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7. ☐ ☐ I would like to know more about charitable gift annuities.

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Age	Rate
65	7.0%
70	7.5%
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85	10.5%
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MAIL THIS FORM TO: Development Department
John R. McFadden, Planned Giving Officer
Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022



The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON



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BUILDING ON A FIRM FOUNDATION

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Masons come together to help
a family in need.
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GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



Brethren:

We're in the midst of Summer. Vacations and time off are the order of the day. Your Grand Lodge, however, continues to work actively on your behalf.

Construction continues at our Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown and at Sewickley. Don't miss Autumn Day Sept. 23 in Elizabethtown. We hope you will be there to participate and enjoy the festivities as well as see the progress being made on construction there.

Your Grand Lodge officers continue to travel to most major continents of the world to spread far and wide the message of Pennsylvania Freemasonry, develop relationships that transcend national boundaries and ethnic or religious backgrounds, and truly show why Freemasonry is the world's premier fraternal organization.

We continue to participate in the Masonic Alliance of North America and, once established, to voluntarily help Masons deal with problems common to all Grand Lodges and their memberships.

The AED (automatic external defibrillators) Program has far exceeded our wildest imagination. Lodges are making the placement of hundreds of AED units possible statewide through active programs to raise the funds necessary for the purpose.

Masonic Education continues to secure superior speakers for the Pennsylvania Masonic Academy of Freemasonry. The second session will take place in October, which we hope you will attend. We are, my Brethren, trying to fulfill the mission you have charged us with — to enter a new millennium with vigor and foresight to ensure the perpetuation of our Fraternity. This can be done only with your active participation as well.

Become involved! See what Freemasonry is. See what it can do and how your lodge can grow by your attendance.

Sincerely and fraternally,

[Signature]

Robert L. Dluge, Jr.
R.W. Grand Master



G.M. Launches Statewide Defibrillator Program at Capitol Press Conference

During a press conference in May on the steps of the grand foyer in the rotunda of the State Capitol, Robert L. Dluge, Jr., R.W. Grand Master, announced publicly a statewide Masonic initiative to help reduce deaths from cardiac arrest in Pennsylvania.

During these two years while he is the Grand Master, lodges are being encouraged to donate at least one LIFEPAK® 500 automated external defibrillator (AED) each for use in their respective communities. It is his anticipation and desire that a minimum of 300 AEDs will be placed throughout the Commonwealth. AEDs are devices that can be used by laypersons without extensive medical training to provide treatment to cardiac arrest victims.

During the press conference, an AED was given by the Grand Master to the State for use in the Capitol. The contribution was presented on behalf of three Harrisburg lodges that joined together to purchase the AED: Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, Euclid Lodge No. 698, and William S. Snyder Lodge No. 756.

The AED program allows for lodges to apply for Masonic Matching Charity Grants funds to assist them in purchasing the life-saving devices. Through a cooperative effort with the American Heart Association, moneys raised by lodges to purchase the AEDs also will provide training in the use of the devices and public awareness of their availability and life-saving importance.

Defibrillation, the only definitive treatment for the most common cause of cardiac arrest, is an electrical shock to the heart that allows a normal rhythm to regain control. Early defibrillation is a critical link in the chain of survival and often the hardest to come by. Having an AED readily available makes it more likely that defibrillation can be administered sooner, which increases a cardiac arrest victim's chance for full recovery.

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is one of the leading causes of death in the U.S. Each year, SCA strikes more than 250,000 persons and kills about 95 percent of them. The American Heart Association estimates that as many as 50,000 additional lives could be saved every year if more SCA victims had faster access to defibrillation. For each minute that passes without treatment, the survival rate drops by about ten percent. After ten minutes without treatment, the chance of surviving SCA is virtually zero.

Call With Your Opinion: Want a Family Cruise to Bermuda?

R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dluge, Jr. is considering a Family Cruise to Bermuda for late in July or early in August 2001. Before making a decision and as a guide for arrangements should a cruise be desirable, Grand Master Dluge would like your opinion.

Please call Bro. David O. Meachen in the Office of the Grand Master by Sept. 15 and tell him:

1. Whether or not you think a Family Cruise should be planned.
2. If one is scheduled, would you be likely to go on the cruise at appropriate cruise rates?

Please call Bro. Meachen toll free at 1-800-462-0430, ext. 1924.

The Grand Master appreciates your interest and your opinion.



Grand Master Dluge announcing the statewide Masonic initiative prior to introducing State Department of General Services Secretary, Gary Crowell (pictured left of the Grand Master), to receive the first AED to be placed in the State Capitol Building.



Dan Norquist, Regional Rep for Medtronic Physio-Control, demonstrates the easy-use, LIFEPAK® 500 automated external defibrillators (AED) to the media and press conference attendees.

By early June, the following lodges had placed or were in the process of placing, AED purchases through the Matching Charity Grants Program:

Perseverance Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg, for Fire Station 8; University Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia, for Lower Providence Township Volunteer Fire Department; Williamson Lodge No. 309, Downingtown, for the Downingtown Police Department; Schiller Lodge No. 345, Scranton, for allocation to be determined; Cedar Lodge No. 378, Mt. Carmel, for the Mt. Carmel Rescue Squad; Fraternal Lodge No. 483, Rouseville, for the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department; Hiram Lodge No. 616, Altoona, for the Altoona Fire Department; and Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown, for the Northwest EMS Corps. Treichler Lodge also has committed to raise funds for a second unit by year's end.

In addition, several lodges have joined together to place AEDs:

Frackville Lodge No. 737 and Ashland Lodge No. 294 joined together to sponsor an AED for the North Schuylkill High School. Elysburg Lodge No. 414 and Catawissa Lodge No. 349 joined together to sponsor an AED for the Southern Columbia Area School District. Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, Euclid Lodge No. 698, and William S. Snyder Lodge No. 756, all in Harrisburg, joined together to sponsor one unit for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of General Services, to be located in the State Capitol.

Lodges Building for 21st Century

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Temples, Halls and Lodge Rooms is working with lodges on their building projects:

- Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville, and Christiana Lodge No. 417, have joined together to build a new building.
- Duquesne Lodge No. 371, McKeesport, and McKeesport Lodge No. 641, have begun a new building project.
- Muncy Lodge No. 291 has purchased land and is in the design phase for building a new hall.
- Leighton Lodge No. 621, has purchased land and is in the design phase for a new building.
- The Scranton Masonic Center has worked out a plan with the Community Center for renovating the magnificent structure there.
- The lodges in Warren, North Star Lodge No. 241 and Joseph Warren Lodge No. 726, which met in the same building, have sold the property and are seeking a site to construct a new building.

In addition, there are approximately six communities where lodges are exploring the possibility of building Masonic Centers for multi-lodge use.

Recently, lodges in Bedford, Newville, Curwensville, Fawn Grove, Lewistown, and Berwick purchased properties that became too small for businesses or were abandoned by congregations and renovated them into lodge buildings.

New lodge buildings that have been completed in recent years are in Carlisle, Womelsdorf, Jersey Shore, Danville, Jeannette, and Pittsburgh.

Lodges Need to Assess Their Abilities To Serve Needs of Members of Today

Incorporated in the inaugural remarks of R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dluge, Jr. last Dec. 27 was the message that the Fraternity will progress into the new millennium by building upon the successes of the old and incorporating the promises of new ideas and 21st century technologies. Implicit in that message is a charge for the leadership of the lodges to assess and modernize their lodge halls and lodge buildings to assure that they are equipped to provide the services, appearances, and conveniences for the Masons of today.

In recent years, nearly two dozen lodges have completed or are in the process of updating their facilities, building new lodge halls, or acquiring and renovating existing buildings to meet their needs within the guidelines and requirements of the Grand Lodge. Building for an era of prosperity is a major undertaking for a lodge; but, a lodge is not without expert guidance and support because the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Temples, Halls and Lodge Rooms is there to help get the job done.

Historically, Masonic lodges were located in prime downtown locations. Often the lodge rooms were on the second or third floors, which today poses a difficult problem for handicapped members and aging brethren. One answer is to install chair lifts or elevators, which are expensive to install and must be maintained. Maintenance of older buildings is not just expensive, it is extremely burdensome. For many, air conditioning has become more than a comfort; now it's almost a necessity. Not too many decades ago, parking was less in demand. Today, nearly everyone drives to the lodge.

Carl R. Flohr, P.M., George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg, Chairman of the Committee, said that the needs are obvious and the problems widespread. The time for action is now! But, he added, the solutions are many and the Committee on Masonic Halls, Temples and Lodge Rooms is ready and willing to help every lodge by providing information so that the officers and members can make the right decisions and get the job done.

A new lodge hall is one option, either building on vacant land or on redevelopment property where there is an ample parking area. Sometimes an existing building can be purchased and remodeled. For instance, a church congregation may move to larger facilities, or congregations may merge and a building may become available. Warehouses or newer retail spaces frequently become available and may be purchased at a competitive price and adapted to lodge needs.

Renovating and upgrading the existing lodge building must be considered. No matter what the circumstances are, it is in the best interest of the Fraternity, the lodge, all of the members, and the community to make the meeting place totally accessible and visually attractive.

Bro. Flohr emphasized that all options should be explored and only through an honest assessment of those options can a lodge determine the best way to proceed. There must be open discussion to build a consensus early. When a decision is reached, all of the members need to support it. The Grand Lodge Committee is there to help. It should be involved early and continue to be involved until the project is completed. All that the officers of a lodge have to do is ask.

Every project, except for cosmetic changes, has to be approved by the Grand Master. The Committee, working with a lodge committee, first recommends approval, then the District Deputy Grand Master's approval is required for submission to the Grand Master.

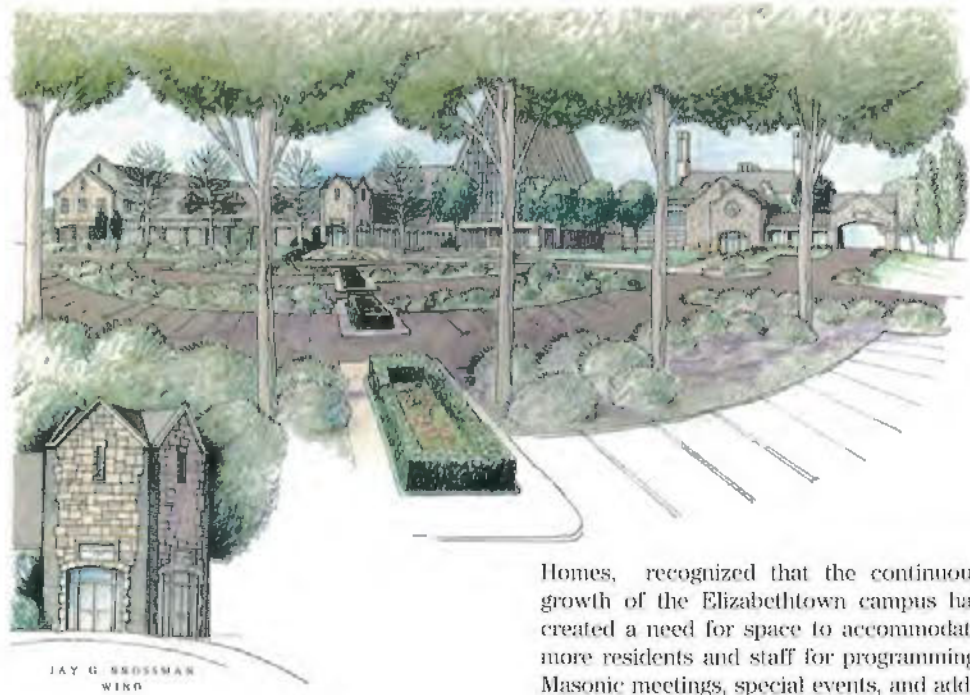
Five brethren serve with Chairman Flohr on the Committee on Masonic Temples, Halls and Lodge Rooms. They are: Kim W. Jeffreys, P.D.D.G.M., Western Star Lodge No. 304, Albion; Eugene G. Painter, P.D.D.G.M., Richard Vaux Lodge No. 454, Burgettstown; Elliott D. Bufford, Tioga Lodge No. 373; Donald W. Jenkins, Union Lodge No. 291, Scranton; and William M. Jones, Chartiers Lodge No. 297, Canonsburg.

From East to West... Building onto the Past with a Vision for the Future

This May, the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania celebrated 90 years of service to the Fraternity, family members, and communities. Rated AA- by Standard and Poor's last year, the Masonic Homes is considered the most financially stable continuing care retirement community in the nation. This firm foundation of excellence has allowed the organization to build affiliations, purchase additional facilities, and construct new buildings to offer more choices and services for the Fraternity across the state. With nine decades of experience and expertise to perpetuate the fine tradition of Masonic charity, the changes and growth opportunities challenging the organization will undoubtedly translate into bigger and better services for the membership.

Visiting the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown for the first time is an overwhelming experience for many. The grandeur of the majestic architecture... the beautiful, breathtaking landscape... all create the initial impression of the overall excellence that is carried throughout the campus. Possibly even more impressive is the fact that a group of Masonic leaders in the early 1900s began the community with a practicality of construction, an appreciation for horticulture, and a desire for state-of-the-art health care services for members and their loved ones... all before retirement communities and children's homes were common. Not only were they ahead of their time, but their plans of yesterday continue to prosper as our leaders of today continue their work and vision in the same tradition of Masonic charity.

For example, many retirement communities only recently considered connecting buildings for residents' comfort when walking between living and service areas during inclement weather. The Masonic Homes, however, engineered its first underground passageway in 1918. Today, residents continue to use those tunnels, and the same consideration was made when planning for the Independent Living Community in the late 1980s. This level of forethought and genuine concern for the comfort, convenience, and preferences of residents contributes to the Masonic Homes' overall success as a community.



Homes, recognized that the continuous growth of the Elizabethtown campus has created a need for space to accommodate more residents and staff for programming, Masonic meetings, special events, and additional requests made by members and the community. The Masonic Health Care Center Assembly Room, currently the largest room on campus, accommodates 300 to 400 persons. In the strategic planning sessions for the current project, Grand Master Dlugie emphasized the importance for the Committee on Masonic Homes to consider the long-term impact of their decisions.

"We need to ensure that the decisions we make today regarding this construction project will accommodate the growth of our homes for years to come," he said. With

continued on next page



At the construction site for the Brossman Ballroom are (clockwise): Bro. Richard Spieth, President, Masonic Health Care Center Resident Council; Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Chief Executive Officer for the Masonic Homes; Gregory Scott, Partner, Reese, Lower, Patrick & Scott; Bro. William Herd, President, Independent Living Community Resident Council; Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R.W. Grand Master; Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master and Chairman, Building and Grounds Subcommittee; Bro. Arthur Linington, President, Residential & Assisted Living Resident Council; Bro. Richard Emrey, President, Independent Living Resident Council; Bro. William C. Davis, Jr., Chief Operating Officer for the Masonic Homes; and Bro. Ralph Simpson, Vice President, Warfel Construction.

this vision for the future, it was decided that a large ballroom should be built in connection with the Recreation Building.

The new ballroom, now being constructed north of the Masonic Temple Building where the parking lots were located between the McKee Building and the Masonic Temple, will seat 1,200 persons for programs or 750 in a dining setting. For multiple, simultaneous activities, the room will have sound-proof partitions that will allow it to be divided into three smaller rooms with individual access doors to each. Additionally, one of the rooms also will be capable of being split into two rooms. Grand Lodge, several Masonic and Eastern Star groups, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow for Girls, already have reserved dates for special events in 2001. The Elizabethtown Area High School has reserved the room for its 2001 and 2002 proms.

"Previously, we have had to cancel some resident programs based on the space available; with this ballroom, we will enjoy the opportunity to accommodate the creativity of our residents, staff, and Masonic and community groups who are important to us, for major meetings," said Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Masonic Homes.

The Committee on Masonic Homes decided to recognize Bro. Jay G. Brossman, Ephrata Lodge No. 665, for his continual support of the Masonic Homes by naming the ballroom in his honor.

"The main reason I support the Masonic Homes is because they do such a good job. It does my heart good to see everyone enjoying the pool," Bro. Brossman said. (He contributed the swimming pool in 1999.) "The main thing on earth is to live a good life and to do good things for mankind and other people. I feel the Masonic Homes will make good use of it and it will be enjoyed for life," he said in reference to the new ballroom, which he was surprised to learn will bear his name.

Additional suggestions made by residents and staff brought about the design of the new Freemasons Cultural Center, which will comprise a new museum, new recreation areas, and the newly renovated Deike Auditorium and White Ballroom. From



The stained glass windows in the chapel of the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West will be moved to the Star Points Building.

focus groups with residents, the Committee on Masonic Homes and staff found that more residents would participate in activity programming if the recreation areas were closer to their living areas. Residents also expressed that, while the current museum is beautiful, it is in an area where visitors often miss it. To remedy those concerns, the Masonic Homes'



Working together on the Masonic Village at Sewickley construction project are (l-r): Front - Cynthia L. Steff, Administrator, Masonic Eastern Star Home-West; Ron Beshong, Maintenance Supervisor; Lynn Harvey, Director of Environmental Services & Safety; and B.J. Franks, Executive Director, all of the Masonic Village at Sewickley. Rear - Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Chief Executive Officer for the Masonic Homes; Bro. Carl R. Flohr, Building and Grounds Subcommittee; and Ken Kuligowski and Rebecca Roche, both Architects of Perkins Eastman Architects.

Museum will move to a more prominent area where visitors will more readily see it, and the recreation rooms will move to the museum's current location.

The Deike Auditorium, named for the late George H. Deike, R.W.P.G.M., Lodge No. 691, also will be restored. In his will and through various gifts, Bro. Deike provided funds to the Grand Lodge to maintain and operate the Masonic Homes, and to provide recreational activities. He was the inspiration behind the building of the auditorium and the largest contributor to the project. Dedicated in 1958, the auditorium includes a fine organ, also his gift, appropriate in view of his love of music.

The existing ballroom also will be restored and will recognize the benevolence of the late Bro. Howard W. White, who willed considerable funds to the Masonic Homes. In his honor, that ballroom will be renamed the

White Ballroom, which will feature a new sound system and new heating and air conditioning systems. The ballroom will be made all one level to eliminate steps, as residents requested.

The Recreation Building also will be expanded to include, among other suggested features, an indoor shuffle board court, and more space for recreation

activities and programs.

At the main entrance to the Freemasons Cultural Center will be a porte-cochere, a covered drop-off area where people can wait for programs and be protected from inclement weather while waiting for a bus or car. Inside this area will be the main information desk for the Masonic Homes, which will be a central location for visitors to inquire about the Masonic Homes and receive directions to the various buildings on campus. There, visitors can connect with a tour guide or access the White Ballroom, Brossman Ballroom, Masonic Lodge, Museum, or Deike Auditorium. Another attraction will be a new café, offering an expansion of the services currently offered in the ice cream parlor, such as a wide variety of foods and desserts and a casual dining atmosphere for residents, employees and visitors. An acacia tree, an appropriate and meaningful attraction, will be a central focus in an atrium gathering area.

The second level of this building will hold staff offices and the Masonic Homes' Child Care Center, which will move from its current location at the entrance to the Village Green Area. To reduce the current waiting list for child care services, the new facility will create more space to provide services for up to 110 children rather than the current 85. The new Masonic Homes' Child Care Center will be open for children in spring 2001. This new building will promote

further the Eden Alternative™ by facilitating more inter-generational activities both indoors and outdoors.

According to Rose Snyder, Director, Masonic Homes' Child Care Center, among the most exciting additions will be the playground and the gardening and floral areas, which will provide several opportunities for

interaction between the youth and the adult residents. These areas are located strategically among the residential buildings so that from their windows or from the walkway and benches around the perimeter of the playground, residents can watch the children playing. Options are also being explored for implementing a program to provide more opportunities for early education students at Elizabethtown College to gain hands-on experience at the center.

In addition to building new structures, renovations will be made to existing buildings. From a culmination of input from resident meetings, various upgrades and additional features have been made a priority. For example, resident volunteers in the Post Office, Gift Shop, and Candy Store have

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From East to West...continued from page 5

worked with the staff to request improvements and enhancements to those areas. The Grand Lodge Hall Assembly Room will be redesigned not only to update the decor, but also to offer more functionality and room for services and programs that the residents deem important, such as cooking, billiards, and meeting areas. While the area will receive air conditioning, carpeting, and fixtures, the aesthetic beauty of the original craftsmanship will be maintained and enhanced, blending the old with the new. By Mar. 1, 2001, all of the projects in the Grand Lodge Hall are scheduled to be completed.



Mrs. Doris Partridge socializing in the lounge at the Valley Care Masonic Center in Sewickley.

Better acoustics, new decor, and an improved sound system are in store for the Masonic Lodge Building. The design of the new Freemasons Cultural Center and the renovations to the existing buildings were planned with the intent to enhance the prominence of the A-frame lodge building (at left in picture on cover).

Plans also include adding 200 parking spaces to the Village Green Area, landscaped to include islands with trees and flowers as a natural extension of the Formal Gardens. The focus for the walkway to this boulevard will feature a water fountain, which will be visible from balconies in the Ben Franklin Building. The paths will enable residents in the Freemasons Building to walk more easily to the Formal Gardens. The additional parking spaces, designed in a half-circle, will help to provide much needed parking during large events on campus, such as on Autumn Day.

A new Central Commissary, including an advanced quick-chill food preparation kitchen, is being built adjacent to the Ben Franklin Building at the current dock area. To meet new standards for food quality, the state-of-the-art center will serve residents in the Freemasons Building, Masonic Health Care Center and, upon its completion in January 2001, to varying degrees the other parts of the campus.

Daphne Gulick, Director of Food Services, said, "This center will enable us to support the growth on campus, and at the same time offer fresher, better tasting food than ever."

The changes also will affect the traffic patterns on the campus. The ultimate goal is to remove the main traffic from the resident areas.

In a recent meeting with residents in the Village Green Area regarding the construction, Bro. Murphy said that he expects the project to be successful because so many people shared their opinions, making it possible to incorporate the "little things" that are so important to residents' and employees' everyday lives.

He said, "We are pleased to honor and recognize individuals who have supported our mission, explaining why some of the buildings have been named to honor donors who have made the expansion and improvements possible. We are looking forward to working with individuals who would be interested in sponsoring our mission in other areas as well."



Star Points Building at the Masonic Village at Sewickley: As you gaze from the end of the covered drop-off area at the front entrance of the Star Points Building, the main focus will be on the stained glass Eastern Star emblem. The emblem will be moved from the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West, to symbolize the strong heritage of that caring community as it joins the Sewickley family.

In Western Pennsylvania

Residents and staff in the western part of the state are sharing the same types of ideas, concerns, and opportunities with the expansion of services there.

"Over the years our membership has requested services in the Pittsburgh and Warminster areas, and with our partnership with the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, in 1998, we have been able to satisfy many of those needs," Bro. Murphy said. "In our construction in the Pittsburgh area, we will have the opportunity to use the knowledge and expertise we learned in the development of many service areas in Elizabethtown to serve our members closer to their hometowns."



Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. presents the architectural drawings for the Star Points Building to Bro. Greg Hand, President of National Development Corporation. Also pictured from left to right are: Ken Kuligowski and Rebecca Roche, Perkins Eastman Architects; Mr. Bruce Fanelli, Executive Vice president, National Development Corporation; Bro. William Slater II, R.W.S.G.W., Committee on Masonic Homes; Bro. Carl R. Flohr, Building and Grounds Subcommittee; B.J. Franks, Executive Director, Masonic Village at Sewickley; Cynthia Steffl, Administrator, Masonic Eastern Star Home-West; Bro. William C. Davis, Jr., Chief Operating Officer and Bro. Joseph Murphy, Chief Executive Officer, Masonic Homes.

The master plan for the expansion of the Valley Care Masonic Center at Sewickley, near Pittsburgh, into a 50-acre continuing-care retirement community, was approved by the Committee on Masonic Homes on Sept. 24, 1999. The committee decided to name the entire campus the Masonic Village at Sewickley.

The first building to be constructed on campus will be a 60-bed assisted living facility, adjacent to the 128-bed Valley Care Masonic Center. Construction officially began after the groundbreaking ceremony held on June 25. The building is expected to open for residents in October 2001. At that time, the residents and staff at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West, Pittsburgh, will move to the new facility. The Pittsburgh building then will be sold.

The transition to Sewickley will be an adjustment for the residents who are quite happy in their current home.

"I have everything I need here," said Bro. Joseph Croyle, Lodge No. 45, Pittsburgh. "The meals are great; the service is good; the housekeepers do a great job. We have flowers growing in the garden... and the activities have been good. I have no worries," he said.

According to Bro. William C. Davis Jr., Chief Operating Officer for the Masonic Homes, many of

the reasons for the residents' happiness will be moving right along with them to their new home in Sewickley.

"We recognize the special bond that naturally forms among our residents and staff. That is why we are encouraging our employees in Pittsburgh to simply move with us to Sewickley."

For other residents, however, the move couldn't come soon enough. Bro. Francis "Mike" Partridge, Ellwood Lodge No. 599, dearly misses his wife, Doris, who moved to the Valley Care Masonic Center on Sept. 23, 1999. While he still spends three days a week with her, after 55 years of marriage, that just isn't enough.

A Mason for 32 years, Bro. Partridge has written, recorded and sung gospels and even played in a barbershop quartet with his three sons. Now he shares his music with the residents at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West. He hopes to take the organ to Sewickley so he can play for his wife again.

Ms. Cynthia Steffl, Administrator, Masonic Eastern Star Home-West, said that she and the Social Services, Therapeutic Recreation, and Nursing staff have been spending a lot of one-on-one time with residents and their families to help them through this transition period as residents move from Pittsburgh to Sewickley.

According to B.J. Franks, Executive Director, Masonic Village at Sewickley, the key to preparing staff and residents for change is continuous, open communication. She holds frequent meetings to update staff, residents, and family members on the upcoming construction, renovations, inconveniences, and benefits associated with the expansion project.

The Committee on Masonic Homes, with input from the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, chose to name the new assisted living facility at Sewickley the "Star Points Building" to recognize Eastern Star and reflect the strong tradition that the residents and



Wilma Hackney enjoys the companionship of a friendly cockatiel at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West.

staff of the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West will bring with them to their new home. After working together for two years to provide a continuum of services to the membership in western Pennsylvania, this transition will bring the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West's assisted living and nursing expertise together with Valley Care Masonic Center's quality nursing services to ease the transfer of residents between the two levels of care.

"I think it is very kind of the Masons to acknowledge the Order of the Eastern Star by naming the building in honor of the Five Star Points," said Mrs. Arlene Flohr, Worthy Grand Matron, Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

Depending upon interest, as many as 231 retirement living apartments and 23 retirement living cottages also may be built in three phases on the Sewickley campus. The first phase of the project could open for residents as early as Spring of 2003.

Plans for the campus possibly may include such conveniences as a wellness center, day care area, medical clinics, a pool, and a clubhouse, among other desired features.



Lorraine Toth reads in a lounge at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West.

Mrs. Lorraine Toth, resident at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West, said that she is looking forward to using the wellness center and the pool, the way she used to exercise on her own. She is also happy to hear that she will soon have easy access to a convenience store. Most important to this avid bookworm, however, is a library with a wide selection of books.

Debbie Homjak, Director of Nursing for the Masonic Village at Sewickley, said the staff and residents have been looking forward to the construction on their campus.

Operated by the Valley Care Association since 1984, the nursing home portion of the Sewickley campus had always been part of a larger vision: to offer a continuing care retirement community to serve seniors in the Sewickley Valley. This vision only became a reality, however, when the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania purchased the facility on June 1, 1999, under the leadership of then-R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette.



Louise Rollins swings with her father, Fred Rollins, outside the Valley Care Masonic Center.

In January 1999, the Masonic Homes conducted a market demand analysis of Masons and Eastern Star members in western Pennsylvania and the local Sewickley community to determine the future growth and expansion of services at the home.

With information from a mail survey and focus group meetings with Masons, Eastern Star members, and residents in the Sewickley Valley, the Committee on Masonic Homes was able to identify the level of potential customers' interest in assisted living and retirement living services, their preferences for options, and the desired amenities in a retirement community. After creating a master plan, a financial analysis determined the approximate cost to offer the services.

To ensure that they were on the right track, the committee also consulted another group of "experts" as to what types of services should be offered. They asked residents and staff at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West and the Valley Care Masonic Center.

Bro. Edward Cover, a member of the Committee on Masonic Homes, has worked as a liaison to the homes. As such, he attends quarterly Resident Council meetings, which include the officers of the Residents' Associations, Administrator, or Executive Director of each home, and Bro. Davis.

"My position is to be an observer for the Committee on Masonic Homes," Bro. Cover said. "Basically it gives me an opportunity to learn first-hand of any concerns or questions residents might have regarding their current situation at their home or questions about the Masonic Homes in general. If I take a concern to the Committee on Masonic Homes and the committee acts upon it, I take that information back and share it with the resident council."

"The benefit of having board members work face-to-face with residents and staff is our ability to develop an understanding and sensitivity for the concerns and needs of the people we are working together to serve," Grand Master Dlugie said. "That way, we know that we have all of our bases covered and all of the background information we need to make good, strategic decisions for the present and future generations."



Mr. Raymond Petrie, Resident Council, Valley Care Masonic Center; Bro. Edward Cover, Committee on Masonic Homes; and Debbie Homjak, Director of Nursing, Valley Care Masonic Center.

Matching Grants Projects Are Many; Lodges Joining in Manpower Support

As of early June, there had been 355 applications from more than 200 lodges across the state in the Masonic Matching Charity Grants Program. Through their approved projects, Pennsylvania Masons have contributed more than \$500,000 collectively this year toward charitable causes.

In some of the lodges, Masons are rolling up their sleeves to take advantage of the newest option of the Matching Charity Grants program adding their physical efforts to financial support in serving their communities. R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. said in his inaugural address, "We ask that you continue (financial) car-

ing, but expand it by actually giving of yourselves and your charitable funds." He applauds those lodges who have responded and acted so quickly.

In that "Project Sponsorship" phase of Matching Charity Grants in 2000, lodges can gain financial support from Grand Lodge for the materials put into an approved community project. This is particularly useful to lodges that do not have sufficient charity fund income, but can provide manpower for community projects. To participate, a lodge must develop and submit a project proposal and cost estimate to receive approval before proceeding. Among the requirements is to

have a plan that will involve at least ten percent of the lodge membership in the program. When approved, the lodge then must supply the manpower to complete the project and the Grand Lodge will reimburse the costs.

The potential to serve mankind and the community is vast, such as: conducting recreation, sports, and social events; constructing facilities; serving the needy; or improving our environment. For information about the Masonic Matching Charities Grants Program, check the Grand Lodge web site at www.pagrandlodge.org/mcg, or review the program kit that each W.M. and Secretary has.

"Hands-on" Community Service Renews, Re-Energizes Western Star Lodge No. 304

The brethren in Western Star Lodge No. 304, Meadville, put their own labor into two projects costing nearly \$3,400 that qualified for "Project Sponsorship" funds in the Masonic Matching Charity Grants Program for 2000. Led by William Guyer, W.M., the Lodge conducted a Kids' Fishing Derby and constructed a bullpen and put roofs on several dugouts for the local athletic association.

the program of active involvement has re-energized the Lodge and brought the members closer together. He also noted that members are approached in the community and thanked by parents and civic leaders who sincerely appreciate the "hands on" approach to community service.

The community appreciated the "hands-on" work of the Masons of Western Star Lodge No. 304 in constructing a bullpen and putting roofs on dugouts at the local ballfield.



▲ This unidentified youngster proudly strolls off with the "Good Sportsman Award," to go along with the generous size fish he caught. The young contestant is escorted by Bro. William Snow, III, who presented the award.



▲ Many hands make light work at the Kids' Fishing Derby. Bros. Eric Swanson (foreground) and Loren Bennet, record and measure the fish.

When a former sponsor dropped out, Western Star Lodge became involved in the fishing derby, providing food, fishing, and fun for more than 400 persons. Twenty-two of the Lodge's 147 members attended and helped out at the derby. In constructing the bullpen and roofing dugouts for the Northwestern Baseball/Softball Association, the Lodge was reimbursed for their expenses. Sixteen members participated actively in the work.

Lodge Secretary, Kim W. Jeffreys, said that

Volunteering Brother, Lodge Donations Provide Wheelchairs to Those in Need

John B. Fulton, P.M., of Thomson Lodge No. 340, Paoli, has donated more than 6,500 hours since 1986 working in the Wheelchair Repair shop at Paoli Memorial Hospital. He spends half of his volunteer time repairing hospital equipment and the other half repairing wheelchairs to be donated to people and organizations in need.

Over the past two years, working together and participating in the Masonic Matching Charity Grants Program, Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville, and Thomson Lodge have donated \$1,000 to the charitable organization. The Wheelchair Repair Shop is funded solely by contributions and also accepts donations of used wheelchairs, electric carts, and scooters which they re-upholster, install new wheels, and make other repairs to recondition them. The shop has donated an electric wheelchair to a member of the family of a Mason in Kennett Lodge No. 475, Kennett Square, and an electric cart to a member of Skerrett Lodge.

Past Master Fulton has been a member of Thomson Lodge since he was initiated in 1954. He served as Worshipful Master in 1965 and has served as Principal of the 5th Masonic District School of Instruction since 1995.

The Wheelchair Shop recently donated four electric wheelchairs to the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center in Coatesville. Pictured are (l-r): John Fulton, P.M., a volunteer coordinator of the Wheelchair Shop; Linda Hilton, a VA volunteer specialist; and Andrew Pahountis, who accepted the donation on behalf of the CEO of the VA Medical Center, Gary W. Devansky.



A WONDERFUL THING

Masons come together to help family in need

[Reprinted with permission from *The Valley Independent*, Monessen]

By JOANNA BLAIR For *The Valley Independent*

While families were putting into place their Easter plans and welcoming loved ones home for the holiday, a special event was taking place Saturday to benefit the Kelly Boyd family of Fallowfield Township.

In recent months the community has come forward in a variety of ways to support the Boyds, whose two children, Adam, age 10, and Amanda, age 3, have been diagnosed with neuroblastoma cancer. Saturday, the Masonic family – representing more than 20 lodges and auxiliary groups – gathered together to present the Boyds with a check for \$48,300.

"This started as a conversation one night in a meeting when it was brought to our attention about the Boyd family situation," said James I. Girton, Worshipful Master, Charleroi Lodge No. 615, Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania. "This lodge knew we had to do something to help."

According to Girton, after making a phone call to Craig Suppo, District Deputy Grand Master, 31st Masonic District, the project took off far beyond anyone's expectations. "Our goal is the union of good men, who together can do wondrous things," said Suppo.

Suppo told about hearing the story of the Boyd family, with both children having been diagnosed just days apart from one another. "I learned the odds are stacked against them," said Suppo. "In addition to medical problems, bills are mounting and both parents

are missing a lot of work in order to care for their children. Boyd is a corrections officer at Washington County jail. His wife, Laura, is a teacher at Ridgeview Academy of Fayette County. She also teaches Sunday School at Grace Lutheran Church in Monongahela.

In December, young Adam Boyd was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, one of the most common cancers affecting children today. It typically begins in the abdominal area, either in the adrenal gland (located just above the kidney) or around the spinal cord in the neck, chest or pelvis. Neuroblastoma is most commonly diagnosed in children before age five and the cancer cells usually spread rapidly to the lymph nodes, liver, lungs, bones and bone marrow. While the parents came to terms with the diagnosis of their son, 3-year old Amanda Boyd was diagnosed with the same disease just six days after her older brother's surgery.

As a cancer survivor, himself, Suppo said the Boyd's situation prompted him to begin making phone calls, ultimately starting a charity drive. "It started with a simple letter to the brethren explaining the situation and asking for a \$5 donation from each one," said Suppo. "The brethren responded with overwhelming generosity." According to Suppo, the donations came from every corner of Pennsylvania and beyond, including West Virginia, Ohio, Virginia, Delaware and Maryland. "They came from states as far south as Louisiana, Florida and Texas," he said. "They came from the midwest out of Oklahoma and Wyoming, then from further west, California, Arizona and Washington. All told, brethren from 20 states sent in money to help the Boyd family."

Greg and Roberta Doerfler, whose son, Brett, also battled cancer, joined the project along with students from Charleroi High School and many other volunteers throughout the community. A magician living in the Poconos heard about the drive and donated his time to hold a magic show as a fund raiser.

As he stood close to tears, Kelly Boyd thanked everyone for their generosity. "I'm sorry my wife isn't here tonight, but she's in Children's Hospital with Adam." Besides the check, Easter baskets and brightly wrapped gifts were given the father for his children. Sitting next to Boyd during the check presentation was his immediate work supervisor, Washington County jail warden, Joseph Pelzer, a man Boyd says has been a great support to him and his family.



The Valley Independent staff writer Stacy Wolford contributed to the story.



After receiving the presentation of the \$48,300 gift of support, Kelly Boyd (left), father of Adam and Amanda (inset), expresses his family's gratitude to Craig W. Suppo, (center), D.D.G.M., 31st Masonic District, and James I. Girton, W.M., Charleroi Lodge No. 615.

Juniata Lodge Contribution Makes Camp Chapel a Reality

As of this summer, there is a chapel for campers at Camp Anderson of the Penn's Woods Council, Boy Scouts of America, in central Pennsylvania. The "Jake Cranage Memorial Chapel" is the result of a contribution for the chapel's initial cost three years ago by Juniata Lodge No. 282, Hollidaysburg.

For many years, a chapel was wanted at Camp Anderson and in 1997 the Masons of Juniata Lodge learned of the need and contributed what was to be the original cost. However, with revisions to the plans and site selections taking time, construction was delayed, costs rose, and priorities delayed the schedule. With additional donations, the chapel now has become a reality. It was during the period of delay that Jake Cranage, a Scout from Troop 103, Tyrone, was killed in a vehicle accident just before he was to receive the Eagle Award. In his honor the chapel was named for him.

Dale A. DeLozier (second from left), D.D.G.M., 20th Masonic District and a member of the Juniata Lodge, participated in ground-breaking ceremonies for the chapel. Others participating in the ceremonies staged by Boy Scout Troops 103 and 20 were: Crystal Ramsay, Administrative Council



Member of Wesley United Methodist Church; David Hoffman, President of Camp Anderson; and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Cranage, parents of the late Jake Cranage.

ALL ABOARD!

Model Train Lovers Still Can Order **The Pennsylvania Masonic Train** in time for the Holiday Season.

The train, consisting of a C-1 Atlantic engine and tender with five cars and a caboose, is an "O" Gauge, three-rail set manufactured by Weaver Models of Northumberland, PA. This set is impressively unique, especially for Masons, since each piece is marked with Masonic symbols representing a majority of the organizations that comprise the Family of Freemasonry and many of their charities.

This train set is an outstanding bargain at \$500.

Engine and cars are highly detailed scale models (not semi-scale) prototypically correct "miniatures" of the real thing, down to the rivets and handrails. • Engine and tender are die cast, weigh seven pounds and the precision mechanism features a can motor and flywheel. • Engine features a detailed back head, operating smoke unit, brass detail parts, operating couplers, chemically blackened

drivers and mechanism, lit side number boards, operating headlight, directional backup, and LED marker lights in the tender. • This particular class of locomotive has never been produced as a 3-rail model.

THIS IS A \$656 VALUE IF ALL COMPONENTS WERE PURCHASED INDIVIDUALLY AT RETAIL.

A SEPARATE OPTION of 18 sections of O45 track and transformer also is available for the additional cost of \$105.

FOR THE SERIOUS COLLECTOR, a special limited run Pennsylvania M-1 engine will be manufactured at a cost of \$1,100 per unit if orders for 300 or more engines can be obtained.

There is a SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR LODGES . . . a specially painted and decorated boxcar that will depict the name and number of any lodge ordering at least 200 boxcars.



Orders for the Pennsylvania Masonic Train, track, and transformer, or the M-1 engine should be sent to the Office of the Grand Treasurer, using the accompanying order form.

MASONIC CHARITIES DEPICTED ON THE MODEL CARS BENEFIT FROM SALES OF THESE TRAINS.

The Pennsylvania Masonic Train

Qty _____ Train Set(s) Only @ \$500 each _____
Qty _____ Track and Transformer @ \$105 _____
Qty _____ M-1 PA Engine @ \$1,100 each _____

Prices include shipping & handling.
*PA residents add 6% Sales Tax (Phila. Residents 7% Sales Tax)

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Money Order

☐ Credit Card ☐ M/C ☐ VISA ☐ Amex ☐ Disc

No. _____ Exp. ____/____/____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Mail To: Office of the Grand Treasurer
Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2520
Ph: (215) 988-1957 Fax: (215) 988-1927
Email: hbrutter@pagrandlodge.org



OPTIONAL M-1 PA ENGINE



No part of the train money is tax deductible

Grand Master Announces Two New Community Service Awards

Two community service awards have been created at the direction of R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. One is the Grand Lodge Service Award to be presented to a member in each lodge for living an outstanding Masonic life of community service. The other is the Grand Master's Service Award, a personal recognition to be presented by him at special occasions.

The selection of Masons to receive the Grand Lodge Service Award will be made by the Worshipful Master and Wardens of the individual lodges and submitted to the District Deputy for approval. It is not necessary for the recipient to be an active lodge officer or past master. It is the brother who is living the life of a Mason by caring for the community — the "unsung hero" whose quiet lifestyle of serving others is an extension of his Masonic obligation. Service to the lodge is not a part of the criteria, although it is often true that active Masons are servants in their communities. The award is a beautifully embroidered shirt that in most cases will be presented by the District Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Master will select recipients of the Grand Master's Service Award from among those honored by the lodges. That award is an eight-inch high crystal memento with a globe suspended in its center. Whenever possible, the Grand Master will present those awards on special occasions, such as Grand Lodge Communications, lodge anniversaries, or visitations.

Popcorn Popular at Festival

Many of the estimated 7,000 attending the Central Penn Parent's Family Festival in Harrisburg's Strawberry Square Mall on March 8 were munching plenty of popcorn while they learned what the Masons of Pennsylvania are doing about the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse among children. The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children sponsored a booth at the festival and Joseph W. Dows, D.D.G.M., 6th Masonic District and several brothers from the area staffed the booth. It was Bro. Dows who provided the popcorn popper that served up more than 1,200 bags-full, in addition to the promotional materials.

The Masonic Foundation for Children is interested in sponsoring informational booths at events such as festivals around the state. Any district chairman, or brother wanting to help set up such a booth in a community should contact the Executive Director, Raymond G. Brown, at 215-988-1978.

Community Groups, Individuals Benefit From Lodge No. 298 Service Awards

Several community organizations and a number of deserving individuals were recognized and received significant financial support from George Bartram-Paul Sand Lodge No. 298, Media, at its annual Community Service Awards Program.

Triplet graduates of Penncrest High School, Doug, Hillary, and Ken Ader, received \$1,000 scholarship awards for their scholastic achievements and community service. Doug and Hillary will be attending Messiah College and Ken will be attending Millersville University. They are the children of Earl and Norma Ader, Middletown Twp.

For the third year, the Media Little League received \$700 from the Lodge to support the program that serves more than 500 boys and girls in the area.

A \$4,000 check from the Lodge was presented to the Media Elementary Parent Teacher Group (P.T.G.) to be used in the first phase of a \$35,000 project to refurbish and re-equip the school's playground. The three-phase project, conceived by Bartram-Sand Lodge, is a collaborative effort of the Lodge, the P.T.G., which contributed \$1,000 to this phase, and the Media Recreation Commission, which contributed \$6,000.

Among special recognitions at the ceremony was the presentation of a trophy to Joshua Lockwood who represented the Lodge and performed well in this year's Soap Box Derby.

DID YOU KNOW? FACTS ABOUT FREEMASONRY

Freemasons must never forget — certainly never abandon — their Fraternity's unique history, tradition, protocol, and pride that have been nurtured, protected, and passed Brother-to-Brother from generation to generation for nearly three centuries. History, tradition, protocol, and pride are more than nostalgia; they are landmarks that bond Freemasons into the greatest Fraternity ever known.

Why are some Masonic Lodge buildings called "Temples" and others called "Halls" or "Centers"?

In Pennsylvania, a Masonic building used exclusively to house a Masonic lodge or a number of lodges, and in some cases shared with authorized appendant Masonic bodies, can be designated as a "Masonic Temple." Masonic buildings which include stores, offices, or other commercial space cannot be designated a "Masonic Temple", but rather a "Masonic Hall." The term "Masonic Center" is a modern term that has come into wider use in recent years to name buildings that house one or more Masonic lodges and one or more appendant Masonic bodies. (Source: Digest of Decisions, Art. 62, Grand Lodge of PA)

What do A.D. and A.L. mean and why?

A.D. is the abbreviation of "Anno Domini," meaning "in the year of our Lord" and is the Christian method of designating the number of years following the birth of Jesus Christ. Freemasons' nomenclature in this respect comes from the old belief (entirely erroneous) that the world was created 4,000 years before Christ and therefore indicates the date as 4,000 years plus the current year, for instance 2000 A.D. or 6000 A.L. The abbreviation of "Anno Lucis," means "in the year of Light." (Source: Masonic Questions & Answers, compiled by the Office of Masonic Education, Grand Lodge of PA, 1999)

What is the distinction between due form and ample form?

A lodge is opened and closed by its Worshipful Master "in due form," meaning according to the ancient usages and customs, the laws and ritual, of its Grand Lodge. When a Grand Master opens and closes a Grand Lodge (or a subordinate lodge) he is said to do so in "ample form." In some Jurisdictions, such as the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, a Grand Master may shorten the common ritual to save time, but his power and authority are "ample" to accomplish his purpose, regardless of the manner in which he does it. (Source: Emessay Notes, The Masonic Service Association of North America, April 2000)

Second Sessions of The Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry Will Be Oct. 14 at Elizabethtown; Advance Registration Required

The second session of the three-track Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry will be conducted at the Masonic Homes and the Masonic Conference Center in Elizabethtown on Saturday, Oct. 14. Again, the Academy will comprise three areas of Masonic education, which will be an Academy for Masonic Knowledge, a School for Ritual, and the Seminar for Wardens (a lodge officers' workshop).

The agendas for the Fall will follow those of the highly successful inaugural sessions in March. Another large turnout is expected for this program, considering the high level of interest and the large attendance at the first sessions. Advance registration is necessary, using the adjoining coupon or responding as indicated in the descriptions of the respective sessions below.

Robert L. Dluge, Jr., R.W. Grand Master, under whose direction the three-track program was developed, reiterated that "...through this training, Pennsylvania Masons will be able to broaden their knowledge of Freemasonry, its origins, history, and ritualistic work and to impart skills and planning information for their lodge leadership."

Two World Renowned Speakers For The Academy of Masonic Knowledge

Two world renowned Masonic speakers — one from Canada and one from Israel — will address The Academy of Masonic Knowledge, which will convene in the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus. Registration will begin at 9 a.m.

Academy Chairman, Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Past Grand Secretary, noted that due to the tremendous interest displayed by the brethren, all reservations will be accepted on a first-

come, first-served basis. Use the adjoining coupon; no phone reservations will be accepted. It is important, Bro. Jackson continued, that all brethren making reservations honor them by attending; or, if a reservation is made and must be canceled, it should be done in advance. In addition to the meeting accommodations, the morning refreshments, and the luncheon arrangements are based on the number of reservations.

One speaker will be Bro. Wallace McLeod, noted Masonic scholar, author, and retired professor of Classical Languages from the Victoria College of the University of Toronto. He also is a Past President of the Philalethes Society and a full member of Quator Coronati Lodge No. 2076, London, the premier research lodge in the world. The second is Bro. Leon Zeldis, also a world renowned Masonic scholar and author. He is a Past Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R. for the State of Israel and a Fellow of the Philalethes Society.

Busy, Informative Day Set For The School For Ritual

After an 8:30 a.m. registration, along with coffee and doughnuts, the School for Ritual will begin a busy day of exemplifying lodge work at 9. Larry A. Buzzard, Director of the Ritualistic Work, has planned a full morning exemplifying the conduct of the business of the lodge, the election and installation of officers, and the examination of a visitor. After the luncheon, a degree team of ritualists will conduct an exemplification of the Master Masons Degree. The session will conclude with a question and answer and discussion period.

Wardens Who Missed March Seminar Urged to Attend Session on Oct. 14

Wardens who were not able to attend the Spring Senior and Junior Wardens training session will want to be sure to attend the second (repeat) session in the Fall. Invitations, along with return sign-up post cards, are being sent from the Office of Masonic Training/Education to those Wardens.

Wives of the Senior and Junior Wardens also are being invited to attend the Masonic Academy. A special program is planned for the ladies. Hotel accommodations will be provided for those who live more than 100 miles, or two hours' drive time, from the Masonic Homes. Wardens are directed to respond by a Sept. 1 deadline, because reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Grand Secretary Presented in Lodge

Donald L. Albert (left), Euclid Lodge No. 698, Harrisburg, who was elected and installed last December as the R.W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was presented formally in his home lodge on March 31 by Robert L. Dluge, Jr., R.W. Grand Master (center). At right is Louis James Neff, W.M.,



Euclid Lodge. The Grand Lodge officers, Past Grand Masters, many District Deputy Grand Masters, and a large number of brethren attended the presentation of Bro. Albert.

Masons of Note

Recent articles in *The Pennsylvania Freemason* about sons raising fathers spurred interesting recollections of events almost a half-century ago for **Robert C. Sutherland**, Kingston Lodge No. 395, Wyoming. He notes, "I'm proud to say that I gave my father all three of his degrees and was able to actually raise my son, too." Bro. Sutherland was made a Mason in 1951 and exactly one year later in January, February, and March, he conferred all three degrees on his father. Then some 40 years after that, when his son was made a Mason in Buffalo, NY, he was privileged to serve as his guide. Unfortunately, snow kept him from traveling for the Fellowcraft degree; but, when the Master Mason's degree was conferred, the Worshipful Master invited Bro. Sutherland to the East to participate in raising his son.

After installing his son, **Kevin L. Kriner**, as Worshipful Master of George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg, **Thomas L. Kriner, P.M.**, presented him with a gavel. The elder Bro. Kriner has been a Mason for 27 years and served as Worshipful Master in 1997.

Harmony Lodge No. 429, Zelienople, paid special tribute to all veterans when it dedicated a newly installed flag pole in their memory. As a special honor to one of the lodge's appointed officers, **Jack Wick, S.D.**, the first flag flown from the new pole was one that he brought home from Vietnam. Bro. Wick was a Special Forces trooper in the war zone in the late 1960's. When his company was deactivated, he retrieved the company flag as a memento and a reminder of the experiences he shared with his comrades-in-arms.

While serving as Worshipful Master of Homestead-Amity-McCandless Lodge No. 582, Dravosburg, **Thomas E. Barlow** was recognized at the stated meeting on Mar. 20 for 50 years of service to Freemasonry. In the presence of John W. Hisiro, D.D.G.M., 49th Masonic District, Herman Beattie, P.M., and Principal of the 49th Masonic District School of Instruction, presented Bro. Barlow with his Emblem of Gold. There were 75 members and visiting brethren attending.

Bristol's "Ridge Row" Sparkles With Gold

Through the years, a section in the northwest corner of Bristol Lodge No. 25 has become known as "Ridge Row" because on meeting nights members of the Ridge family and their Masonic associates congregate there. Since 50-Year members were honored on March 18, Ridge Row now sparkles with gold.

It was Senior Wardens Night at Bristol Lodge when Thomas R. Eynon, D.D.G.M., 8th Masonic District, presented seven 50-Year Masonic Emblems of Gold, three of them to Masons in the Ridge family: Frederick M., Charles A., and William M. Among the others receiving their Emblems of Gold were John W. Sauder and Horace M. Hutchinson, both of whom were raised on the same night in Bristol Lodge, are retired teachers from the same school district, and have been neighbors for many years. The other two brethren honored for their 50 years as members were William J. Wallace and Herbert E. McCollick. ("Ridge Row" is destined to expand in the years to come since C. Kenneth Ridge, Sr., who is Fred's son, is serving as Junior Deacon.)

Bro. Eynon made special note at Senior Wardens Night of the attendance of H. Stanford Roberts, P.M. He had attended the District's first Senior Wardens Night in 1934 when he was Master of Bristol Lodge.

Giving Another Chance At Life

Masons are known for their charitable giving, and at times that charity extends to giving someone another chance at life. Such was the case when the nine lodges of the 12th Masonic District met at King David Hall, Kingston, to sponsor a Community Blood Drive with the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross. Twenty-two Masons donated during this first district-wide blood drive which Hugh E. Williams, Jr., D.D.G.M., hopes will become, at minimum, an annual event, if not quarterly.

With the assistance of the lodge chairmen and the District Co-Chairmen, Bros. Robert Kuchta and William Brandt, the 12th Masonic District collected 31 units of blood. Although the district fell a few units short of its goal, the brethren and the Red Cross were pleased with the results of this first blood drive.

A Few Of The 12th Masonic District blood donors are (l-r): *Front* - William Meyers, W.M., and Paul Potera, S.W., King David Lodge No. 763. *Rear* - Bros. William Reese, Plymouth Lodge No. 332; Lynn Sheehan, George M. Dallas Lodge No. 531, Dallas; William Brandt and Robert Kuchta, Lodge No. 763; John Menta, Kingston Lodge No. 395, Wyoming; George Kapalka, Lodge No. 763; Robert Price, Landmark Lodge No. 442, Wilkes-Barre; Ralph Islem, Lodge No. 61, Wilkes-Barre; and Hugh E. Williams, Jr., D.D.G.M., 12th Masonic District.



Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication on Sat. Dec. 9 In Phila. to be Followed by Banquet, Entertainment

The next Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will convene at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 9, in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. There will be no Quarterly Communication in September.

Saturday evening, Dec. 9, there will be a Grand Master's banquet with outstanding star entertainment held on the mezzanine level of the Convention Center adjoining the Marriott Hotel. Ladies and guests will be invited to attend the banquet and entertainment. Reservations will be necessary for the banquet and entertainment or admission tickets will be required for the entertainment only.

Complete information and reservation and ticket order forms will be in the next issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*.

MASONIC HOMES

"Making the Move to Independent Living!"

Bro. Roy and Doris Ecklund are moving! Bro. Ecklund of Brownstone Lodge No. 666, Hershey, and his wife, have had enough of never-ending home maintenance, housekeeping, lawn mowing, snow removal, and all the other chores that go along with owning a 2,400-square foot home. Now it's their time to relax and let someone else be responsible for home maintenance.

electric, sewer, real estate taxes, security, maintenance of furnished appliances, and lawn care, as well as the option to experience fine dining in one of two dining rooms or a casual meal in the Courtyard Café.

The Ecklunds also appreciate the security of the Masonic Health Care Center where residents have access to outpatient services, subacute services, clinical services, and health care services on a fee-for-service basis. Having health care services available right on the campus offers added peace of mind as residents enjoy retirement living at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.

The Ecklunds are very pleased that it appears as though all of their existing furniture will fit into their new cottage. Their new home will include more than 3,000 square feet, including a porch, garage, and full basement. If you (or your spouse) are at least 65 years of age and would desire information on retirement living at the Masonic Homes, please call 1-800-676-6452 or complete and mail the adjoining coupon. The Marketing staff will be happy to answer your questions and arrange a personal appointment and tour.



Bro. and Mrs. Roy Ecklund have put their home up for sale - they're looking forward to their new home in Elizabethtown!

Please send me more information about Retirement 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

"This is the number one reason we're choosing retirement living at the Masonic Homes now that I'm 65 and eligible," Bro. Ecklund said.

The Ecklunds will enjoy housekeeping twice a month, snow and trash removal, and all maintenance and repairs as needed in their living unit. In addition, the monthly service fee includes water,

Enjoy the Richness Life has to Offer

Enjoy the richness that life has to offer while residing in the Residential Living Area of the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. Enrich each day living in the comfort of the stately buildings surrounded by beautifully landscaped grounds, enjoy delectable meals served in the Grand Lodge Hall Dining Room, take a walk in the formal gardens, exercise in the Masonic Life Center, cool off in one of our swimming pools, and relax as a Masonic Homes transportation person does the driving to go shopping, to dinner or, perhaps, to the theater.



Residents dine three times a day in the majestic Grand Lodge Hall Dining Room.

These are just a few examples of the quality of life residents experience in the Residential Living Area. Add gracious neighbors and a friendly staff and it's the perfect setting for retirement.

For information or a detailed brochure, call 1-800-422-1207 or complete and send the adjoining coupon.

Clinical Pathways Lead to Higher Quality of Care

In mid-summer, the subacute Renaissance Unit at Masonic Homes implemented a new process to get patients home faster by enhancing the quality of care they receive.

A clinical pathway was developed for any resident who meets any of the five diagnostic codes: stroke, hip fracture, hip replacement, knee replacement, and diseases of the lungs. After a patient's case is reviewed by interdisciplinary team members consisting of physicians, nurses, treating therapists, social workers, recreational therapists, respiratory therapists, and dieticians, a personalized pathway is developed by the team specifically for that individual. Then, the patient is told how long he or she will be in rehabilitation and about the daily activities which will help him or her reach that goal. The interdisciplinary team then works to ensure that each patient completes the daily requirements until the date of recovery and release.

Shawnee Masse, Care Manager; Lisa Butler, Director of Rehabilitation; and Laura Hertzog, Assistant Director of Nursing, constructed the plan for clinical pathways.

Children Enjoy a Gift that Keeps on Giving!

Excitement filled the hearts of the children of the Masonic Children's Home when Bro. Jack Harding donated more than 50 acres of his Sugar Run estate to be converted to a summer camp. Following Bro. Harding's good will and the excitement of the children, other brethren generously donated to the camp to enhance the camping experience.



Brethren of the Roosters Corner of the Masonic Homes are building a pavilion for the Camp at Sugar Run. They are (l to r): Front, William Treager and William Manning, and back, Robert Murray, William Hildebrand, and Martin Weinelt.

Perseverance Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg, donated six canoes and a canoe rack. The 5th Masonic District donated a floating dock along the river, providing a safer area for docking canoes, swimming, and tubing. The Roosters Corner, a Masonic Homes resident-run wood working shop, built and donated six picnic tables, and they are currently working on a 15 ft. x 30 ft. screened-in eating pavilion that will be donated upon completion. Additional efforts from the Independent Living residents are being facilitated by Bro. Raymond E. Tierney, Administrator, Independent Living. The Independent Living residents are providing a wide variety of items ranging from cash to personal belongings, such as much needed furniture.

For any activities the camp cannot provide, the Poconos are within a one hour's drive. Transportation will be provided to take the children to the Poconos for activities.

The Committee on Masonic Homes named the property "Masonic Youth Camp at Sugar Run." A sign was installed on the property on May 13 with the name of the camp and the attribution, "A Gift of Jack and Geraldine Harding."



Bro. Gilson "Buz" Cash, Director of the Children's Home at the Masonic Homes, receives a \$4,000 contribution for the Masonic Youth Camp at Sugar Run from Mitchell L. Smith, W.M., of Perseverance Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg. At left is John D. Witmer, D.D.G.M., 2nd Masonic District, and at right is Robert H. Mason, P.D.D.G.M.

We are sad to report that Bro. Jack Harding died on Thursday, June 22.

Grand Lodge Offers Seminar For Attorneys, CPAs and Financial Planners!

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will host a seminar for Attorneys, CPAs, and Financial Planners on Friday, Oct. 13, in the Masonic Conference Center at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown. Attendees will receive six CEUs recognized by the legal, accounting, and financial planning fields.

The information-packed agenda will include presentations by the following firms: Mette, Evans & Woodside; Stevens & Lee; and Waddell & Reed Financial Services. The topics will include: Gifting Techniques; Tools and Techniques of Estate & Charitable Gift Planning; IRA & Retirement Plans as Part of Estate Planning; and Case Study of an Individual's Estate.

Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m., and the seminar will start at 9. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. The seminar will conclude at 4:15 p.m., with a "Charities in Action" presentation by Dr. Vicki L. Gillmore, Administrator, Health Care Services, which will include a tour of the Masonic Health Care Center.

The cost for this seminar is \$25 per person. All attorneys, CPAs, and financial planners are welcome to attend the seminar. For reservations, RSVP by Friday, Sept. 22, to Mrs. Lori Seiders, Director, Organization, Development & Training at the Masonic Homes, by sending the information requested (see form) along with a check made payable to Masonic Homes, or a credit card number to: Lori Seiders, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Fax #: (717) 361-5300.

Address any questions to Lori Seiders at (717) 367-1121, ext. 33697 or, via e-mail: <<loris@masonichomespa.org >>.

Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendees will receive a confirmation and directions prior to the seminar. Copies of the registration form are acceptable for additional participants.

Registration Form For Oct. 13 Seminar

Name _____

Nickname for Badge _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Fax (_____) _____ Lodge No. (if applicable) _____

Payment Method (your payment must be included with this reservation form).

☐ Check made payable to Masonic Homes
☐ Credit Card: (circle) MC VISA (only cards accepted)


Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____


Name of Cardholder _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature of Cardholder _____

 **SPECIAL ASSISTANCE:** Masonic Homes is committed to making meetings accessible to all participants. ☐ Please indicate if you would like a Masonic Homes' staff member to contact you for details.

 **SPECIAL MEAL REQUESTS:** Masonic Homes strives to offer healthy selections to all our food functions. Please indicate if you require the listed special meals ☐ Kosher ☐ Vegetarian

Deadline for Reservation is Sept. 22

Youth Appreciation Day Celebrated at the Masonic Homes

The Masonic Children's Home celebrated its 77th annual Youth Appreciation Day with an awards banquet in the Masonic Health Care Center Assembly Room on May 26. All 36 children of the Home were recognized for their many varied activities and accomplishments throughout the year. Several were given special recognition for outstanding achievements in the areas of creativity, scholarship, vocation, athletics, and citizenship.

Special focus was on the two high school graduates, Rebecca Horn and Brandon Smith. Miss Horn will attend the Consolidated School of Business to study computerized office management, and Brandon Smith, who studied business-related courses and lifeguard courses, plans to apply for employment in one of those areas.

Along with their graduation certificates, the two seniors were presented with *Bibles* by Rev. A. Preston Van Deursen, Director of Pastoral Care and a graduate of the Masonic Children's Home, and with gifts from the Masonic Homes - Patton School Alumni Association representative, Charles Brecht.

Many of the awards were presented to the children by their house parents. Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden and the Committee on Masonic Homes' liaison to the Masonic Children's Home, presented the trust fund awards to the youth. Norman A. Fox, member of the Committee on Masonic Homes, and his wife, Gertrude, presented personal gifts to the graduating seniors.

In attendance were parents, relatives, and friends; Dr. Allan Thrush, Dr. Donald Donley, Gerald Lorson, and Mark Dolan of the Elizabethtown Area School District; Masonic Children's Home staff and children; and members of the Committee on Masonic Homes.

R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dluge, Jr. addressed the youth on behalf of the Committee on Masonic Homes. "(Your accomplishment) reinforces that we're doing something right," he said. To the seniors, Bro. Dluge said, "What we hope you take with you is not something tangible but the values you have learned here - the values the Masons of Pennsylvania instill every day. May these values guide you and lead you through life."

The seniors continued the tradition of planting a tree on the grounds of the Masonic Children's Home to commemorate the occasion and leave a living symbol of their ties to the Masonic Homes.



The 36 residents of the Masonic Children's Home honored at Youth Appreciation Day.



Brandon Smith, Bro. Gilson "Buz" Cash, Rebecca Horn, and R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dluge, Jr. plant a tree on the grounds of the Masonic Children's Home to commemorate the seniors' graduation from the program.



Bro. Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Junior Grand Warden, presents awards to the youth of the Masonic Children's Home.

GOLF RESERVATION FORM

Enter the golfers listed below at \$125 per person in the Philadelphia Area's Masonic Charity Golf Tournament to benefit the Masonic Children's Homes (payment must accompany your reservation.) Enclosed is my check made payable to "Masonic Charity Golf Tournament" in the amount of \$_____.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1.) Name _____ | 3.) Name _____ |
| Address _____ | Address _____ |
| City, State, Zip _____ | City, State, Zip _____ |
| Lodge Number (if applicable) _____ | Lodge Number (if applicable) _____ |
| 2.) Name _____ | 4.) Name _____ |
| Address _____ | Address _____ |
| City, State, Zip _____ | City, State, Zip _____ |
| Lodge Number (if applicable) _____ | Lodge Number (if applicable) _____ |

AUTUMN DAY 2000

Make plans today to experience Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown on Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This annual open house for Pennsylvania Freemasons, their families, and friends, is a special day filled with friendly, fun-loving clowns, delicious "Homes-made" food, musical entertainment, and children's activities. Autumn Day is a perfect time to visit family members, reunite with friends, and tour all of the service areas at the Masonic Homes.

One of the highlights of the day will be the Datestone Ceremony for the Freemasons Cultural Center, part of the Village Green Area construction project, to be held at 11 a.m.

Delicious food will be provided free throughout the grounds: sausage, bean soup, sauerkraut, hot dogs, ice cream, and beverages. Various organizations will have information booths and displays. Visitors will have the opportunity to receive information about the services provided at our four Homes' locations: Elizabethtown, Pittsburgh, Sewickley, and Warminster. Orchard stands will have fresh fruits, vegetables, and other items for sale at great prices. Many residents throughout the campus will open their homes so you can view first-hand the services, accommodations, and excellent arrangements available at the Masonic Homes.

If you and your family are planning to attend Autumn Day, complete and mail the coupon. The Masonic Homes is unable to provide wheelchairs, so please bring your own if needed. Handicapped parking will be available; however, you must advise the Masonic Homes on your coupon if handicapped parking is required so special tickets can be forwarded to you prior to Autumn Day.

Don't miss this great day of fun, excitement, and fellowship!



Food, food and more food... who can resist when it's Homes-grown?



Autumn Day is a great time to visit friends... old and new.



Musical groups perform all day long, all around the campus.



The petting zoos, featuring Homes' animals, are a big hit with visitors.



"Really, can you think of ANYWHERE you'd rather be on Sept. 23?"

Blood Bank Will be at Autumn Day; Make an Appointment to Donate

The Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank will be at Autumn Day in Elizabethtown, Sept. 23, to conduct a blood drive for the benefit of the residents at the Masonic Homes. Contributions of blood will be taken at the blood bank from 9 to 11:15 a.m. and from 1 to 3:15 p.m.

Anyone 17 years of age and older who is in good health and weighs 110 pounds or more is eligible to donate blood. The Blood Bank asks that donors be sure to eat within four hours prior to donating blood. Also, it is requested that persons desiring to donate blood make an appointment by calling 1-800-771-0059 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and ask for Kathleen.

Saying that the greatest gift a person can give is the "Gift of Life," the Blood Bank reminds everyone that every three seconds someone is in need of blood. It could be a member of your family, a friend, or a co-worker. While you're at Autumn Day, why not join the ranks of the "Quiet Heroes?"

CALL THE BLOOD BANK IN ADVANCE AT 1-800-771-0059. (Please do not call the Masonic Homes for these appointments).

AUTUMN DAY!

September 23, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown

Name: _____
Lodge/Chapter No.: _____
No. of Adults _____ No. of Children _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Transportation: ☐ Driving Own Car ☐ Passenger
☐ Charter Bus ☐ Arriving by Train
☐ Require Handicap Parking*

* If handicapped parking is required, enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope with this coupon. A special parking permit will be sent, which you must bring with you.

Complete coupon and return to:

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

GET OUT and STAY ALIVE

Student Housing Fire Survival

As summer was approaching and the spring semester at college campuses throughout the Commonwealth was starting to wrap-up, Pennsylvania experienced a tragic fire that took the lives of five students at a Bloomsburg University fraternity house. That fire was one of more than 1,700 fires that happen, on average, annually in college student housing facilities across the nation.

Prior to the fatal fire at Bloomsburg, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Penn State Chapter of the Acacia Fraternity were working on a program that would address the serious issue of fires in student housing. The idea for the program came from the Acacia Fraternity at Penn State University after another student housing fire took the lives of several students at Seton Hall, N.J. That fire brought national attention to the issue. When the Acacians learned of R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dluge, Jr.'s interest in fire safety, the chapter believed it would be a perfect issue for the two fraternities to address by developing a program that would educate college students on fire safety and survival.

When the Grand Master learned of the Acacians' proposal for a fire safety

program, he immediately gave his support. Larry G. Hettich, D.D.G.M., who had already been working with the Acacia chapter in strengthening their relationship with the Masons, worked with the Acacia chapter's Venerable Dean, John E. Ziegler, in developing the program. News of the program spread throughout the University's administration and created much anticipation and support from the faculty and students. The Interfraternity Council also gave its support by requiring all new fraternity members at Penn State, the nation's largest fraternity system, to attend the seminar.

The program was a first of its kind to be conducted on the Penn State campus. Receiving much attention from the local TV, radio, and print media, the program featured world-renowned former Chief Fire Investigator for the National Fire Protection Agency, Ed Comeau, along with Bonnie Woodruff, who lost her son in 1996 to one of our nation's worst fraterni-



ty house fires at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The Centre Region Senior Fire and Housing Inspector, Tim Knisely, who inspects the students housing facilities in State College, also presented the local safety issues facing students and his department's concern over the 15 fires that have occurred at Penn State during the past two years.

The two-hour program was opened by the



Grand Master Dluge sharing stories with the featured speaker, Ed Comeau, prior to the start of the program.

Grand Master, who shared a past experience of a time when he and his fellow volunteer fire fighters were called to fight a fire they knew would result in the loss of lives. He then encouraged the fully packed room of nearly 350 college students to take the evening's program seriously and share the knowledge they would gain from the seminar with their fellow classmates. The audience then heard from the featured speakers and watched a video that stressed safety tips and measures that can be taken to handle and prevent fires in student housing. The evening ended with an emotional story from Bonnie Woodruff, who traveled from North Carolina to share her experience of losing her son to a fraternity house fire during a parent sponsored graduation party.

The program was such a success that Grand Master Dluge appointed an ad hoc committee to develop a program, or one similar to it, to take across the Commonwealth to college campuses where there are chapters of the Acacia Fraternity. The Acacia Fraternity is a national college fraternity for undergraduates, based on Masonic principles and founded in 1904 by 14 Master Masons.

The two-hour program was opened by the

D.D.G.M. McKnight is Guide for His Son

When Jared J. McKnight was made a Master Mason, his father, Keith A. McKnight, D.D.G.M., 53rd Masonic District, was his guide and six other District Deputy or Past District Deputy Grand Masters served as a degree team. Joseph P. Brashen, P.M., Sharon Lodge No. 250, was the conferring Worshipful Master. The participants in the degree were (l-r): Front - Richard E. Lawhead, D.D.G.M., 25th Masonic District; Bro. Jared McKnight; Bro. Keith McKnight, D.D.G.M.; and Bro. Brashen, P.M. Rear - Kim W. Jeffreys, P.D.D.G.M., 25th Masonic District; Glenn L. Farren, D.D.G.M., 23rd Masonic District; Danny R. McKnight, P.D.D.G.M., 27th Masonic District; W. Thomas Marlowe, Jr., D.D.G.M., 26th Masonic District; and Mark E. Viertel, D.D.G.M., 52nd Masonic District.



Outreach Teams Up With Others to Provide Help for Young Boy

In 1999, Betsy Frye was faced with fear and desperation. She had to find a way to get Lance, her two-year-old son, to Boston or Cincinnati for medical treatment. Lance was a growing boy, and his body was changing. But apart from the development that any other two-year old boy faced, Lance had lost his ability to speak when an error occurred during the attempt to save Lance's life during heart surgery. And, though Lance survived his ordeal with a weak heart, he forever lost his ability to speak.

More than a year has passed since Lance... blonde, playful, sturdy Lance Frye, was examined in Cincinnati. Hospitals and physicians have come and gone, and Lance has celebrated his third birthday. His development continues, but he still cannot speak with words... and it's unlikely he ever will. But Lance communicates with family and friends by signing. And today, just like any other toddler, he dreams of Teletubbies and Blues Clues, playing with his older brother (whom Lance worships, of course), and watching cartoons.

Lance and his family not only found a way to have their immediate needs met in early 1999, but they've also flourished as they've overcome obstacles placed in their path. They met and triumphed over those challenges with faith and help from their friends. The Masonic Homes' Outreach Program is proud to be one of their friends.

When Lance was still one year old, he needed to be seen by specialists in either Boston or Cincinnati to determine if corrective surgery could repair his larynx sufficiently so he could speak. They went to Cincinnati with the hope that that would happen. It did not. Instead, the physicians developed a plan of care that would help Lance as much as they could. He required surgery ...and he will again in the future. The

Outreach Program has been privileged to assist Lance with a portion of the expenses his treatment has incurred over the last 18 months and will continue to be there should Lance need our help in the future. Our friendship will go on.



Lance Frye with this mother, Betsy

But Lance has a lot more friends than just Outreach. The Order of the Eastern Star was the first to arrive with financial aid. Then, the local Masonic community offered help. Shidle Lodge No. 601, Irwin, provided funds to assist the Fries while in Cincinnati. Wings for Children, a group of men dedicated to helping those in need, provided air transportation for him and his mother. Lance's friends are everywhere.

What you have just read is an example of the Masonic Homes' Outreach Program's mission is to meet the needs of Masonic and non-Masonic families throughout the United States. The program serves senior citizens, children, and working age families. It meets its mission with the help of the Masonic Brethren throughout Pennsylvania and works with various Masonic and non-Masonic organizations to help those in need. Outreach collaborates with other service organizations and builds relationships that offer to work together for people who need help.

Outreach is available for you and your family, your parents, or friends. When you need help, remember that Masons work together to find that help. To reach Outreach toll-free call: 1-800-462-7664.

Blue Jacket for 1st-Line Signers

The new blue Grand Master's jacket was introduced by R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dluge, Jr., during an anniversary celebration at Temple Lodge No. 248, Tunkhannock. The jacket, in the color of the Blue Lodge, is now being awarded for first-line petition signers instead of the purple jackets that had been awarded for four years.



The Grand Master's awards program is ongoing and all of the guidelines of the original awards program prevail whereby a first-line signer of a petition of a candidate who becomes a Mason is eligible to earn a jacket one time. Verification of the first-line signing of a petition must be given by the signer's lodge Secretary and forwarded by the Secretary to the Grand Lodge Office of Masonic Education.

The Grand Master has called upon all lodges to participate in the awards program and keep the requests for jackets current. Any brother who has been an eligible first-line signer of a petition since Jan. 1, 1999 and has not received a jacket should contact his lodge Secretary and ask him to submit the appropriate application for a blue jacket.

Foundation for Children Speakers Gain Valuable Information at Seminar.

Speakers on the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse for the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children received valuable new and upgraded information at the annual training seminar in the Masonic Conference Center, Elizabethtown, on April 1. Included in the attendance were seven past and present D.D.G.M.s and 30 of the Foundation's district chairmen.

The keynote speaker for the seminar was Rene Lento, Student Assistance Program Advisor for the Board of Education on narcotics. She presented an outstanding program about the new drugs threatening youth. The status and success of the Student Assistance Program was presented by Debra McCoy, who is the Foundation's liaison to the Pennsylvania Board of Education. The D.A.R.E. and G.R.E.A.T. programs were updated by Bros. John Lyon and Dan Richmond, respectively. Bro. Raymond G. Brown, Executive Director of the Foundation, detailed the new projects, including the "Every 30 Minutes" and "Adopt-a-School" programs. James L. Ernette, R.W.P.G.M. and President of the Foundation, was the speaker at a banquet the evening before the seminar.

The Foundation's speakers are available for lodge and public programs. Anyone desiring information on the Foundation or seeking a speaker should contact Bro. Brown at (215) 988-1978.

Bro. Jackson Speaks in Argentina; Honored by Two Grand Lodges

The principal speaker at the VII Symposium on Masonic Symbolism in Cordoba, Argentina, was Pennsylvania's R.W. Past Grand Secretary, Thomas W. Jackson. He was the honored guest at the three-day symposium in May that was attended by several hundred of the most prominent Masons from Argentina and other South American countries. Also, while attending the Secretaries' Conference in Savannah, GA, the Grand Lodge of Argentina honored Bro. Jackson by awarding him its most distinguished medal for his contributions to world Freemasonry.

Also, at its annual communication on May 15, the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations honored Bro. Jackson by presenting him with their highest award for outstanding Masonic achievement, the Christopher Champlin Medal, named for that jurisdiction's first Grand Master.



In large numbers, Pennsylvania Masons are using the Internet. If you're not one of them logging on to the Grand Lodge web site, you're missing a lot. Continuing a feature begun last issue, here are some more insights into the benefits and ease of use of the web site.

PRACTICAL: On-line Employment Center—Through the foresight of the R.W. Grand Master, an "On-line Employment Center" is provided, via the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania web page exclusively for our members. It is an opportunity for Pennsylvania Masons to "network" with each other. Pennsylvania Masons can post their resumes and job listings, including volunteer opportunities. Membership is verified by the Grand Secretary's office, so you can be certain that you are communicating with a fellow Mason. It is no guarantee of a job, of course, but there is an unmistakable level of trust that Masons share with each other. In just the first few weeks that the Employment Center was on-line, more than 120 members signed on to the new service.

As a benefit to our members, this is open only to members of Pennsylvania lodges. One must register on-line before using the service. Even though it is one Mason dealing with another, the Employment Center allows the user to remain anonymous when inquiring about a job or resume. That's a nice feature, especially when the inquirer is currently employed and does not want to let co-workers know that he's looking elsewhere.

Log onto www.pagrandlodge.org and click on the Employment Center button.

For Masons who do not have access to the Internet, but would still like to participate, there are several options available. The best option is for him to ask a brother in his lodge to help. Or, he can gain free access to the Internet at most public libraries in Pennsylvania. Lastly, he can contact Bro. Thomas R. Labagh, Chairman of the Committee on Internet Services, (717) 367-1536, during regular business hours and he will assist in posting a resume or reviewing job opportunities.

EDUCATIONAL: Excellent Masonic Videos—Using a popular free software program

called RealVideo® several excellent video programs can be watched on the Internet. All three segments of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge's "Tools of The Craft" series are available for the Masons and the public to view. A video history of the creation of the FRIEND TO FRIEND monument at Gettysburg is very popular. In addition, the new video about the Masonic Homes is available, as is the new video on the Order of DeMolay.

ORGANIZATIONAL: Directory for Speakers—Finding a speaker for a lodge couldn't be easier than the click of a mouse button to get the information that is in the newly issued *Speakers for Blue Lodges* for 2000. Using the sophisticated system, any subject or any speaker by name, topic, or even region of the state where the speaker will be willing to travel, can be searched out. Simply fill in the on-line form and request all the speakers needed for lodge programs.

ENTERTAINMENT: 360° Images—Have you ever been to the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia? It's an almost indescribable feeling to stand in the middle of one of the magnificent lodge rooms and look all around the room. Now, through the magic of the Internet, everyone can have that same feeling by visiting the new open-line tours of the Masonic Temple and view the special BEHERE® images which lets the viewer see all around the room. Some of the pictures even allow the viewer to zoom in for a closer look. There are bonus images taken at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, too. The full series of images have been released a few at a time since June 1 and will be complete by Aug. 31.

Foundation Sponsors Teachers to Conference

James L. Ernette, R.W.P.G.M., President of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children, addressed the annual conference of The Pennsylvania Association of Student Assistance Professionals (P.A.S.A.P.) at its awards banquet March 27 in the Harrisburg Hilton. The conference provides Student Assistance Team members updated information from professionals from around the country in the latest methods for helping students at risk. More than 70 of the 500 conferees present were able to attend because the Foundation annually sponsors educators from across the state. At the conclusion of his remarks, R.W.P.G.M. Ernette presented a grant of more than \$42,500 to the Association's president.

35 More D.A.R.E. Officers Complete Training

In April, 35 more law enforcement officers completed the D.A.R.E. training program at the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. The instructor, Bro. Daniel Richmond, Richard Vaux-Ivanhoe Lodge No. 384, Philadelphia, presented certificates to the graduates. This class brings the total number of officers trained courtesy of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children to 563. Training is planned for one more class this year, along with middle school mentor training that will expand the D.A.R.E. program into upper grades.

Brethren United In Common Goals

The unity of fraternal brotherhood was epitomized when 12 officers and members of St. Alban Lodge No. 35 of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge visited the brethren of Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135, Roxborough, to witness John J. Harkins, IV, initiated to the Entered Apprentice Degree and William S. Whitlock raised.

Ten days later, 10 officers and members of Palestine-Roxborough Lodge returned the pleasure by visiting St. Alban Lodge to witness the passing of Kenneth R. Ellison to the Fellow Craft Degree.

"We have come to be most welcome in each other's lodges," said Marc A. Umile, W.M., Palestine-Roxborough Lodge, as he was pointing out that this was a first-ever visitation for each of the lodges, since the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge extended recognition in 1997.



Center: Worshipful Masters Daryl Wood, St. Alban Lodge No. 35, and Marc A. Umile, Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135, (center) and their respective brethren stand together during Palestine-Roxborough Lodge's visit to St. Alban Lodge.

"Every 30 Minutes," A Dramatic Staging



During the Spring, the "Every 30 Minutes" program funded by the Masons of Pennsylvania through the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children staged nine programs at various high schools across the state, such as the scene pictured at Cocalico High School, Denver, Lancaster County.

The dramatic program stages a fatal vehicle accident outside the high school, having students portray the persons involved. The portrayal includes their being "treated" for injuries, and fatalities. Participating students are sent to hospitals, jails, and morgues as though they, themselves, had been involved in the accident. Then, a state trooper, dressed as "the grim reaper" goes from class to class in the school and taps out pre-selected students to represent the persons killed in the driver-impaired accidents which occur every 30 minutes in the country. While the staged event is in progress, the participating students representing individuals killed in the accidents are not allowed to talk to classmates. Then, they have to write letters to their parents expressing the feelings they have relative to their "unfulfilled lives." The next day, those letters are read in front of the class in the school auditorium. The parents also write letters to their children expressing their feelings of loss.

Ten more "Every 30 Minutes" programs are scheduled across the state in the Fall. Any Mason, or Masonic lodge desiring to attend or participate in the programs should contact Raymond G. Brown, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children, at (215) 988-1978.

Music at the Masonic Temple

Sunday, Nov. 5 • Second 2000 Recital
Tours of the Temple at 12:30 and 1:30 p.m.
Refreshments in Grand Banquet Hall after Recital

Ken A. Cowan, a native of Thorold, Ontario, Canada, currently is a graduate student at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, studying organ with Thomas Murray. He also is Assistant Organist at Saint James Episcopal Church, New York. In May of 1999, Mr. Cowan was graduated from Yale University with a Master's degree in Music. Prior to attending Yale, he was graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He also is a member of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and is among the roster of Associate Organists on the famous Wanamaker Grand Court Organ in Philadelphia. Mr. Cowan has won numerous awards, including first prizes in the Royal Canadian College of Organists National Competition and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music Competition. He also was a competitor in the 1999-2000 National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance.

Tickets for the Ken A. Cowan Recital may be secured in writing and enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Music at the Masonic Temple
Masonic Temple
One North Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

(Parking is available within a two-block area of the Masonic Temple at normal public lot rates.)

Lodge Speakers Directory Available and Being Distributed

Distribution began during June of the seventh annual edition of the Speaker's Book for the Blue Lodges. The directory, prepared by the Masonic Training/Education Committee, lists 144 speakers who have volunteered to present programs on a wide variety of topics in the Blue Lodges in Pennsylvania.

This booklet is especially useful as a resource for the current Senior Warden of each lodge and is made available at this time as he plans and prepares his programs for next year when he anticipates being the Worshipful Master.

Lodge officers are encouraged to recommend to any of their members who are interesting speakers that they be listed in next year's directory. The officer should suggest to such a member that he complete an application form that is in the booklet or request one from the office of Masonic Training/Education, 215-988-1909.

PIN Club Team Confers M.M. Degree



On April 20 in Harmony Lodge No. 429, Zelienople, a PIN Club degree team composed of law enforcement officers from the Pittsburgh area conferred the Master Mason's degree on Ansel Packer (front, second from left), a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Bro. Packer is holding the Masonic Bible that the Club presented to him. Pictured is the PIN Club degree team with the conferring officer, Danny R. McKnight, P.D.D.G.M., 27th Masonic District (front left), Bro. Packer, and Thomas Marlow, D.D.G.M., 26th Masonic District (third from left).

Blood Donor Club Elects Officers, Supports Organ Donor Program



At a well attended meeting on Saturday, Apr. 15, the Board of Directors of the Masonic Blood Donor Club elected officers, voted to support the Organ Donor Program, authorized contributions to the American Red Cross for disaster relief, and heard promising reports of progress.

The following brethren were elected to office: Norman A. Fox, President; F. Rick Knepper, Vice President; William Gottschalk, Treasurer; and Leroy McClellan, Secretary.

The President reported for Bro. William McCarrier that seven Scottish Rite Valleys have joined in the blood and organ donor effort. It was also reported that Linda Knepper and Emily Cervonka have been appointed to head the new program for the Order of the Eastern Star.

23 Granted PYF Endowment Fund Scholarships

The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Educational Endowment Fund Committee selected 23 students from nearly 200 applicants to receive \$33,000 in scholarship awards for this year. In making selections, the Committee applies a formula which takes into account academics, financial need, Masonic relationship and youth group participation, and civic activities of each applicant.

The recipients are:

\$3,000 Grand Master's Scholarships – Sharon E. Doud, a member of Northeast Rainbow Assembly No. 20 and granddaughter of the late William J. Dale, of the former Commonwealth Lodge No. 695, who will attend Ohio State, Pennsylvania State or Duke University as a freshman to major in pre-law; and Louis W. Gettel, Jr., a member of Fidelity Chapter, Order of DeMolay, son of Louis W. Gettel, Sr., Chartiers Lodge No. 747, McKees Rocks, who will attend West Virginia Wesleyan College as a junior to major in computer science and mathematics.

\$2,500 Grand Master's Scholarships – Paula J. Biscup, daughter of Chester J. Biscup, Plum Creek-Monroeville Lodge No. 799, Pittsburgh, who will attend the University of Pittsburgh as a fifth-year senior to major in pharmacy; David L. Gilbert, son of Donald L. Gilbert, Ligonier Lodge No. 331, who will attend West Virginia Wesleyan College as a junior majoring in social studies education; Dawn Orwick, daughter of Edward M. Orwick, a member of Osceola Lodge No. 515, Osceola Mills, who will attend Albright College as a sophomore majoring in biology; and Jessica S. Waywell, a member of Pennsylvania Valley Rainbow Assembly No. 143, and daughter of James A. Waywell, Shiloh Lodge No. 558, Lansdale, who will attend Gwynedd Mercy College as a senior majoring in nursing.

\$2,000 Herman Witte Memorial Scholarships – Amanda Feigel, a member of Betsy Ross Assembly No. 174 and the daughter of Paul J. Feigel, Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135, who will attend Pennsylvania State University as a

junior majoring in pre-medicine; Sarah Gettig, daughter of Paul Gettig, Hazle Lodge No. 327, Hazleton, who will attend Bucknell University as a junior majoring in management; Melissa Logan, a member of Reading Rainbow Assembly No. 33, daughter of Stephen R. Logan, Sr., Stichter Lodge No. 254, Pottstown, who will attend the Indiana University of Pennsylvania - Robert E. Cook Honors College as a junior majoring in education of persons with hearing loss; and Gregory M. Schaeffer, a member of Elizabethtown Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and son of Charles W. Schaeffer, Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf, who will attend Case Wesleyan University as a junior majoring in computer science.

\$2,000 Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Scholarships – Jeanette M. Sloan, a member of Homestead Rainbow Assembly No. 43 and the daughter of Ralph H. Sloan, Homestead-Amity-McCandless Lodge No. 582, who will attend Dickinson College as a junior majoring in physics; and Lauren L. Wagner, a member of Greensburg Bethel No. 3, International Order of Job's Daughters, and the daughter of Charles D. Wagner, a member of William S. Snyder Lodge No. 756, Harrisburg, who will attend Allegheny College as a freshman to major in pre-dentistry.

\$1,500 Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Scholarships – Kelly E. Evanowski, granddaughter of the late John L. Black, New Castle Lodge No. 642, who will attend Westminster College as a freshman to major in Spanish secondary education; and Tracy L. Stecker, daughter of Dennis C. Stecker, Hazle Lodge No. 327, Hazleton, who will attend King's College as a freshman to become a physician's assistant.

\$2,000 Lawrence Dietrich Smith Memorial Scholarship – Jessica E. Brown, a member of Somerset Rainbow Assembly and the granddaughter of Edward J. Smith, McKeesport Lodge No. 641, who will attend Colorado School of Mines as a sophomore majoring in geological engineering; and Heather Gantt, granddaughter of Donald B. Craven, Youghiogheny Lodge No. 583, McKeesport, who will attend Clemson University as a freshman to major in engineering; Amber Pifer, granddaughter of Theodore Peace, John W. Jenks Lodge No. 534, Punxsutawney, who will attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania as a sophomore to major in nursing; William T. Reddinger, son of William W. Reddinger, New Bethlehem Lodge No. 522, who will attend Juniata College as a sophomore to major in English; Kelly M. West, a member of Rainbow Assembly No. 144 and grand-

daughter of Arthur West, Nanticoke Lodge No. 541, who will attend Wilkes University as a sixth-year senior to major in pharmacy; and Justin V. Wick, grandson of Alex Popp, Henry H. Phillips Lodge No. 337, Monongahela, who will attend Cornell University as a freshman to major in electrical engineering.

\$1,500 Lawrence Dietrich Smith Memorial Scholarships – Ruth E. Bingman, granddaughter of Charles A. Smith, Old Fort Lodge No. 537, Centre Hall, who will attend Pennsylvania State University as a freshman to major in chemistry; and Catherine G. Corey, daughter of John R. Corey, Germania Lodge No. 509, Pleasant Hills, who will attend Grove City College as a freshman to major in computer engineering.

\$2,000 Charles R. Nebel Scholarship – Louis Grow, a member of Somerton Chapter, Order of DeMolay and son of Michael Grow, Hiram Lodge No. 81, Chestnut Hill, who will attend Lock Haven University as a senior majoring in social work.

Lodge No. 769 Joins in Charity Golf

Last Fall, the officers and members of William H. Miller Lodge No. 769, Butler, in conjunction with Sheriff Dennis C. Rickard, P.M., Victory Lodge No. 694, Butler, (fourth from left) held a golf tournament at the Armco Country Club that raised \$10,000 for charity. The contributions, distributed earlier this year, were \$7,500 to the Pennsylvania State Police Camp Cadet program, \$1,500 to Butler Meals on Wheels, \$700 to Butler Human Relations Commission, and \$300 to Aisley Green Hospital Fund. Participating in the presentation ceremony were (l-r): Lt. David Jungling; Sgt. Albert Brown; Bro. Kenneth Frenchak; Sheriff and Bro. Rickard; Trooper Robert Lagoon with the contribution check; Bro. Adrian K. Hassler, Secretary of Lodge No. 769; Bro. Edward M. Newcaster, P.M., who was Worshipful Master at the time of the tournament; and Capt. Sidney Simon.



R.W. Grand Secretary

Let's Abridge The Business

By Donald L. Albert

Brethren, the more than 400 of you who had the good fortune to attend the March Quarterly Communication in Irem Temple in Wilkes-Barre experienced a different arrangement of the order of business. Our R.W. Grand Master has implemented an abridgement of the minutes and summarizing committee reports that require action. However, as always, all reports are available for members to review.

This order of business has been arranged by our R.W. Grand Master as a result of the expressed responses from you, the membership, to streamline the business of the Communication as well as to focus on those items to be presented for program visibility. The R.W. Grand Master desires that the Worshipful Masters of our Blue Lodges arrange to follow the same course of action.

Additional activities planned for family involvement in conjunction with our Communications are providing a variety of fun as well as educational programs to enhance our Quarterly Communications.

Let us reflect on all we have experienced and accomplished as Freemasons. The concepts we have practiced, along with the history of our Grand Lodge from its inception in 1731, have made us the oldest, largest, and most prosperous Fraternity that contributes to the welfare of others.

Today the world appears to be moving at a much faster pace than it ever has and we must, more than ever, apply the principles of Freemasonry in our everyday activities.

I hope you are having a happy and restful summer and will return to your lodge in the Fall with a renewed dedication to this great Fraternity.

LODGES TO HONOR VETS IN NOVEMBER

Masons who are veterans will be honored in lodges across the state in November, the month of Veterans Day, in a program being structured by the Masonic Training/Education Committee. Robert L. Dluge, Jr., R.W. Grand Master, asked the Committee to prepare a 15- to 20-minute program of recognition to recall and demonstrate again that Masons care deeply about their brothers who served their country and the world so gallantly. The presentation will include a variety of suggested activities a lodge can use. The program will be sent to the lodges in time for its use at the November stated meeting.

Seven Receive Stenberg Scholarships

Seven students were awarded \$1,000 checks as the first installments on up to four years of Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. Scholarship support. These young persons have turned their lives around through the Student Assistance Program. They were selected from among 20 finalists out of 70 applicants.

The winners for 2000 are: Candice Chisolm, Laporte; Reina Calpin, Exeter; Maureen Phillips, Fairless Hills; Matthew Schumacher, Shillington; Sarah St. Vincent, Newville; Jennifer Ballentine, Philadelphia; and Any Jo Waddington, Williamsburg, PA.

All of the applicants have successfully completed a Student Assistance Program and were recommended by their respective school SAP teams. Each of the recipients is eligible to continue receiving \$1,000 a year for up to four years of post high school education as long as they remain drug and alcohol free and maintain at least a 2.5 average while in college.

A total of 33 scholarships have been awarded since the fund was established in 1993.

Ritualistic Staff Develops Optional Programs for Lodges

The Ritualistic staff has had a very busy and productive first half of 2000. Not only have they attended the Schools of Instruction across the state and rehearsed lodges for the Grand Master's visits and supervised Sectional Schools, but also they have developed some unique and very interesting special program options for the lodges.

Larry A. Buzzard, Director of the Ritualistic Work, said that the new programs are options for lodges to use. There is the new "Pennsylvania Charge," first delivered at the installation of Robert L. Dluge, Jr., as R.W. Grand Master. There are: a "Passing of the Gavel" ceremony, also conducted at the time of the Grand Master's installation; a Bible presentation for newly raised Master Masons; a "Table Lodge" ceremony for banquets where ladies are present, as has been conducted by the Grand Master several times this year; and a guide for an in-lodge "Rusty Masons Night" talk. Information and needs for all of the optional programs can be obtained by the lodges from the Regional Instructors.

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