

DOING YOUR WILL easy as A B C

Many people find it easy to delay making a will. They find it easy to procrastinate because they think estate planning is hard. But really, it's not all that difficult – at least in most cases. In fact, creating a will can be as simple as ABC!

A Assets – Begin by making an inventory of all of your assets: insurance, bank and brokerage accounts, artwork, real estate, vehicles, everything you own. Once you have the list, estimate the value of your assets and then deduct any debts you may have. This will give you a rough idea of the total value of your estate.

B Beneficiaries – Whom do you want to receive your assets? First, consider family needs and obligations. Then review your charitable involvements and how a bequest could benefit them, and create a lasting legacy for you. You may want to consider including a provision for your church, your alma mater, and your local hospital. In this process, we hope you will consider including a bequest to strengthen and enhance the important work of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, the Masonic Eastern Star Home – East, the Masonic Eastern Star Home – West, the Masonic Village at Sewickley or any of the other Masonic Charities of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

C Confidants – Choose trustworthy persons to provide legal and other professional assistance, as well as a personal representative to help settle your estate. You may also need to select one or more trustees and guardians for any minor children.

When you have listed and valued your assets, selected the beneficiaries for your estate, and have chosen the key persons to assist you now and after your death, it is time to act. Don't delay. Contact an estate-planning attorney right away and move forward.

If you need help finding a good attorney, ask your friends for suggestions or contact the trust department of a local bank or the local bar association for a referral. Ask around until you find someone you feel comfortable with.



While creating a will is easier than you might have thought, it will take some time. But the end result is worth it. You will be rewarded with a deep sense of satisfaction ...and peace of mind.

To make the process even easier for you, we have educational brochures about wills and estate planning and will be happy to send them to you free of charge and at no obligation. Simply complete the coupon below and mail it to us, or call Bro. John McFadden, Planned Giving Officer at (800) 599-6454 or (717) 367-1121, ext. 33311.

**Complete and return to
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Please Send Me Information About:**

- ☐ How To Make A Will That Works
- ☐ Better Estate Planning
- ☐ Giving Through Your Will
- ☐ Please Contact Me to Arrange a Personal Visit

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Phone _____

MAIL THIS FORM TO: Development Office
John R. McFadden, Planned Giving Officer
Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022



VOLUME XLVIII

The PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

FEBRUARY 2001



NUMBER 1

Friend to Friend BROTHER TO BROTHER



The Values of Brotherhood

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE THE STATE OF THE CRAFT

[This Message from The Grand Master is the enthusiastic "State of the Craft" report that Bro. Dlugé delivered during the December Quarterly Communication as the Grand Lodge approached the end of his first year as Grand Master.]

Brethren, I would like to take a few minutes to tell you where we've been during the last year and where we plan to go in the next year.

As I told you a year ago, we planned to return to some of the very basics of our Fraternity, those principles that brought men together and have helped keep them together for nearly 275 years in this great Commonwealth. Those principles include **truth, relief, and brotherly love**. To accomplish that, I also told you we would utilize some of the great programs created by our even-greater group of Past Grand Masters — the group that has spent an enormous amount of time and effort to preserve Freemasonry. Because of those efforts, we couldn't see having to remake the wheel when it already existed. We took those programs, dusted them off, and utilized an overall strategy of making Freemasonry a personal experience for you and a beneficial organization for your family.

Truth: We have interpreted it to mean obtaining knowledge through education so that we can make an informed decision in any challenge with which we are confronted. In further investigating how education is perceived by our members, we found that this area in particular is one that is a personal experience. Many good programs have ended up in that proverbial lodge closet, never to see the light of day. Recognizing this, we have created a personal choice option for you through the Pennsylvania Masonic Academy. Its three tracks were conceived to provide quality, not quantity, of knowledge in a one-day program with the opportunity for personal enrichment, learning how to be an effective Masonic leader, and seeing the ritual performed excellently. My thanks to those who have made the Academy occur, including: Larry Buzzard, Director of Ritualistic Work, and his entire Ritualistic Staff; R.W.P.G.M. Edward O. Weissner and his Education Team, including Dr. Elvin Warfel; and R.W.P.G.S. Thomas W. Jackson and the Academy of Masonic Knowledge Committee. Worldwide recognition of this program has been received, along with numerous kind words and letters by those of you who have participated in Academy sessions. Continued existence of the Academy will only take place by your support of it. In addition to the Academy, we also have tried to update programs for your lodges that have a personal impact upon you. These include personal safety and veterans' recognition. My thanks to Earl Mordan, Jr. and Dr. Warfel, along with R.W.P.G.M. Weissner, for their help in creating those programs.

Relief: We have expanded the Masonic Outreach Program to assist our members who are experiencing difficulties themselves, or within their families; by expanding and improving the delivery of services at our Masonic Homes facilities; and by offering to your lodges a new opportunity to work together in projects that benefit not only Freemasonry, but also the communities in which we live through the provision of life-saving AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators). This program has gone far beyond my wildest dreams and I congratulate all of our lodges who have participated and suggest that they continue to participate during the next year. Also, my thanks go out to the Pennsylvania/Delaware Affiliate of the American Heart Association for their continuing cooperation to make this happen throughout the Jurisdiction. To date, hundreds of these devices have been, or are being, processed.

For our youth, the Youth Foundation developed the first-ever "Life Skills Camp." This camp permitted our Masonically related youth to have fun, but learn skills in life that they might not other-

wise learn in school. Also, our Children's Foundation now literally follows a child in public school from elementary through college education. Through the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, PSSAT (Pennsylvania State Student Assistance Training) program, a new community policing program in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the "Get Out and Stay Alive" program presented on college campuses by the Acacia Fraternity (which is the only college fraternity that is Masonically related), we are extending our mission to support children on an unprecedented scale.

Brotherly Love: We have tried to create an atmosphere whereby you will want to come to a meeting to learn something and to enjoy yourself — in other words, have an "experience!" Administratively, we have asked lodges to condense the business portion of a meeting, much as we have done in Grand Lodge. We have tried to give lodges "tools" to exemplify the work excellently. Through the "Pennsylvania Charge," Bible presentation and welcoming a new member, "Rededication Ceremony," suggesting degree teams, and multiple conferral of degrees, we have sought to further the overall purpose of making Freemasonry something you will want to participate in and to help a new member feel truly like a brother when admitted to our organization.

Your Grand Lodge officers also have participated in an extension of this concept by trying to travel throughout the world to show our brethren wherever disbursed that we care and to enhance our knowledge of how great our Fraternity really is. The brethren who traveled to our December Quarterly from all over the world and, in particular, the large delegation from Russia, have shown us on a larger scale how Freemasonry is perceived elsewhere — how we are truly a worldwide brotherhood. As revealing — and as important — is the commitment others have made to our Fraternity and to what length others will extend themselves and their personal safety in its service. It has been a humbling experience.

One of our proudest accomplishments has been the computerization of Grand Lodge. They said it couldn't be done, my Brethren. But, through the efforts of our Grand Secretary and the Information Services staff, it is a reality. Much, much time and effort has gone into this project. I would ask that you give a special thanks to Bro. Don Albert, our Grand Secretary, for all that he has done. To date, more than 190 lodges and 38 District Deputy Grand Masters, as well as all your Grand Lodge officers, are on-line. This is a job more than well done!

Now, on to the future. During the next year we will continue to expand upon those precepts that are the glue that holds our Fraternity together by offering you more tools for your tool box.

Computerization will continue. We hope to conduct the first District Deputy Grand Master video conference this next year. Also, we still are working toward audit accountability with the ultimate goal being monthly input of financial data to the Grand Lodge. Thereafter, we hope to be able to push a button in Philadelphia and generate for you an audit report which you will only need to verify. What is now a more-than-laborious project will be completed easily. This is becoming a greater reality that we hope will become effective next year.

To improve the quality of knowledge of our members, there will be a continuation of the Academy. Regionally, the Ritual staff will pres-



EDITORIAL Communicating Brother to Brother

Blaine F. Fabiani, P.M., Editor

I wonder, when you read *The Pennsylvania Freemason*, if you have some of the same kinds of thoughts as I do; feel fraternal emotions when reading about our brothers' involvements in the Fraternity and the community, and experience a sense of gratitude for the values and benefits that are ours and our families because we are Masons?

I suspect most Masons do; but seldom do we extol it. What do we say if an inquiring friend asks, "Why should I be a Mason?" Or how, with brotherly love and affection, do we approach a dues-delinquent brother to remind him of the benefits that would be lost and offer the assistance of the lodge if there is a need for help. The gist of the answers to such questions is reflected in the lives and deeds of Masons — of you and me as Masons of today bolstered by what came before us in the historic lives and deeds of our predecessors.

The values, traditions, and principles that are so strong in Freemasonry and so vital in our lives today have existed "from time immemorial." We harken to Craft Masonry with its guilds of stonemasons in the Middle Ages as being a root from which the modern Masonic brotherhood evolved. The operative masons worked for perfection to become masters at their craft; to teach, guide, aid and assist their fellows; to show concern for families and widows — their own and those of their fellow workers — and to make the communities better. Our ancestors in America among the colonists, the framers of our nation, and so many brethren through the generations carried forth the traditions and principles for us to cherish and uphold.

FRIEND TO FRIEND/BROTHER TO BROTHER

New Tool Coming to Emphasize The Values of Being a Mason

"The Values of Brotherhood" is a very important message to be communicated.

In the "State of the Craft" message, R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugé, Jr. said, "Seven years ago, R.W.P.G.M. George H. Hohenschildt was father of the words, 'Friend to Friend.' Those words became an integral part of Pennsylvania's Masonic vocabulary ... (the) program was well received and utilized

by the Craft as it continues today."

Friend to Friend experiences suggest that many brethren are at a loss to discuss the benefits of Freemasonry when a curious relative, friend, or neighbor asks, "Why should I be a Mason?" There are good Masons who attend lodge infrequently and sometimes ponder why they continue to pay dues. They lose their appreciation for **The Values of Freemasonry** — for the benefits — tangible and intangible — that are theirs. In many cases, especially among older brethren, the spouse handles the household mail and pays the bills. She may set aside the Mason's routine lodge notice with the dues invoice enclosed or, without an appreciation for the benefits the Mason and his fam-

ily enjoy, she may question why he continues to pay his dues.

In keeping with Grand Master Dlugé's slogan of "The Old and The New," the **Friend to Friend** Program is being continued with an enhancement — that is adding to the term "**Friend to Friend**" the words "**Brother to Brother**." A new booklet that describes "The Values of Brotherhood" is being produced. Two copies will be provided for every member to remind him what benefits are his as a Freemason; what opportunities are open to the new Mason; what a brother would lose if he resigns or is suspended from the Fraternity. The booklet will be unique in that it will feature testimonials by fellow Masons speaking "**Brother to Brother**" about the values and benefits of brotherhood that they experience as Masons. The last page of the pamphlet will be a **Friend to Friend** fold-out which can be torn off so that an interested person — whether a friend or a brother — can send it to Grand Lodge requesting information about the Fraternity and have someone contact him. The booklet will be sent to all Pennsylvania Masons in mid-March. Look for it. Read and enjoy it! Keep in mind, the **Friend to Friend** effort remains in vogue, including the important use of the familiar brochure. Use them both!

As an adjunct, beginning on the next two pages and with each issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason* in 2001, we will be featuring several testimonials that will add emphasis to the values and benefits of being a Mason.

TRIUMPH OVER TRAGEDY

By Bro. Tom Glidden
Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682

This is a story about the impact of the Masonic Fraternity upon one individual life. It's the story of a young boy in the Depression years of the 1930's and the tragedy that shrouded his life. It's a story of the Masonic Fraternity removing that tragic shroud and literally giving him a new and infinitely better life. It's a story of "Triumph Over Tragedy" because of Masonry.

This boy's mother died when he was six years old. His father died when he was 14. But, there is more to this tragedy than becoming an orphan. When his father died, it was also the end of the household. He had no parents and no home — no place to live. In accordance with his father's will, a guardian was appointed. The guardian decided that heart-broken boy was to work for his room and board at a greenhouse and nursery owned by the guardian's sister.

The father's death was shortly before Christmas 1938. Soon after Christmas, the boy was digging and mixing fertilizer two or three hours after school each day, ten hours on Saturdays and six days a week in the Summer. That was a dramatic change in his lifestyle. Instead of free time to spend with friends, as all teenagers liked to do, he was busy with a shovel. Just a few weeks earlier, he was living in a 13-room house with a housekeeper; now, he was digging in the dirt and fertilizer in exchange for meals and a place to sleep in an unfinished attic. The digging and his school work left him little time to grieve, but the physical drain and the double trauma of losing his father and his home were just overwhelming. He had no hope that the future would be any better.

How do you get out of a mess like that? ... during the Great Depression of the 1930's!

With the help of the Masonic Fraternity, the boy was saved from a horrible life and a hopeless future...because his father was a Master Mason.

How could that turn his tragedy into triumph? One evening, a man from his father's Masonic lodge came to see him. The Mason had a brochure and an application for Patton Masonic School in Elizabethtown and he described all of the many features and advantages of Patton School. It all seemed just too good to be true!

The brochure described Patton's 160-acre campus two miles from the center of Elizabethtown. Two dormitories housed 60 boys, two in each room. The classrooms and shops were about 200 yards from the dorms. Compared to a high school, Patton had a longer school day and a longer



recess for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. The Summer recess was the same. There was an incentive plan to increase the length of the holiday recesses through high grades and good behavior. The three-year course included 3,000 hours of training in a trade and 400 hours of mechanical drawing. But, unlike other trade schools, all of the college entrance requirements were included. All of the usual high school sports were available. The students were free to leave the campus in the evenings and on weekends. All of this with no tuition — no cost.

His father's lodge made all of the arrangements and when the school year began in September, the boy traded his shovel for Patton. He found that everything was even better than he had hoped. The dormitory rooms were comfortable and spacious. There was a library and a large paneled recreation room in each dormitory. The food was great; there were only 12 boys in each academic class, and about half that many in each shop class. In the various sports, about half of the games were with high schools and half with private boarding schools (prep schools) in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland. The boys liked it at Patton. An important factor was that every man on the staff was a Master Mason — and he cared! During those formative teenage years, their positive influence, guidance, and direction were priceless. Imagine a school where every teacher, every coach, every member of the staff was imbued with the great Masonic principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.

The work ethic was taught in the shops and in the dormitories. Each boy cleaned his bedroom and small part of the dorm before school every day. That usually took about 20 minutes and there was a two-hour work session on Saturday morning. The work programs, along with a demerit system, taught responsibility. The students soon learned that they were responsible for their actions and failure to comply with the rules resulted in a penalty — just as it does in adult life.

At Patton School, the Masonic Fraternity

truly did provide him a "Triumph Over Tragedy" because he received the foundation for his future life. He had lived in the Scranton-Wilkes Barre area for 15 years before going to Patton and when he was graduated, he no longer had any family to return to there. Shortly after his graduation, Philadelphia Electric Company contacted the three trade schools that they considered to be the best in eastern Pennsylvania, one of which was Patton. They selected four seniors with machine shop training from each school. From that group of 12, they planned to hire a total of two. PECO gave each of those young men a six-hour battery of tests and a series of interviews. As an indication of the effectiveness of the training at Patton, PECO decided to hire all four of the young men from Patton instead of just hiring two as they had planned. This young man, with his 3,000 hours of machine shop training was one of the four selected. With a machinist's tool box and a full set of precision tools provided by his father's Masonic lodge, he began a machinist apprenticeship with PECO. They gave him 3,000 hours of credit towards their 8,000-hour apprenticeship.

He went into the Army in WW II. After his basic training, he went to two different Army machine shop schools and an instructor training school, spent most of the war as a machine shop instructor at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, and went to the Philippines near the end of the war. He was convinced that it was because of his Patton training that he was selected for the Army schools and the instructor job. After the war, he became an instructor at PECO and, after some 20 years at Temple University Evening School, was in charge of a staff at PECO responsible for training and testing men in 12 different trades. He had a very challenging and rewarding career. But, he knows that any success he had is because of the grace of God and the foundation laid at Patton.

That foundation resulted in many material benefits in his life; but more importantly, a provision in Mr. Patton's will also provided many spiritual benefits — that Bible instruction would be mandatory at the school he endowed. In a three-



year course, the entire Bible was studied. To a great extent, this is why this fellow became a lay preacher for 35 years. Attendance at Sunday School also was required, which led to the most important thing in his life. An incredibly wonderful girl attended the same Sunday School. Now, they have been married for many years.

This has not been the story about some mythical student at Patton School. Sixty-two years ago, I was that 15-year old boy. And, for 62 years, I have been continually thankful that my father was a Mason. If my father had not been a Mason, how do you think I would have gotten rid of that fertilizer shovel? Try to imagine what I might have been without Patton Masonic School. I cannot find adequate words to express my gratitude to the Masonic Fraternity for its influence in my life.

Fifty years after my being graduated from Patton School, we returned to Elizabethtown. In January, 1991 we moved into our new cottage in the Retirement Living Community at the Masonic Homes.

The entrance to our community is from a hilltop road at the highest point on the 1,400-acre Masonic Homes grounds. When I was a student at Patton, many times I walked to the top of that hill. There, I enjoyed looking down on the Masonic Homes. At the right (today) is the 550-bed Masonic Health Care Center; to the left is the Residential Living Community, with its beautiful granite buildings and the 400-seat Sell Chapel, all arranged around the Village Green. Looking past that, I was able to see the majestic Grand Lodge Hall with its 40-foot high ceiling in the dining hall. Below that, I would see the magnificent formal gardens.

Stranding on that hill, I not only saw the vast panorama of the Masonic Homes, but I also saw another hill that rises from the other side of the valley below. On that other hill, I saw my beloved alma mater, Patton Masonic School. Fifty years ago my future wife and I liked to go for a walk on Sunday afternoon. We especially liked to walk on that hilltop road above the Masonic Homes and look from one hill to the other. Sixty years later, we are so glad that we can now walk about 200 yards from our cottage to that same hilltop road and, again, look from one hill to the other.

Those two hills represent a lot more than just wonderful memories. The two hills are the key to understanding my very full life. On one hill, I experienced "Triumph Over Tragedy" because my father was a Mason. On the other hill, our lives will continue to be enriched because I am a Mason.

FREEMASONRY EMULATES REAL VALUE

By Bro. Irv Bressler
Williamson Lodge No. 307,
Womelsdorf, PA



The values of brotherhood set the course of my life. Freemasonry taught me to be an upstanding man in my community, love and honor my country, help those less fortunate, and be the man God intends us all to be!

The lessons we learned in Freemasonry should guide us throughout our lives. This is a testimony to our Fraternity which taught me to be what I am today...to serve mankind...to know there are brethren who believe as I do and would be there should I need help. I wouldn't give it up.

My wife and I have volunteered in numerous programs involving youth: the Prison Society's Juvenile Program, United Way, and two Children's Homes. Why? Because Freemasonry taught me to be a force within the community, to show by example the way we should love one another.

Our activities have imbued in me gratitude for the gifts, character, benefits and values that Freemasonry taught me to look for and use throughout the years. It has taught me to be a "father to the fatherless." We have two "adopted daughters" who were fatherless. Both had a father at one time, but they disappeared from their lives. My wife helped me see the needs of those young girls and we welcomed them into our family. We showed them that there are "fathers" who do not deceive their children and stick with them through tough times. I have not run away from the challenge, because Freemasonry and God have taught me never to give up in service to others.

Freemasonry is not a religion; it requires no one to be of a certain faith. It embraces all religions, only requiring that we believe in God, whatever we perceive Him to be. Freemasonry is a way of life. Let us all learn to live it as such.

continued on page 20

continued on page 5

Eight New District Deputy Grand Masters, One New Aide Appointed by Grand Master

During the December Quarterly Communication, Robert L. Duge, Jr., R.W. Grand Master announced the appointment of eight new District Deputy Grand Masters and one Aide to the Grand Master.



1st Masonic District
Charles T. Graham, P.M.
Frankford Lodge No. 292
Tacoma, Philadelphia, PA



8th Masonic District
Jesus A. Rodriguez, P.M.
Fairless Hills Lodge No. 776
Fairless Hills, PA



13th Masonic District
Gordon M. Conniff, P.M.
Hyde Park Lodge No. 339
Scranton, PA



26th Masonic District
Robert S. Marzano, Jr., P.M.
Elwood Lodge No. 599
Elwood City, PA



35th Masonic District
Henry L. Leshner, P.D.D.G.M., P.M.
Pulaski Lodge No. 216
Pottsville, PA



38th Masonic District
Norman E. Flaherty, P.M.
Friendship Lodge No. 663
Fawn Grove, PA



53rd Masonic District
Timothy P. Templeton, P.M.
Hermitage Lodge No. 810
Hermitage, PA



55th Masonic District
Thomas S. Revesz, P.M.
Franklin-St. John's Trinity Lodge No. 221
Pittsburgh, PA



Aide to the Grand Master
Ray W. Rothermel
Cedar Lodge No. 378
Mt. Carmel, PA

Perseverance Lodge Helps Buy Thermal Camera

Bro. John R. Weikle (left), of Perseverance Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg, and Chief of the Lawton Fire Co., Swatara Twp., demonstrates a thermal imaging camera to Mitchell L. Smith, W.M., who had presented a check for \$5,000 from the lodge to help purchase the unit. The thermal imaging camera allows firemen to locate victims trapped in burning buildings in less time than by conventional search techniques, especially in darkness and heavy smoke conditions.



Golf Tourney Nets \$13,800 for Children's Home

Representing lodges in Philadelphia and the Philadelphia area, Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr. (left), R.W. Deputy Grand Master and Honorary Tournament Chairman, joined by Dale H. Fera (center), D.D.G.M., Masonic District E. Tournament Committee Chairman, presented a check for \$13,800 to Gilson "Buz" Cash, Director of the Masonic Homes Children's Home, Elizabethtown. The contribution represents the proceeds for the Philadelphia Area's Masonic Charity Golf Tournament held at Lulu Country Club, Oct. 13.



Pennsylvania Lodge of Research Warranted by Grand Lodge of PA

The Pennsylvania Lodge of Research was warranted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania effective St. John's Day, Dec. 27, 2000, and Thomas W. Jackson, R.W.P.G.S., was named Warrant Master. The new Research Lodge is open to all Master Masons belonging to a lodge in any jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania Masons under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be regarded as full members and those from other jurisdictions will be associate members.

The Lodge of Research will meet twice a year at different locations within the state. All who join within the Masonic

year 2001 will be charter members. Since a Lodge of Research is not a Craft Lodge, it does not interfere with, or count as, a dual membership.

The initiation fee is \$50, which will include a member's jewel, and the annual dues will be \$25. To join the Research Lodge, a Master Mason must contact Mrs. Joanne Ford in the Office of Masonic Education to request a petition. After the applicant receives the petition, he must complete it, acquire verification of membership by his lodge secretary, and return it with the initiation fee and dues to: the Office of Masonic Education, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107.

Large Attendance Expected For Spring Sessions of PA Academy of Freemasonry

PENNSYLVANIA PAF ACADEMY OF FREEMASONRY

The Spring 2001 sessions of the Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry will be conducted in March. The School for Ritual will be Saturday, Mar. 10, in New Castle and the Seminar for Wardens and the Academy of Masonic Knowledge will be Saturday, Mar. 17, in Elizabethtown.

The first two sessions of The Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry were extremely well attended. Indeed they were "full houses." Since a similar response is anticipated for the sessions this Spring, advance registration (adjoining coupon) is important.

Academy of Masonic Knowledge

Thomas W. Jackson, R.W.P.G.S. and Chairman of the Academy said that the brethren will be able to hear two outstanding Masons. The Academy of Masonic Knowledge will feature the topic of "Religion and Freemasonry" highlighted by two clergymen who are renowned Masonic experts, Neville B. Cryer and Gary Leazer. The sessions will be held in the new Freemasons Cultural Center just completed on the Masonic Homes campus. The program will conclude with a discussion and question and answer period.

Bro. Cryer, a noted English Masonic author, is the General Director of the British and Foreign Bible School, a Prestonian Lecturer, and recipient of numerous Masonic honors. Dr. Leazer, an ordained Southern Baptist minister, is the founder and President of the Center for Interfaith Studies, Inc. He is the author of two books concerning the Southern Baptist controversy with Freemasonry. In addition, Bro. Leazer is a member of the steering committee of the Masonic Information Center, Silver Spring, MD.

The Seminar for Wardens

Again, the Junior and Senior Wardens Seminar is designed to be a concise, one-day training program that will give the leaders of all lodges in Pennsylvania an opportunity to learn what their jobs entail while progressing through the line and to be able to plan fully for service to the Fraternity. In a circumstance where a warden cannot, or does not, plan to attend, it is recommended that the lodge have a deacon attend. Edward O. Welser, R.W.P.G.M., Chairman of the Masonic Training and Education Committee, reiterated, "When the wardens leave the seminar, they will be prepared to be quality leaders of their lodges."

The School for Ritual

The School for Ritual session of The Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry will be held at New Castle in western Pennsylvania on Saturday, Mar. 10, one week before the other Academy sessions. This School for Ritual is the first of eight ritualistic school sessions that will be held across the state during Spring 2001. In the adjoining column is a box listing all of those School of Ritual dates.

Dates For Ritualistic Schools

The Director of Ritualistic Work, Larry A. Buzzard, announced the Spring dates for Sectional Schools.

Mar. 10*	New Castle - Ritual Only <i>PA Academy of Freemasonry</i>
Mar. 17	Washington, PA
Mar. 24	Scranton
Mar. 31	Harrisburg
Apr. 7	Jamestown, PA
Apr. 21	Punxsutawney
Apr. 28	Philadelphia
May 5	Williamsport

* **NOTE** The first session in New Castle will be conducted in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Academy of Knowledge. Participants for that Sectional School should complete and submit the registration coupon below.

Registration for the Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry

Advance registration is necessary to facilitate planning and arrangements for The Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry. Please complete the coupon and send it to the Office of Masonic Education, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

☐ I plan to attend a Session of the Pennsylvania Academy of Freemasonry

I will attend the following session:

- ☐ School of Ritual in New Castle on March 10
- ☐ Seminar for Wardens, Freemasons Cultural Center, Masonic Homes campus on March 17
- ☐ Academy of Masonic Knowledge, Freemasons Cultural Center on March 17

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Lodge: _____

Deadline for Reservations is February 23, 2001

Grand Master Announces Distinctive Award For Saving Human Life

During the December Quarterly Communication, R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., announced the creation of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Thomson Award for Saving a Human Life and displayed the distinctive silver cup that will be presented to recipients. The honor will be awarded to a member of the fraternity who was responsible primarily for saving the life of a fellow human being. It is to be presented with the same dignity and honor conferred by the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal for Distinguished Service to Freemasonry and the John Wamunaker Masonic Humanitarian Medal presented to citizen-servants who are not members of the Fraternity.

The Thomson award is not designated necessarily for a highly dramatic rescue, although it is in the Masonic character for personal safety to be cast aside in order to aid another in distress. Heroism and valor are often the products of preparedness and opportunity. While saving the life of a fellow human being may involve risk, strength, and courage, more often it is a

result of the knowledge and practice of basic first aid and rescue skills.

The award is named for Bro. John Thomson, a Past Master of Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia. He served as R.W. Grand Master in 1861-1862. During his Masonic career, Bro. Thomson was well acquainted with the financing and details of the construction of the Masonic Temple at One North Broad St. Throughout his 63 years as a Mason, he served as a lodge officer for 26 years and a Grand Lodge

Bro. John Thomson, P.M.

officer for 30 years. In fact, Bro. Thomson has been the only individual to ever serve in all six elected offices of the Grand Lodge: first as R.W. Grand Treasurer and finally as R.W. Grand Secretary after serving in the line and as R.W. Grand Master.

He was a common man with little schooling who developed a respected trade as a cooper and became a successful businessman and leader in Philadelphia. Because of his occupation, his presence on the wharves of Philadelphia gave him many opportunities to rescue from drowning per-

sons who fell from the docks. For those feats the Humane Society of Philadelphia presented him with a silver cup. Today it is not known what the silver cup looked like, but it may be presumed to have been shaped like a two-handed loving cup, the form of the traditional trophy cup still used today when bestowing distinction and honor.

For presentation of each award, the name of the recipient will be inscribed. The message of recognition on the cup reads: "In commemoration of Brother John Thomson's unselfish acts of service, we present to you this silver cup to celebrate your response to the call of Masonic duty by hastening to the rescue, and saving a human life."

The Thomson Award was designed at the direction of Grand Master Dlugie. It is a sterling silver cup, hand-crafted by Wendell August Forge Co. of Grove City. It bears a unique emblem which combines the square and compasses, the first aid cross, and the keystone thematically portraying the themes of "Brother Love, Relief, and Truth." The emblem is joined with the seal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania by a cable tow, the age-old symbol of the distance a Mason is to go in service to his fellow man.



Pennsylvania Franklin Medal Presented to Carl R. Flohr

During the Date Stone ceremonies at the Masonic Homes on Autumn Day, Sept. 23, R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., presented the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal to Carl R. Flohr, P.M., George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg. Bro. Flohr has been active in the Fraternity for many years in his lodge and Grand Lodge and is a diligent member of the Committee on Masonic Homes and a benefactor of the Masonic Homes and Masonic Charities.

The Franklin Medal, the most distinguished honor awarded by the Grand

Lodge of Pennsylvania, is presented to those who have rendered outstanding service to the Craft. It is named for Bro. Benjamin Franklin who served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1734 and 1749.

Bro. Flohr was made a Mason in 1953 and served as Worshipful Master in 1960. In addition to his Blue Lodge activities, Bro. Flohr served as Most Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix in the Scottish Rite Valley of Harrisburg in 1979-1980. He was coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member, of the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, in 1981.

In York Rite, Bro. Flohr served as Most Excellent High Priest of Royal Arch Chapter No. 176 in 1968; as Thrice Illustrious Master of George Washington Council No. 60 in 1968; and as Eminent Commander of Continental Commandery No. 56 in 1973.

He also is a member of York Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine; Erin

Council No. 6, Knight Masons of the United States; Rex Council No. 47, Allied Masonic Degrees; Pennsylvania York Rite College No. 11, Penn Priory No. 6, Knights of the York Cross of Honor; the Royal Order of Scotland; Pennsylvania Council of Anointed Kings; Valley Forest No. 145, Tall Cedars of Lebanon; and Zemo Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.

He is a successful businessman. His principal businesses have been home-building, land development, swimming pool installation, and real estate. During his career he has been honored and received the Pennsylvania Builder of the Year Award, an award as the Outstanding National Representative in the U.S.A. by the Home Builders Association, and an Outstanding Service Award by the National Swimming Pool Association.

He is a life-long resident of the Chambersburg area. He and his wife, Arlene (in photo at left) have three sons and a daughter.



History of Iwo Jima Square Club Among Estate Vet Left to Lodge

Fifty-six years ago, Feb. 19, 1945, the first wave of U.S. Armed Forces stormed ashore heading for Suribachi, Iwo Jima. Last June, that date in history was recalled to Robert L. Engel, who serves as Chaplain and Chairman of the Visitation and Assistance Committee of Armstrong Lodge No. 239, Freeport. Bro. Engel, who is a member of the Committee on Masonic Homes, also is an M.E. Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

Bro. Engel's own story best explains the circumstances:

"I was asked to visit a brother of my Lodge who had been admitted recently to a local nursing home in the Kittanning area. I did so in June 2000 and reported to my brethren that when I introduced myself to him, I was wearing a U.S. Navy cap with the outline of a destroyer and a hull number and name upon it. This brother then spoke for over one hour about his duty in the U.S. Marines which culminated in his being on Iwo Jima!

"After my lodge brother died, and having no immediate relatives, he left his entire estate to Armstrong Lodge No. 239. Most unusual! He named the Worshipful Master (at the time of death) as the Executor or another Brother of the Lodge, if the Master appointed him. Among the artifacts of Brother Gilbert Patterson was a photocopy of a history (printed at right) of a most unusual and perhaps rare Masonic Square Club founded during actual battle in 1945 and apparently existing only from Mar. 5, 1945 to Sept. 2, 1945, with 163 charter members, growing to 1,054 brethren on V-J Day, with representatives from every Masonic Grand Jurisdiction. How about that?"

Brethren Take Notice

The next Quarterly Communication will be 10 a.m., Saturday, June 16, in the Penn Stater Conference Center and Hotel, State College.

There will be no Quarterly Communication in March.

History and Roster of the Suribachi Square Club, Iwo Jima (sic) Founded 1945

Foreword

TO OUR FELLOW BROTHERS:

This little book is being sent that it may be a partial record of the many friends and friendly meetings that brought each of us together a little closer while serving our country.

In peace, we once again become separated far from these scenes, to go our respective ways, and take our places of responsibility as civilians. May a purusal (sic) of these pages bring you instantly back at least in memory, to those days you spent on Iwo Jima (sic).

History of Suribachi Square Club from March 5, 1945 to V-J Day, September 2, 1945

"Where two or more of us have gathered together in Thy name, Thou shalt be with us."

The fundamental and basic principles of Masonry have been known to thrive under most unusual circumstances and in unusual places but perhaps none is more unusual a place than on a battlefield. Yet, such were the circumstances under which the Suribachi Square Club of Iwo Jima was founded, first of such Masonic clubs to be organized within the Japanese Empire.

On March 5, 1945, with artillery blasting nearby and shells screaming overhead, seventeen Master Masons gathered together in the pledge of fellowship to organize this club.

At the second meeting of the club on March 12, 1945, Temporary Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order for the purpose of electing the first group of officers. W.C. Elliott was elected President, Lester A. Dent, 1st Vice-President, and Walter E. Frezon, Secretary-Treasurer. At a subsequent meeting, Harry J. Wilbur was elected 2nd Vice President and P. J. McKay 3rd Vice President.

The Constitution and By-Laws were drawn up by a committee composed of H.L. Dreher, chairman; Lester A. Dent, L. P. Burrows, Walter E. Frezon and J. G. Umberger, and they were approved by the membership of the club during its fourth meeting, March 26, 1945. At this time, invitations had been extended to all Master Masons in the many service groups of the island. Although conditions prevented many from attending these early meetings, the club had grown to include, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws, 163 charter members.

As further invitations were extended and knowledge of the Club spread over the island, this tiny group grew with leaps and bounds until, on V-J Day, the membership had grown to include 1,054 brethren. With such a membership, it was interesting to discover that at many meetings, there were representatives from every Grand Jurisdiction in the United States, as well as from numerous other North, Central, and South American countries. Representation was also present from each branch of the Armed Forces.

Recreational facilities were meager, and a permanent meeting place could not be obtained, so the club met each Monday evening by invitation in the facilities made available by the various organizations on the island. On July 2, 1945, a permanent meeting place was finally obtained, and although the club still met as it had previously, the beginning of a permanent chapter hall had been found.

At the meeting of July 2, 1945, the second set of officers was elected. Replacing the charter officers were: P. J. McKay, President; Everett Dean, 1st Vice President; Donald C. Singe, 2nd Vice President; Maurice B. Kite, 3rd Vice President; Dan T. Hancock, Secretary-Treasurer and Howard R. Rubin, Asst. Secretary-Treasurer.

The spirit of fraternal fellowship and our associations brought about through the Club were indeed shining lights during our stay on Iwo Jima. Membership in this club is something that all of us will treasure; and although the time we spent together here in true Masonic brotherhood was relatively short, it was worth infinitely more than all the efforts expended.

The roster of Charter Members of the Suribachi Square Club of Iwo Jima included one Pennsylvania Mason, William L. Dace of Philadelphia, listed as a member of the (former) Excelsior Lodge No. 491.

The Club designated four Honorary Members, including "Harry S. Truman, President of the U.S.A., White House, Washington D.C."

Masons of Note

Both in their U.S. Air Force uniforms of World War II, **Chester W. Brown, P.M.** (left), and **Edward H. Livsey**, were featured in honoring veterans during the November stated meeting of Washington Lodge No. 265, Bloomsburg. Bro. Brown, a member of Isaac Hiester Lodge No. 660, Reading, but now a resident of the Bloomsburg area, addressed the brethren on the history of Armistice Day, now Veterans Day. Clarinetist Bro. Livsey, of Washington Lodge, played the National Anthem as he does after the flag ceremony at every stated meeting.



There are three generations of **William E. Harner** in Boyertown Lodge No. 741 and now the youngest, **William E. Harner, IV**, is Worshipful Master. The eldest is **Rev. William E. Harner, Jr.**, pastor of Good Shepherd Church in Boyertown, and the other is **William E. Harner, III**, an active committee member in the lodge.

Jack Greenberg, a long-time member of Solomon Lodge No. 231, Pittsburgh, is serving as the president of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. The well known professional magician, who has entertained at his lodge events a number of times, was featured several months ago in a human interest feature in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

Past Master Confers All Degrees on Son and Grandson



Past Master Charles W. A. Mohacey, Jr. (second from left) conferred all three degrees for his son, Paul D. (left) and grandson, Jason (second from right) in April, May, and September in Tacony Lodge No. 600, Philadelphia. At right is another son and member of Tacony Lodge, also named Jason, who is the father of the new Master Mason.



Lodge 417's A.E.D. Gift Is Banquet Topic

When Christiana Lodge No. 417 donated an Automated External Defibrillator (A.E.D.) to the Christiana Community Ambulance Association, a demonstration and explanation of its life-saving importance by Andy Weik, an Emergency Medical Technician, were featured at the lodge's annual banquet. Douglas M. Wiker, D.D.G.M., 1st Masonic District, and officers of Christiana Lodge were joined by officials of the Ambulance Association for a formal presentation of the unit. Pictured are (l-r): Arthur K. Armstrong, S.W.; Norman W. Henry, Treas.; John L. Feister, P.M., Representative to Grand Lodge; John M. Glenn, Jr., J.D.; Daniel S. Edwards, J.W.; Charles R. Eavenson, W.M.; Robert Dowlin, Ambulance Assn. Supervisor of Operations; Robert Laffey, a member of the Ambulance Assn. Board of Directors; Robert Rentz, Ambulance Association Treasurer; William H. Brown, Chaplain; James D. Martin, S.D.; and D.D.G.M. Wiker.



Lodge No. 536 Completes \$100,000 Pledge

John M. Read Lodge No. 536, Reynoldsville, made its final \$20,000 donation to the Reynoldsville Public Library, culminating its \$100,000 pledge made in 1996. Norman Smith, P.M. and Bro. Frank Bussard (front) present a check to Michael Antonetti, President of the Library. Lodge members at the presentation are (l-r): Front - John Clark; Mark Myers, W.M.; Herman Frost, J.D.; and Fred Deemer, P.M. Middle row - Bradley Wells, S.D.; Jack Yohe, S.W.; Richard Smith, P.M.; Murel Bell; Jason Murray; and Robert Vizza, Treas. Back row - Michael Whelpley, J.W.; Dwight Bell, P.M.; John McMillen, P.M.; Walter Schuckers, P.M.; and Ray Uplinger.



Lodge No 298 Sponsors Hunter Safety Training



George Bartram-Paul Sand Lodge No. 298, Media, joined with the Pennsylvania Game Commission to co-sponsor a hunter safety program at the Masonic Hall. More than 100 persons received training and education including firearms safety and handling, handgun safety, trapping safety and techniques, first aid and survival, and bow and arrow safety. The program is required for hunters to receive certification in order to apply for and receive hunting licenses. Pictured are two registrants from Prospect Park (foreground), John and Linda McCafferty, with Joseph Dorish of the Game Commission (left) and Bernard Miller and Edmond McCorkle of George Bartram-Paul Sand Lodge No. 298.

The hunter safety program is one of a number of community service projects by the Masons in Media. They also provide scholarship funds to seniors at Penncrest High School, funding the Media Little League, sponsor a youth in the Media Soap Box Derby, and are working with the parent-teachers group at an elementary school to refurbish and re-equip the playground.

Freemasonry, Masonic Homes at Bloomsburg Fair

Thanks to a group of community-minded brethren, Pennsylvania Freemasonry and the Masonic Homes were prominently displayed at the Bloomsburg Fair 2000. The Masons, all of whom except one are members of Washington Lodge No. 265, voluntarily joined the staff from the Masonic Homes to help at the display for the eight-day fair. All but two of the members of the Board of Directors



of the Bloomsburg Fair are Pennsylvania Masons. Pictured at the Masonic Homes display are (l-r): Front - Rodman R. Raiston, David R. Millard, Frederick T. Trump, and Fred L. Whitenight, Jr.; center - James C. Reed, S.W., William G. Boughter, P.M., Todd D. Lehman, John H. Flick, and Fred C. Heydenreich; rear - Harry Roadarmel, Jr., Robert C. Beishline, Kent D. Shelhammer, Earl E. Davis, and William E. Streater.

Now It's Three Generations in Shrewsbury Lodge

When Paul Hostetter (second from left) was made a Mason at age 84, the three generations of the family are members of Shrewsbury Lodge No. 423 and Past Master Ronald F. Hoffman (center) is proud to have raised all four of them. The new Mason's son, Gary G. (second from right), and two grandsons, Lance (left) and Gary G., Jr. (right) were present when the Master Mason's Degree was conferred.



Fernwood Lodge Celebrates 125th Anniversary



The 125th anniversary banquet of Fernwood Lodge No. 543 in the Grand Banquet Hall of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia on Oct. 21 was a gala function. Virgil D. Penn, III, P.M. (second from left), reads an excerpt from his book, "The History of Fernwood Lodge No. 543," during the program before the banquet. At left is S. W. Peter D. Bachowsky, P.M., and to the right are John R. Miller, P.M., D.D.G.M., Masonic District B, and Mark L. Belas, W.M., Fernwood Lodge.

New Event Coordinator Will Facilitate Reserving Space, Services at Masonic Homes

To improve service to the Masonic Fraternity, on Jan. 1 the Masonic Homes instituted centralized scheduling for the many spaces and services available for use throughout its facilities, i.e.: the Formal Gardens, Oak Grove, Masonic Lodge, Temple Dining Room, Deike Auditorium, White Ballroom, Masonic Conference Center, and tours, just to name some.

With the construction of the Freemasons Cultural Center scheduled to be completed in March, more space will be available to be reserved. Many times, various Masonic Homes staff personnel must be contacted to make reservations depending upon which area or service is being requested. Centralized scheduling will simplify the reservation process.

Richard E. Whitman, Jr., a member of Mt. Lebanon Lodge, No. 226, Lebanon, has been designated the Event Coordinator for the Masonic Homes and is providing that service. Bro. Whitman previously was the Conference Coordinator for the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation. To reserve service or space at the Masonic Homes, or for more information about scheduling, contact him at (717) 367-1121, ext. 33151, or write to him at the Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

A key to happiness in retirement years could be to look no further than the Masonic Homes. A Masonic Homes counselor can unlock the door to a new home in the residential living area. Offering the privacy of your own room with common areas used by all residents, residential living accommodations provide the perfect community setting for people who desire the following amenities. Use the checklist below to determine if you are ready for us to meet your needs:

- ☐ I want to remain independent.
- ☐ Housekeeping assistance would be helpful to me.
- ☐ I no longer want to do home maintenance and repairs.
- ☐ I would enjoy meeting new people in a social setting.
- ☐ I would enjoy planned recreational and social activities.
- ☐ I would like meals prepared for me.
- ☐ I would appreciate transportation services.
- ☐ I am willing to move from where I live now.
- ☐ I would feel safer in a community.
- ☐ Health care services are important to me.

If you or someone you know might enjoy this lifestyle, contact the Admissions and Resident Services Office at (800) 422-1207 or mail in the coupon below. "We look forward to turning the key that just might unlock the door to your carefree future!" Personal tours are available by appointment.



Send me more information about Residential Living at the Masonic Homes.

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

Complete coupon and return to:
Admissions & Resident Services, Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

"Some day you will find out that there is far more happiness in another's happiness than in your own. It is something I cannot explain, something within that sends a glow of warmth all through you." — Honore de Balzac

Perhaps you made a New Year's resolution to share your time, talents, or interests with others through some type of volunteer work. If so, the Masonic home closest to you will welcome your support. Here are some of the ways that you can help:

As the number of individuals receiving services increases, so does the need for helping hands. Volunteer needs at the Masonic Homes include: freshening ice pitchers on resident care units; escorting residents to in-house appointments; activities, on walks or to the gift shop, library, or worship services; delivering mail; assisting with crafts, ceramics, socials, visitations, and music therapy; writing and reading letters; serving as sales attendants in the gift shop; and serving on committees or assisting with various aspects of the Eden Alternative™ process, which seeks to add variety, spontaneity, and companionship to residents' lives.

If any of these opportunities sound rewarding and enjoyable to you, please call the Director, Volunteer Services, at (717) 367-1121 extension 33175, to begin sharing your services.

Various opportunities at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East await the right volunteers to share his and her time and talents. On Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 1:30 p.m., the residents and staff would appreciate assistance with bingo. Saturday mornings at 10 is the perfect time for a coffee/tea and cookies social — volunteers are needed to assist with this activity, as well as playing the piano or some other musical instrument for the residents' enjoyment. On Sundays at 10 a.m., volunteers are requested to help with "Coffee and the News," a leisurely time to read the newspaper to residents while enjoying a cup of java.

If you can make a difference in residents' lives, either through participation in one of these services or in a different way, please call the Activity Director at (215) 672-2500.

The Masonic Eastern Star Home-West welcomes those interested in joining its dedicated group of volunteers. Opportunities include building meaningful one-on-one relationships through visitations; leading *Bible* studies, crafts, or ceramics; playing cards or musical instruments; and escorting residents on shopping trips. Some of the gentlemen residents especially would benefit from male companions to play pool, darts, and golf-putting.

Bring your creativity, skills, and ideas with you! To participate, please call the Activity Director at (412) 931-8300.

The Masonic Village at Sewickley invites volunteers to help with resident activities such as escorting residents to therapy appointments and worship services, and on outings. Individuals who would like to develop relationships with residents are welcomed to visit — and pet visitations are requested as well. If you can play a musical instrument, have an interesting collection to share, or possess some other talent, the residents would appreciate your company. Clerical help is another needed support function.

To share your interest in volunteering at the Masonic Village at Sewickley, please call the Activity Director at (412) 741-1400.

Experience the warmth of giving and receiving the gift of happiness throughout 2001!



A Pictured is the Brossman Ballroom that is part of the Freemasons Cultural Center. Upon its completion in March, the facility will provide seating for up to 1,200 persons.



As of December 2000, the terrace and ground levels of the Star Points Building were under construction. The new building with four levels will connect to the Valley Care Masonic Center, and will offer 60 assisted living accommodations when it opens in October 2001.

In Elizabethtown, the Village Green Area Construction project is nearing completion. Adjoining pictures show the progress as of December 2000. As of March 5, visitors to the Masonic Homes will have one more option for casual dining when visiting with friends and relatives. The new café in the Freemasons Cultural Center will feature a variety of foods and desserts. More details about this project and the official opening of these areas will be presented in future issues of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*.

The construction of the Star Points Building at the Masonic Village at Sewickley is progressing on schedule, with an opening planned for October 2001. Photos of the construction as of December 2000 are shown.

➤ The Freemasons Cultural Center, pictured under construction in December 2000, will also open in March. This area will encompass the new museum, new recreation areas, newly renovated Deike Auditorium and White Ballroom, Visitor's Center, café, staff offices, and the Masonic Homes' Child Care Center.

SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

On Friday, Mar. 16 and Friday, Oct. 12, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will host a Seminar for Attorneys, CPAs, and Financial Planners at the Masonic Conference Center, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, PA. Applications are being considered to offer six CEUs (Continuing Educational Units) for professionals in the legal, accounting, and financial planning fields.

The information-packed agenda will include presentations on the following topics: Elder Law, Estate Planning, Advanced Directives, and Power of Attorney (POA).

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the seminar will start at 9 a.m. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. The seminar will conclude at 4 p.m.

The cost for this seminar is \$25 per person. All attorneys, CPAs, and financial planners are welcome to attend.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, Feb. 28 for the Mar. 16 seminar, or by Sept. 21 for the Oct. 12 seminar. Reservations should be sent to Mrs. Lori Seiders, Director, Organization, Development & Training at the Masonic Homes, by sending the information requested, along with a check made payable to "Masonic Homes," or a credit card number to: Mrs. Lori Seiders, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, Fax #: (717) 361-5300.

Address any questions to Mrs. Seiders at (717) 367-1121, ext. 33697 or 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. Please make copies of the registration form for additional participants.

Name _____

Nickname for Badge _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

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

Seminar Date (check): ☐ March 16 ☐ October 12

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

Bro. Heinrichs "Retires" to His Golf Club Shop in Retirement

"Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" aptly describes retirement living for Bro. Robert Heinrichs of MacCalla Lodge No. 596, Souderton. Since moving to retirement living at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, Bro. Heinrichs has the time, freedom, and flexibility to pursue his favorite hobby — golf!

Being a man of action, Bro. Heinrichs is acting upon interests that he has always enjoyed but never quite had the time to pursue. Today, Bro. Heinrichs is perfecting the skill he learned some time ago — refinishing golf clubs and now, making custom golf clubs. When a friend discovered he had nowhere to go to have his clubs refinished, Bro. Heinrichs offered to give it a try. What began as an attempt to help a friend eventually gave birth to a business, and his business prospered as word spread of his outstanding workmanship. In September 1999, Bro. Heinrichs attended Golfsmith School in Austin, Texas, which enabled him to become a certified clubmaker.

Bro. Heinrichs and his wife, Carol, and their poodle, Putter, moved into their new cottage in retirement living last May. Living in a two-bedroom cottage, Bro. Heinrichs is able to continue refinishing and making golf clubs by setting up his workshop in the basement. He did not have to give up anything when moving to retirement living, and, in fact, he gained the freedom to choose what he wanted to do!

What does retirement living mean to Bro. Heinrichs? Golf, golf, and more time for golf!



Bro. Heinrichs finishes work on a set of golf clubs in the basement workshop of his Residential Living cottage.

To learn more about how retirement offers the freedom to pursue life, liberty, and happiness at the Masonic Homes, call the Marketing Office at (800) 676-6452 or mail in the coupon.

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

You Can Still Find "Gentle-men"

Clad in Charles Dickens-era capes, red scarves, white gloves and top hats, 25 retire-



ment living residents of the Masonic Homes spread messages of holiday joy around the Elizabethtown campus and in the community. An a cappella singing group founded by Bro. Jack Haas, Zeredatha Lodge No. 451, York, the Gentle-men is a seasonal choral group. It is unlike the Masonic Homes' year round choral groups, the Masonic Music Merry-makers, Men's Chorus, and Women's Chorus, who also provide musical entertainment for their fellow residents and the community.

"I thought it would be a nice way to bring the spirit of Christmas to the campus," Bro. Haas said of his idea to form the Gentle-men during the 1999 holiday season. The members are very dedicated — some, like Haas, even let their sideburns grow to enhance the Dickens' appearance. The group begins rehearsing in November for their holiday performances. A new addition for 2000 was a quartet formed within the group which sang a few special numbers in the program.

The group's goals for their second season was to become even more community-oriented—and they succeeded! Their performance was so popular at the Elizabethtown Winter Wonderland Parade on Dec. 1 that their float won first place for audio-visual appeal! They also sang at the Elizabethtown Historical Society Christmas Party and at the local K-Mart, for which the Gentle-men earned a donation toward the new Masonic Youth Camp at Sugar Run.

While the group is pleased that their efforts are appreciated, Bro. Haas said, "The best thing about singing to people is making them smile and bringing the spirit of the season closer to their hearts."

Masonic Homes' Outreach Program Hosts Statewide Health Fairs

The Masonic Homes' Outreach Program is hosting a series of Health Fairs to be held at sites within each of the seven Masonic Regions across the Commonwealth. Each event will be coordinated with District Deputy Grand Masters and local lodge volunteers from each region. Local resources and health care providers will be featured, as well as agencies and associations which offer various degrees of support for Masonic families and families of the public.

Information, literature, and hands-on seminars will offer education on topics such as: Alzheimer's Disease, Prostate Health, Caregiving, Women's Health Issues including Breast Cancer, Safety in the Home, Long-Term Care Insurance, Medicare, and many more. Besides the opportunity to meet local community health care providers, attendees may watch a video presentation or take part in an educational seminar led by representatives from the Masonic Homes list of presenters and participants.

The series began in Region 1 at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East at Warminster on Oct. 28. Locations for future events in 2001 include the Jaffa Mosque in Altoona (Region 3) on Mar. 24, the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Williamsport (Region 6) on Apr. 7, the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown (Region 2) on Apr. 28, and the Masonic Village at Sewickley (Region 4) on Nov. 10. Erie, Allentown, New Castle, and Scranton are on the list of future sites as well.

Each Health Fair provides an opportunity to demonstrate Masonic pride and service within the local communities. In addition to the community agencies in attendance, the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Committee will be represented. To learn when the Masonic Homes' Outreach Program will be rolling into your hometown, look for future announcements in your lodge notice, or other local Masonic communications.

Grand Lodge Officers Return to Florida to Visit PA Brethren

In February 2001, R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. and his wife, Debra, along with the other Grand Lodge Officers, Committee on Masonic Homes members, and their ladies, will host three Masonic reunions scheduled for Pennsylvania Freemasons who reside in Florida permanently or during the winter months.

The purpose of the reunions is to increase awareness about the expansion of services and opportunities provided through the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

On Thursday, Feb. 22, 2001, a reunion will be held at the Orlando Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Winter Park. A second reunion will be held on Friday, Feb. 23, at the Tampa Airport Marriott in

Tampa. On Saturday, Feb. 24, a third reunion will be held at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott in Palm Beach Gardens.

The schedule for all three reunions will include a reception at 11 a.m., lunch at noon, a program at 1 p.m., and a social hour from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. During each program, Grand Master Dlugie will award 50-year Emblems of Gold to Brethren residing in Florida.

Also during the program, Joseph E. Murphy, Chief Executive Officer of the Masonic Homes, and members of the Masonic Homes' staff will share important, helpful information about the benefits and full continuum of services provided for Masons, their families, and others by the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, Pittsburgh, Warminster, and the newest information on retirement living accommodations in Sewickley.

If you reside in Florida or will be in Florida during the reunions and have not yet received an invitation but would like to attend, please call (717) 367-1121, extension 33488.

All in the Family: Three Generations at the Masonic Homes

Bro. Kenneth Bleiler and his wife, Elaine, had two good reasons for moving from their home in Rydal, PA into a retirement living cottage at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. One was their daughter, Debbie, and the other was Elaine's father, Bro. Walter Hahn. Together they made Masonic Homes' history on Aug. 3 when they became the first family to have three generations living in the community at the same time.

Bro. Hahn moved into the Independent Living Community on May 1, 1997, almost six months after his wife, Sadie, moved into the Masonic Health Care Center.

"Mom received wonderful treatment... the nurses were very considerate and went way beyond the call of duty," Mrs. Bleiler said. Mrs. Hahn passed away on Jan. 28, 1998.

At 92, Bro. Hahn likes to play pinochle on Wednesday nights in the Clubhouse and talks to his granddaughter, Debbie, 39, three to four times a day. "We're good pals," he says.

Bro. Hahn was a mechanic for Jarka Company on the Philadelphia riverfront for 22 years, repairing forklifts and working on freighters. He joined Frankford Lodge No. 292 in 1972. Bro. Edward O. Weissner, R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Hahn's nephew, served as his guide, and Bro. Bleiler conferred his Master Mason degree.

Debbie moved into the Residential/Respite Cottage on Apr. 21, 1999. The cottage, which has been in operation since Mar. 1, 1998, is home to seven adults with mild to moderate mental retardation, and serves as a temporary respite home for one adult at a time. Debbie helps out part-time at the Masonic Children's Home answering phones and visits her grandfather often. She also enjoys shopping, swimming, knitting, eating out, listening to music, dancing, and working on her computer (which she taught herself to do).

According to Mrs. Bleiler, while Debbie can do most things for herself, she is able to live as independently as possible in the cottage with the support of the staff. Prior to moving to Elizabethtown, Debbie did labeling and packaging work for 12 years

at Country Club Famous Desserts.

The Bleilers had been thinking about moving to the Masonic Homes for years, but they made their final decision in May 2000, just before they embarked on a two-week riverboat cruise in Germany. Then at the end of July, just before their move, Bro. and Mrs. Bleiler took Bro. Hahn and Debbie on a five-day, four-night Mississippi Riverboat Cruise from Cincinnati to Pittsburgh.

Bro. and Mrs. Bleiler met at Kutztown University; he was graduated in 1954 and she was graduated two years later. Bro. Bleiler went on to complete his master's degree in analytical chemistry in 1966 from Temple University. For 33 years, he worked as a research analyst/chemist in GE's aerospace division in King of Prussia. During the mid to late 60s he worked in Cape Kennedy, Hawaii, and the Virgin Islands, on projects such as launching a monkey into space, training aquanauts in a tech-tight undersea laboratory, and perfecting the de-sulfurization of coal. He has two patents in his name.

Bro. Bleiler joined Frankford Lodge No. 292 in 1960, was Master of the Lodge in 1974, and served as Secretary from 1976 to 1981. He was District Deputy Grand Master for District D from December 1995 until the past Dec. 27.

Mrs. Bleiler taught elementary school for four years until Debbie was born, after which she was a substitute teacher for a while. She then sold crafts for 20 years, wholesaling to gift shops in Ocean City, NJ, which she called their "second home."

Bro. Bleiler enjoys some of his favorite pastimes, golf and bowling. Mrs. Bleiler and Debbie already do volunteer work at the Masonic Health Care Center. The Bleilers are taking some computer classes at the computer center. They look forward to swimming at the Masonic Conference Center pool and may even look into some classes at nearby Elizabethtown College.

"No other place we've ever seen can compare to this," Bro. Bleiler said of the Masonic Homes. "It's unexplainable—no matter how much you tell people about the campus, you have to see it to believe it," Bro. Bleiler added.

"The beauty as you enter the campus is just awesome," Mrs. Bleiler said. "We like the idea of the health care center... If we need it, it's there," Mrs. Bleiler added.

Mrs. Bleiler recalls how long-time friends from Massachusetts had said that they felt the Bleilers are too young and active to move to a retirement community... that is until they came to see it for themselves. After the couple visited the Masonic Homes, the Bleilers received a note from their friends saying that they were not going to wish them happiness in their new home because, "If you can't be happy there, you can't be happy anywhere!"

Miss Debbie Bleiler, Bro. Walter Hahn, and Bro. Kenneth and Elaine Bleiler in front of the Bleiler's retirement living cottage in Elizabethtown.



Penny Party Raises Funds for Warminster Home

The Advisory Board of the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East, Warminster, a group of volunteers comprised mainly of members of the Grand Chapter, The Order of The Eastern Star, teamed up with residents and staff of the Home and members of the community to conduct a Penny Party that raised more than \$2,100. A Penny Party is an event where those who attend bid on packages of items donated by the sponsors. The Advisory Board worked for months gathering the gifts and donations.

The funds will enable the Advisory Board to initiate projects to add to the quality of life of residents at the Home. Most recently, the Advisory Board sponsored the upgrading, repair and improvement of the greenhouse where the residents raise flowers and vegetables.

Masonic Homes' Admissions Policy

Admissions to the Masonic Homes are governed by the Committee on Masonic Homes, members of which are elected by the Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Pennsylvania. The Committee on Masonic Homes approves or disapproves applications for admission primarily on the basis of need. Decisions concerning admission, the provision of services, and referrals of residents are not based upon the applicant's race, color, religion, disability, ancestry, national origin, familial status, age, sex, or any other protected status.

The Committee on Masonic Homes has approved the following service levels for admission to the Masonic Homes, which include the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East at Warminster, the Masonic Eastern Star Home-West at Pittsburgh, and the Masonic Village at Sewickley.

Please contact the Admissions or Marketing Office for information on which service levels are eligible for admission to the living area desired:

Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown

Admissions for Residential, Assisted Living, and Health Care/Nursing Services: (800) 422-1207
Marketing for Retirement Living Accommodations: (800) 676-6452

Masonic Eastern Star Home-East at Warminster

Admissions for the Assisted Living and Health Care/Nursing Services: (215) 672-2500

Masonic Eastern Star Home-West at Pittsburgh

Admissions for Assisted Living Services: (412) 931-8300

Masonic Village at Sewickley

Admissions for Health Care/Nursing Services: (412) 741-1400
Marketing for Retirement Living Services: (412) 741-1400, ext. 3550, or (866) 872-0664

OUTREACH IS NOW AVAILABLE 24 HOURS

The Masonic Home Outreach Program now can be contacted 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling (717) 361-5080 or 800-4-Masonic (800-462-7664) even after 4 p.m. on weekdays or anytime on weekends. Bro. John Suchanec, Director of the Program, said that a caller at those times will connect with an automated message that will offer two options: Press 1 if the caller would like to leave a message and have someone return a message on the next business day; or press 2 if the caller does not want to leave a message and would like to speak to a Masonic Homes staff person at the time of the call.

SERVICE LEVEL 1:

PA Master Mason - A member in good standing for a minimum of five (5) cumulative years in the R. W. Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of PA or the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of PA.

PA Eastern Star - A PA Eastern Star member in good standing for a minimum of five (5) cumulative years. Non-PA Masons who became Eastern Star members after January 1, 1998, will be required to gain membership in a PA lodge to be eligible for admission, unless the primary state does not permit dual membership.

Wife of PA Master Mason

Spouse of PA Eastern Star - Spouses who are Masons from any jurisdiction are eligible.

Widow of PA Master Mason - Widows continue to be eligible through their Masonic husband even if they remarry.

Mother of PA Master Mason

Daughter of PA Master Mason

Sister of PA Master Mason

SERVICE LEVEL 2:

Grandmother of PA Master Mason

Grandfather of PA Master Mason

Father of PA Master Mason

Mother-in-law of PA Master Mason

Father-in-law of PA Master Mason

Son of PA Master Mason

Spouse of PA Eastern Star who is not a Mason

Service Level 1 & 2 with less than 5 years' membership

SERVICE LEVEL 3:

Other PA Masonic Relatives - Consideration also is given to other relatives of PA Masons. We also consider PA Senior DeMolays, majority members of PA Job's Daughters and PA Rainbow Girls, senior members of PA Knights of Pythagoras, and members of female-related PA Masonic organizations in good standing.

Employees of Grand Lodge or the Masonic Homes with a minimum of 20 years of service.

Master Mason of Other Jurisdictions - A member in good standing for a minimum of five (5) cumulative years in another jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of PA and his spouse or widow.

SERVICE LEVEL 4:

Others on behalf of Pennsylvania Freemasonry - Individuals from Service Levels 2, 3, and 4 are considered for admission depending on waiting lists and availability in the area.

The Masonic Homes would like to express appreciation to the Admissions Counselors serving the Masonic Homes throughout Pennsylvania who spend countless hours working with prospective residents and their families:

Region 1: Nelson Baird, Jr.; Jane M. Bleam; George Boyer; John H. Grant; William J. Moore; J. Walter and Elaine Price; Robert J. Taylor; and Gary L. and Mary Lou Waters.

Region 2: Russell W. Baker; Joyce M. Cooper; William and Elsie Corlett; Charles A. and Mabel Hornickell; Margaret C. Knaub; Robert H. and Emma Mason; Jane M. Newcomer; Margaret E. Nies; Nelson Polite; Ralph C. and Miriam Rickard; and Richard S. and Shirley Wood.

Region 3: John P. Henry, Jr. and Stella Henry; Jeff and Debbie Nale; and Robert E. and Norma Spriggle.

Region 4: Joseph F. and Mary Action; Richard C. and Sandy Benjamin; Rudolph Culbertson; David K. and Marjorie Johnstone; William M. Kratzburg; Donald M. Murphy; Donald L. and Nancy Nock; Marjorie S. Timchak; Bonnee Wettlaufer; and Herb and Helga Wolstoncroft.

Region 5: Wayne Adamson; John G. Johnson; Danny R. McKnight; Robert K. and Becky Parrish; and Marlin J. and Lorene C. Sinclair.

Region 6: Allen J. and Helen Henninger and Clifford E. and Donna Reed.

Region 7: Clinton E. and Lorraine Shrive.

Pennsylvania Rainbow Honors Grand Master

In appreciation for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania's ongoing support of Masonic youth, the Grand Assembly, Order of Rainbow for Girls in Pennsylvania hosted a special "Honor Day" for Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R.W. Grand Master at the Lower Ducks Masonic Hall, Woodside, on Oct. 21.

After a luncheon, the Grand Master and his wife, Debra, accompanied by several Grand Lodge officers, were greeted with honors. The officers of the Grand Assembly performed a special flag-folding ceremony and presented the Grand Master with the flag, which had flown over the White House. The meeting was conducted by officers of the Grand Assembly with members of Morrisville Assembly and the Martha B. Mathers Assembly assisting as the honor guard, usherettes, and choir.



Grand Master and Mrs. Dlugie were received with honors at the special meeting of Pennsylvania Rainbow, presided over by the Grand Worthy Advisor, Miss Caryn Brominski.

Youth Foundation Prepares for Life Skills 2001

It may still be Winter, but the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation is already planning for July!

Plans are underway for the second annual Life Skills Conference, to be held at the Masonic Conference Center - Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. The conference, which debuted last Summer, was suggested by Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. as an outreach to youth within the larger Masonic family. Because of last year's rave reviews, two identical conferences have been scheduled for this year, for the weeks beginning July 23 and July 29.

Designed by Bro. Thom Stecher of Thomson Lodge No. 340, Paoli, the conference challenges attendees to develop leadership, respect, relational skills, and personal responsibility through a variety of creative approaches and various media. In addition to last year's well-received program, this year will add discussion of some of the toughest issues facing students today: drugs and alcohol, violence and conflict resolution, teen sexuality, and others. Also expected are the return of several of last year's "hit" programs, including a day-trip to a high ropes course! It promises to be an even more exciting conference than last year!

So it's time to start getting ready. Pennsylvania lodges should begin considering youth (age 12 to 16) to sponsor for the conference. Any Masonic Youth Group member, any relative of a Pennsylvania Mason, or any other youth sponsored by a Pennsylvania lodge is eligible to attend this conference. But only

60 registrations will be accepted for each week of the conference. Registration for the whole week is a mere \$150, with the remainder of the cost subsidized by the Youth Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Some young person in your community is waiting for the week of his or her life! So start thinking "Life Skills," and looking for the young man or woman your Lodge will send next July. Registration information will be mailed to all Pennsylvania lodges in January. Other promotional materials are available on request from the Youth Foundation office: (800) 265-8424 (PA only) or (717) 367-1536.



Thom Stecher, program designer and director, motivated conferees at the opening of last year's conference.

Masonic Charity is Contagious

During Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, members of Chester Pike Chapter, Order of DeMolay, were proud to give a message to R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. The message was "We want to give something back!"

Members of the Chapter, which meets in Prospect Park, inspired by the success and volume of giving in the Masonic Matching Charity Grant program, decided that they, too, wanted to give back to the community. Since DeMolay has so often been the recipient of Masonic generosity, it seemed fitting to make this gift in honor of the Masons who inspired them. Members of the Chapter presented Grand Master Dlugie with a check for \$500, raised by the members through several fund raising projects. The gift will be used toward the Little League Baseball Scoreboard in Williamsport.

William Kolynych, Master Councilor, along with members and advisors of Chester Pike Chapter, Order of DeMolay, present R.W.G.M. Dlugie with a check to be donated to the Little League stadium in Williamsport.



Among the exciting and challenging activities of the week was a trip to a high ropes course near Philadelphia.



Masons Care About Higher Education!

...and once again, Pennsylvania Masonic bodies are showing that they care by supplying hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarship grants and loans to deserving Pennsylvania Youth. The annual Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide, published by the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, details the various scholarships available and provides a uniform application form for student use. The guide has already been mailed to Pennsylvania lodges and school districts,

and is available on request from the office of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, 1241 Bainbridge Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. This year, as last year, the guide is also available on-line at <<www.pugrand-lodge.org/pyf/scholar/index.html>> and you can even fill-out and print a complete application to mail in.

Scholarship deadlines are strictly kept, so encourage all eligible students to request their scholarship guides, or visit the guide on-line, and apply now!

DeMolay Membership Class Honors Grand Master

Pennsylvania DeMolay welcomed 22 new members in a statewide induction ceremony to honor R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. at the Masonic Conference Center on Dec. 2, 2000. The two degrees of the Order of DeMolay were conferred upon the class by very capable teams from Reading and Friendship-Bray (Jenkintown) Chapters, with assistance from several other chapters. The Grand Master commented that the degrees were among the finest he has ever witnessed.

Grand Master Dlugie, who chose to forgo Masonic regalia in favor of the cordon of a Legionnaire of the DeMolay Legion of Honor, was accompanied by a party of Grand officers, and was the honored guest at a banquet luncheon in his honor. During the luncheon, Grand Master Dlugie presented John Tracy, of Elizabethtown Chapter, with his cash prize for his winning entry in the Grand Lodge's Blood and Organ Donor Poster Contest.

Each member of this special class received a certificate indicating that he was a member of the Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. Class, and bearing a pen and ink likeness of the Grand Master. A large framed original of the pen and ink portrait was presented to the Grand Master.

Pennsylvania DeMolay continues to be grateful to Grand Master Dlugie, and to the whole Grand Lodge, for their ongoing and generous support of the Pennsylvania DeMolay program.

Grand Master Dlugie and State Master Councilor Walter Pietrowski (front) pose with the class, Executive Officer for PA DeMolay Thomas R. Labagh (far left) and Youth Foundation

Chairman Samuel C. Williamson, R.W.P.G.M. (far right) in the lobby of the Masonic Conference Center.



The Grand Master presents a check to John Tracy of Elizabethtown Chapter. John was one of the winners of the annual Blood and Organ Donor Poster Contest. Looking on is Bro. Joseph W. Dows, D.D.G.M. for 60th Masonic District.



Sorry,

Lebanon VA Center Missed

When the "We Honor Our Veterans" article was published in the November issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*, Veterans (Hospitals) Administrative Centers in Pennsylvania were listed and the Lebanon Administrative Center was omitted. We apologize to the veterans and the dedicated staff at Lebanon and assure them the honors include them.

First 2001 D.A.R.E. Class Met in January

Thirty five law enforcement officers from across the state were in the first D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) class of 2001, which began training Jan. 15 at the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus, Elizabethtown. Three more classes are scheduled for training there throughout the year, which will be a total of one more class than in 2000. There also will be a middle school mentor training, expanding the program into the upper grades of schools.

The support of the Pennsylvania Masons makes it possible for more and smaller communities of the Commonwealth to have this vital program in their schools. The classes in 2001 will bring the total number of D.A.R.E. officers trained at the Patton Campus to more than 800.

With the Samuel C. Williamson Multimedia Center and the upgrading of the facilities at the Patton Campus, law enforcement personnel of Pennsylvania have available the most modern training center for D.A.R.E., and G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training) on the East Coast.



Foundation for Children Announces 3 New Programs

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children will be implementing three new drug and alcohol prevention programs in 2001:

The "Safety Kids" program in conjunction with the FBI's Adopt-a-School program which is geared toward elementary grade students.

"Project Care" training, which involves the training of teachers statewide in how to recognize and handle various problems, such as teens and violence, teens and bullying, and teens and depression and suicide.

A "Teen Anti-Drug" program to be implemented at the Scranton Cultural Center, which involves developing a computer center for teens so that they will have a place to get away from drugs and violence.

The Foundation will continue to support the D.A.R.E. program and the Student Assistance Program statewide. The Foundation also will set up booths at fairs and lodge activities in all communities across the Commonwealth. The Stenberg Scholarship Program and the Grand Master's Law Enforcement Scholarships will continue.

Information on any of the Foundation's programs is available from the Executive Director, Raymond G. Brown at (215) 988-1978 or e-mail: rgbrown@pagrandlodge.org.

Masons Called to Meet the Challenge for Blood

The Masonic Blood Bank and Organ Donor Committee of the Grand Lodge shares the serious concern for the need for blood and calls upon Masons statewide to join in educating people about it. Blood collections nationally have decreased more than 5.5 percent while the number of transfusions have increased four percent. That poses a serious potential for danger to the public health of all U.S. citizens.

Joseph Yelo, of Jordan Lodge No. 673, Allentown, and a member of the Masonic Blood Bank and Organ Donor Committee, is Executive Director of the Samuel W. Miller Memorial Blood Center in Bethlehem and the Keystone Blood Bank in Reading. He says, "If you are no longer able to donate blood, you can be active in recruiting blood donors by offering to run a blood drive for your lodge or other Masonic body, in the community, for a company, or a religious group."

Bro. Yelo explains that one-half of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood; but people today are busier, involved with more activities, and not taking the time or making the commitment to ensure an adequate blood supply year-round. A Louis Harris & Associates survey conducted last year among 2,000 persons 18 years of age and older revealed that just 12 percent said they had donated blood in the past. Of those who had given blood, only 22 percent had done so in the past year. Unfortunately, but not unexpectedly, 48 percent of the respondents said that they had never donated blood, not even once!

One pint of donated blood can help as many as three persons. Individuals can donate blood safely every 56 days. The minimum age to donate blood is 17 years and there is no upper age limit. While the entire process takes about an hour, the actual donation of blood takes only six to eight minutes.

Keep in mind, there are no artificial substitutes for blood. The first successful blood transfusion was documented in 1818; but the most advanced knowledge in transfusion medicine has occurred during the 20th century. With new technology and advanced medical procedures, the need for blood has increased.

Bro. Yelo says, "It isn't every day you can do something to save someone's life. Please support our statewide Masonic initiative." If you need more information or want to help by joining the cause, call him at (610) 691-5423, or e-mail to: jyelo@hesc.org.



This weather-proof Blood Drive banner is available on loan to lodges hosting blood drive collections. Co-chairmen of the Grand Lodge Masonic Blood/Organ Donor Committee, Norman A. Fox (left) and G. Rick Knepper, display the sign with the changeable date line. To reserve the banner for a blood drive, contact the Office of the Grand Master, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598, or call 1-800-462-0430, Ext. 1922.

Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer, Awarded the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal

Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R.W. Grand Master, presented the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal to Marvin G. Speicher, the R.W. Grand Treasurer, during the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia on Dec. 8. Bro. Speicher was made a Mason in Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf, in 1967 and served as its Worshipful Master in 1976. He served as the 60th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master from 1978 to 1988.

He was elected and installed R.W. Grand Treasurer on June 7, 1989, succeeding the late Arthur T. Diamond, who retired after serving 22 years. From 1981 until he became Grand Treasurer, Bro. Speicher was a member of the Grand Lodge Sub-Committee on Audits. Presently, he chairs the Masonic Homes Financial Sub-Committee.

Bro. Speicher is widely known throughout the Family of Freemasonry and is very active in many of the appendant and allied bodies.

He is a member of Reading Royal Arch Chapter No. 152; Creigh Council No. 16, Royal and Select Masters; and Reading Commandery No. 9, Reading. He is a Past Sovereign of Constantine Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine, Reading, and presently is the Intendant General, Pennsylvania Eastern of the United Grand Imperial Council. He is a Past Master and Past Secretary of Excelsior Mark Lodge No. 216, Philadelphia; Past Governor and Associate Regent of Liberty Bell York Rite College No. 136, Philadelphia; and he serves on the Committee on Finance of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania.

He was coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, in Indianapolis in 1991. He is a member of the four bodies in the Valley of Reading, A.A.S.R., where he served as Thrice Potent Master of Reading Lodge of Perfection in 1991-92.

Bro. Speicher is a member of Rajah Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., and of Rajah Shrine Club and Lebanon County Shrine Club. He is a charter member of Rajah Shrine Past Masters Club and Apato Teocali No. 63, Order of Quetzalcotl, Reading.

In addition, he is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. He was inducted along with his fellow Grand Lodge Officers as an honorary member of Franklin Chapter of the Acacia Fraternity at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He is a charter member of two High Twelve Clubs: Pennsylvania Masonic Homes High Twelve Club No. 629, Elizabethtown, and Fellowship High Twelve Club No. 669, Reading.

Bro. Speicher is a Certified Public Accountant and Senior Partner of the accounting firm of Schulze, Speicher and Company. He is a member of the Regional Board of Directors of First Union Bank, formerly Core States.

He was born in Stouchsburg, the son of Bro. Earl J. and Myrl Mary (Showers) Speicher, but resided practically all of his life in Robesonia.

He is a 1955 graduate of Conrad Weiser High School, Robesonia, and a graduate of the Reading Business Institute, the Cades C.P.A. School, and Gross C.P.A. School.

He and his wife, Shirley, have two sons: Terrance L., and Robert G., and three grandchildren. The Speichers are members of St. Daniel's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Robesonia.



Officer proficiency will be staggered over a period of years as well; but it is an effort to deal with a problem that our District Deputy Grand Masters continue to tell us exists throughout this great Commonwealth. That is a lack of officers and a lack of knowledgeable officers. Past Masters fill chairs on a regular basis and, while we do not want to stop their service to a lodge, a regular transition of trained and knowledgeable officers should be our goal. If we truly believe that the precepts of Freemasonry helped in the formation of the American system of government, with its checks and balances, term limits, and the like, how can we continue having untrained officers, officers who only serve to fill space, or continually repeat that service? We know again, we can't go from zero to 100 per cent immediately, but over the next few years, we hope that this concept will not only be embraced, but universally utilized in all of our lodges. Minimum officer standards have been provided to our District Deputies for implementation in their districts.

The third leg of the triangle is a return to another existing program with an enhancement. Seven years ago, R.W.P.G.M. George H. Hohenschildt was father of the words, "Friend to Friend." Those words became an integral part of Pennsylvania's Masonic vocabulary. That membership program was well received and utilized by the Craft and it continues today. We are reinstating that program with an enhancement - that is adding to the words "Friend to Friend" the words "Brother to Brother." We are in the final processing stages of a new booklet that describes the values of Freemasonry to each and every member. It's unfortunate that in today's society we must set forth formally "the values" of Freemasonry, but this will do it. We also will describe further this value in future articles in *The Pennsylvania Freemason*. My thanks to Bros. Blaine Fabian, Jay Isenour, and Roy Spence for their dedicated efforts in the design and preparation of this booklet. Each member will receive two copies of the booklet, one for himself and one to give to a prospective member so that he, too, may know of the values to them of being a Freemason.

Coupled with this booklet is the blue jacket program. If you have been the first-line signer of any petitions since December 27, 1999, you will receive a blue jacket. Please contact your lodge secretary if you qualify to receive one.

A further enhancement to our membership program that your Grand Lodge Landmarks Committee has agreed to is a one-time-only dues amnesty program. If any member has been suspended for non-payment of dues and there is no other reason that he should not be re-admitted to the Fraternity, he may be restored to active membership through June of 2001 by payment of current dues only. If the suspension took place within one year, he need only make application to the lodge with the payment of current dues and be voted on at a stated meeting of his lodge. If the "npd" suspension took place more than one year ago, he should again apply, submitting the current dues amount. Notice of this application will then be advertised in the lodge notice with a ballot for reinstatement to take place upon that application thereafter. We will ask the lodges to make a concerted effort to locate those former members who may be affected so that personal contact with them can take place. We have found that when such personal contact occurs it is often learned that there may be a personal or financial reason that initially led to the suspension, which can be rectified now. We must recognize that these situations do exist and should be dealt with appropriately.

...return to some of the very basics of our Fraternity, those principles that brought men together and have helped keep them together for nearly 275 years in this great Commonwealth. Those principles include truth, relief, and brotherly love.

In the area of Relief, the services of the Outreach Program at the Masonic Homes will be greatly expanded to a 24-hour-a-day program. If you, or your family, need help, referral services, or other Masonic assistance, "1-800-4-Masonic" will be only a phone call away, literally! Also, our Grand Chaplains have created an organized "Care Program" for lodges to assist those of our members who are ill, hospitalized, institutionalized, or otherwise in need of the brotherhood we proclaim to offer. Your District Deputy Grand Masters also have been informed of the procedure for implementing this project. Also, for any shut-ins, or those desiring them, tapes of the services at Sell Chapel (at the Masonic Homes) will be made available upon request to the Masonic Homes. Thanks to the Rev. Dr. Charles Lacquement for his assistance in making this a reality.

To enhance our visibility and to recognize those who go "the extra mile," a new award has been established - the Thomson Life Saving Award. This is a special award created to recognize a member who actually has saved a life. Thanks to the efforts of Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, R.W.P.G.M., and Bro. Thomas Labagh, a beautiful silver cup has been crafted in memory of Bro. John Thomson, R.W.P.G.M. (1861-1862) who is reported to have saved several persons from drowning in the Delaware River in Philadelphia. It is altogether fitting and proper to name this award after his efforts. The first one of these will be presented early in 2001. For those of you members who participate in a CPR course to learn how to help save a life, you will be given an MDI CPR Microshield to help you perform this life-saving procedure safely should the situation ever present itself.

To increase our visibility in the community, the Masonic float created during the administration of R.W.P.G.M. James Emette will be available for use statewide on a platform suitable for the purpose and be capable of being transported over long distances. Reservations for its use can be made upon approval of a District Deputy Grand Master through the central scheduling office of the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.

Also, through the efforts of Bro. and D.D.G.M. Dale Delozier, we have secured permission of the Boy Scouts of America for the creation of a new award to recognize adult Scouters who are members of our Fraternity. The award will be known as the "Daniel Carter Beard Award" in recognition of the founder of the Boy Scout movement in the United States, who also was a Mason. A uniform patch and throat medalion will accompany this award that we hope will be adopted by other Grand Lodges. We will endeavor to expand this program ultimately to recognize all adult youth leaders in other organizations also.

Lastly, my Brethren, we will have two Quarterly Communications in 2001, one in June in State College and the other in December in Elizabethtown. Special events are planned and we hope you will see fit to attend. Another special event will occur in August when we will participate in the opening ceremonies of the Little League World Series. We will conduct a Date Stone Ceremony on Saturday, Aug. 18, as well as unveil the scoreboard and a statue of Bro. Carl Stotz, founder of Little League Baseball which we are providing. We expect many dignitaries to be present and that it will be a tremendous day for Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. We hope that you will support this program and attend this event. To fund the project, we also would remind you of the Pennsylvania Masonic Train. The net proceeds from its sale will go to the Charities listed on the train with the balance to the Masonic Charities Fund in support of the Little League project.

As you can see, my Brethren, we are trying to fulfill the mandate you have given us. We are trying to bring this Fraternity into the 21st Century. We are trying to make you proud of your membership by knowing what that membership really means. We can only do this with your help and participation. As **Friend to Friend and Brother to Brother**, Freemasons can accomplish much by working with each other.

STILL AVAILABLE IN 2001 "All Aboard" for Model Masonic Trains

Model train lovers can get on board and order The Pennsylvania Masonic Train in 2001.

The train - an outstanding bargain at \$500 - is a C-1 Atlantic engine and tender with five uniquely detailed cars and caboose. The "O" gauge, three-rail set is manufactured by Weaver's Models of Northumberland, PA.

The engine and the cars are highly detailed scale models (not semi-scale) that are prototypically correct "miniatures" of the real thing - right down to the rivets and handrails. The engine and tender are die cast, weigh seven pounds, and the precision mechanisms feature a cam motor and flywheel. The engine features a detailed back head, operating smoke unit, brass detail parts, operating couplers, chemically blackened drivers and mechanism, lit side numbers boards, operating headlight, directional backup, and LED marker lights in the tender. This particular class of locomotive has never been produced before as a three-rail model.

The set is unique for all model train lovers and especially impressive for Masons. All of the cars, including the tender and caboose, are marked with Masonic symbols representing a majority of the organizations that comprise the Family of Freemasonry.

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

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R.W. Grand Secretary

Donald L. Albert

You are Needed to Obligate Yourself To The Challenging Position of an Officer

Freemasonry needs you to obligate yourself to the challenging position of a lodge officer.

This is important to you and to the Fraternity. As a Freemason, you will obtain great knowledge, increase your personal development, and most importantly, serve your fellow man.

The Fraternity will gain your leadership, your ideas, and your commitment. In giving your time and commitment to this great Fraternity as a leader, you gain the rewards of fellowship and a sense of giving back to the Fraternity for what you have received.

Today, we move at a very fast pace and sometimes we should stop and look at the direction we are heading. We cannot look back, but look forward and meet the challenges we are faced with each day. That will make a better world for our children and our grandchildren.

Freemasonry has played a large part in forming our lives, as well as forming our country. It will continue to serve us for the future because it stands for all that is good, "God, Country, and Mankind."

We have received much from Freemasonry as it takes good men and makes them better. It is our turn to do our part to proliferate our Fraternity.

Our concerns for the future of our organization are not only unique with Freemasonry. One concern, which greater than membership or finance, is quality leadership.

Please commit yourself as an officer of your lodge beginning now.

Sell Chapel Services on Tape

Audio or video tape cassettes of the worship services at Sell Chapel are now available by calling the Pastoral Care Department of the Masonic Homes at (717) 367-1121, Ext. 33106, anytime. During business hours a member of the Masonic Homes staff will respond; after hours, leave a message recording your name and address, the date of the worship service desired and the type of cassette wanted.

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"Heaven couldn't be more beautiful," Mark Twain wrote of Bermuda. An exaggeration, it may seem - but only until you shed your shoes and sink your toes in soft pink sand, turquoise water lapping at your ankles. Until purple-flowered trees, yellow kiskadee birds, and pastel cottages painted lilac and lime drench your eyes with color. Then "heavenly" seems an understatement.

AUGUST 4-11, 2001

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DID YOU KNOW? FACTS ABOUT FREEMASONRY?

What does "Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging" mean as part of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania official title?

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania had an early and distinguished standing in the Masonic world, both during its existence as a Provincial Grand Lodge and as an independent Grand Lodge, which resulted in a number of lodges outside of Pennsylvania applying for warrants. The official title of the Grand Lodge is: "The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging." The latter part of the title was added officially to the Grand Lodge's name on Sept. 26, 1786.

It may be interesting to know the number of lodges warranted outside of Pennsylvania and where they were located. In this country: Delaware, 7; New Jersey, 3; Virginia, 3; Maryland, 9; Ohio, 1; Indian Territory, 1; and Northwest Territory, 1. Those warranted outside the United States: Santo Domingo, 1; Argentina, 1; Mexico, 1; Trinidad, 1; Cuba, 8; and Uruguay, 1. There also were 9 military warrants granted. Today, there are no lodges operating under warrant of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania outside the Commonwealth. (Source: "Cavalcade of Pennsylvania Freemasonry" by Frank W. Bobb, March 1986, The Masonic Library and Museum of PA.)

What is the "Regius Poem"?

The earliest known document telling about the Craft, giving the history, rules, and laws governing the conduct of operative masons, is the "Regius Poem," dated about 1390. The document was named "Regius" because it was part of the Royal Library of England and was presented to the British Museum by King George II. It was written in verse, whereas all other copies of the "Old Charges," as these documents are known, are in prose. (Source: Masonic Questions & Answers, compiled by the Office of Masonic Education, Grand Lodge of PA, 1999)

How is a Masonic lodge formed in Pennsylvania?

Fifteen or more Master Masons, having resigned from the lodges to which they belonged, may petition the Grand Lodge for a warrant to form a lodge and practice the rites of Freemasonry. The petition must be signed not only by the applicants, but also by three well known Masons who are members of a subordinate lodge, the District Deputy Grand Master, and be recommended by another subordinate lodge. After the Grand Lodge has approved the petition, the lodge is then duly constituted by the Grand Master or by someone delegated by the Grand Master to perform that duty. (Source: Masonic Questions & Answers compiled by the Office of Masonic Education, Grand Lodge of PA, 1999)

BRO. JACKSON IS KEYNOTE SPEAKER IN INDIA

Thomas W. Jackson, R.W.P.G.S. and Executive Secretary of the World Conference of Grand Lodges, delivered the keynote address, "The Universality of Freemasonry," to an open public forum in Mumbai (Bombay), India on Nov. 19. A judge of the High Court of India also addressed the forum and Bro. Jackson said that, although the judge is not a member of the Craft, he showed a considerable knowledge about Freemasonry. The forum was attended by several hundred citizens, including a considerable number of ladies. When the floor was opened to questions, there was much interest displayed by the public. Bro. Jackson said that Freemasonry is far less known in India and is more subject to distrust there than in the U.S.

The following day, the Grand Lodge of India greatly honored Bro. Jackson by making him an honorary member of the Grand Lodge.

On June 17, the Grand Lodge of the Kingdom of Morocco conferred the title and honor of Past Senior Grand Warden of that Grand Lodge on Bro. Jackson at its consecration and communication in Marrakech, Morocco.

Ben Franklin Attended Grand Lodge

Benjamin Franklin was among the dignitaries who attended the December Quarterly of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Bro. Franklin, who really is Howard Gurak of Williamson-Corinthian Lodge No. 368, Philadelphia, addressed the more than 600 brethren in Corinthian and Renaissance Halls. He personified the earliest history of Freemasonry in Philadelphia, including the two times he served as Grand Master and spoke of the importance of the principles and values of the Fraternity today.



Shield and Square Club Hears Judge McCaffery

Bro. and Judge Seamus McCaffery was the speaker for the Pennsylvania Masonic Shield and Square Club's quarterly meeting Dec. 11 in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. President of the Club, Bro. William Bergman, conducted the meeting attended by 60 members who heard Judge McCaffery discuss the role of "The Judiciary in the Criminal Justice System." The Shield and Square Club is open to any Master Mason who holds or has arrest powers in the Commonwealth. Information about the club is available from the Treasurer, Ray Brown, at (215) 988-1978.



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