Day." The existing Pennsylvania Freemasons' Hospital was extensively renovated and plans were approved in 1971 for a multimillion dollar medical facility to be called the "Masons Care Building."

Bro. Ball was a York Rite member of Chapter, Council, Commandery, and Red Cross of Constantine in Pittsburgh. He received the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Pittsburgh and also maintained membership in the Valley of New Castle. He was coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, in Detroit in 1964. He was a member of Syria Temple of the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Pittsburgh, and served as Illustrious Potentate in 1957. He was a member of the Royal Order of Jester, Islam Grotto, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, the National Sojourners, and the High Twelve Club.

Bro. Ball's Masonic honors included the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the Erasmus James Philipps Medal from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, the Honorary Legion of Honor Degree from the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay, and the Grand Cross of Color from the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.



The Right Worshipful
Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania

and

Committee on Masonic Education

present...

**TOOLS
OF THE
CRAFT**

Pennsylvania Freemasons lead the way! In a first-ever attempt in Freemasonry, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has produced a three-part video series in response to an overwhelming demand from lodges for more effective tools in candidate instruction. "Tools of the Craft" will be used to supplement and enhance the new *Masonic Education Handbook for Candidate Instruction* developed and forwarded to each lodge earlier this year. Everyone, Masons and non-Masons alike, who see these videos will be impressed with the proud tradition of Freemasonry, the high ideals and beliefs of the Craft, and how Pennsylvania Freemasons work together to help each other and make our communities a better place in which to live. These videos will lead the way in creating "Masonic Ambassadors" out of newly made Master Masons.

Video 1: *What It Means To Be A Pennsylvania Mason*

Video 2: *Position On Religion And Secrecy Issues*

Video 3: *Responsibilities And Benefits Of Membership*

These approximately 15-minute videos will bring to life who we are, what we believe, and what we do. Through vivid, memorable images, and sound, it will help inspire active participation in your lodge and help express the pride of being a Pennsylvania Freemason to candidates.

**Look for *Tools of the Craft*
....coming to your lodge
in November!**

MASONIC CHARITIES

MORE THAN 350 PLAY IN THREE CHARITY GOLF OUTINGS

More than 350 golfers thoroughly enjoyed the competition, fun, food, and fellowship of the Grand Master's three Charity Golf Outings from west to east across the state on Aug. 16, 23, and 30. The events netted approximately \$25,000 to benefit the Masonic Children's Home at Elizabethtown. R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette attended all three events to thank the participants for supporting the charity and the sponsors for making it possible.

Bros. Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO, and William C. Davis, Jr., Administrator/COO, of the Masonic Homes, attended the Western and Eastern events and Bro. Gilson "Buzz" Cash, Director of the Masonic Children's Homes, attended the Central event to thank the participants and the sponsors for their support. Smith Barney Capital Management was the primary sponsor for all three outings.



Some of the winners at the Western Outing are (l-r): Mike Crosby; Jim Slote (putting contest); R.W.J.G.W. Slater; Grand Master Ernette; Rusty Lauffer; and Gary Canong.

Grand Warden, awarded golf prizes to: *Low gross* - first, Mike Crosby, 76; second, Gary Canong, 80; and third, Steve Carson, 81. *Low net* - first, Mearl Horner, 72; second, Rusty Lauffer, 73; and third, Don Miller, Jr., 73. *Longest drive - under 60 years old*, Rusty Lauffer; *over 60*, Bob Hopkinson. *Straightest drive* - Doug Miller. *Closest to the pin - on No. 6*, John Fair; *No. 8*, Bob Nemchik; *No. 11*, James Hawk; and *No. 14*, Gary Soltys. *Longest putt - on No. 9*, Mike Crosby, and *No. 18*, Tom Leonard.

Eighty-eight golfers played in the outing at Felicita Resort east of Harrisburg on Aug. 23. Russell W. Baker, D.D.G.M., 5th Masonic District and Chairman of the Central Region Outing, along with Grand Master Ernette and the Honorary Regional Chairman, Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master, awarded golf prizes to: *Low gross* - Jim Smith, 73; John Weibly, 76; and Mike Evangelista, 78. *Low net* - Bill Hauber, 72; Larry Miller, 72; and Alvin Skinner,



Some of the winners at the Central Outing are (l-r): Jim Smith; John Weibly; R.W.D.G.M. Dlugie; Grand Master Ernette; Al Skinner; and Mike Evangelista.

72. *Closest to the pin - on No. 3*, Bill Greet; *on No. 7*, Bill Hauber; *on No. 17*, Preston Van Deursen. *Longest drive - under 60 years old*, Bill Hassinger; and *over 60*, C. Dakin.

Again the weather was excellent, though somewhat cooler for the 138 golfers playing in the sold-out Charity Golf Outing at LuLu Country Club near Philadelphia on Aug. 30. After the round, Dale H. Fera, D.D.G.M., Masonic District E and Chairman of the Eastern Region Outing, along with Grand Master Ernette and the Honorary Chairman, Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden, awarded golf prizes to: *Low gross* - first, Ross Clyde, 76; second, Rovani Mark, 79 and Mike Evangelista, 81. *Low net* - first, Jeff Krchnavy; second, Rick Rankin; third, John Sunday; fourth, Ed Miller; and fifth, Fred Wichterman. *Closest to the pin - on No. 4*, Dave Zinman; *No. 6*, John Carey; *No. 12*, Bill Haas; and *No. 15*, Ralph Watson. *Longest drive - under 60 years old*, Jeff Walters; and *over 60*, Dave Wilson. *Straightest Drive* - Joe Foley.

Sponsors at the respective outings were:

Western - Smith Barney Capital Management; ABB Daimler-Benz Transportation (North America), Inc.; Adelphoi Village, Inc.; All-Brite Window Cleaning; Atlas Software Technologies, Inc.; Closet Solutions; Dorwart, Andrew and Co.; Flynn's E.W. Tire Co.; Harvey F. Fishel, D.D.G.M., 39th Masonic District; Irwin Bank and Trust Co.; Kattan-Ferretti Insurance Agency, Inc.; KPMG LLP; Mary Lee Travel Service, Inc.; O & S Machine Co., Inc.; Parkvale Savings Bank; Perkins Eastman Architects PC; Richard J. Stemmler, D.D.G.M., 30th Masonic District; Scientific Tool, Inc.; Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh; Slater Funeral Service; Unity Printing Co., Inc.; Vee Neal Aviation; Ward Industries, Inc.; Wheatland Tube Co.; C. Harper Chevrolet-GEO Buick, Inc.

Central - Smith Barney Capital Management; Reese, Lower, Patrick and Scott; Rohrer Bus Service; Purcell Machine Company, Inc.; First USA Bank, N.A.; Formex; Frank S. Miller Funeral Home; Lancaster Health Alliance; P & J Printing; Perseverance Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg; Healthguard; Clark Associates, Inc.; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP; Ream Roofing Associates, Inc.; UGI; Sollenberger Painting; Warfel Construction Co.; B&G Lumber Co., Inc.; Bergen



Pictured at the awards presentation of the Eastern Outing are (l-r): Ed Miller; Fred Wichterman; Mike Evangelista; Jeff Krchnavy; Rick Rankin; Grand Master Ernette; D.D.G.M. Fera; Robert Battle, C.E.O. of the primary sponsor, Smith Barney Capital Management; Clyde Ross; and John Sunday.

Brunswick Drug Corp.; BR&CF; Compudata Health Corp.; D J Sportswear; Directors Staff of Zembo Temple, AAONMS; Dorwart, Andrew and Co.; 18th Masonic District School of Instruction; Ernie E. Latsha; E-town Dodge; GeoServices, Ltd.; Hershock's, Inc.; Hoover Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.; Houck & Co., Inc.; Huepenbecker Enterprises, Inc.; JPC Specialty Fastening Systems; KPMG, LLP; Kronos, Inc.; Lee Wayne Corporation c/o Richard D. Bridgman; Liberty Mutual; Librandi's Machine Shop, Inc.; Lowther Manor Lodge No. 781, Camp Hill; M. H. Eby, Inc.; Marschall Associates; Mastercraft Specialties, Inc.; Mueller's Flower Shop; Newcomer Oil Corporation; Pro Solutions, Inc.; Ridgeview Farms, Inc.; Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, Harrisburg; Shepherds Unit, Zembo Temple, AAONMS; Sysco Food Services of Central PA, Inc.; Vickie L. and Jack L. Gillmore; West Shore Oil; Xpedx; Yorkaire, Inc.

Eastern - Smith Barney Capital Management; Lodge No. 9, Tacony (Philadelphia); Concordia Lodge No. 67, Jenkintown; Olivet-Oriental Lodge No. 385, Philadelphia; University Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia; Contract Pharmacy Services, Inc.; Frankford Lodge No. 292; Tamburri Associates; Rampart Construction Company, Inc.; Albert V. Morrell; Mitchell Lodge No. 296; A.A.A. Welding Service, Inc.; Ace Welding Service, Inc.; Affinity Marketing Associates; Apple Construction, Inc.; Barry Bannett & Associates, Inc.; Benny the Bum's Crab House; Caddick Construction Company, Inc.; Cellular Discounters, Inc.; Chicago Olde Style Company; DiPinto-Mehl Funeral Home; Dorwart, Andrew and Co.; Dr. Edwin S. Hart, III; Formula Steel Fabricators, Inc.; Friendship Bray Chapter, DeMolay; Friendship-Williams Lodge No. 400, Jenkintown; Hiram 81 Masonic Hall, Chestnut Hill; Hi-Top Steel, Inc.; House of Yarns, Inc.; Jenkintown Masonic School of Instruction; Joppa Council No. 46; Kensington-Kadosh Commandery No. 54; Martha B. Mathers Chapter; Rainbow for Girls; Mathew Dupee, Esquire; McGraph Construction Company; Northeast Shrine Club; Omni Sales, Inc.; Peck, Young and Van Sant, Attorneys; Philadelphia Tool and Drilling Co., Inc.; Richard Vaux Ivanhoe Lodge No. 384, Philadelphia; Self Heating & Cooling, Inc.; Shekinah Lodge No. 246, Chestnut Hill; Shiloh Lodge No. 558, Lansdale; Tacony Lodge No. 600; Thomas R. Patton Lodge No. 659, Philadelphia; Warren Lodge No. 310, Collegeville; William Penn Lodge No. 732, Philadelphia; Wolner Insurance Management, Inc.; Netlisters, Inc.



Guest at the Eastern Outing, James Kinch (right), son of William Kinch of Mozart Lodge No. 436, Philadelphia, won the putting contest conducted by Thomas Toscani, P.M., a member of the Charity Golf Committee.

Chance Meeting Recalls Memory of 50 Years



Two past masters were introduced at the Masonic Homes and, in short order, discovered that they had fond memories of each other because of an event 50 years ago.

When Jeffrey L. Nale, D.D.G.M., 19th Masonic District (center), who also is an Admission Counselor for the Masonic Homes, and his wife, Debbie, escorted

James Doughten, P.M. (left), Union Lodge No. 324, Mifflintown, on a tour, they met Kenneth March, P.M., Newport Lodge No. 381, and his wife Pauline. Bro. March, who is the oldest living past master of his lodge and a retiree from Pennsylvania Power and Light Co., and Pauline are residents at the Masonic Homes and work as volunteers in the Grand Lodge Hall general store.

Shortly after the introduction, Bro. Doughten commented that he was graduated from the Patton School. Immediately, Bro. March remembered that 50 years ago he had presented an award in carpentry to a young man by the same name. Bro. Doughten is that "young man" who has been a skilled carpenter in Mifflintown for half a century.

The District Deputy was amazed, asking: "What are the chances that, after 50 years, these two brothers - both past masters of the 19th District - would be reintroduced while on a tour of the Masonic Homes?"

Masons' Charitable Support Earns Masonic Homes Highest Financial Ratings

The Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has been in operation since 1910 and continues to experience growth and expand services while maintaining financial stability. The organization's financial strength was recognized recently by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service.

Standard & Poor's gave the Masonic Homes an AA-rating, an upgrade from their previous A+ rating. The Masonic Homes is the only continuing care retirement community in the country to be given this high rating by Standard & Poor's.

The report issued by Standard & Poor's reflects on the Masonic Homes' strong financial standing and fund-raising efforts: "The Masonic organization in Pennsylvania...has always received generous support from its members. This support is evidenced by annual fund-raising campaigns that provide substantial operating support."

Moody's assigned the Masonic Homes an A-1 underlying rating, and credited the organization for having a solid market position due to its long established history and fraternal affiliation. Their report states: "We believe Masonic Homes' long and established 90-year history, diverse and growing service array, and fraternal affiliation will support strong demand into the foreseeable future."

Both groups rated the Masonic Homes with a stable outlook.

Sell Chapel Renovations Complete; Services Dedicate Building and Honor Pastor Emeritus

During a "Special Service of Rededication" on Aug. 29, the Masonic Homes community celebrated the enhancements made to the John S. Sell Memorial Chapel. The original cornerstone was laid for Sell Chapel on Dec. 5, 1925. Now, almost 74 years later, an addition on the east side of the Chapel is complete.

The new space includes a three-floor elevator and lobby, a parlor, rest rooms, memory garden, and a lobby. There also is a covered drop-off area from a new parking lot to the north of the existing Chapel and addition.

The elevator provides access from the basement tunnel level of the Chapel to the main floor and the balcony to improve the accessibility of these areas for residents. The new parking lot also provides much easier access along the Village Green area roadways.

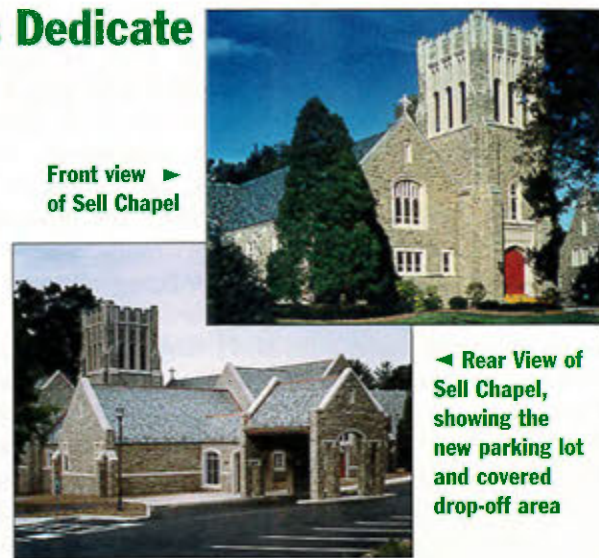
The addition was constructed of stone matching the existing structure to complement the aesthetics of the Chapel. The memory garden is in the interior courtyard formed amidst the sanctuary, the parlor, elevator lobby, and main lobby.

Rev. Charles H. Lacquement, D.D., and Rev. A. Preston Van Deursen, the new Director of Pastoral Care presided over the rededication service. Pastor Lacquement delivered the sermon and the Men's Chorus performed.



"We have gathered as a family of God to celebrate with thanksgiving the new addition of this sanctuary and to rededicate this entire sanctuary to the glory of God," Pastor Van Deursen said. "Receive this house afresh for your glory," he continued, "as we dedicate it and ourselves to your service."

Pastor Lacquement and his wife, Connie, greet Bro. and Mrs. Carl Flohr after the special worship service in honor of Pastor Lacquement.



Front view of Sell Chapel

◀ Rear View of Sell Chapel, showing the new parking lot and covered drop-off area

After the Chapel was formally rededicated, the Committee on Masonic Homes, residents, and employees attended an evening worship service in honor of Pastor Lacquement, when he was installed as Pastor Emeritus of the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Rev. Kenneth A. Creitz, Associate Pastor, delivered the Call to Worship, and Pastor Van Deursen delivered the sermon. The Men's Chorus and Women's Chorus performed, and as a special touch Michelle Swope, Pastor Lacquement's daughter, performed the organ prelude and postlude.

Pastor Lacquement retired on Sept. 1, 1999, after 26 years of service to the Masonic Homes. He continues to serve as a Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Grand Pryor of the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation of the Scottish Rite, and Chaplain of the High 12 Club in Elizabethtown.

Looking for Nursing, Assisted Living or Rehab Services? Masonic Homes Provide Them Across the State!

The Masonic Eastern Star Home-East in Warminster and the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West in Pittsburgh have immediate availability in their assisted living areas. This level of service is for individuals who desire to be independent but require some daily help with getting dressed, taking medications, transportation, or bathing.

The Valley Care Masonic Center in Sewickley currently has openings for nursing home care.

Subacute and rehabilitation services are also available now in three of the four locations: Elizabethtown, Sewickley, and Warminster. Persons who require skilled care following a hospital stay or need complex medical management, may receive those services at one of the

three locations and return home upon recovery.

Some of the advantages of staying at one of the three homes for rehabilitation includes: cost-saving services, safe homelike environment, state-of-the art facilities, and professional staff.

For information on the services available at each of the locations, call the Admissions Offices:

Elizabethtown: (800) 422-1207 or
(717) 367-1121, ext. 33101 (locally)
Pittsburgh: (412) 931-8300
Sewickley: (412) 741-1400
Warminster: (215) 672-2500

Grand Master's Day 1999

Grand Master's Day at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown was held on Sept. 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Approximately 7,000 attendees enjoyed visits from friendly, fun-loving clowns, delicious "Homes"-made food, musical entertainment, amazing jugglers, the

popular resident talent show, guided tours, and Masonic information booths and displays. It was a great day of fun, excitement, and fellowship, as Pennsylvania Masons, their families and friends, enjoyed the annual open house and celebration.



1. R.W. Grand Master Ernette greets the crowd in the Village Green Circle. 2. The Zembo Shrine Chanters were enjoyed by the young and the young at heart. 3. Clowns rejuvenate with hot dogs and sausage sandwiches...YUM! 4. Resident Claribelle Ludwig with a mime. 5. Marissa and Bryce Merlet created spin art masterpieces. 6. Independent Living residents sell crafts.

Reserve Now and Move In Later!



An aerial view of the Independent Living Community apartments

Independent Living cottages are popular, and selling fast!

Anyone considering a move to an Independent Living apartment or cottage at the Masonic Homes Retirement Campus in Elizabethtown should act now.

Although there is a waiting list for certain units, there are some apartments and cottages currently available for immediate reservation. They are going quickly, and it's anticipated that there will be a waiting list for all areas of Independent Living in the near future.

The normal move-in process takes three to four months after selecting an accommodation, which means there is sufficient time to make the necessary preparations for the move to a new and rewarding lifestyle at the Masonic Homes.

Considering the Masonic Homes' history of excellence and solid financial ratings, there is great peace of mind in living in a community with such stability.

If you or your spouse are at least age 65 and possess a Pennsylvania Masonic or Eastern Star affiliation (call for specific details), call to arrange an appointment with a Masonic Homes counselor. You will get a tour of this top-rated facility so you can select a unit that best fits your needs. Call 1-800-676-6452, or complete and mail the coupon.

Send 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

Independent Living Renovations Complete!

The Independent Living Clubhouse has been the hub of activity for Independent Living residents since that level of service was first offered by the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown in 1990. Due to the expansion and growth of the Independent Living areas on campus, plans to renovate and upgrade the Clubhouse began in the spring of 1998.

The Independent Living Clubhouse renovations include enlargement of the Keystone Room, a large meeting room for residents; construction of a café; beautification of the lobby area, library, and hair care center; and the addition of a lounge, located just off the lobby.

The café replaces the coffee shop that previously seated 30, and was open Monday through Saturday for breakfast and lunch. The new café offers an enhanced menu, new services, and additional seating that will serve up to 66 for breakfast, lunch, and dinner Monday through Saturday.

The atmosphere at the café is casual and reservations are not required. The café is cash-based; however, residents may use their meal plan option if they choose.

"The renovation of the entire Clubhouse, including the café, was in response to the interests and preferences of the residents to have the space redesigned for their enjoyment," said Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO.



Residents enjoy refreshments and socialization as they celebrate the grand re-opening of the Clubhouse on September 1, 1999.

Residential Living in the Village Green Area of the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown

A variety of residential options are available immediately in the beautiful Village Green Area for individuals who desire independence without the daily household chores. Services in this area include three meals daily in the beautiful Grand Lodge Hall dining room, biweekly housekeeping services, personal laundry services, transportation, activities, outpatient medical services, 24-hour emergency nurse call response, and all utilities (except telephone and cable, which are optional).

Conveniently located within walking distance are a post office, library, gift shop, general store, chapel, ice cream parlor, recreational area, lodge room, and ballroom where Masonic lodges and Eastern Star chapters meet. Parking is available, although transportation is provided to shopping malls, medical appointments, and other activities.

Admissions representatives are available to show life first-hand in the Residential Living Area. If you prefer to meet with someone in your home to hear more about Residential Living options, a visit can be arranged with one of the counselors. For more information, or to schedule an appointment for a tour, call 1-800-422-1207.

A view of the Grand Lodge Hall building from the formal gardens in the Village Green Area of the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.



GEORGIA ON OUR MIND

The Masonic Children's Home residents enjoyed a fun summer. The highlight was when the staff took the children on group vacations. The Smith Cottage of elementary school-age children and the Eisenlohr Cottage high school girls went to Ocean City, MD. The Baehr Cottage girls had a fun week in Ocean City, NJ, while the Lloyd Cottage boys went to Williamsburg, VA.

The young men of Harrison Cottage vacationed at the Georgia Masonic Home Camp near Savannah. Because it was very hot there, the boys spent much of their time riding in boats, swimming, or tubing in the nearby river.

The boys even fished in the Atlantic Ocean in boats provided by a local Masonic lodge. Sea turtles, dolphins, and Spanish mackerel were a few of the "ocean critters" they encountered. They were even up close to an alligator! Three young men and staff members from the Masonic Children's Home in Macon, GA, also were at the camp. The boys enjoyed chicken, crab, and various other entrees. It is hoped that this will be the beginning of a yearly exchange program with Masonic children's homes throughout the country.



Photos:

- 1.) Lloyd Cottage boys in Williamsburg, Va.
- 2.) Smith Cottage children at Ocean City, MD
- 3.) Baehr Cottage girls at Ocean City, NJ
- 4.) Eisenlohr Cottage girls at Ocean City, MD
- 5.) Harrison Cottage boys at the Masonic Home Camp in Savannah, Ga.

Residential/Respite Cottage is Home to Many

To some, it's home... to others, it's a home away from home. The Masonic Homes Residential/Respite Cottage opened in March 1998 to serve adults with mild to moderate mental retardation. Four adults now live there permanently, enjoying their independence and support provided by their caregivers. They also enjoy the company of other adults who come to stay for short periods, since the program still admits up to four adults at a time for short-term respite care. The program serves as a temporary home for these special adults, which allows their par-



Susan Vale, the cottage's first resident, spends some quiet time in her room.

ents or care-givers to take a vacation or spend some personal time free from their care-giving responsibilities.

Within the caring, secure environment of the Masonic Homes, the program provides quality services to ensure the well-being of the individuals during their stay. The warm, inviting cottage is staffed by friendly, compassionate, and experienced professionals who work with the philosophy that the residents and guests deserve dignity and respect. The staff cares for each individual's medical and physical needs, including the administration of medications. But more important, they embrace the holistic approach to providing exceptional care for the mind, body, and spirit within a nurturing environment.

The Masonic Homes Respite Cottage provides three nutritious meals a day and snacks, social and recreational activities, and assistance with personal care.

For further information about the



Beth Weiman, resident, likes to color at the dining room table.



Deb Bleiler makes coffee in the kitchen.

Respite Cottage or to schedule a tour, visit or short-term respite stay, call (717) 367-1121, ext. 33751, or write to: Respite Cottage, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

PA Masons Recognized for D.A.R.E. Support



On behalf of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Lt. Gov. Mark Schweiker presented R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette with a plaque giving special recognition to the Masons of Pennsylvania for the outstanding support of D.A.R.E. and its programs by the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children. Law enforcement officers from all over the Commonwealth are trained for the D.A.R.E. program at the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus at Elizabethtown.

THREE GENERATIONS IN LODGE



It became three generations of Masons from the same family in Liberty Lodge No. 505, Port Allegany, when James D. Gustafson, J.W. (right), conferred the three degrees on his son, David (center), last November, January, and February. The new Mason's grandfather, J. Howard Gustafson, is at the left.

GIFT FROM THE EASTERN STAR



During the Grand Master's Day festivities, Jean D. Fey, Worthy Grand Matron, and officers of Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania Order of the Eastern Star presented a check for \$43,200 to James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master, and officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, for the construction of a gazebo and handicapped-accessible walkway at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.

D.D.G.M. Presents Aid Grant and Scholarship

Within weeks, Richard J. Stemmler (second from left), D.D.G.M. 30th Masonic District, presented a \$5,000 financial assistance grant from the Samuel Davis Bequest to Mrs. Carole Echard, widow of the late Bro. Alex A. Echard, Marion Lodge No. 562, Scottsdale, then a \$2,000 Lawrence Dietrich Smith Memorial Scholarship to their son, Trent Echard (top photo). Participating in both presentations were Terry Grath (left), W.M., and David F. Hillegas (right), Secretary of Marion Lodge.



The Samuel Davis Bequest is granted by the Grand Lodge to assist families in caring for minor children of deceased Pennsylvania Masons. The grant is based on need and there is a special application which must be completed by the parent or guardian.

The Lawrence Dietrich Smith Scholarship is awarded by the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, an extension of the Grand Lodge, to young people who have a Masonic relative, or who are members of a Masonic-sponsored youth group. Trent was graduated from Southmoreland High School where he was valedictorian in the Class of 1999. He will be attending Carnegie Mellon University majoring in Political Science.

Stenberg Scholarship Awarded



Jason Piskopus (center), a graduate of Belle Vernon High School, was awarded one of the R.W. Past Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., scholarships of \$1,000 a year for four years. He plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh to major in microbiology. The presentation was made by Joseph F. Acton (second from left), D.D.G.M., 31st Masonic District. Participating in the presentation were (l-r): Gregory Zborovancik, high school Vice Principal; Bro. Acton; Jason Piskopus; Mrs. Stella Kosco, a school nurse; and Mrs. Carole Cocciolone, a teacher and Student Assistance Program Team Counselor.

Quarterly Communication Dec. 1; Annual Grand on Dec. 27

The December Quarterly Communication and Election of Officers will be 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 1 in Corinthian Hall of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. The business of the Grand Lodge will determine the schedule for lunch. There will be a Grand Master's Banquet at the Philadelphia Marriott with entertainment by "Up With People" in the evening. There will be a social reception at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. (See reservation coupon at right.)

The Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the installation of the new Grand Master and Elected Officers will be Monday, Dec. 27, in the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Grand Lodge will open at 10:00 a.m., and the installation of the Grand Master will be at noon. Lunch will follow the Communication. A gala Grand Master's banquet and outstanding show are planned for the evening in the new Red, White and Blue Ballrooms of

Monograph Produced As Tribute

An inspiring biographical monograph was written and published by Robert L. Engel, Armstrong Lodge No. 239, Freeport, as a tribute to the late Bro. William Boling Meredith (1839-1924) of Kittanning, a financier, businessman, public servant, State Senator, military veteran, and lifelong dedicated Mason. Bro. Meredith posted outstanding records of service to York Rite Masonry as Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Holy Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania in 1907 and 1908 and to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania as a District Deputy Grand Master for 51 years, from 1873 until his death in 1924. (Bro. Engel served as Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Holy Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania in 1993 and 1994 and is serving as an elected member of the Committee on the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.)

the Great American Hall in the remodeled Hershey Convention Center. (See more information and reservation coupon on Page 11.)

Reservation Form For December Quarterly Communication Banquet and Show

Enclosed is/are _____ reservation(s) at \$25 per person for the Banquet and Show at The Philadelphia Marriott after the December Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on Wednesday, Dec. 1. There will be a social hour at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by "Up With People."

Entree choice: # of Beef _____; # of Fish _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, ZIP Code _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____

Member of Lodge No. _____

(Reservations will be accepted on a "First Come" Basis)

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: Nov. 15

Please make checks payable to "Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania." Send check with reservation to:

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

The Grand Master's Itinerary

NOV. AND DEC.

- Nov. 6 International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Carlisle - noon.
- Nov. 7 Organ Recital, Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 4:30 p.m.
- Nov. 8-9 Grand Lodge of Nevada.
- Nov. 12-13 Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh Fall Reunion.
- Nov. 13 Overture Series Seminar, Wilkes-Barre.
- Nov. 16 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; 3 p.m. - Committee on Finance.
- Nov. 20 Scottish Rite Valley of Williamsport Fall Reunion. Overture Series Seminar, Harrisburg.
- Nov. 23 St. John's Lodge No. 223, West Pittston, State Police Degree Team conferral of Master Mason Degree.
- Nov. 27 Pittsburgh Holiday Parade - 9 a.m.
Appreciation Dinner, 30th Masonic District, Stahlstown.
- Nov. 30 Meetings at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia: 10 a.m. - Landmarks Committee; 1:30 p.m. - District Deputy Grand Masters; 3 p.m. - Rehearsal for Grand Lodge Elected and Appointed Floor Officers; 5:30 p.m. - Social Reception; 6:30 p.m. - Dinner.
- Dec. 1 December Quarterly Communication, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 10 a.m.; Social Hour - 5 p.m.; Banquet - 6 p.m.
- Dec. 2 Grand Chapter Quarterly, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 10 a.m.
- Dec. 3 Valley of Pittsburgh Christmas Luncheon, Allegheny Club.
- Dec. 9 Masonic Homes Appreciation Dinner: Social Hour - 6 p.m.; Dinner - 7 p.m., Log Cabin.
- Dec. 10 Meeting at Masonic Homes; 8 a.m. - Buildings and Grounds Committee; 10 a.m. - Development Sub-Committee; 1 p.m. - Committee on Masonic Homes.
- Dec. 11 Syria Shrine Ceremonial, Pittsburgh.
- Dec. 15 Grand Lodge Employees Christmas/Appreciation Dinner, Union League, Philadelphia.
- Dec. 17 Scottish Rite Valley of Philadelphia Reunion: Dinner - 5:30 p.m.; Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 21 Official Visitation to Westmoreland lodge No. 518, Greensburg
- Dec. 26 Rehearsal for Grand Lodge Elected and Appointed Officers, Chocolate Ballroom, Hershey - 12 p.m.
Grand Master Ernette's Farewell Dinner, Hershey
- Dec. 27 Annual Grand Communication, Hershey - 10 a.m.; Installation of new Grand Master - noon.; Social Hour - 6 p.m.; Dinner - 7 p.m.; Entertainment to follow.

CEREMONIES FOR NEW RIMROCK MASONIC CENTER



Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden (second from left) pours the wine during the ceremonial cornerstone-laying ceremony for the new Rimrock Masonic Center and the dedication of the lodge room June 19 by R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette (left at lectern) and the officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. There was a large attendance by members of the lodges, appendant bodies, and ladies' organizations who meet in the new building. The Center is home for Barger Lodge No. 325; J. Simpson Africa Lodge No. 628; Gideon Lodge No. 145, Prince Hall Affiliate; Monroe Royal Arch Chapter No. 281; Samuel S. Yohe Commandery No. 81; Pocono Forest No. 124, Tall Cedars of Lebanon; The Order of the Eastern Star Chapter No. 99; and Dorothy Lim Memorial Court No. 110, Order of the Amaranth.

www.pagrandlodge.org

Statistics:

- Opened February 15, 1998
- 80,000 different visitors
- 1,800 pages of information
- 360 on-line gift shop orders processed
- \$18,000 in merchandise sales
- 27% of orders from outside PA
- Hundreds of links to Masonic websites around the world

On-line features:

- The Lodge Locator (meeting dates, locations, maps, and meeting times of every Pennsylvania lodge)
- On-line gift shop with secure ordering process
- Links to more than 50 Pennsylvania lodge websites
- On-line speakers for the Blue Lodge Directory
- On-line circulating library
- The Pennsylvania Freemason*, on-line edition
- Masonic Presidents Gallery
- Guided tour of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia
- Matching Charity Grants program forms and guidelines
- Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide and application
- Master calendar of events for Pennsylvania Freemasonry

CORRECTION: The headline on the story on Page 19 of the August issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason* about the Library and Museum's display of "18th Century Masonic Songbooks" was incorrect. It inadvertently was labeled "18th Century Masonic Symbols."

WE ARE NEEDED IN THE WORLD TODAY

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



My Brothers:

Many of our members find one of their most difficult tasks to be defining Freemasonry to those outside of the Fraternity in terms that they can understand. Over the years there have been many attempts to define it - some in very simple terms, others in flowering phrases. Let's take a look at some of them and see what they tell us.

Freemasonry has been defined as "The world's largest, most prestigious, and most widely known fraternal organization" and as "A natural community of equals bound by shared experience and interest and united in action." Both of these definitions fit well into describing the Craft; but do they tell those who ask what it truly is?

There are other definitions that are more frequently used and less understandable by those outside the Craft. The most definitive: "... an organization to make good men better." The greatest reflecting our philosophy: "... a Brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God." The most glamorous, "... a way of life."

I doubt if we used any or all of those definitions that it would suffice for any but ourselves to understand us and, frankly, I doubt whether many of us would. For most of us, it seems easier to define what we are not, rather than what we are - e.g., we are not a political organization, we don't even permit discussion of politics in the lodge room. We are not a religion, which is another subject not open for discussion in the lodge room even though we probably promote the practice of religious belief more than any other organization. We are not a charity - and yet, we probably are the most charitable organization in the world.

We call ourselves "speculative Masons," and I suspect that better than 50% of our members don't even know what being a "speculative

Mason" means; and yet, this **speculative** Fraternity of ours has created one of the greatest impacts this world has ever known. In its almost 300-year organized journey, its indelible influence has become forever marked upon civil society.

The value of the lessons taught in Freemasonry, however, lies entirely in the thoughts and inspirations they stimulate in the minds of those receiving them. The lessons do not change, only the recipients change. My Brothers, Freemasonry is more than a group of men - it is an ideal. It has served as an attractive force for some of the greatest men this world has ever seen. It has honored the commitment to us; but, have we truly honored our commitment to it.

I have heard in recent years, questions raised by those both inside and outside of the Craft concerning the relevancy of Freemasonry in the current world. Could there ever be a time when our philosophy would not be relevant? If we are slipping in influence, it is our fault, not the outside world's. Maybe that world is not as receptive to us as it once was, but it does not influence our quality as an institution. That control is totally in our hands. Therefore, the destiny of Freemasonry is subject to the membership, as it always has been. We cannot continue to make excuses to justify our failures. What we need is to understand more fully our purpose and minimize the failures.

There is no question that our present way of life has deprived the Craft of much of the opportunity of doing the personal things that were the source of its major strength of the past; but, our philosophy is eternally relevant. We represent a bastion of tolerance in an intolerant world. Our philosophy of purpose could very well serve as a foundation for world peace. Our only weak link is **us**.

A Roman Catholic priest and a member of the Fraternity said several years ago, "If it takes our gentle Fraternity to teach Brotherly Love and tolerance to the churches of the world, then, so be it!" What a great testimony to the relevance of Freemasonry in today's world. We are not only relevant; we are needed by this intolerant world. So mote it always be.

Brother, Dr., and Sir Edward Jenner is 250 Years Old

Smallpox has been, for all practical purposes, eradicated! As recently as two hundred years ago, it was a scourge probably second only to the bubonic plague. At the end of the twentieth century, there were so few cases of either one, that each one becomes a media event.

We all owe thanks to Brother and Dr. Edward Jenner, born into the family of the vicar of Berkeley, Gloucestershire, England in 1749. He grew up to become one of the most beloved members of Royal Faith and Friendship Lodge No. 270 in Berkeley, serving as Worshipful Master in 1811-1813. He had been exalted in Hope and Sincerity Royal Arch Chapter No. 134 in 1805.

After being apprenticed to a physician in Bristol, Bro. and Dr. Jenner opened his own practice in Berkeley

in 1773. Soon he observed that dairy-maids who had had cowpox, could not become infected with smallpox. He began the studies which, by first proving that cowpox is a milder form of smallpox, led him to the idea of purposely infecting human subjects with cowpox, to see if that would render the subject immune to smallpox. Consider what a leap of the intellect that was! Consider also the plight of little James Phipps, eight years old in May 1796, and his family, who dared to have him receive the first "vaccination" (from the Latin *vacca* 'cow') of cowpox sore material, and then be injected with the dreaded smallpox a few weeks later! The discovery was announced in a thesis, written after more tests, in 1798.

Bro. and Dr. Jenner sent a book of instructions with the cowpox virus to the Five Iroquois Nations of North America. They sent him a wampum belt and a mes-

sage saying that they would teach their children to revere his name until all generations would be gathered unto the Great Spirit. Bro. and Dr. Jenner valued the belt as highly as his membership as a Fellow of the Royal Society, and wore it even over his Masonic Apron.

Bro. and Dr. Jenner died in 1823, and in 1825 his lodge brothers raised a monument to him in Gloucester Cathedral. In commemoration of this 250th anniversary, the British Royal mail has issued a delightful stamp featuring a very fat Holstein cow with the silhouettes of Dr. Jenner vaccinating James Phipps as two of her black spots.

