

For Retirement Income You Can Depend on...

Consider a Charitable Alternative!



Evelyn and Jack Baum

Like the Baums, with the ups and downs in today's financial markets, many of our senior friends are turning to the Masonic Charities' gift annuity program. Many of them find that through a gift annuity, they can help to further the Masonic Charities while creating a dependable stream of lifetime income.

They like the other benefits that gift annuities provide, too. Things like a good payment rate and annuity payments that are partially tax-free for a period of time. They like the Federal income tax charitable deduction they receive, and, of course, the fact that they are supporting the charitable works of the Masonic Charities.

Masonic Charities' gift annuities may be funded for as little as \$5,000 in cash or appreciated stock, and may be established for the lives of one or two persons. Annuities may be funded to assist with the college education of a child or grandchild or to provide a reliable income stream for a beloved family member such as an older parent who is living on a fixed income, perhaps without the benefit of a pension plan. The payout rate an annuitant receives depends on the nearest age of the annuitant on the date the annuity is funded.

For additional information about how a gift annuity might benefit you, in complete confidence and at no cost or obligation, simply complete and return the response coupon to the Office of Gift Planning, or telephone to speak with one of our Office of Gift Planning staff members in the geographic region nearest you:

Central Pennsylvania
(717) 367-1121, ext. 33460
or (800) 599-6454

Western Pennsylvania
(412) 741-1400, ext. 3011
or (866) 872-0664

Eastern Pennsylvania
(610) 825-6100, ext. 1348

Out-of-State
(800) 599-6454

The official registration and financial information for any of the Masonic Charities may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Attention Postmaster: Dated Material Enclosed

Consider the Following *NEW* Sample Payment Rates*:

One-Life		Two-Life	
Age	Rate	Age	Rate
70	6.7%	70 & 75	6.3%
75	7.3%	75 & 80	6.8%
80	8.2%	80 & 85	7.5%
85	9.7%	85 & 90	8.6%
90+	11.5%		

*New rates reflect changes recommended by the Office of Gift Planning for all NEW Charitable Gift Annuities written on or after July 1, 2006. Some restrictions apply.

COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM TO:

Office of Gift Planning, Masonic Charities,
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

- Send me your brochure on Gift Annuities.
- Send me a sample Gift Annuity illustration based on the following information:

Age(s): _____ Amount: \$ _____

*If you are considering a gift of appreciated stock, please estimate your cost basis:

\$ _____

- Contact me to discuss a possible Gift Annuity with a Masonic Charity.
- Send me information about the Franklin Legacy Society.
- I/We have remembered the following Masonic Charity(ies) in my/our Will and/or Estate plan:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____

E-mail Address: _____



The Pennsylvania FREEMASON



Volume LIV February 2007 Number 1

The Front Doors to Our Masonic Temple Are Open!



Honoring Bro. and Mrs. John W. Dean III



Celebrating at the Jingle & Mingle Gala!



The Pennsylvania FREEMASON

February 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER



Brethren:

Happy New Year! If you're like me, every year you make a long list of resolutions, many of which you won't see through to completion. For 2007, however, I urge all Master Masons to adopt and fervently work toward the...

Grand Master's Top 10 New Year's Resolutions:

10 Call a brother you haven't seen in a while and ask him how he's been. Invite him to lunch or dinner, ask if he needs a ride to the next lodge meeting or if he could use some assistance. Many times when we don't see or hear from a brother, it's for a good reason, such as a family difficulty, health issue or another challenge in his life. Reaching out to show we care, as *Masons Helping Masons*, can make a real difference in another's life.

9 Make your membership commitment a priority. Attend lodge meetings more regularly. Volunteer to assist with a special event, fundraising project or membership maintenance efforts (see p. 18). Consider filling in a chair if there's a need. Offer to mentor a new candidate or brother.

8 Consider becoming an organ donor; talk to your spouse and/or family members so they know your wishes. Then contact the Masonic Organ Donor Program and sign an organ donor card. It's really that simple!

Join the Masonic Blood Donor Club and donate blood whenever you're able, to the American Red Cross or any of the blood collection centers in Pennsylvania, or even out-of-state. It's free to join; just fill out a new member form available on the Grand Lodge Web site, www.pagrandlodge.org/programs/donor/, and a card will be sent to you. You could even suggest that your lodge set up a bloodmobile as a community service project.

Imagine the difference you can make in another person's life by giving something you take for granted to someone who needs it to survive!

7 Register with the Members-Only Online Business Directory and gain access to the business listings, job listings and resumes posted online. It's easy, convenient and free! Plus, any time you're looking for a potential tradesman, service provider, employer or potential employees, you will have access to a network of Pennsylvania Masons who may fit your need. As more members register, the value of this directory increases for all who use it. So, log on today!

6 Support the Masonic Charities. You can do this through a variety of ways, in addition to outright contributions or planned gift arrangements. For example, if you sign up for the new Masonic Charities credit card, every time you use it a donation is made toward the Masonic Charities. Giving can be enjoyable, too. Plan to bring your lady to one of the holiday galas next year in Philadelphia or Pittsburgh. Or, gather a group of fellow brethren to play in one of the Grand Master's golf tournaments, enter a car in the Masonic Village Charity Mini Grand Prix or organize a creative fundraiser to benefit the Masonic Temple.

5 Visit the Masonic Village nearest you, take a tour and learn about the many quality services available to you and your loved ones. While you're there, visit with the residents. Chances are, there will be a member of your lodge or a widow who would be delighted to have someone brighten his or her day. You may even find your experience so enjoyable that you'd like to volunteer on a regular basis.

4 Become active with one of your local Masonic youth groups. After all, they are our leaders of tomorrow, and your time investment will be well spent. Work with your lodge and District Deputy Grand Master to coordinate a Masonic CHIP event to protect the children in your community.

3 Learn more about the Craft! Attend an Academy of Masonic Knowledge meeting (see p. 17) or borrow a book from The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, where borrowing privileges are extended only to Pennsylvania Masons.

2 Sign up to tour Ireland with Norma and me this August! As we have traveled across the Commonwealth and even overseas, brethren and their loved ones at the various lodges, valleys, shrines and Grand Lodges have extended warm welcomes and fraternal love that can only be found within this international but very personal brotherhood. We look forward to getting to know many more of you personally through this exciting adventure.

If the Ireland trip is not going to work within your schedule or your budget, consider visiting your neighboring lodge. You don't have to travel far to experience the deep and meaningful bond that we enjoy as Freemasons.

1 Plan a visit to the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia with your family, fellow brethren or some friends interested in Freemasonry, the arts, architecture or history. Experience the magnificence of the building and outstanding renovations made possible through the generosity and dedication of Masonic groups and individuals committed to ensuring our National Historic Landmark is preserved for future generations. Peruse the Masonic Library and Museum and all of its masterpieces, exhibits, historical artifacts and voluminous resources. You will be amazed!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr.
R.W. Grand Master

Inside this issue...

A Message from the Grand Master.....	1
Renaissance Gala	2
Jingle & Mingle Gala	3
December Quarterly Communication.....	4
New Service Level Awards; The World Conference of Grand Masters; Florida Masonic Reunions.....	5
Preserving a National Treasure	6
Diamond Level Pin Recipients – 2006.....	8
Contributors to the Masonic Temple Initiative.....	9
The "Initiated Eye" Now on Display; Lodge Brings Christmas Cheer to the Masonic Village	10
Masonic Book Reviews.....	11
Showing Thanks to Our Veterans; A Visit to the Pentagon.....	12
In the Tradition of Helping; Christmas Party Yields Toys & Fun.....	13
Grand Lodge of Cyprus	14
Special Guests of the Masonic Temple; Online Member Services.....	15
2007 Calendar of Events; Make Your Life Smoke-free	16
New Masonic Charities Credit Cards; Online Masonic Business Directory; Academy of Masonic Knowledge.....	17
Tour Ireland; Membership Maintenance Update	18
District & Lodge Happenings Across the Commonwealth	19
Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation News	24
Bro. Stark Sets His Name in Type	25
News from the Masonic Villages	26
Masonic Widows Program.....	29

The Pennsylvania FREEMASON

Statement of Ownership

(Act of Oct. 23, 1962; Section 4369; Title 39, United States Code)
February 1, 2007, The Pennsylvania Freemason®, published quarterly by the Masonic Villages, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Publishers: The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania. Editor: Ronald A. Aungst, Sr. Owner: The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania. Known bondholders: none. No advertising handled. Free distribution averages 150,000 each quarter. I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete.

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., Editor

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chairman

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W.G.M.

Stephen Gardner, R.W.D.G.M.

Thomas K. Sturgeon, R.W.S.G.W.

Jay W. Smith, R.W.J.G.W.

Jeffrey W. Coy, R.W.G.T.

Mark A. Haines, R.W.G.S.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Tina L. Raybold - Production Coordinator

Charles S. Canning - Editorial Assistant

Jon J. DeHart - Editorial Assistant

John W. Postlewait - Editorial Assistant

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON®

VOL. LIV, FEBRUARY 2007, NO. 1

© 2007 The R.W. Grand Lodge F.&A.M. of Pennsylvania

(Publication No. USPS 426-140) February 2007 Issue of *The Pennsylvania Freemason*® Published quarterly by the Masonic Villages, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Articles and photographs to be considered for publication should be sent with local Masonic authority to the address above, to the attention of the *The Pennsylvania Freemason*® or e-mailed to pafreemason@masonicvillagespa.org. Except by special arrangement, all articles, photographs and artwork become the property of the Grand Lodge.

Published by the Masonic Villages, owned and operated by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, as a means of soliciting the physical and financial support of the members, their families and the public in general. Periodical's postage paid at Elizabethtown, PA and additional mailing offices.

We appreciate the many submissions we receive for consideration. We apologize, but due to space constraints we are not able to publish every submission we receive.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: Masonic Village, c/o *The Pennsylvania Freemason*®, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199.



The Renaissance Gala

Ms. Beverly Harper, one of the gala's honorees, (pictured above) has been an active member of the Philadelphia region for decades and is an effective mentor to the leadership of the Masonic Temple.

Ms. Harper founded Portfolio Associates, Inc., in 1969. In 2004, because of her marketing expertise and vast knowledge of Philadelphia's cultural and civic communities, Portfolio was chosen to design and build a strategic organizational, outreach and marketing plan for the Masonic Temple. Through this planning effort, Ms. Harper challenged the Masonic Temple to become an active member of the community, just as it is the duty of each Masonic brother.

"Receiving this recognition and award from the Masons is one of my most treasured honors," Ms. Harper said. "My vision for the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia is that it will take its place among the 'must see' historic sites; and organizations will celebrate significant events in this magnificent building."

Bro. Timothy T. Nowell, P.M., W.M., George Bartram-Paul Sand Lodge No. 298, presents a check to R.W. Grand

Master Aungst for the Temple Initiative.



The "Renaissance Gala," held this year at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, was special indeed. Three outstanding people were honored for their talent, vision and generosity: Ms. Beverly A. Harper and Bro. and Mrs. John W. "Jack" Dean III.

Bro. Jack and his wife, Kay, were the recipients of the first "Preserving the Masonic Temple Heritage Award." Their generous gift to the restoration and preservation of Corinthian Hall is an inspiration to us all, and their magnificent gift was given in honor of Bro. Jack's Masonic grandparents and their Masonic family members.

We were also proud to honor Ms. Beverly A. Harper, president of Portfolio Associates, Inc., for her assistance in helping us open our building, library and museum to a much wider audience. Ms. Harper has developed the foundation for a new beginning for the Masonic Temple. We look forward to opening our Masonic doors to new experiences and growth in the Greater Philadelphia cultural and civic communities.

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, presented stunning crystal sculpture awards to the recipients.

More than 275 people attended this elegant affair, which featured cocktails, a live jazz concert, special tours of the Temple, silent and live auctions and a delicious dinner.

Almost \$200,000 was raised through this event, which will be used for the preservation of the Masonic Temple.

Phyllis Lichtenfield, right, has a nice chat with "George Washington," played by Bro. Carl Homan, Robert A. Lamberton Lodge No. 487.

Bro. John W. "Jack" Dean III, and his wife, Kay, (pictured above) reside in Largo, Fla., but are originally from the Philadelphia area.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Bro. Dean opened his own law office in 1958, Dean & McCoy, which was dissolved in 1977. He then went on to work for a law firm in suburban Philadelphia. During his career, he practiced in the Superior and Supreme Courts of Pennsylvania, as well as the U.S. Eastern District Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals, 3rd Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Bro. Dean's Masonic affiliations include Frankford Lodge No. 292; Valley of Philadelphia, A.S.S.R., having served as Sovereign Prince in 1976-77; Abington Royal Arch Chapter No. 245; Philadelphia Council No. 11, Royal and Select Master Masons; Kensington Kadosh Commandery No. 54, Knights Templar; York Rite, Philadelphia Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine; Philadelphia Council No. 13, Knight Masons of the U.S.A., and Royal Order of Jesters. He is a Past Potentate of LuLu Shrine Temple and served as Imperial Potentate of the Shrine of North America and as chairman of the board of directors for Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children.



Above - Sam Spanos, newly appointed District Deputy Grand Master for District 47, auctions off a two-week trip to Greece.



Above - Dave Morgans, District Deputy Grand Master for District 57, and his wife, Leslie, enjoy the evening.



Above - Bro. James A. West, Jr., Lodge No. 45, and his wife, Jill, toast to the season.

Pittsburgh Jingle & Mingle Gala



What better way to get into the holiday spirit than to walk into a room filled with holiday music, elegant decorations, delicious food and good friends?

Bro. Raymond Dietz, District Deputy Grand Master for District 55, and his wife, Lynn, greeted each of the 94 attendees at the Pittsburgh Jingle & Mingle Gala on Dec. 15 with a warm welcome and a glass of champagne. The Shannopin Country Club in Ben Avon Heights overflowed with warmth, fellowship and fun.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Silent Auction, featuring fabulous donated items from individuals and businesses.

The gala raised over \$20,500 for the Masonic Charities.

Pictured on the cover: R.W. Grand Master Aungst, center, accepts checks for the Masonic Charities totaling \$6,500 from Bro. Larry Boyer, P.M., Infinity Lodge No. 546, right, and Robert F. Dunkle, District Deputy Grand Master for District 38, left.



Above - Ray Dietz, center, District Deputy Grand Master for District 55, who led the efforts to organize the gala, and his wife, Lynn, "mingle" with R.W. Grand Master Aungst.



Above - Bro. Todd Ballenger and his wife, Kari, pose for a moment in front of the Christmas tree.



Above - Thomas K. Sturgeon, R.W. Senior Grand Warden, counts money to pay for the numerous silent auction items he and his wife, Joan, bid on and won, with proceeds benefiting Masonic Charities.



Above - Bro. Mario DeBlasio, Lodge No. 45, and his wife, Linda, spread some holiday cheer with Bro. William J. Magnotti, Jr., Pleasant Hills-Guthrie Lodge No. 759, and his wife, Barbara.



Grand Master Announces Creation of *NEW* Service Level Awards!



60-Year Service Award



70-Year Service Award



75-Year Service Award

At the December Quarterly Communication, Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, announced that he has created, with the approval of the Grand Lodge Officers, awards for 60, 70 and 75-year members. Previously, members attaining these service levels received only a paper certificate.

"We believe the certificates alone were insufficient when recognizing these significant years of service to the fraternity," the Grand Master said.

The 75-year award has been named the *Diamond Jubilee Award* and has a diamond chip at the bottom of the wreath.

The Grand Secretary has sent information to all lodges announcing these new awards. They will be presented at the official visitation by the District Deputy Grand Master at each lodge, unless there is a special event scheduled whereby the Grand Master will be present, who would at that time make the presentation to those brethren who qualify for the service awards.

THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF GRAND LODGES IN FRANCE

Nov. 28-30, 2006



Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master shakes hands with Jean-Charles Foulmer, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of France.

Jeffrey W. Coy, R.W. Grand Treasurer, and his wife, Jo Anne; Mark A. Haines, R.W. Grand Secretary, and his wife, Karen; and Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., and his wife, Norma, stand in front of the Arc of Triumph in Paris.

R.W. Grand Master Ronald A. Aungst, Sr. and his wife, Norma, invite all Pennsylvania Masons, Wives and Widows residing in Florida permanently or during the winter months, to attend a

Highlights

- Information on services provided by the Masonic Villages of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
- Exciting updates on current construction and the opening of the Masonic Village at Dallas, the master plan and renovations at the Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill and the new Sycamore Apartments and Sycamore Square marketplace at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown
- Learn about prospects for a new Masonic Village community in Erie, Pa.
- Representatives from the Office of Aging to share information on local services
- Free blood pressure screenings

Special Highlight

Grand Master Aungst will present 50, 60, 70 and 75-Year Masonic Service Emblems and preview upcoming programs.

Masonic Reunion

Reunion Schedule

Thursday, March 15, 2007
Tampa Airport Marriott Hotel, Tampa

Friday, March 16, 2007
Sahib Shrine Center (Sahib Temple), Sarasota

Saturday, March 17, 2007
Palm Beach Gardens Marriott, Palm Beach

Each reunion features a reception (11 - 11:45 a.m.) followed by lunch (11:45 a.m.) and a program (1- 2 p.m.)

If you have any questions, or have not received your invitation, please contact the Masonic Villages at (717) 367-1121, ext. 33849.

Preserving a National Treasure

Welcome



The Masonic Temple in Philadelphia stands as a landmark for Masons, the community and the nation. The architectural wonder has stood for 133 years serving as a majestic headquarters for the fraternity, amazing visitors with its beauty and educating the public through the library and museum. Thanks to generous donations from lodges and individuals to the Grand Master's Temple Initiative appeal, the Temple is receiving some much-needed restorations and upgrades. These improvements will allow the Temple to preserve Freemasonry's past for future generations to enjoy.



A handcrafted mahogany visitor's desk was added to the Temple's Broad Street entrance. It will provide a formal welcome for visitors as they tour the lodge rooms, which are based on themes of the ancient architectural world, and the museum, which contains thousands of interesting Masonic artifacts. An information stand was also added. Ready to welcome guests are Bros. Chuck Lorman, facility staff (left), and Danny Hinds, building superintendent (right).

Floor

The marble floors throughout the entire Temple were gently cleaned and polished, restoring their original luster and shine. This project was completed just in time for the "Initiated Eye" exhibit now on display.



Before



"Initiated Eye" exhibit

After

Photos taken by Dennis Buttleman, Curator, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

Archway



Before

This archway above the William Rush exhibit was subject to high humidity levels and was severely damaged. Located right above people's heads, it was a major eyesore for the Temple. The archways received a detailed makeover, including the use of a stamp to replicate the intricate stars (shown to the right).

After



Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning



The HVAC system required the temporary removal of stairs.



The new HVAC system won't be seen, but its job will have a huge impact on the preservation of the Temple's architecture, as well as the museum collection. It will control humidity levels and prevent mold. This upgrade was the most important to protecting the future of the Temple, inside and out.

Banquet Room

This Banquet Room, located on the ground level of the Temple, is used by local lodges for their monthly meetings. Columns enclosed in black casing were revealed, partitions were removed, carpet was added, fluorescent lighting was replaced with recessed lighting and chandeliers, a drop ceiling was revamped with more detailed tiling, a coat room was built and a track was added to hang artwork. The room now offers a more elegant and social atmosphere for lodge events and public usage. Bro. J.J. DeLuca's contracting firm completed the upgrades, which were showcased at the Grand Gala in November.

Before



After

Shown below is the feather technique used to create a faux marble finish on the columns.



How You Can Help

Great progress has been made in the effort to protect and sustain the Temple, but significant repairs are still needed. Your Grand Lodge is committed to providing funding for projects, but they cannot do it alone. If you would like to contribute to preserving the heritage of Pennsylvania Freemasonry, please contact the Office of Gift Planning, Masonic Charities, at (800) 599-6454, or by e-mail at giving@pagrandlodge.org to learn how you can support the Grand Master's Masonic Temple Initiative.

Diamond Level Contributors

Anonymous
David L. Bageley
Donald P. Barber
Paul R. Battenberg
Martin H. Bayer
Jay G. Brossman
William D. Bucci
Franklin D. Caltagirone
Richard H. Cherry
Henry C. Clemons
Jacob L. Cohen

Gordon M. Conniff
John E. Croman
John W. Dean
Raymond J. DeRaymond
Raymond T. Dietz
Walter Dunkle
James M. Ecker
Carl L. Fisher
Curtis J. Frantz
William K. Gano
Joseph Gentile

Donald F. Geschwindt
William F. Gottschalk
Robert B. Greer
Mark A. Haines
William A. Herd
Clifton R. Hess
Eugene W. Hieber
Warren C. Hillbish
Robert B. Jones
Marvin C. Kauffman
Arthur D. Knowles

William R. Letcher
John R. Marcucci
Jack W. Marsh
John L. McCain
Esther A. McFarland
George F. McGrory
John W. Milroy
Ronald L. Nicarry
Robert G. Page
William E. Petter
Marlin L. Plymette

Robert W. Reichard
Watson C. Stoner
A. Ralph Taylor
John W. Taylor
Kurt R. Tesche
Kenneth Vehec
Jeffrey M. Wonderling

Photos taken by Dennis Buttleman, Curator,
The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

Contributors to the Masonic Temple Initiative

The following lodges and Masonic organizations, through their generous donations, have made improvements to the Masonic Temple a reality. The list includes gifts of \$100 and above received January 2004 through Dec. 15, 2006. Great care has been taken to ensure the accuracy and thoroughness of the names listed below. If an error has been made, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at (717) 367-1121, ext. 33460. We will be happy to correct our records. Thank you.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Refurbish Corinthian Hall Furniture (benches)
Concordia Lodge No. 67
\$105,720</p> <p>Corinthian Hall Repairs
Cassia-Mount Horeb Lodge No. 273
\$15,000</p> <p>Refurbish Furniture in Norman Hall
Solomon's Lodge No. 3
\$9,500</p> <p>Refurbish Furniture in Ionic Hall and Repairs to Ionic and Gothic Halls
Spring City Lodge No. 553
\$3,900</p> <p>Phoenix Lodge No. 75
\$4,032</p> <p>Stichter Lodge No. 254
\$3,900</p> <p>Boyetown Lodge No. 741
\$3,450</p> <p>Mt. Pickering Lodge No. 446
\$3,450</p> <p>Royersford Lodge No. 585
\$3,429</p> <p>Perkiomen Lodge No. 595
\$3,420</p> <p>Grand Banquet Room
Columbia Lodge No. 91
\$5,500</p> <p>\$20,000 and up
Penna. Meridian Sun Lodge No. 2</p> <p>\$15,000 - \$19,999.99
Lodge No. 9
Mozart Lodge No. 436
St. Alban Lodge No. 529</p> <p>\$10,000 - \$14,999.99
George Bartram - Paul Sand Lodge No. 298
Perseverance Lodge No. 21
Richard Vaux-Ivanhoe Lodge No. 384
Washington Lodge No. 59
Williamson - Corinthian Lodge No. 368</p> <p>\$5,000 - \$9,999.99
Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682
Ephrata Lodge No. 665
Infinity Lodge No. 546
Joseph H. Brown Lodge No. 751
Lodge No. 45
Lodge No. 106
William B. Hackenburg - Mount Moriah Lodge No. 155</p> <p>\$1,000 - \$4,999.99
Athelstan Lodge No. 482
Avalon Lodge No. 657
Brandywine Goddard Lodge No. 383
Chandler Lodge No. 227
Chartiers Lodge No. 297
Chartiers Valley Lodge No. 725
Coatesville Lodge No. 564
Corinthian Lodge No. 573
Cumberland Valley Lodge No. 315
Dallas Lodge No. 231
Equity Lodge No. 591
Friendship Williams Lodge No. 400
Hackenburg Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 19
Harford Lodge No. 445
Homestead-Amity Lodge No. 582
Howell Lodge No. 405
Huguenot Lodge No. 377
Isaac Hiester Lodge No. 660
Jerusalem Lodge No. 506
Kennett Square Lodge No. 475
Lafayette Lodge No. 199
Lodge No. 43
Lodge No. 62
Lodge No. 126
Milnor Lodge No. 287
Oxford Lodge No. 353
Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135
Perry-Keystone Lodge No. 392
Philadelphia-Potter Lodge No. 72
Pulaski Lodge No. 216
Richmond Lodge No. 230
Robert Burns Lodge No. 464
Robert A. Lamberton Lodge No. 487
Schiller Lodge No. 345
Skerratt Lodge No. 343
St. John's Lodge No. 435
Teutonia Lodge No. 367
Thomson Lodge No. 340
Tri County Lodge No. 643
West Chester Lodge No. 322
Widener Apollo Kensington Lodge No. 211
William L. Elkins Lodge No. 271
Williamson Lodge No. 309</p> <p>\$500 - \$999.99
Acacia Lodge No. 586
Andrew H. Hershey Lodge No. 764
Bellefonte Lodge No. 268
Bethlehem Lodge No. 283
Bluestone Lodge No. 338
Casiphia Lodge No. 551
Charles M. Howell Lodge No. 496</p> | <p>Clarion Lodge No. 277
Columbia Lodge No. 286
Community Lodge No. 744
Covenant-Excelsior Lodge No. 456
Cressona Lodge No. 222
Doric Lodge No. 630
Dormont Lodge No. 684
Duquesne-McKeesport Lodge No. 731
Edenburg Lodge No. 550
Emmaus Lodge No. 792
Eureka Lodge No. 302
Excelsior Mark Lodge No. 216
Factoryville Lodge No. 341
Fernwood Lodge No. 253
Frankford Lodge No. 292
Franklin-St. John's Trinity Lodge No. 221
Good Samaritan Lodge No. 336
Harmony Lodge No. 52
Harmony Lodge No. 429
Harrisburg Lodge No. 629
Harry A. Houseman Lodge No. 717
Hazle Azalea Fellowship Lodge No. 327
Hebron Lodge No. 465
Hermann-Humboldt Lodge No. 125
Hobah Lodge No. 276
Hyde Park Lodge No. 339
Juniata Lodge No. 282
King David Lodge No. 763
Kingston Lodge No. 395
Lodge of the Craft/
Westminster Lodge No. 433
Lowther Manor Lodge No. 781
Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275
McKinley-Stuckrath Lodge No. 318
Mitchell Lodge No. 296
Moscow Lodge No. 504
Moshannon Lodge No. 391
Mount Moriah Lodge No. 300
Mount Union Lodge No. 688
Mount Zion Lodge No. 774
Muncy Lodge No. 299
Nicholson Lodge No. 438
Noble Lodge No. 480
North Hills Lodge No. 716
Old Fort Lodge No. 537
Orrstown Lodge No. 262
Ossea Lodge No. 317
Parian Lodge No. 662
Perry Lodge No. 458
Pilgrim Lodge No. 712
Pocono Lodge No. 780
Quakertown Lodge No. 512
Reading Lodge No. 549
Red Lion Lodge No. 649
Riverside Lodge No. 503</p> | <p>Sharon Lodge No. 598
Slatington Lodge No. 440
Spring City Lodge No. 553
Spring Creek Lodge No. 802
Springfield-Hanby Lodge No. 767
St. John's Lodge No. 115
St. John's Lodge No. 233
State College Lodge No. 700
Steelton-Swatata Lodge No. 775
Stephen Bayard Lodge No. 526
Swatara Lodge No. 267
Tacony Lodge No. 600
Temple Lodge No. 248
Tennis Lodge No. 371
Tyrian Lodge No. 644
University Lodge No. 51
Verona Lodge No. 548
W.K. Bray Lodge No. 410
Washington Lodge No. 156
West Chester Lodge No. 681
White Rose Lodge No. 706
William D. McIlroy Lodge No. 269
William D. McIlroy Lodge No. 758
William Penn Lodge No. 732
William S. Snyder Lodge No. 756
Williamson Lodge No. 307
Wilmington Lodge No. 804
Wilson-Joppa Lodge No. 714</p> <p>\$1,000 - \$499,999
Arcana Lodge No. 580
Ashara Lodge No. 398
Bloss Lodge No. 350
Bradford Lodge No. 749
Canawacta Lodge No. 360
Canton Lodge No. 415
Centennial Lodge No. 544
Charity Lodge No. 144
Concord Lodge No. 625
Cromwell Lodge No. 572
Eulalia Lodge No. 342
Freedom Lodge No. 328
Fritz Lodge No. 308
H. Stanley Goodwin Lodge No. 648
Lake Erie Lodge No. 347
Lansdowne Lodge No. 711
Lamberton Lodge No. 476
Lewisville Lodge No. 556
Liberty Lodge No. 505
McKean Lodge No. 388
Monaca-Center Lodge No. 791
Myrtle Lodge No. 316
North East Lodge No. 399
Northern Star Lodge No. 555
Oakdale Lodge No. 669</p> | <p>Oasis Lodge No. 416
Olive Temple Lodge No. 557
Penn Lodge No. 709
Penn-Morris Lodge No. 778
Peter Williamson Lodge No. 323
Titusville Lodge No. 754
Tyrian Lodge No. 362
Union Lodge No. 334
Vaux Lodge No. 406
Washington Lodge No. 265
Waverly Lodge No. 301
Waymont Lodge No. 542
Westmoreland Lodge No. 518
William H. Miller Lodge No. 769</p> <p>Other Masonic Organizations
\$1,000 - \$499,999
Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania
Lu Lu Shriners
Masonic District 36
The Grand Council of Royal & Select Master Masons of Penna.
25th Masonic District School of Instruction
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Philadelphia
Fifth Masonic District School of Instruction
\$501 - \$999,999
Seventh Masonic District School of Instruction
Howell Royal Arch Chapter No. 202
Masonic District 11
Masonic Homes Patton School Alumni Association
Pennsylvania DeMolay
Uniontown Lodge of Perfection 14th Degree
Valley of Harrisburg A.A.S.R.
Williamsport Consistory
\$100 - \$499,999
Elizabethtown Chapter Order of DeMolay
Mt. Nittany Scottish Rite Club, Valley of Pittsburgh
Lancaster York Rite Masonry, Goodwin Council No. 19
Pennsylvania Shield & Square Club
The Gateway to the West Council No. 5
Triune Tabernacle VII, HRAKTP Orak Grotto</p> |
|---|--|---|---|

“The Initiated Eye” Now on Display

Exhibit featuring Masonic symbols within our nation's capital showing through March at the Masonic Temple

by Glenys Waldman, Librarian, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

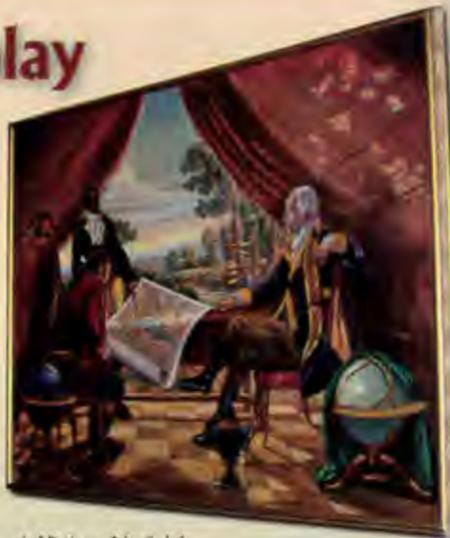
The exhibition, “The Initiated Eye: Secrets, Symbols, Freemasonry and the Architecture of Washington D.C.,” has been lent to the Masonic Temple by the Octagon, the Museum of the American Architectural Foundation, in Washington, D.C. “The Initiated Eye” consists of paintings by Peter Waddell, which are now decorating the south hallway of the Temple in Philadelphia. They will remain here until the end of March 2007.

Waddell's paintings illustrate the Masonic ideals and designs as depicted in the geometrical layout of our nation's capital. This theme is nicely complemented by the architecture of our National Historic Landmark, the Masonic Temple, whose every lodge hall, corridor and staircase bespeak the lofty ideals of the oldest and largest fraternity. In addition, the Temple is set in the center of an equally geometrically laid-out city: a simple grid overlaid by a few diagonal streets. It was in Philadelphia that the first Grand Lodge was formed in 1731 and where our Founding Fathers, many of whom were Freemasons, declared independence, guided the Revolution and drafted the Constitution. It was from Philadelphia that the new Federal Government moved its seat to Washington, D.C., which was considered a more central location for the capital of a growing, young country.

Born in 1955, Peter Waddell, a native of New Zealand, has been a U.S. citizen since 2003. His specialty is painting images of historic places showing the people and artifacts as they were in the hey-day of the particular place or building – in other words, “being lived in.” Waddell ensures historical accuracy by studying both written accounts of the period and material evidence. Artist in residence at the Tudor Place Historic House and Garden in the Georgetown section of our nation's capital, Waddell has exhibited frequently and has done paintings for Mount Vernon, as well as other historic mansions in Virginia and Maryland.

The Octagon, the Museum of the American Architectural Foundation (AAF), is a nationally recognized museum of architecture and design located two blocks from the White House. One of Washington, D.C.'s earliest residences, the building is a National Historic Landmark (1960) and is accredited by the American Association of Museums (1973). The Octagon's mission is to educate the public about architecture, design, historic preservation and stewardship of our architectural heritage. These goals are accomplished through on-site exhibitions, traveling exhibitions, collections and a wide variety of creative public programs.

To learn more and see the pictures online, visit www.peterwaddell.com/initiated.html. A catalogue of “The Initiated Eye” exhibit is for sale through the Masonic Temple Gift Shop for \$10.



A Vision Unfolds

Book Suggests Influence on Early Freemasonry

by Bro. Charles S. Canning, Academy of Masonic Knowledge

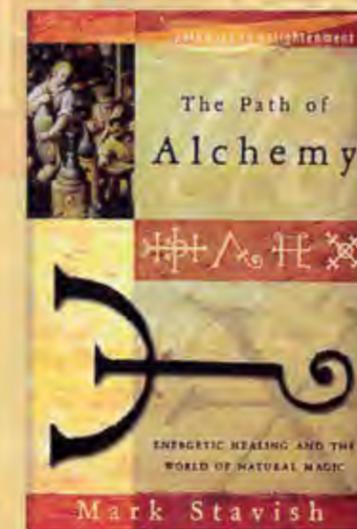
A Review of “The Path of Alchemy: Energetic Healing and the World of Natural Magic”
by Bro. Mark Stavish

I met the author recently at a preliminary meeting of the soon-to-be first Traditional Observance Lodge in Pennsylvania. The book intrigued me. It is in that classification of books that are not Masonic, but of Masonic interest. It contains material in the realm of ‘esoterica,’ which stems from the pre-Enlightenment period. One might review Masonic scholars like McNulty to get a Masonic orientation to understand esoteric thought and the Renaissance mystical tradition. Most Masonic scholars do not include the esoteric schools in their writings, yet we find esoteric references as contributing to the development of the Craft.

“The Path of Alchemy” is a guide to plant and mineral alchemy, which explains how to create and apply “medicines for the soul.” Bro. Stavish ties alchemy with the Kabbalah, astrology and the four elements in the process of creating distillations for physical healing and spiritual growth. Behind these procedures, elixirs, “stones,” distillations, astrological tables and levels of “worlds” in the Kabbalah tree of life, we can find concepts and principles that can give us background and understanding of our Masonic ritual. The text acquaints one with alchemy, laboratory procedures, the initiatic experience, symbolism and learning. Those interested in the spiritual side of Masonry may find “The Path of Alchemy” a guide to that inner experience. The text reminds us of the early period of history when the natural sciences were developing, and early Freemasonry included scientific thinkers, who also engaged in alchemy, the Hermetic tradition.

Bro. Stavish provides an idea of initiation, the beginning of our going deeper and deeper into our own awareness to meet the “Master” within. A Masonic journey is one of self-understanding with the goal of becoming that “perfect ashler.” There seems to be a similar ring, as the goal of alchemy is to perfect the human personality.

This is not a Masonic text, yet I found “The Path of Alchemy” to be an interesting and informative read. One may speculate how much ancient knowledge may have contributed, at least indirectly, to the development of Freemasonry. The text helps us appreciate a historical perspective of those aspects of traditional western magic that may shed light on the Masonic degrees and the development of speculative Freemasonry.



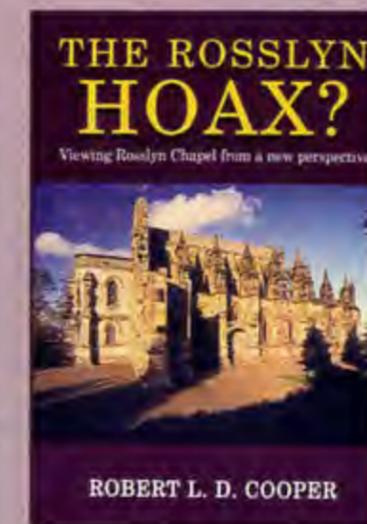
A MASONIC BOOK REVIEW TO PERUSE

by Cathy Giaimo, Assistant Librarian, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

Rosslyn Chapel had been the subject of many theories connecting it to Scottish Freemasonry, Knights Templar and “lost treasure,” not to mention the part it played in the book and movie *The Da Vinci Code*. Now author and Scottish Freemason, Bro. Robert L.D. Cooper tries to sort out fact from fiction in “The Rosslyn Hoax? Viewing Rosslyn Chapel from a new perspective.”

Bro. Cooper, curator of the Grand Lodge of Scotland Museum and Library, has had ample opportunity to consider the many questions that arise from the ideas espoused by Masons and non-Masons. He begins by identifying two approaches to the study of Freemasonry, the “Academic Approach” and the “Popular or Alternative (or Mythological) Approach,” as well as the various techniques used by authors to get their points of view across to the reader.

Bro. Cooper then delves into some of the history of the Scottish stonemasons' connections to the Sinclair (St. Clair) family in the early 17th century, Scottish Freemasonry and the various individuals important to Freemasonry's formation and history. This



leads into chapters on the history of the St. Clair family, who built the chapel and their relevance to Scottish Freemasonry. Other chapters are devoted to Rosslyn Chapel, its description and the meaning of the symbolism found inside, the Kirkwall scroll and its link to Freemasonry, as well as other “evidence” that has been used by writers to support their Templar theories.

Also included in this book is an extensive bibliography not only of the usual historical sources (which are numerous), but also a number of titles that fall into the speculative or alternative history, some of which can be found in your library.

By writing this book, Bro. Cooper hopes to add some thoughtful evidence to the Rosslyn Chapel story from a Scot's viewpoint, while

pointing out the unique aspects in Scottish Freemasonry. While not wishing to destroy the myths that have surrounded it, he has put forth reasonable explanations that the reader may want to consider.

To borrow this book or any others, visit the Circulating Library at www.pagrاندodge.org, or call (800) 462-0430, ext. 1933.

Lodge No. 9 Brings Christmas Cheer

Sixty brethren and family members of Lodge No. 9, Philadelphia, held a Christmas Party for the 37 youth of the Masonic Children's Home and the seven adults of the Bleiler Caring Cottage at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown on Dec. 3, 2006. The festive event included a catered holiday meal, as well as a visit from Santa, who handed out gifts.

Prior to the party, each of the children and adults were asked to write a wish list for an item or items that totaled \$150. Bro. Robert J. Burns, W.M., and Debra Congdon; Bro. Wayne D. Greenberg, P.M., and his wife, Karen; Bro. Rick Santella, J.W., and Maria Comp; and Bro. Steve Arnawoodian, P.M., shopped for the gifts, which were wrapped by Bro. William M. Norris, P.M. and his wife, Betty. Other arrangements were made by Bro. William Woodhead, Treasurer, and Bro. David W. Woodhead, P.M., Secretary, who played the role of Jolly Ol' St. Nick. The lodge generously hosts this event every two years at the Masonic Village, which is a large undertaking but a wonderful highlight for the children and adults alike.

The lodge also donated money to children's home resident Kristen Malasky Norman, who was named All American Cheerleader at National Cheerleading Camp this past summer at Millersville University, to help with the cost of her trip to Florida to cheer in the Orange Bowl Pre-Game Show in January.



Thanking Those Who Sacrificed Everything

Somerset Lodge No. 358 wanted to honor the country's veterans, young and old, in a unique way, so they turned to a forgotten custom. For the past two years, the lodge has held a canteen on Veteran's Day.

During World War II, soldiers leaving for and returning from battle could stop at a canteen and receive food, drinks, clothing and cigarettes. Canteens were often located near train stations and staffed by local volunteers. The Red Cross, Salvation Army, USO and local organizations were responsible for comforting thousands of soldiers.

Members of the Somerset Lodge wanted to give veterans another opportunity to enjoy coffee, doughnuts, friends and good conversations, so for the second year in a row, they opened their lodge as a canteen from 6 to 11 a.m. on Veteran's Day.

"We wanted something catchy the guys would respond to," Bro. Jim Holiday, Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 358, said. "We start early because of all the other activities for veterans that day. We get them stocked up with coffee and doughnuts to prepare them for their busy day."

The event was held to honor veterans, but the doors were opened to anyone from the community, Bro. Holiday said. Visitors began arriving at 6:30 a.m. and included World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and Iraqi War veterans, who spent the morning sharing stories with each other. One World War II veteran proudly donned his uniform, which still fit after more than 60 years.

"We don't do it for individual publicity," Bro. Holiday said. "It's a way for the Masons to say thanks to those who allow us to do what we do."

It is not intended to promote the lodge; however, the event does let people know there is an active and viable Masonic lodge in Somerset. Several visitors asked what Freemasonry is, and although no one was solicited for membership, information was provided to the public about what it means to be a Mason.

Support came from the community, as well as the lodge. Wal-



Daily American Staff photo by Bob Leverknight
Korean War vet Arnold Weidner, wearing his uniform from the Military Police unit he served in, talks to Bro. Jim Holiday, Worshipful Master of the Somerset Lodge.

Mart donated money and Dunkin' Donuts supplied doughnuts. One local resident who attended previously and thought it was a great idea, showed up at 6 a.m. this year, brownies in hand, to volunteer.

Rep. and Bro. Bob Bastian provided the coffee, and Herring Motors owner Bro. Patrick Herring and Hemminger Homes owner Bro. Jack Hemminger contributed monetary donations. Sister Bonnie Landis baked two cakes featuring an Iwo Jima flag and "Thank You to All Veterans."

"It's a great day," Bro. Holiday said. "It's a chance for vets of the community to be thanked, and it helps in getting more and more people aware of what Masons do."

More than 60 people attended last year's canteen, and Somerset Lodge plans to hold the event again this year.

In the Tradition of...

For generations, Bro. Jack Baum's family has been part of the brotherhood known for their promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind. His Masonic family tree includes his father, who was also a Shriner; his uncle; and his natural grandfather and foster grandfather, who were both officers.

Bro. Jack, of Union Lodge No. 334, wishes to see the fraternity's altruistic efforts continue for generations to come, so he and his wife, Evelyn, decided to make a donation to the Masonic Charities Fund.

"I've always been impressed by the Masonic Charities and the good work Masons do in many areas, especially the residence for children," Bro. Jack said. "The Masonic Charities Fund supports the villages and a number of other charities helping people who wouldn't otherwise be able to live a good life."

The Masonic Charities Fund supports scholarships, educational loans, personal and disaster relief, restoration and renovation of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia and the Monument Preservation Fund.

The Baums' generous decision to give to the Masonic Charities Fund was made easier thanks to Bro. Alvin H. Blitz, Esq., Chief Director of Gift Planning, who made several personal visits to their home in New York. He assisted them in selecting the option that would best serve them and the Masonic Charities.

Through their charitable gift annuity, they receive a fixed rate of return on their contribution, which is deposited directly into their personal account. They also received a federal income tax charitable deduction. After their deaths, the Masonic Charities Fund will receive the remaining amount.

"We selected that option for two reasons: to support the [Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania] and we needed the cash flow, and this was a good way to get both," Bro. Jack said. "The process was very well-handled."

Bro. Jack's career as an electrical engineer took him from Harrisburg, Pa., to Buffalo, N.Y., to Bradford, Pa., where he joined the Masonic lodge more than 50 years ago, then to Corning, N.Y.



Evelyn and Jack Baum

Helping Others

He received his 50-Year Service Emblem, presented to him by officers of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Evelyn was a "professional volunteer," according to her husband. Among her volunteer ventures, she worked with the Red Cross, Meals on Wheels, local hospitals and churches.

The Baums made a habit of traveling throughout the years to Europe, the West coast, on a tour of National Parks, Florida and Gettysburg. Bro. Jack was fortunate to travel to several foreign countries through his job. He embraced the differences in the way foreigners lived and worked.

He retired in 1987, and the Baums settled in New York to be close to their sons. He and Evelyn, whose marriage spans 52 years, reside in an assisted living home near the Finger Lakes and wine country.

Bro. Jack's Masonic history makes him proud because of the work Masons do in assisting others. His willingness, and the willingness of all donors, to contribute to the growing needs of the Masonic Charities will ensure the Masonic tradition of helping continues for many more generations.

See the back cover for more information on how you can give to the Masonic Charities through a charitable gift annuity.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Visits the Pentagon

R.W. Grand Master Aungst was pleased to present the 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael W. Hagee, with a Tun Tavern Commemorative Sculpture at a Pentagon Ceremony on Oct. 18. Tun Tavern is the landmark beginning of Pennsylvania Freemasonry and the U.S. Marine Corps.

"We were very honored to meet General Hagee and his staff," Executive Director of The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, Andrew A. Zellers-Frederick, said.

The Grand Master also presented Gen. Hagee with a special *Letter of Commendation* to recognize his accomplishments throughout four decades of serving as a U.S. Marine Corps Officer. A Tun Tavern model was also donated to the new National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico.

Photo Credit: Sgt. Christopher Tirado



Christmas Party Yields Toys, Fun for All

The 15th Masonic District 10th Annual Christmas Party was held Nov. 25, 2006, at the Harford Fireman's Hall in Harford, Pa.

The evening is a social event to celebrate the holiday season and also to provide toys for needy children. Everyone who attends brings a new toy to be given to the Toys for Tots programs in the area.

More than 100 brethren, wives and invited guests attended the event and donated more than 150 new toys for the program. Harford Lodge No. 445 invited the Masonic widows who reside in the area to attend as their guests, and seven were able to attend. A wonderful buffet dinner was provided by Bro. Charles S. Welch, W.M., Freedom Lodge No. 328, and dancing was enjoyed by all.

Starting left forefront: Bro. Sylvestal C. Roe, P.M., and lady Bonnie; Bro. Curtis G. Hepler, P.M., and lady Shirley; Lady Helen and Bro. Carlton W. Whitehead, P.M.; Bro. Johnnie Florance, P.M., and lady Martsha, all of Lodge No. 338



A Grand Opening...

The Grand Lodge of Cyprus

by Glenys Waldman, Librarian,
The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

Not since 1980, when Freemasonry was formally established in Cyprus with a District Grand Lodge, under the United Grand Lodge of England (Freemasonry having been in Cyprus since 1888), has there been such Masonic excitement: a new Grand Lodge has been consecrated! Through the courtesy of Mayor Michael Zampelas, of Nicosia, capital of Cyprus, and the Antiquities Department of the Republic of Cyprus, a Masonic temple was set up especially for this great occasion at the Famagusta Gate in the Venetian walls of the city.

The Consecration ceremony was performed on Oct. 8, 2006, in the presence of 235 Brethren and 90 other distinguished guests, including our own R.W. Grand Master Ronald A. Aungst, Sr.; the M.W. Grand Master of Greece, Spyridon Paizis; and the M.W. Grand Master of Austria, Michael Kraus. Accompanying Grand Master Aungst from Pennsylvania were Deputy Grand Master Stephen Gardner, Past Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson, Executive Secretary of the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges; and Allen J. Henninger, Senior Grand Deacon. Bro. Jacob Vorkas was consecrated and welcomed as the world's newest Grand Master, together with his grand officers.

In Cyprus at present, there are 12 lodges operating under the English Constitution. The new Grand Lodge of Cyprus was formed from six lodges originally on the rolls of the Grand Lodge of Greece and will have lodges working in the Greek, Turkish, Armenian and English languages.

Well-populated by 3700 B.C., Cyprus has long been a crossroads between East and West. Nicosia, at nearly the geographical center of the island and the largest city and business center, has always been the capital. Because of its location in the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea, desire for control of Cyprus has spawned constant battles. Assyrians, Egyptians, Persians, Greeks and Romans all dominated it. (Under the Romans, copper, although known in other parts of the world, was principally mined here, hence the word "copper" through Latin *cuprium* shortened to *cuprum*, "metal of Cyprus").

Cyprus was part of the Byzantine Empire for 800 years, beginning in 364 A.D. King Richard I (the Lion-Hearted) of England pried it away in 1191 on his way to Jerusalem on the Third Crusade (1190-92), then sold the island to the Knights Templar. The unhappy natives chose Guy de Lusignan, who had meanwhile bought Cyprus from the Knights Templar, their ruler in 1192. (Lusignan was a part of Aquitaine, whose ruler, Queen Eleanor of England, was the mother of Richard II!) Guy, in his zeal for fortification, constructed great Gothic buildings, some of which are still extant. His Lusignan dynasty reigned until 1489, when the Venetians wrested Cyprus from them. Their fortress engineer, Giulio Savorgnano, in an effort to keep out

the Ottoman Turks, oversaw the building of the walls that still stand. Only three gates, open sunrise to sunset, allowed access to Nicosia. One gate, Famagusta, would become the site of the Consecration of the Grand Lodge of Cyprus. This architectural gem, according to the Grand Lodge of Cyprus, was designed by Leonardo DaVinci. Although Cyprus is still plagued by unrest, the growth of Freemasonry is a hopeful sign.

Grand Master Aungst was most touched by the Mediterranean hospitality of his hosts. The informal dinner before the Consecration ceremony was particularly memorable, as the guests were presented with a buffet board groaning with local delicacies, featuring lamb (the most popular meat in Cyprus), fruit and especially, the power-punching schnapps, "ouzo!" "Food lasts for a moment, friendships last as long as determined, but memories last forever," the Grand Master said.

Left to right: Grand Master Aungst; Spyridon Paizis, M.W. Grand Master of Greece; Jacob Vorkas, M.W. Grand Master of Cyprus; and Andreas Ashiotis, M.W. Deputy Grand Master of Cyprus



Special Guests of the Masonic Temple

An Evening with the Baron

American Revolutionary War General Friedrich Wilhelm August Baron von Steuben

R.W. Grand Master Aungst poses with American Revolutionary War General Friedrich Wilhelm August Baron von Steuben, as portrayed by historian Bro. David Valuska, of Lodge No. 377. Dr. Valuska, a Professor Emeritus from Kutztown University, spoke at the Masonic Temple on Oct. 31 about the baron's life as a Freemason and trainer of Bro. and General Washington's Continental Army. The event was sponsored through the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.



Grand Lodge of South Carolina Explores the Temple



R.W. Grand Master Aungst and his wife, Norma (front, center), welcomed friends from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina to the Temple in November. The group spent half a day touring the Temple, enjoying lunch in the John Wanamaker Dining Room and exploring historical documents pertaining to their Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on display in The Masonic Library and Museum.



"How Can We Have Our Web Site Hosted on the Grand Lodge Server?"

Any lodge, school of instruction or state-wide appendant or concordant body can have its Web site hosted on the Grand Lodge server at no cost. Be sure to review the Grand Lodge Committee on Internet Services guidelines for posting a lodge Web site, which you can find at <http://www.pagrandlodge.org/programs/internetcommittee/guidelines.html>.

We provide hosting space, a user identification, a password and site security. Only ONE person should have access to the server to make changes to your pages. We do not create Web sites or pages. This is your responsibility. We don't allocate a specific file space limit to any group.

While we will try to be supportive, we are a committee of volunteers, and we have limited time to help diagnose problems in coding. You can use Web-based services such as <http://www.netmechanic.com/maintain.htm> for that. However, if you have trouble uploading material, or other problems, we will do our best to respond quickly.

To sign up, a written request should come from the Master or the Secretary of the lodge or other Masonic organization, identifying the full name, mailing address, e-mail address, day and nighttime phone numbers of your Webmaster.

Send your request to trlabagh@pagrandlodge.org or to:
Grand Lodge Committee on Internet Services
Thomas R. Labagh, Chairman
1244 Bainbridge Road
Elizabethtown, PA 17022



2007 Calendar of Events



Jan. 22	Presentation of the D.D.G.M. of the 5 th Masonic District	May 4	Lodge No. 559 – 125 th Anniversary
Jan. 25	Presentation of the D.D.G.M. of the 42 nd Masonic District	May 5	Lodge No. 309 – 150 th Anniversary
Feb. 7	Presentation of the D.D.G.M. of the 9 th Masonic District		Sectional School – Greensburg
Feb. 10	Secretaries' Seminar – Elizabethtown	May 8	Lodge No. 312 – 150 th Anniversary
Feb. 22	Presentation of the D.D.G.M. of the 47 th Masonic District	May 12	Lodge No. 652 – 100 th Anniversary
Feb. 23	Presentation of the D.D.G.M. of the 54 th Masonic District		Sectional School – Erie
Feb. 24	Presentation of the D.D.G.M. of the 26 th Masonic District	May 26	Lodge No. 306 – 150 th Anniversary
	Secretaries' Seminar – New Castle	June 2	Masonic Village Charity Mini Grand Prix – Elizabethtown
	Wardens' Seminar – Philadelphia		Spring Fling – Masonic Temple, Philadelphia
Feb. 26	Presentation of the D.D.G.M. of the 29 th Masonic District	June 10	Lodge No. 300 – 150 th Anniversary
Feb. 28	Constitution of Kite & Key Lodge No. 811 – Allentown	June 15	Lodge No. 653 – 100 th Anniversary
March 3	Secretaries' Seminar – Philadelphia	June 16	Lodge No. 304 – 150 th Anniversary
	Wardens' Seminar – Pittsburgh	June 23	Lodge No. 310 – 150 th Anniversary
	Sectional School – Muncy	June 29-30	June Quarterly Communication – Pittsburgh
March 10	Secretaries' Seminar – Muncy	Aug. 4	Lodge No. 108 – 200 th Anniversary
	Sectional School – New Castle	Sept. 13	Lodge No. 311 – 150 th Anniversary
March 15-17	Florida Masonic Reunions	Sept. 15	Autumn Day – Elizabethtown
March 24	Academy of Knowledge – Elizabethtown	Sept. 18	Lodge No. 308 – 150 th Anniversary
	Sectional School – Scranton	Sept. 19	Grand Master's Charity Golf Tournament – Central Region at Irem Shrine Country Club
March 29	Regional D.D.G.M. meeting – Elizabethtown	Sept. 24	Grand Master's Charity Golf Tournament – Western Region at Shannon Country Club
March 31	Wardens' Seminar – Region 7	Oct. 13	Lodge No. 655 – 100 th Anniversary
	Sectional School – Harrisburg	Oct. 20	Lodge No. 562 – 125 th Anniversary
April 2	Regional D.D.G.M. meeting – Lafayette Hill	Oct. 27	Academy of Knowledge – Elizabethtown
April 3	Regional D.D.G.M. meeting – Dallas	Oct. 29	Grand Master's Charity Golf Tournament – Eastern Region at Irem Shrine Country Club
April 4	Regional D.D.G.M. meeting – State College	Nov. 5	Lodge No. 561 – 125 th Anniversary
April 5	Regional D.D.G.M. meeting – Sewickley	Dec. 1	Philadelphia Gala – Masonic Temple
April 14	Wardens' Seminar – Region 3		DeMolay Statewide Class – Elizabethtown
	Sectional School – Wellsboro	Dec. 5-6	Quarterly Communication – Philadelphia
April 18	Lodge No. 781 – 50 th Anniversary	Dec. 14	Pittsburgh Gala
April 21	Lodge No. 307 – 150 th Anniversary	Dec. 26-28	Annual Communication – Philadelphia
	Lodge No. 651 – 100 th Anniversary		
	Wardens' Seminar – Muncy		
	Sectional School – Philadelphia		
April 28	Sectional School – Region 3		

NEW Masonic Charities Credit Cards Now Available

*Rewards for You,
Benefits for Masonic Charities*

We are proud to announce that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has recently launched a new Visa Credit Card. This new card is the only card that supports the Grand Lodge and our Masonic Charities. U.S. Bank is the new issuer and has a new rewards program that benefits members and allows you to support your fellow brethren, their loved ones and others who receive services through our Masonic Charities.



When you activate your new card and each time you use it, a donation is made to help support Pennsylvania Masonic Charities programs. In addition to great benefits which include no annual fee, your choice of rewards and 1,000 bonus points with your first purchase, U.S. Bank is pleased to provide a special introductory offer of **0% APR for 6 months on all purchases and bank transfers.**

Apply today using the Visa applications that are available at your lodge, or call U.S. Bank at (800) 853-5576, ext. 8878. **Remember, the old Visa card previously issued on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania stopped providing benefits to Pennsylvania Freemasonry as of Sept. 1, 2006.** Take this opportunity to transfer any balances on your old card, or any other credit card, by applying for this new card. Thank you in advance for using your purchases to support our Masonic Charities. *The creditor and issuer of the Visa Platinum Card is the U.S. Bank National Association ND.*

Members-Only Services:

*Masons
Helping
Masons*



The Member Services module at the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Web site shows how *Masons Helping Masons* is enacted on a daily basis in our Masonic fraternity. The Online Masonic Business Directory can put you in touch with a brother who has special services to offer, and the Employment Center can help you find a job or an employee with a background you can trust.

In the Business Directory, you can post a brief description of your business, service, hobby or personal expertise that you want to offer your fraternal brothers. This unique Masonic network presently includes over 500 business listings. Over 1,800 members have registered for this free service.

The Employment Center provides an opportunity to advertise to fellow Masons job opportunities inside your business. It also allows a member to post a résumé of his qualifications and experience, to make himself available to a potential employer. The unique aspect of this Employment Center is that it is possible for both parties to remain anonymous in the early stages of an inquiry and to communicate through the Employment Center both anonymously and discretely until such time as the parties choose to set up an interview. As of this writing, there are more than 300 résumés and 50 job listings posted in the system.

These opportunities are made available exclusively to Pennsylvania Masons. Only active members in good standing in Pennsylvania lodges are listed. While we cannot guarantee that your business transaction will be exactly as you want it, we can guarantee that it will be with a Pennsylvania Mason. Having that common bond does NOT guarantee a "Masonic discount" for services rendered or products purchased. Rather, it suggests that your brother will treat you fairly and squarely. To register for these exclusive member benefits, go to www.pagrandlodge.org and click on the Member Services panel.

Mason who wishes to attend. We encourage you to take advantage of this unique opportunity to learn from the great Masonic minds in today's world.

The great objective in Freemasonry is to gain useful knowledge, and the Academy provides a great opportunity for the Brethren to learn and to understand more about the significance of the Craft. Plan to attend and bring a brother or two along with you.

Pre-registration is required. To pre-register, simply e-mail Bro. Jim Standish at stndsh@comcast.net with your name, address, lodge number, telephone number and e-mail address. Or, send the above-requested information to Bro. Standish at 1 Pierce Court, Glen Mills, PA 19342-1787.

Make Your Life Smoke-Free

The Masonic Villages, through the American Lung Association, are offering smoking cessation classes for members of our Family of Freemasonry

The Masonic Villages became smoke-free communities effective Aug. 7, 2006, for all families, volunteers, visitors and those doing business on the Masonic Village properties. In order to assist individuals who wish to be free from the addiction of tobacco, the American Lung Association's "Freedom from Smoking" classes are being offered free of charge to all interested members and their families.

Dates are available in February and March. The classes will be held at the Elizabethtown campus. You will be notified of specific dates and times once they have been established, based on input received from interested individuals.

Anyone who would like to participate may return the coupon to the right to: Human Resources Office, Masonic Village, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. If you have any questions, call toll-free at (877) 753-3228.

You Can Do It!

I would like to attend a "Freedom from Smoking" session at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown.

My time preference is:

Daytime Evening

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Lodge or Chapter No. _____

Academy of Masonic Knowledge Slates Meeting



The next session of the Academy of Masonic Knowledge will be held on Saturday, March 24, in the Deike Auditorium of the Freemasons Cultural Center on the campus of Masonic Village in Elizabethtown, Pa. Registration will open at 8:30 a.m., with the program beginning at 9:30 a.m. A free lunch will be served at noon and the program will be completed by 3:30 p.m. All Masons are welcome to attend. Dress is coat and tie.

Speakers will be announced at a later date.

Twice a year the Academy meets at Elizabethtown, at which time two of the world's best scholars address the meeting on a Masonic subject in their field of expertise. Topics include diverse Masonic subjects, some of an historic nature with others of present-day relevance. The Academy meetings are open to ANY Master

Time is
Running Out
to...

Tour Ireland

August 9 - 18, 2007

from \$1,645 pp/dbl
from \$2,044 pp/sgl

Your Tour Includes:

- ✦ Travel through Shannon, Galway, Connemara, Donegal, Dublin, Kilkenny, Waterford, Cork, Killarney and the Dingle Peninsula, including visits to Cliffs of Moher, Kylemore Abbey, Belleek Pottery Centre, Glenveagh Castle and National Park, Guinness Storehouse, Kilkenny Castle, Waterford Crystal Factory, Rathbaun Farm and Blarney Woollen Mills
- ✦ 8 Nights First Class and Superior First Class hotels throughout
- ✦ Full Irish breakfast daily, except day of arrival, and 6 hotel dinners
- ✦ Full sightseeing by Deluxe Touring Motorcoach
- ✦ Tips and taxes in Ireland
- ✦ ... and much more!

You've asked... here it is!

Airfare is \$922.00 per person, round trip or, you may make your own air travel arrangements.

For more information or reservations, please call (800) 377-4222 and ask for the Travel Department no later than March 30, 2007.

Membership Maintenance Update

by Harvey F. Fishel, P.D.D.G.M., Chairman, Membership Maintenance Committee

At the beginning of his term, Ronald A. Aungst Sr., R.W. Grand Master, created the Membership Maintenance Committee to work toward decreasing the number of member suspensions for Non-Payment of Dues (NPDs) by 50 percent. The numbers are now in, and here is what was achieved. In 2005, 2,344 brethren were suspended for NPD. In 2006, the number decreased to 1,251, which is 1,172 fewer than the previous year, showing a 46.6 percent reduction in suspensions for NPD. There is more to the story, however. If all the lodges suspended delinquent brethren in April or June 2006, there would have been 3,247 NPD suspensions, or an increase of 138 percent over last year. This was avoided because the lodge committees, motivated by their District Deputy Grand Masters (D.D.G.M.'s), reduced the 3,247 delinquent brethren to only 1,251 actual suspensions by October 2006. This represents a 61.5 percent reduction of what this year's suspensions would have been had the brethren not stepped forward to make a difference. Through their efforts, 1,996 brethren were maintained.

There is a minimal percentage error in these calculations because some suspended brethren have since paid up and been

restored, and some numbers were estimated based on available data. For the purpose of this study, however, these numbers are sufficiently accurate to realize the following:

1. Lodges worked harder at collecting outstanding dues in 2006 than they had in previous years, and their efforts were rewarded. There have always been lodges with zero suspensions, but they had been the exceptions.
2. It was beneficial to mandate the D.D.G.M.'s approval prior to a member's suspension to document that sufficient effort had been put forth to avoid the action.
3. Personal contacts, rather than certified mailings, have had a positive impact on members' decisions to retain their membership.
4. Approximately 2,000 brethren are still Pennsylvania Freemasons who otherwise would not be due to this initiative.

Our thanks go to the Grand Master for creating this committee and selecting us to serve on it, the District Deputy Grand Masters for carrying out our recommendations and, especially, the lodge committees who actually got the job done.



Meeting in the Hills

Left to right: Bros. David M. Christner, Matthew A. Christner, Ellis H. Christner (shaking hands with Grand Master Aungst) and Michael A. Dolan, all of James Cochran Lodge No. 614; and Thomas K. Sturgeon, R.W. Senior Grand Warden.

On a beautiful June evening, just after 515 Masons had each enjoyed a 12 oz. New York Strip steak, Bro. Brian E. Shick of Marion Lodge No. 562 gavelled to order the 9th Annual Meeting in the Hills. Marion Lodge, along with King Solomon's Lodge No. 346 and James Cochran Lodge No. 614, have, with a dispensation from our Grand Masters, held this outdoor meeting, which is always preceded by a steak fry.

The Grand Master presented to eight newly raised brethren and their first-line signers the "Proud to Be a Freemason" license plate. In his comments to the brethren, he said, "If we practice love for each other, our families and our churches, we will all grow and prosper." He went on to add that as a result of this love, our fraternity will grow and survive. He challenged us to be committed to reinvigorating our lodges.

During the course of the meeting, Worshipful Master Shick was pleased to recognize Bros. Jeffrey M. Wonderling, P.D.D.G.M., and Paul E. Truxel III, P.M., for their roles in creating and nurturing the Meeting in the Hills, and Richard E. Bigley, P.M., for his efforts on behalf of Marion Lodge and the 30th Masonic District.

Grill Masters, left to right: Bro. Douglas A. Leichliter, Ligonier Lodge No. 331; and the following brethren of King Solomon's Lodge No. 346 - Kenneth L. Brooks, J.W.; John B. Truxel; Paul E. (Sam) Truxel III, P.M., Head Chef, with his arm around Grand Master Aungst; Silas Ash; William J. (Fred) Minsterman III; John C. (Jay) Fox III; and R. Jim Keith.



Photographs by Bro. Kenneth R. Brooks, Photographer

Sunshine Lodge: A Bright Idea!

Ossea Lodge No. 317 recently held District 17's first Sunshine Lodge, and the brethren have decided to make it an annual event. The Sunshine Lodge is intended to give those brethren who spend winters in Florida, work at night or do not drive at night, an opportunity to visit over breakfast and then attend a lodge meeting during daylight hours.

The guest speaker was Bro. Rod Cochran, P.M., of Westfield Lodge No 477. Bro. Cochran did a presentation on Tubal Cain and his relationship to Noah and other Genesis characters. This is a part of the fictional accounts in his book, "A Temple in Nod," which is the first book in a trilogy.



Bro. Rod Cochran, P.M., presents Grand Master Aungst with signed copies of two books he authored.

District 17 Picnic Packed with Fun!

At District 17's annual picnic on Sept. 17, 2006, 93 attendees enjoyed fellowship and plenty of good food. This year, Ossea Lodge No. 317 of Wellsboro, surprised Ossea Boy Scout troop 911 and Ossea Cub Scout Pack 911 with new flags (shown below).



Bro. Darren Patterson, P.M., of Ossea Lodge, had his son, James, capture everybody's attention by picking up a flag and starting his own parade. We hope he continues to follow in his father's and grandfather's (James Patterson, P.M.) footsteps.



Honoring Our Senior Brethren...



Left to right: Bros. Jesse C. McCullough, Sr., P.M., W.M.; Wallace L. Sturgeon, P.M., S.W.; June Earl Austin; Robert G. Thomas, Senior Deacon; John H. Petricko, D.D.G.M., District 47; Steven E. Koscelnak, J.W.; John M. Daniels; and Charles W. Madden, Sr., Trustee.

Born July 16, 1900, Bro. June Earl Austin remembers growing up in a log house on his father's farm in Virginia. He credits his long life to, "good genes, living an honest life according to the Bible, and no smoking and no alcohol!"

He came to Western Pennsylvania in 1936 where he worked on the Pennsylvania Railroad as a conductor until his retirement in 1966.

His fondest memories are of his wife Emma, who passed away in 1987, his family and recollections of conversations with President Harry S. Truman and Bing Crosby.

Bro. Austin may best be remembered for having served as mayor of Oakdale from 1995 to 2001 when, at the age of 101, he "gave it up to let some of the younger folks have a chance." Perhaps the oldest serving mayor ever in the United States, he couldn't be entered in the Guinness Book of World Records because documented proof of his age was unavailable.

In appreciation of his outstanding service, the members of Oakdale Lodge No. 669 and the community of Oakdale erected a beautiful monument and clock in the town square and dedicated it in his honor on Oct. 10, 1998.

Living on his own until September 2005, Bro. Austin now resides in an assisted living home. His eyesight has grown dim and his hearing has started to fade, but he still prides himself on being able to recite his Masonic Oath and Obligation!

In acknowledgement of Bro. Austin's 106th birthday, Jesse C. McCullough, W.M., along with officers and members of Oakdale Lodge No. 669 and John H. Petricko, District Deputy Grand Master for the 47th Masonic District, presented Bro. Austin with a special certificate in recognition of his dedicated service to Freemasonry.



Front row, left to right: Bros. Owen R. Hofecker, Jr., W.M., Handel Roberts, P.M., and John D. Ream, D.D.G.M.
Back row, left to right: Bros. William J. Huston, S.W., and James F. Hockycko, J.W.

At its November stated meeting, Greater Johnstown Lodge No. 538 presented Handel Roberts, P.M., with a certificate from the Grand Lodge recognizing his 50th year as a Past Master. Bro. Roberts, the senior of the lodge's 62 living Past Masters, was Worshipful Master of Sunnehanna Lodge in 1955, which later merged with Johnstown and Conemaugh Valley Lodges to become Greater Johnstown Lodge. Though in his 90's and partially blind, Bro. Roberts attributes his longevity and well-being to staying active by helping guide totally blind patients at a local treatment center.



On Sept. 4, 2006, George Bartram-Paul Sand Lodge No. 298 observed their 150th Anniversary as a Masonic lodge, when their founders met in their first Stated Meeting at the Masonic Temple on Chestnut Street in Philadelphia. On Oct. 28, 2006, the lodge celebrated at a banquet combined with the annual banquets of Lansdowne Lodge No. 711 and Springfield-Hanby Lodge No. 767.

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, recognized Bro. Walter M. Strine, P.M., of George Bartram-Paul Sand Lodge No. 298, for his dedicated and loyal Masonic service to his lodge and community. Bro. Strine is 99 years young and will have 75 years of Masonic Service in 2007 (shown above with Bro. Timothy T. Nowell, Worshipful Master of George Bartram-Paul Sand Lodge No. 298, and his Lady, Jan.).



Muncy Area Masons Burn Mortgage

Left to right: Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master; Marty R. Braim, W.M., Muncy Lodge; Bro. Daniel C. Berninger, President of Muncy Bank and Trust Co.; Bro. Roger D. Jarrett, Vice President of Muncy Masonic Temple Association.; and Kenneth W. McClintock, D.D.G.M. of the 18th Masonic District.

The members of Muncy Lodge No. 299 held a Mortgage Burning Celebration at their new Lodge Hall, located on E. Penn Street, Muncy, Pa., on Oct. 1, 2006.

A ground breaking ceremony was conducted in 2001 and construction was completed in 2002 for this \$600,000 structure, which houses the Lodge Room and Social Hall. Through numerous fund raising events and the financial support of the membership and friends, the mortgage has been eliminated.

The event was attended by more than 150 members and guests, at which time several members were recognized for their extraordinary efforts during the past six years during the capital campaign to eliminate the mortgage.



Pictured left to right with Bro. George N. White (seated) are Bros. Dean Sipe, Kenneth Gillam, Edward Morgan, Larry Harpster, Kenneth Harpster, James Yoder, Larry Harpster Jr. and Samuel Whiteman.

Officers and members of McVeytown Lodge No. 376 recently gathered to recognize Bro. George N. White as being the most senior member of their lodge. Bro. White was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry on Jan. 6, 1925, at the age of 21 and observed his 103rd birthday on Aug. 15, 2006.

...and Building toward Tomorrow



New Masonic Center Groundbreaking

With shovels (L to R): Rodney E. Boyce, D.D.G.M. of the 30th Masonic District; Joseph C. Nicola, W.M., James Cochran Lodge No. 614.; Brian E. Shick, W.M., Marion Lodge No. 562; James C. Mayes, W.M., King Solomon's Lodge No. 346; and Alan R. Sandusky, P.M., King Solomon's Lodge No. 346, President, CDS Building Corporation
Standing (L to R): CDS Building Corporation Board Members Richard E. Bigley, P.M., Marion Lodge No. 562, Secretary; Robert H. Lynn, Sr., Cochran Lodge No. 614; Charles G. Etling, P.M. (partially hidden) and Paul E. (Sam) Truxel III, P.M., King Solomon's Lodge No. 346; Karl E. Burkhart, Sr., P.M., Marion Lodge No. 562; Matthew A. Christner, P.M. (hidden) and Ellis H. (Alex) Christner, P.M., Cochran Lodge No. 614

On Sept. 2, 2006, the first shovelsful of earth were removed from the site of the new Pleasant Valley Masonic Center in Bullsken Township, Fayette County.

Ten years ago, members of King Solomon's Lodge No. 346, Marion Lodge No. 562 and James Cochran Lodge No. 614 formed the CDS Building Corporation to raise \$500,000 to construct a new Masonic Center. CDS's President, Bro. Alan R. Sandusky, told the crowd that the 8,000 sq. ft. facility, which will be built on five acres donated by Bro. Jeffrey Wonderling, P.D.D.G.M., King Solomon's Lodge No. 346 and his wife, Sharon, will also house three Order of Eastern Star chapters and a chapter of Royal Arch Masons. The new center will be a single-floor, handicap-accessible building with an office/conference room, a large dining hall and warming kitchen, restrooms, parking and storage areas.

Rodney E. Boyce, District Deputy Grand Master of the 30th District, congratulated the lodges on their efforts, proclaiming it a historic day for the lodges, and stating that this new facility will quickly become a hub for community activity and service. Robert Adamovich of Adamovich Design said that in designing the building he looked to Bro. George Washington's home at Mt. Vernon. He said if Bro. Washington were to come to the area and "wished to go to lodge here, maybe this would be the structure he'd be most comfortable with."



Ham-ing it up for Freemasonry!

Left to right: Bros. A. Lee Handy, Guide, Warren Park Lodge No. 613 (KB3APD); Ralph M. McCullough, P.M., Henry A. Phillips Lodge No. 337 (WA3YFQ); James E. Arnold, P.M., Valley Lodge No. 613, S.W. (KB8VVT); Warren A. Park, Entered Apprentice, Warren Park Lodge No. 613 (KB3MRV); Craig Kern, P.M., acting J.W., Germania Lodge No. 509 (KB3KBH); and Jerome W. Silverstein, P.M., Valley Lodge No. 613, Conferring W.M. (K3FKI).

On Oct. 16, 2006, during a First Degree Conferral at Valley Lodge No. 613, the candidate, a visitor and the other brethren shown in the photograph are all Amateur Radio Operators (Hams). One could say that that the brethren were "communicating" the degree information to the candidate!

Serving their Community



Standing, left to right: Bros. Gurney Miller, Loman Paul, Bud Strause and Jim Hochgertel

Kneeling, left to right: Bros. James Gayeuski, John Brobst, Joseph Adamick and Karl Hamilton

Not pictured: Bro. Jerry Nagle

Twice a year, members of Pulaski Lodge No. 216, Pottsville, remove trash and other debris from a two-mile stretch of Route 61 on the Pottsville city limits. The lodge began the project in 1994 and have been awarded the "10-Year Participant" signs (pictured) from PennDot, which are posted on the highway recognizing the lodge's benefit to the community.

Civil War Buffs & Brothers



Front row, left to right: Bros. Glen E. Paulhamus, P.D.D.G.M., District 18, Watsontown Lodge No. 401; Richard L. Betron, Sr., W.M., and Gary V. Hoover, P.M., Williamsport Lodge No. 106, Conferring Master; Martin L. Braen, P.M., Landmark Lodge No. 442; and Mark Kramer, P.M., Lowther Manor Lodge No. 781. Back row, left to right: Bros. Gene Kistner, Eureka Lodge No. 404; Eric Stahley, Washington Lodge No. 265; Thomas Shultz, Hazle Azalea Fellowship Lodge No. 327; Jamie A. Zacharda, (candidate) Lafayette Lodge No. 194; and Glen B. Bickhart, J.W., Lafayette Lodge No. 194

On June 16, 2006, with permission from the Grand Master, the Master Masons degree was conferred on Bro. Jamie A. Zacharda in Lafayette Lodge No. 194 by a degree team dressed in Civil War attire. Bro. Zacharda and the degree team are members of Thompson's Independent Battery C, Pennsylvania Light Artillery, and participate in various activities that the re-enactors are invited to attend.

Honoring a Beloved Servant



At Cressona Lodge No. 222's 13th annual golf tournament at Hidden Valley Golf Course, the lodge renamed the tournament the "Kenneth R. Blankenhorn, P.M., Memorial Golf Tournament." Bro. Ken was instrumental in organizing the event from preparation to securing sponsors and prizes for many years until his health started declining. Unique in many ways, it's a local favorite for its catered buffet, complimentary door prizes for all and flight winner presentations.

Pennsylvania Brethren Travel to England!



Bro. Mark Stavish, left, with Guy Ritchie, right

Bro. Mark Stavish, Wyoming Lodge No. 468, was recently invited to London by movie producer and director Guy Ritchie to be interviewed for a feature length film on the ancient mystery teachings and esotericism. The Grand Historian of the United Grand Lodge of England was also interviewed, and there will be considerable discussion of Freemasonry in the movie, as well. After its release, the movie will be followed up with a six-hour DVD, making it a significant contribution to our understanding of these ancient beliefs and their importance in modern life. Bro. Stavish is an internationally known authority on Hermeticism and Kabbalah, whose publications have appeared in nine languages.

See p. 11 for review of Bro. Stavish's book relevant to this topic.

Gathering of International Lodges Named St. Albans

The spirit and practice of Masonic ideals were again evident at the 53rd Gathering of International Lodges Named St. Albans, hosted by St. Alban Lodge 5322, Northumberland, England. Seven brethren of St. Alban Lodge No. 529, Philadelphia, and their wives were accompanied by Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, and his lady, Norma, in attending this example of one of the finest hallmarks of Freemasonry... universal brotherhood and fraternal love. In keeping with Freemasonry's commitment to charity, \$5.00 of each attendee's registration fee is donated to the restoration and maintenance fund for the chapel and crypt devoted to our lodges' namesake within the cathedral at St. Albans, England.

Instituted and meeting since 1953, the Gathering is hosted each year by a different lodge from within the group of 31 lodges in seven countries bearing the name, or a relationship to "St. Alban" and was attended this year by about 100 brethren and their ladies. The three-day event was filled with meeting old friends, making new ones and a shared interest in the similarities and differences of Masonic ritual among the various jurisdictions.

Members representing St. Alban Lodge No. 529 have been attending the event regularly since 2001. The Philadelphia lodge



Back row: Bros. Harry R. Carter III, J.W.; James J. Diem, P.M.; Richard P. DiMucci, P.M.; David M. Director, P.M., Secretary Front Row: Bros. Henry A. Seigel, P.M., Treasurer; Barry Lavinson, P.M.; Robert S. Santoro Sr., P.M., W.M.; Adam Kravitz, W.M., Lodge of Perfect Light 7971; and Patrick F. Gresley

On June 5, 2006, eight members of St. John's Lodge No. 115, Philadelphia, traveled overseas to witness the installation of Bro. Adam Kravitz to the chair of Worshipful Master in Lodge of Perfect Light No. 7971, London. Bro. Kravitz has been a member of St. John's Lodge since Feb. 15, 1993, and became a dual member with Lodge of Perfect Light in April 1999, after moving to London three years prior.

Eight members of St. John's Lodge and some of their wives traveled to London to support Bro. Kravitz during his installation. While there, they enjoyed the history and sights of England.



hosted the Gathering in 2004, its 130th Anniversary year, and has again committed to hosting Sept. 7-9, 2007. The events included a business meeting; a trip to the host lodge; a conferral of degrees; a Festive Board, which can best be described as fundamentally similar to Pennsylvania's Table Lodge; a semi-formal banquet and dance; and a boat tour up and down the river Tyne. This event embodies the philosophy and intent of Freemasonry and that while our ritual, landmarks and traditions form the skeleton of Freemasonry, the members are the flesh and muscles that hold it together and move it forward.

Pennsylvania Masonic YOUTH FOUNDATION

"Best Program All Year"

Kennett Lodge No. 475 in Kennett Square recently hosted a visit from Freedom Chapter, Order of DeMolay, which meets in Christiana. The chapter members were there to say "thank you" to Kennett Lodge and all the lodges in District 5 for helping to sponsor a member to the annual summer DeMolay Key Man Conference. Eleven members, three advisors, two Moms and the Chapter Sweetheart were in attendance. The young men performed a flawless exemplification of the DeMolay opening and closing ritual ceremony and performed the Obligation a member takes upon joining. Approximately 30 lodge members were in attendance.

After the ritual, the Chapter Sweetheart was invited into the room and called upon to explain the Masonic Clock fundraiser the chapter created to raise money for themselves and their charity projects. She later sold six clocks. Each member of the chapter was introduced, stated his name and where he lived. The members of the lodge were engaged and afterward complimented the members on their ritual work. During the final Question & Answer segment of the program, the lodge members asked numerous questions about DeMolay, its history and its namesake, Jacques DeMolay, last Grand Master of the Knights Templar. Some of the Past Masters inquired about the details of sponsoring a chapter.

The Master Councilor of the chapter, Kris Walkling, received a generous donation and an invitation to participate in various upcoming lodge events. After retiring to the dining area for pizza, one lodge member was overheard telling the Worshipful Master, "Best program all year."



George B. Zeiner, P.M., Worshipful Master of Kennett Lodge No. 475, stands next to Master Councilor Kris Walkling, surrounded by the members and Sweetheart of Freedom Chapter.

DeMolay Honors "Dad" Williamson

Pennsylvania DeMolay honored Samuel C. Williamson, R.W.P.G.M., on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2006, when 32 new members were inducted at the "Dad" Williamson Class. An all-star team of DeMolays from across the state conferred the induction ceremonies. The program included a special luncheon and 80th birthday party for "Dad" Williamson.

"Dad" Williamson's DeMolay experience began in McKinley Chapter that met in Plum Boro, near Pittsburgh. He served as Executive Officer for 13 years and is also a Grand Treasurer Emeritus of DeMolay International. He is the Founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation.



Bro. Stark Sets His Name in Type

By Giving Back to the Fraternity that Prepared Him for Success

The Stark Atrium is the new name for the large lobby space that is central to Memorial Hall at the Masonic Conference Center - Patton Campus. Constructed in 1998, this is the first area to be named as a result of the Capital Campaign for the Masonic Charities of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and represents a very significant contribution by Bro. Robert F. Stark to the Masonic Villages and the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation. His interest in giving back to the fraternity and to youth is natural - he credits much of his personal and fraternal success to his experiences with DeMolay.

Bro. Bob is a 45-year member of Pennsylvania Freemasonry. He was entered into Lucius H. Scott Lodge No. 352 on March 13, Crafted on April 10 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on May 8, 1961.

Bro. Bob's introduction to Freemasonry came from his involvement with DeMolay, which he joined at the age of 19, on Feb. 21, 1959, as a Charter Member of Chester Chapter, Order of DeMolay. Bro. Bob was a DeMolay prodigy, for in just two short years, he had served as Master Councilor and Scribe of the chapter. He also received two key awards - the Representative DeMolay Award and Distinguished Service Award, and ultimately was honored as a recipient of the Degree of Chevalier.

Not long after he joined the lodge, he became Chapter Advisor of Chester Chapter, and led the chapter to national recognition as Chapter of the Year. The chapter had a reputation as one of the top chapters for many years. He served on the staff of many national DeMolay Leadership Conferences, and was renowned for his public speaking abilities and his ritualistic performances. He was awarded the Guild of the Leather Apron, also known as the Advisor of the Year Award, in 1966.

Bro. Bob served as District Deputy for DeMolay District 41 in the southeast corner of Pennsylvania for many years.



Above, left to right: Bros. Joseph E. Murphy, C.E.O. for the Masonic Villages; Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master; Robert F. Stark; Samuel C. Williamson, R.W.P.G.M.; Alvin H. Blitz, Chief Director of Gift Planning for the Masonic Charities; and Thomas R. Labagh, Executive Director for the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation

He also served as Director of Membership for New Jersey DeMolay in the mid-1970s for several years when they needed his expert services.

Bro. Bob served as Worshipful Master in 1969 and again in 1977. After the merger of Lucius H. Scott Lodge on Dec. 27, 1994, Bro. Bob transferred his membership to Concord Lodge No. 625.

Bro. Stark is a court stenographer, having attended Temple University and graduating from the Stenotype Institute of Washington, D.C., in 1959. Recognized for his expert skills, he was the National Typewriting Champion in 1964. He has taught and written about his craft for many years. He is a court reporter for the San Diego Superior Court of California and to this day has avoided computerization, while still providing the fastest turn-around of court documents in the district.

Bro. Bob was coroneted an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, with the 33rd in 1979. He was a resident of Broomall and has lived in San Diego, Calif., for the past 26 years. While living in San Diego, he studied acting and starred in several plays. He is also a member of the Franklin Legacy Society.

Scholarships Available!

The annual scholarship program of the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation will select between 20 and 30 students to receive awards averaging \$1,300 each. The annual program runs through March 15, 2007, when applications may be submitted.

The Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide for the 2007 program and the 2007 application are now available on the Internet at <http://www.pagrandlodge.org/pmyf> or may be obtained by writing to: PMYF Scholarships, 1244 Bainbridge Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022



Call today to learn how you can get involved in leading our Masonic youth groups toward success!
(717) 367-1536

Our Newest Venture to Expand Retirement Services Across the Commonwealth...

Masonic Village at Erie!



The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, through the Masonic Villages, has been working with the leadership and membership of Zem Zem Shrine in Erie, Pa., to further Shrine Masons' and the Masonic Villages' mission in the northwest part of the Commonwealth. At Zem Zem Shrine's October Quarterly Meeting, the Nobility gave unanimous approval for the Masonic Villages to premarket a proposed Masonic Village at Erie. The Committee on Masonic Homes echoed their support for exploring the possibility of developing the vision of the new community.

If plans move forward, the community could include various types of retirement living cottages and apartments, based on resident interest. The Zem Zem Shrine Center, built in 1984, could be renovated to provide additional services for Zem Zem members and residents of the Masonic Village at Erie. Residents would have access to a Clubhouse that could feature amenities such as an event hall, dining room, bistro, lounge, fitness center, library, ceramics and art rooms, hair care studios, convenience store, meeting rooms and administrative offices. The Masonic Villages will negotiate preferred provider agreements with local healthcare providers to ensure residents access to quality services either in the Erie area or at any of the other Masonic Villages in Pennsylvania.

Living at the Masonic Village at Erie would provide future residents countless recreational opportunities within five miles: Lake Erie, Edinboro University, Erie Zoo, the Warren Theatre, Erie Art Museum, Milcreek Mall, Jerry Uht Ballpark and Tulio Arena!

Presentations have been scheduled to determine interest in this new community to be built on the 46-acre Zem Zem Shrine campus. If you would like to be among the first to hear more, complete and mail in the coupon to the right indicating which presentation you would like to attend. If you are interested in finding out more information prior to these presentations, or to place your name on a list for information to be mailed to you, please call (800) 676-6452.

The presentations will be held at the Zem Zem Shrine Center, 2525 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16506. Presentations will be held at 10 a.m., followed by a luncheon, or at 7 p.m., followed by light refreshments.

Mail coupon to: Marketing Office, Masonic Village,
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022
or call toll-free (800) 676-6452

Yes! I/we want to learn more about
Masonic Village at Erie!

- I/We will attend the presentation on March 28 (please respond by March 21)
 - 10 a.m. Presentation
 - or
 - 7 p.m. Presentation
- I/We will attend the presentation on April 24 (please respond by April 17)
 - 10 a.m. Presentation
 - or
 - 7 p.m. Presentation
- No, I/We will not be able to attend; however, please send a brochure.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number () _____

Number of persons attending _____

Masonic Village at Dallas

NOW RESERVING FOR 2007 OCCUPANCY!



Late last year, future residents and friends of Masonic Village at Dallas gathered to celebrate the start of recent construction on the grounds of the Irem Country Club, following receipt of approval for its Planned Residential Development and conditional final plan approval from the local municipality of Dallas Township.

The Masonic Village at Dallas will be an active adult retirement community, with its first phase offering 45 apartments and 38 cottages featuring various floor plans. The master plan for the community includes future possible development of up to 222 additional retirement living accommodations, based on demand, as well as future enhancements to the country club buildings and grounds. The community's initial residents are expected to move into several of the first cottages in mid-January 2007 with completion of phase one anticipated in July 2007.

Retirement living residents will enjoy a dynamic lifestyle within a secure environment without all the worries of home maintenance responsibilities. Residents will not only gain access to the area's premier retirement community, but they also will have preferred access to designated health care facilities, as well as any of the Masonic Village health care facilities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Dallas community is also collaborating

with area businesses and professionals to establish relationships to ensure every resident is afforded the opportunity for recreational, wellness, cultural, educational and social outreach programs.

Future residents who attended the luncheon, such as Bro. Bob and Anne Rebennack, shown to the left, received a groundbreaking photo taken with Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, and his wife, Norma, as a keepsake of this momentous occasion.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MASONIC VILLAGE AT DALLAS, CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE AT (866) 851-4243.

When a Loved One Needs Nursing Care...

The Masonic Village at Elizabethtown is here to help. The Masonic Health Care Center provides round-the-clock nursing care for up to 453 residents. Within the facility is the Lafayette Special Care Unit, which is specifically designed to provide individualized care for residents with Alzheimer's disease and other related dementias.

Subacute care and rehabilitative services, such as physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy, can also be provided on a short-term basis for residents who wish to return to their homes.

If you or a loved one find yourself in need of long-term nursing care or a rehabilitation stay, call the Admissions Office at (800) 422-1207 to inquire about availability.



Our Lafayette Hill Retirement Family is Growing!

The Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill, formerly known as The Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, was established on May 6, 1871, and joined the Masonic Villages on Jan. 1, 2004. We have been caring for members and their families for over 135 years! The exterior and interior design may have changed, but our mission and dedication to you has not. Renovations are complete in our nursing and our assisted living areas. We are pleased to announce that our 21 new apartments in Phase II of our renovation project will be ready for occupancy in the spring of 2007. While most of these apartments have been reserved, there are a few left for immediate reservation and you are highly encouraged to call today if you might be interested. Pre-marketing of 85 additional deluxe apartment accommodations is underway, with the completion of Phase III expected in 2008.

I want to learn more about Retirement Living at Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Send me a Masonic Village brochure.

Call me to arrange a personal tour.

Please complete coupon and return to:
Marketing Office, Masonic Village,
801 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

We invite you to join us for one of our monthly presentations, which includes an informative seminar and a tour of our retirement community. For more information on upcoming presentations on retirement living, please call the Marketing Office at



(610) 828-5760 or complete and mail the coupon to the left. Or, if you prefer, call and schedule a personal tour to see all the changes. Just don't delay! Call today!

Masonic Village at Sewickley - The Popular Choice in Western PA

“Maybe I should wait until I am not as healthy!” Welcome to the biggest myth for retirees considering a move to a retirement community. As the popularity of retirement community living soars to an all-time high, it is always surprising to hear these words.

On the other side of that coin, as the Sewickley marketing team notes, it is not unusual to contact someone who had previously expressed an interest and is now suffering a health change that no longer allows him to make the move. This can happen at age 65 or at age 85.

The fact is that Masonic Village at Sewickley is now almost fully occupied or reserved. Residents are attending computer classes, traveling to concerts, the zoo and festivals, hosting lectures and of course gathering for social events. There is so much going on that one new resident almost canceled her winter pilgrimage to Florida feeling that she might miss too much.

There are numerous reasons why retirement communities have become such a popular option. Many residents have moved back to the Pittsburgh area from out of state. Some have moved across town or across the river. While their backgrounds vary, the village's residents share a lot of similarities.

Maintaining a home is no longer a desirable burden; protecting your financial and health future becomes a priority, and the idea of discovering meaningful friendships becomes very appealing. This is why retirement communities are developing long waiting lists. The Lifecare concept is why Masonic Village at Sewickley is leading the way in Western Pennsylvania.

If you have not toured the village, you owe it to yourself to experience the lifestyle everyone is talking about. Call us at (866) 872-0664 to schedule a personal tour or to make a reservation for our Lifecare Seminar on Feb. 20 at 10 a.m., or our Open House on March 29 at 10 a.m.

Elizabethtown Masonic Village Resident Bro. Carl Walz Shares his *Awakening*...

Should I take the big step and move to a community far from my roots filled with people in the autumn of life? What's it going to be like moving to a place where everyone is a stranger? After all, I've not been an active Freemason, so what's it going to be like living in a community filled with Pennsylvania Masons? In fact, what's Freemasonry all about, and what is this business of "Brotherhood?" I've asked these questions, and the answers came in a rather unexpected manner.

Well, my wife [Jacqueline] and I moved into a cottage at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown in November 2004. On Jan. 11, 2006, while on a Masonic Village trip to the Pennsylvania Farm Show, my wife suffered a stroke and was transported by ambulance to Milton Hershey Medical Center. After a very long day in the ER and my wife about to be admitted, I was ready to go home, but had no way to get there. I called a friend and neighbor, and in a very short time, both Ray and Bob came to take me home. The real story begins here.

Sitting in the back seat, extremely upset and sobbing at what had happened so suddenly, I thanked my friends for being so supportive in my time of need. "That's what we're all about," came a reply from the front seat. Because of the state of my psyche at that time, it did not really sink in what the reply meant, and only later after a continuum of events did the full meaning occur to me. My wife had some serious neurological problems, and the weeks that followed had many peaks and valleys, but the steady influence during this very difficult time was the many acts of kindness of friends, acquaintances, staff and others in the village. Can you imagine the Chief Operating Officer calling to offer help? There were many offers of food and libation, six pastoral visits, numerous cards and inquiries and always feeling someone was there to help in a time of need. It was an epiphany for me.

It's very difficult, if not impossible, to meaningfully explain what it feels like as a septuagenarian to discover a better and more fundamental understanding of Freemasonry. It came to me suddenly and unexpectedly. Perhaps one must feel it to even begin to understand it. So, what's it like at Elizabethtown in a community of "strangers?" There are no strangers: only a village of Freemasons filled with the real meaning of the fraternity.

Bro. Walz is a member of Joseph H. Brown Lodge No. 751.

For additional information on Retirement Living at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown, including the new Sycamore Apartments to be built adjacent to the Sycamore Square marketplace, please call the Marketing Office toll-free at (800) 676-6452.



Bro. Carl and Jacqueline Walz, front, surrounded by friends and neighbors Bro. Robert and Alice Pinnock and Bro. Raymond and Jean Betz

Military Presentations were the Theme for Widow's Night

Lowther Manor Lodge No. 781, at its June 13 Stated Meeting, presented an evening of entertainment for the ladies and widows of the lodge. The speakers were Mrs. Mae Graybill (widow of Bro. Harvey Graybill) and Bro. Vaughn L. Schwalm. Mrs. Graybill gave an interesting and enlightening speech on her experiences as a "Rosie the Riveter" during WWII. She displayed memorabilia which she has collected through the years depicting "Rosie the Riveter," and answered questions from the ladies.

Bro. Schwalm is a Master Sergeant Flight Engineer on EC-130E aircraft at the 193rd SOW, Harrisburg International Airport in Middletown, Pa. MSgt. Schwalm showed a 45-minute Discovery Channel program titled "Commando Solo: Afghan Skies," depicting the 193rd while they deployed to a desert location, flying psychological operation missions over Afghanistan.



Mae Graybill and Debra Shuey, wife of Ronald H. Shuey, W.M., who organized the Widow's Night Event.

Brethren, what do you have planned for the widows of YOUR lodge during the months of April, May or June?