

# MAKE A MONUMENTAL MEMORIAL

Continued from Page 8.

## Have you ever considered a form of permanent recognition for that special someone?

The Masonic Charities offers a variety of naming opportunities at each of the Masonic Villages and the Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania. You can choose from a plaque on our Mission of Love Donor Wall, a leaf on the Masonic Tree of Life or even name a unique fountain, room or other special architectural feature. The Office of Gift Planning has hundreds of choices available beginning at \$1,000. Gifts can be made in your own name or in honor or in memory of someone.

For further information, in absolute confidence and at no cost or obligation, complete and return the response coupon below to the Office of Gift Planning, or call 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

### Eastern Pennsylvania

(610) 825-6100, ext. 1348

### Western Pennsylvania

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

### 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.



Like Mrs. McFarland, you, too, can perpetuate the legacy of your loved one through an honorary or memorial naming opportunity with the Masonic Charity of your choice.

### COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM TO:

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

- ☐ Please contact me to discuss permanent naming opportunities.
- ☐ I/We have remembered the following Masonic Charity(ies) in my/our will and/or estate plan:
- ☐ Please contact me about special naming opportunities.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_



# The Pennsylvania FREEMASON

November 2007

Vol. LIV No. 4



## Masonic Temple Renovations Begin!



Highlights from Autumn Day 2007 & Dedication of the New Veterans Grove

INSIDE





# The Pennsylvania FREEMASON

November 2007

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## Corrections from the August 2007 Issue

Lansdowne Lodge No. 711 was inadvertently omitted from the article on p. 7 honoring the Masonic Service Award recipients in District 36.

The article on Brother John Philip Sousa on p. 17 was not written by Andrew A. Zellers-Frederick, Executive Director of The Masonic Library and Museum of PA. The text was garnered from information provided by Bro. Donald H. Masters, District Deputy Grand Master of District 9, and Bro. Mark Filbert, P.M., of H. Stanley Goodwin Lodge No. 648, Bethlehem, supplemented by research conducted by the editorial staff. **We apologize for these errors.**

## The Pennsylvania FREEMASON

### Statement of Ownership

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that the statements made by me are correct and complete.

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., Editor

## A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

### Brethren:

What an honor it was for us to afford our Grand Lodge's 3rd Grand Master, Bro. Benjamin Franklin, a Masonic Funeral Service he never had, celebrate our Grand Lodge's 275th Anniversary, culminating with the opening of the doors to our magnificent, awe-inspiring Masonic Temple in Philadelphia! Our National Historic Landmark, which houses seven lodge rooms and our Masonic Library and Museum, has begun to play an integral role in the art and cultural community, as evidenced by the increasing number of tourists and educational programs. Who would ever believe, as we continue to face mergers of existing lodges, that we would warrant and constitute two Traditional Observance lodges, Kite and Key Lodge No. 811 and Lodge Ad Luchem No. 812? Least of all, your Grand Lodge was one of the three Grand Lodges to constitute the Grand Lodge of Cyprus! I am proud of what this administration was able to accomplish through the efforts of your Grand Lodge Officers and our individual brethren's dedication to Masons Helping Masons. It truly has been a great privilege to serve as your Grand Master over the past two years.

Your response to appeals for support to restore and preserve our Masonic Temple has been overwhelmingly successful. Because of you, our Masonic Temple will return to the awesome splendor that our forefathers worked so hard to create in the years leading up to its dedication in 1873. It continues to be our responsibility to ensure that its grandeur inspires the spirit of Masons Helping Masons in future generations.

Besides the experience of a lifetime, Freemasonry has afforded my lady, Norma, and me friendships built and support derived through open, personal relationships with our brethren and their families throughout our jurisdiction and many other Grand Jurisdictions throughout the United States. I have appreciated members speaking to me openly, telling me issues they are facing, programs they appreciate or challenges they have experienced. While I wish I could make everything perfect, realistic changes and improvements are something for which we all need to take responsibility, if we truly desire to strengthen and grow our great fraternity. I believe we have had numerous programs which have challenged us to remember the reason we joined Freemasonry in the first place - to care for and about one another within our Masonic family.

One major objective I wished to accomplish during my tenure was to create a stronger bond among the family of Grand Lodge Officers by building relationships based on trust. Next to my own family, they have been the most supportive throughout my term, and for that, I am eternally grateful. On Dec. 27, I will be relinquishing the gavel as your Grand Master, placing the authority in the capable, devoted and trustworthy hands of Bro. Stephen Gardner. I will faithfully support him and the other Grand Lodge Officers, and look forward to each of their respective terms.

I am fortunate to have had a great lineage of Freemasons in my family to emulate, beginning with my big brother... revered as most big brothers... the late Luther Jr., and a very special cousin, the late Ralph Aungst. I was also fortunate to know through the lives of Norma's family members, who are still with us spiritually: her grandfather Dee, the virtue of patience; Uncle Buss, unending kindness and service to others; Uncle Bob, a Past Master, compassion; and most especially, Pop, who instilled in me the value of family. Each of these beloved individuals have had strong supportive ladies, as I am privileged to have also been blessed with. Mom said, "You are who your friends are." It just doesn't get any better than what it has been, and is today!

My parents sacrificed for what I was afforded in life as a professional, a father, a husband and now, as a Mason. In return, I have striven to give back to my profession, the children of my community and my beloved fraternity.

Now, once again, I am looking forward to re-focusing my life on my family, who has sacrificed much over these past years. While it is impossible to make up lost time, I know I will make the best of the time ahead of us, that they, too, will hopefully realize that service to others is an honorable and worthwhile virtue.

Sincerely and fraternally,

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







# Masonic Temple Restoration & Preservation Project

The Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, home of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, has embarked on an extensive and monumental historical restoration and preservation project, with an expected completion date of October 2008.

Originally constructed over a five-year period (1868-1873), at a then-staggering cost of \$1.6 million, the Masonic Temple was designed by the prominent architect, Bro. James H. Windrim.

Another 35 years were required by dedicated and respected artisans to perfect the grandeur of the interior features.

Located at the cultural and physical heart of Philadelphia, the Masonic Temple has undergone regular maintenance over the years. The restoration and preservation of such a wonderful structure, however, is an enormous project requiring careful planning and skillful work. To return the entire exterior of the Masonic Temple to its original 19th century grandeur, The Masonic Library and Museum has commissioned an \$8 million project which will:

- Repair the roof, the most integral part of the project, as it protects the rest of the building and treasures within
- Re-point, thoroughly clean and return exterior granite to its pristine 19th century luster
- Restore the existing entrance ways and the doors to their original condition
- Restore the original cast-iron fence and gates

The Masonic Temple in Philadelphia Restoration & Preservation Project Kick-off Ceremony was held on Aug. 24, 2007, at 10 a.m. The event included opening remarks from Andrew A.



Zellers-Frederick, Executive Director, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania; prayers offered by Bro. and Rev. William D. Hartman, Grand Chaplain; the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Bro. Mark A. Haines, R.W. Grand Secretary; the performance of "America" and "America the Beautiful" by Bro. W. William Melnyck, bagpiper, member of Springfield-Hanby Lodge No. 767; and a project fiscal update by Bro. Jeffrey W. Coy, R.W. Grand Treasurer.

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, said, "The Grand Lodge is grateful for the dedication of its membership to the goals of this endeavor. As Freemasons, it is our inherent responsibility to maintain and glorify what our forefathers built and entrusted to us. It is our legacy to future generations."

Remarks also were offered by Randal Baron, Assistant City Historic Preservation Officer, Philadelphia Historical Commission; John A. Gallery, Executive Director, Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia; Darla Sidles, Acting Superintendent, Independence National Historical Park; and Nancy A. Goldenberg, Vice President of Planning, Center City District.

Immediately following the program, guests were invited to the Grand Banquet Hall for light refreshments and for a tour of the Masonic Temple.

"A number of us have dreamt the dream of initiating and following through on this vital project," Grand Master Aungst said. "It's wonderful to see it come about through our brethren not only sharing the dream, but turning it into reality."



# ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA Thursday, Dec. 27, 2007 • Philadelphia Marriott Hotel



Join us as we welcome  
**Brother  
Stephen Gardner**  
as our  
**117<sup>th</sup> Grand Master**

This will mark the Installation  
of Brother Stephen Gardner  
as the 117th Grand Master of the  
Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania!



Stephen Gardner, R.W. Deputy Grand Master,  
and his lady, Patricia

The Grand Master's Banquet will begin with a social reception at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m., and concluding with entertainment by John Bressler.

*John Bressler* is a contemporary troubadour, a high-energy dedicated musical artist whose greatest passion is entertaining and motivating audiences. He's performed on television's MTV, VH-1, the Grand Ole Opry and all over North America. Famous for his unique presentation including a rotating "Phantom Grand Piano," this singer/songwriter/comedian/musician has nine critically-acclaimed albums to his credit. He has shared stages with Willy Nelson, Kenny Rogers, Alan Jackson, Ray Charles, Alabama, Leann Rimes, Gloria Estefan and many others. As a multi-talented piano player and keyboardist known for his exuberant stage presence, he has been compared to Liberace, Victor Borge, Yanni, Elton John and Billy Joel. With a soulfully raspy vocal style much like Rod Stewart or Louis Armstrong, spontaneous wry observations and insights, and a show featuring the sublime as often as the ridiculous, The John Bressler Show is celebrating over a quarter century of making people extremely happy. It's a must-see show that's totally unique, and that audiences from around the world truly love.



## Reservation and Ticket Order Form

### Grand Master's Banquet & John Bressler Performance

Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s) at \$50 per person for the banquet and show at the Philadelphia Marriott on Dec. 27. The dinner will be at 6:00 p.m., followed by the show. A social hour will precede the banquet.

(Reservations will be accepted on a "first-come" basis. Deadline for reservations by mail is Dec. 15)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodge No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to  
"Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania" and mail to:

Membership Services  
Masonic Temple  
One North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598





# The Pittsburgh Jingle & Mingle Gala

Friday, December 14, 2007



at the Shannopin Country Club in Ben Avon Heights  
Cost: \$100 per person. Benefits the Masonic Charities.  
Includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, open bar  
& music beginning at 6 p.m.

## Best Social Event of the Year!

Be sure to make your reservation on or before Dec. 5.  
Black tie optional.

If you can donate any items for the silent auction,  
please contact Bro. Samuel Spanos at (412) 389-4874  
A.S.A.P! or e-mail DDGM47@pagrandlodge.org.

### Reservation Form Pittsburgh Jingle & Mingle Gala

- ☐ Yes! I would like to attend the gala. I have included a check made payable to Masonic Charities and designated for the Jingle & Mingle Gala.
- ☐ Please contact me. I would like to make a contribution toward the silent auction.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
No. of tickets @ \$100 each \_\_\_\_\_  
Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send Reservation Form to: **Samuel Spanos**  
P.O. Box 296, Beaver, PA 15009-0296

Make Plans Now!

# National Treasure on the Avenue of the Arts Gala



Grand Master Aungst  
congratulates the Honorable  
Bro. Michael Nutter

Saturday, December 1, 2007  
at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia

Cost: \$350 per person.  
Benefits the Masonic Temple Initiative.  
Includes cocktails, dinner, music and a silent auction.  
Please make your reservation on or before Nov. 16.  
Black tie optional.

## Honored Guests

*The Honorable Bro. Michael Nutter, Light of Elmwood Lodge #45, will be recognized with the "Future of Philadelphia Award."*

*Bro. & Mrs. Jay G. Brossman of Frisco, Colorado, will be honored with the "Second Annual Preserving Masonic Temple Heritage Award."*

If you can donate any items for the silent auction, or for more information, contact Joyce Michelfelder at (610) 825-6100 ext. 1348, or e-mail jnichelf@masonicvillagespa.org

### Reservation Form Masonic Temple Gala



- ☐ Yes! I would like to attend the gala. I have included a check made payable to Masonic Charities and designated for the Masonic Temple Gala.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
No. of tickets @ \$100 each \_\_\_\_\_  
Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send Reservation Form to: **Joyce Michelfelder**  
Masonic Charities, 801 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

# A Journey to Ireland

August 9 - 18, 2007

Tour Ireland with the Grand Master was an exceptional journey, including ventures through Shannon, Galway, Connemara, Donegal, Dublin, Waterford, Cork, Killarney and Dingle Peninsula. Travelers enjoyed sightseeing by deluxe motorcoach escorted by a professional Irish guide, with visits to Rathbaun Farm, Cliffs of Moher, Kylemore Abbey, Belleek Pottery Centre, Glenveagh Castle

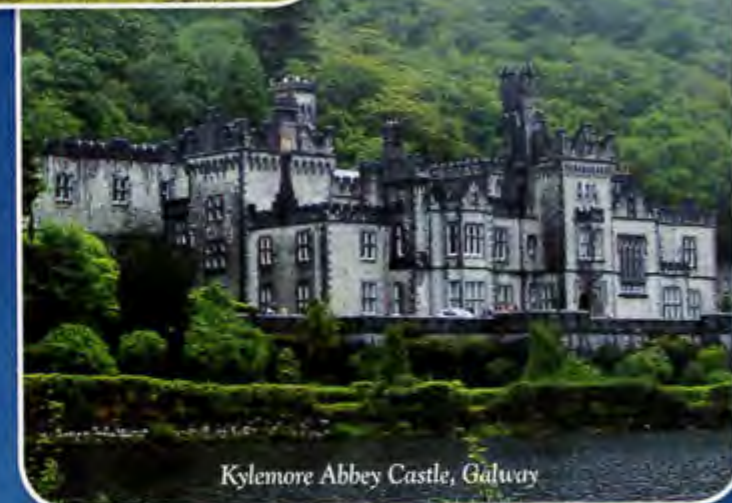


and National Park, Guinness Storehouse, Kilkenny Castle, Waterford Crystal Factory and Blarney Woolen Mills.

While highlights included fantastic dinners and overnight stays at first-class hotels, the camaraderie among the brethren and ladies was the most enjoyable part of the trip.



Blarney Castle



Kylemore Abbey Castle, Galway





# A Monumental Memorial

Mrs. George C. McFarland speaks very highly of her deceased father-in-law, Bro. Elbridge McFarland, Fritz Lodge No. 420, Conshohocken. Her praise and admiration have extended to a permanent memorial at the Masonic Temple in honor of Bro. Elbridge.

"He was a fine gentleman," she said. "He loved being a Mason and gave a great deal of his life serving the fraternity. He certainly followed through on Masonic values."

Her impressions are all second-hand since Bro. Elbridge passed away in 1918, years before she married George McFarland, Bro. Elbridge's son. This speaks monuments of Bro. Elbridge's character.

Bro. Elbridge served as Worshipful Master of Fritz Lodge No. 420. He worked as a very successful businessman and banker. He took over his father's woolen manufacturing business in Gulf Mills, now known as Gulph Mills, and served as president of the First National Bank of Conshohocken. According to his obituary, he was, "one of those exceedingly conscientious men whose innate ability, untiring perseverance and soundly conservative judgment, assured success from the start."

Bro. Elbridge was very thoughtful of the people of Gulf Mills, especially at the time when the Philadelphia and Western Railway was seeking a right of way through the McFarland property to establish a new rail line from Norristown to 69th Street, West Philadelphia. Bro. Elbridge anticipated that the McFarland Mills would eventually close and, when negotiating the right of way, he insisted that a station be added to the site in perpetuity for the workers and villagers to have transportation. This was done and today, there remains a busy commuter service there because of the foresightedness of Bro. Elbridge.

Mrs. McFarland has studied genealogy as a life-long hobby. Through research of the family, she discovered the McFarlands intermarried with the Todd family, whose most famous member is Mary Todd, wife of Abraham Lincoln. She is currently organizing the family's history for the benefit of her grandchildren.

Knowing the rich history of Freemasonry, she visited the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

"I loved it. It's a fabulous place," she said. "It's part of our heritage. It is just as important today as when the Temple was built. It represents everything the Masonic order stands for. I've always had great admiration for it."



Bro. Elbridge McFarland

Mrs. McFarland was so moved, it stirred her to purchase a naming opportunity in honor of Bro. Elbridge at the Masonic Temple. She wanted to select something that would have been at the Temple when Bro. Elbridge was alive, so she chose a fountain outside Renaissance Hall. A plaque will be added to the fountain at a ceremony in which Mrs. McFarland, her son and three grandchildren will be in attendance.

"He was such a wonderful person and I wanted to leave a memorial for him that was meaningful for his life," she said. "I'm just thrilled and I hope [Bro. Elbridge] is thinking, 'Gosh, I have a pretty nice memorial.'"

Mrs. McFarland recently gave another gift to Fritz Lodge No. 308 (Fritz Lodge No. 420 merged with Fort Washington Lodge No. 308): Bro. Elbridge's Past Master Jewels, the sterling silver emblem engraved with his name and given to him for his service as Worshipful Master. They have it on display in their lodge with other Past Master Jewels.

Beyond her love of history, Mrs. McFarland and her husband, George, traveled the world, exploring the seven continents and the oceans in between.

Among her favorite memories: a fabulous safari in Kenya, exploring the Holy Land, building a penguin snowman aboard an Antarctic cruise, observing the puzzling statues on the glorious Easter Island, being a passenger on the first cruise ship allowed in China in 1978 and seeing the Great Wall of China, attending a Russian opera in Moscow, viewing the beautiful glaciers in Chile and experiencing the union of love and religion found at the great Taj Mahal.

Her husband passed away 17 years ago, but Mrs. McFarland continues to travel, making friends in all corners of the world. When she finds herself at home, she enjoys attending church and belongs to several historical groups: the Welcome Society, a group named in memory of those who came to America aboard the Welcome ship with William Penn that collects and preserves historical data relative to the settlement of Pennsylvania; the Daughters of the American Revolution; and the Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America.

Mrs. McFarland is encouraging her grandchildren to learn about the history of their family and the Masonic order. A good place for them to start is the Masonic Temple, where they can see a little piece of their family forever memorialized.

*continued on back cover*



## Yesterday's LEGACY TOMORROW'S Promise MASONIC CHARITIES' Capital Campaign



In June 2004, the Masonic Charities of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania embarked on its first-ever \$50 million Capital and Endowment Campaign. The objective of the campaign is to build the endowment for all our Masonic Charities, that in years to come there would be funds to support the needs of our youth, our seniors, our members and our Masonic Temple - those vital programs that ensure Yesterday's Legacy is Tomorrow's Promise.

Many volunteers were involved in the planning stages and today, with the help of additional campaign volunteers, the campaign is about to be rolled out across the state. During the three-year "quiet phase," of this five-year campaign, more than \$25 million dollars has been pledged by Masonic leadership, employees of Masonic Charities and generous members and their families. Most recently, the Lodge Phase of the campaign was initiated and is bringing in substantial support from the current and past lodge leaders.

"It is extremely gratifying and encouraging that so many have stepped forward to help lead this campaign as well as support it through financial pledges and gifts," said Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master. "The Grand Lodge Officers and the leadership of our Masonic Charities, as well as the employees of the Masonic Villages, have made considerable contributions already. Now we look forward to gaining the support of our District Deputy Grand Masters before we bring the appeal to our blue lodges."

"Gifts to this campaign will help to enrich our fraternity - assuring a better future for our members and their families and bequeathing a precious legacy for the 21st century and beyond."

Regional committees were organized this past year. These volunteers helped to organize campaign awareness gatherings throughout the state for the purpose of sharing news about Masonic Charities and the upcoming campaign. They are currently working to secure additional gifts and pledges with the goal of reaching the \$50 million by 2008.

"The Central Committee has taken much pleasure in the continuing informational receptions at Masonic Village at Elizabethtown to raise awareness of this vital campaign. Many residents recognize that they will be asked to be benefactors of the campaign, and that they will be beneficiaries of it as well. We look forward to meeting with residents in the spring to seek their generous support," said Bro. Fred and Mary Jane Sample of the Central Committee.

Serving on the Capital Campaign Steering Committee are:

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W.G.M.; Barbara E. Adams, P.G.M.; Kenneth W. Bleiler, P.D.D.G.M.; Bro. Alvin H. Blitz; Bro. Larry R. Christenson; Jeffrey W. Coy, R.W.G.T.; Bro. John W. Dean, III; Bro. James J. DeLuca; Carl R. Flohr, P.M.; Norman A. Fox, P.D.D.G.M.; Stephen Gardner, R.W.D.G.M.; George H. Hohenschildt, R.W.P.G.M.; Thomas W. Jackson, R.W.P.G.S.; Kim W. Jeffreys, P.D.D.G.M.; William L. Kingsbury, D.D.G.M.; Bro. Joseph E. Murphy; Judy A. Rutter, P.G.M.; Bro. Fred and Mary Jane Sample and W. Jack Yates, P.D.D.G.M.

### REGIONAL VOLUNTEERS INCLUDE:

Central	Eastern	Western
Bro. Kenneth W. (P.D.D.G.M.) and Elaine K. Bleiler	Bro. Harry E. Hackman, Jr.	Bro. Don Brainerd
Bro. Fred P. and Mary Jane Sample	William Kingsbury, D.D.G.M.	Jean D. Fey
	Bro. Cliff S. Lipkin	Norma Gentile
	Herb Marder, P.M.	Bro. L. Sherwood Lennartson
	Larry D. (P.M.) and Carol Miller	Sam W. Spanos, D.D.G.M.

For more information about getting involved in the campaign, please call (800) 599-6454.



## Pennsylvania Lodge of Research, F.&A.M. Annual Meeting

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007, beginning at 10 a.m.

Perry Lodge No. 458, Maple Ave & Sylvan Street, Marysville, PA

<http://www.pagrandlodge.org/programs/lodgeofresearch/schedule.html>

**All Master Masons are Welcome!**



## STRENGTHEN YOUR BONDS

Members of the fraternity share a common thread: an interest in an organization known for its ritualistic traditions, principles of conduct and a history of philanthropy. With more than 125,000 members across Pennsylvania, and millions more across the world, Masons have formed niche groups, combining the time-honored camaraderie of Freemasonry with everyday interests, hobbies and activities. Some clubs are organized nationally with local chapters; others are exclusive to specific districts.

Read on for more information on some examples of clubs already flourishing throughout the fraternity, some of which might interest or inspire you.

## National Organizations

## The National League of Masonic Clubs, Inc.

More than 100 years ago, Masons who wished to expand the sphere of Masonic influence by uniting as a national group to do the things that will bring the most good to the most people, formed this organization of clubs. They encourage the study of the fundamental principles and ideals of Americanism in hopes of inspiring others to protect and defend the country honorably. The group, which meets three times a year, recently awarded scholarships to six graduating seniors who are related to a member of the fraternity (child or grandchild) and have committed to attending a college or university. For more information, visit [www.hometown.aol.com/JSchofi863](http://www.hometown.aol.com/JSchofi863).

## National Sojourners

An organization of military Freemasons, National Sojourners aim to foster appreciation of our American heritage of freedom of life, liberty, religion and free expression. In addition to meetings, they recognize outstanding members of the ROTC and JROTC programs with an Americanism award and sponsor young men and women to attend the yearly Spirit of America Youth Leadership Conference. The group has placed 3,100 American flags at the entrance of Fort Indiantown Gap Military Cemetery for each military person who gave his/her life to keep America free during recent conflicts. Pennsylvania is home to seven chapters of the National Sojourners. Interested Masons may obtain additional information from the Membership Committee, 2007 Columbia Avenue, Camp Hill, PA 17011.

## Masonic Motorcycle Club International

The Masonic Motorcycle Club International brings together Master Masons with a common interest in motorcycle riding, promotes good fellowship and encourages membership in the fraternity. There are several chapters throughout Pennsylvania, including Chapter 38, which recently hosted the 1st annual MSG Sean M. Thomas Memorial Benefit Ride. The event raised more than \$4,000 in four hours, with 200 bikes and about 250 people in attendance. All money raised was given to the wife of Sean, a soldier killed in Iraq, to help with an education fund for his young daughter, Alexa. For additional information, please visit [www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org](http://www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org).

## Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association

Similar to the Masonic Motorcycle Club International, this group is open to all Masons who enjoy motorcycles and have a desire to ride with their fraternal brothers. They hope to introduce motorcycling to other Masonic brothers, as well as raise Masonic awareness amongst motorcyclists. They sponsor and

participate in charity runs and events to contribute to the relief of Masonic widows and orphans. For more information, visit [www.widowssons.com](http://www.widowssons.com).



Members of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International, Chapter 38

## Masonic Poets Society

The sentiments of Freemasonry are often universal, which is why any member of the craft may submit a piece of work to the Web site, [www.masonic-poets-society.com](http://www.masonic-poets-society.com). Work already posted reflects the tenets of Freemasonry, through craft members' wisdom and emotion.

## National Camping Travelers

Great for families, this organization includes individual chapters that meet throughout the summer months, and an annual state and national rally. Penn West Chapter #23, one of 10 chapters in Pennsylvania, holds weekend campouts each month that feature crafts and pot luck dinners, and sometimes include a tour of a local attraction. The group encourages fellowship and the formation of new friendships. Visit [www.gonct.org](http://www.gonct.org) for more information.

## Masonic Postal Chess Club

Since 1975, Master Masons have joined this club to play chess by postal mail, and now also via e-mail, with brothers across the country. All levels of play are encouraged, and participants may have as many opponents as they desire. Yearly dues are \$20. Contact Secretary Bro. Dennis Plymette at [dennisplymette@yahoo.com](mailto:dennisplymette@yahoo.com) or 304 Longmeadow St., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

## International Law Enforcement Officers' Square Club

The commonality of this group lies in the member's career choice. The purpose is to allow networking, information transfer and general conversation between members of the law enforcement profession over the Internet. For more information, visit [www.angelfire.com/ny/lazaruslong/](http://www.angelfire.com/ny/lazaruslong/).

## Statewide Organizations

## Pennsylvania Masonic Shield and Square Club

Membership of the Shield and Square Club comprises brethren who are active in, or retired from, Pennsylvania law enforcement, but limited to those who have held arrest powers granted by the Commonwealth. An associate membership is also offered, although those members may not vote. Under the

## THROUGH MASONIC CLUBS

guidance of James L. Ernette, R.W.P.G.M., the club formed in response to the need to unify those brethren in law enforcement to work with the Grand Lodge in providing security at special events across the Commonwealth, to assist symbolic lodges in creating interesting education programs and provide a forum for brethren with common interests to interact. They also present awards to officers who have served their communities well or made outstanding arrests. Information about the club is available by writing to the Masonic Temple, c/o Shield and Square Club, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

## Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve Clubs

This club consists of Master Masons, from many different lodges, who desire an hour of Masonic fellowship independent of the formal ritual of lodge, but dedicated to service to the fraternity. Internationally, it boasts more than 300 clubs and 25,000 members. Statewide, representatives from each of Pennsylvania's 21 clubs meet regularly to coordinate efforts. Individual clubs typically meet monthly, at noon, for a meal and a guest speaker or entertainment. The group supports the Wolcott Foundation, Inc., a master's degree program at George Washington University, as well as DeMolay, Job's Daughters and Rainbow Girls. A list of High Twelve clubs in Pennsylvania may be found at [www.pagrandlodge.org/pahigh12/](http://www.pagrandlodge.org/pahigh12/).

## PM Clubs

Several districts and lodges have organized PM, or Past Master, clubs. The idea is to promote fellowship by meeting at different locations throughout the lodge or district's membership. Watonsontown Lodge No. 401 formed a Top Hat club for Past Masters just last year and has found it to be very successful. Past Masters share a common desire to lead and after their tenure is complete, can continue to enhance their commitment through shared ideas and communications at club meetings. For more information, contact Bro. Doug Rickards at (610) 259-0427.

## Masonic Reading Society

This society was established to promote the study and discussion of Freemasonry among Masons and non-Masons who are interested in the history and purpose of the craft. According to Bro. Mark Stavish, Wyoming Lodge No. 468, one of the group's founders, members hope to improve the quality of Masonic education for Freemasons, as well as assist in placing Freemasonry in the public eye as a valuable vehicle for personal, cultural and community enhancement. Meetings, held twice a year, consist of an introduction of the pre-selected topic or author-speaker, open discussion and dinner. For more information, contact Bro. Stavish at [info@hermeticinstitute.org](mailto:info@hermeticinstitute.org) or [esoteric777@aol.com](mailto:esoteric777@aol.com).

## Local Organizations

## Upper Darby Township Square Club

Founded by caring police and firemen affiliated with Freemasonry, this group promotes good and helps the needy. Since its inception, they have raised more than \$200,000 for charitable endeavors including food certificates for hundreds of hungry families, life vests, bomb-sniffing dogs, and scholarships for Upper Darby High School students. They are ambitiously in the process of organizing an Emergency Response Vehicle which will supply water, soup, etc., as needed by local emergency units. For more information, contact Bro. Roy Parker at (610) 626-3350 or (484)557-5774.

## CHIP Team 36

District 36 wanted to get involved in both the Child Identification Program and the annual Grand Master's Charity Mini Grand Prix race held at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown, so they decided to do both at the same time. CHIP Team 36 was formed to create a racing team that was fun, taught fundamental racing skills, built character and raised money for the CHIP program. Members of every lodge in the district, including their ladies and children, helped with different aspects, from learning racing fundamentals to volunteering to staff CHIP events. The race car was recently sold, but they continue to focus on the CHIP program, having identified more than 6,000 kids and raised thousands of dollars.



Members of Penn West Chapter #23, National Camping Travelers, participate in a parade.

## 801 Compass Club

Members of this club are identified by their large pins with a purple 801 on it, which stands for 801 Ridge Pike, the location of their residence at the Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill. The club was started for Masonic members of the community and follows the by-laws of the Square Club. This group meets the third Friday of every month and features a guest speaker and happy hour. They also discuss various topics, such as former presidents, and take trips to local places of interest. Residents may contact President Bro. George Gilson at (610) 941-7726.

## William Slater II Master Mason's Club

Residents of the Masonic Village at Sewickley began the Master Mason's Club to foster fellowship and welcome new Master Mason residents to the campus. They named it in honor of the Grand Master at the time of the club's inauguration, William Slater II, R.W.P.G.M. The group organizes weekly bingo games to raise money for recreational game equipment and other campus needs, as well as the Masonic Charities. They also host a guest speaker monthly and hold an annual barbeque in the courtyard for members, their wives, guests and Masonic widows. Residents may contact Bro. John Haught at (412) 741-9751 for more information.

## HAM Radio Club

When one Worshipful Master realized how many members of his lodge were interested in amateur, or HAM, radio, he thought it would be a good opportunity to increase fellowship amongst brothers, as well as offer assistance to those members

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looking to receive their licenses. A license enables an operator to receive call letters and communicate over the airwaves. The club is in the process of being organized, and Bro. Doug Rickards, W.M., Lansdowne Lodge No. 711, expects to start meetings in January. He hopes to include non-members as well, increasing community involvement and spreading Masonic awareness. For more information, contact Bro. Rickards at (610) 259-0427.

### Breakfast Club

Every Tuesday, this group informally gathers for breakfast as a way to increase camaraderie and introduce the fraternity to new members. Masons, widows and non-Masons are invited. The meetings consist of an opening devotion or prayer, discussion of Masonic activities and updates on any members who are ill or may have been placed in a nursing home. The group started in Lancaster, but several spin-offs have started throughout the state. For more information, contact Bro. Tom Reimensnyder at [trnsnyder@dejazzd.com](mailto:trnsnyder@dejazzd.com) or (570) 966-2640.

### BROMAS Club

The BROMAS, or Brother Masons, Club was formed in 1958 by members of Shidle Lodge No. 601, Irwin, looking to socialize through events and sporting activities. A bowling and golf league

were formed. Social events have included a Queen for a Night in honor of Masonic ladies, square dances, bus trips, holiday parties and visits to other lodges, the Masonic Temple and the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown. For more information, contact Bro. Russ McCullough at (724) 863-2120 or [secy0601@pagrandlodge.org](mailto:secy0601@pagrandlodge.org).

### COMAS Club

A group of Masons from King Solomon's Lodge No. 346, Connellsville, formed the COMAS (Connellsville Masons) Club in 1924, meeting during the three summer months for picnics and in February for a George Washington Banquet. The banquets ended a few years ago, but thanks to the joint effort and funding of King's Solomon Lodge No. 346; Marion Lodge No. 562, Scottsdale and James Cochran Lodge No. 614, Dawson, a new Masonic Center will host the banquet again this year. The banquet, open to brethren and their ladies, will feature entertainment and fellowship opportunities. For more information, contact Bro. Rich Bigley at (724) 547-2637 or [secy0562@pagrandlodge.org](mailto:secy0562@pagrandlodge.org).

### Spanish Club

Bro. Basil Veiga, New London Lodge No. 545, would like to form a Spanish Club. Interested members may contact him at (610) 255-0134.

## Two Family Traditions in One Lodge

Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville, has a distinct honor of having three blood brothers/Masonic brothers who are all Past Masters: Brothers David L. Tennant, Sr., two-time Past Master; William H. Tennant, Jr., three-time Past Master; and Donald F. Tennant, Past Master (shown left to right in the back row of the photo below).



On Feb. 17, members of Skerrett Lodge No. 343 were pleased and honored to confer the three degrees of Freemasonry on Charles B. Lantz by special dispensation granted by Ronald A. Aungst, Sr. Bro. Lantz is the fifth generation of the Lantz family to become a member of Skerrett Lodge No. 343 and to be raised in the same building as his ancestors. He is shown in the front row of the photo above with his father-in-law, Bro. John C. Evans, II, P.M., who gave all three charges. Each of the Tennant brothers conferred one of his degrees.

The brethren are shown in the newly renovated lodge room, where Skerrett Lodge No. 343 has met continuously since being constituted in July 1862.

The Pennsylvania Freemason

## William M. Roosevelt, III Reaches 100<sup>th</sup> Masonic Degree

On May 22, Bro. William M. Roosevelt, III, P.M., member of St. Alban Lodge No. 529, Philadelphia, reached an historic milestone by conferring his 100th Master Mason Degree during an Extra Meeting of Springfield-Hanby Lodge No. 767, Springfield, Pa. With some of the brethren from St. Alban Lodge looking on, he conferred the degree on Bro. James P. Mulvihill, Jr., a member of Springfield-Hanby Lodge.

Bro. Roosevelt conferred his first Master Mason's degree at an Extra Meeting of St. Alban Lodge in February 2001. From there on, he has also assisted when needed at other lodges around the Greater Philadelphia area.

Bro. Roosevelt is also a member of St. Alban Lodge's Masonic Education Committee and is the lodge's Ritualistic Instructor.



Left to Right: Bro. William C. Doty, W.M., St. Alban Lodge No. 529; Bro. Armando M. Duran, W.M., Springfield-Hanby Lodge No. 767; Bro. James P. Mulvihill and Bro. William M. Roosevelt, III, P.M., St. Alban Lodge No. 529.

## Helping Hands

Bro. Fred Richards, Sr., P.M., Moscow Lodge No. 504, and his wife, Karen, were out of town visiting their daughter last January when they received a devastating phone call: their house had caught fire! A short circuit in their kitchen range sparked the blaze, and their home and its contents were a total loss.

"It was shocking," Bro. Fred Richards, Jr., Moscow Lodge No. 504, said. "Luckily, nobody was home."

It took just a few days for the word to travel to Bro. Richards, Sr.'s lodge. In the tradition of Masons Helping Masons, they wasted no time offering assistance however they could. His Masonic brothers contributed money for food and supplies. One brother donated a dump truck to demolish the remains of the old home. Several others helped with pouring the foundation.

Bro. Matt Capocci, Moscow Lodge No. 504, went above and beyond and assisted the Richards with the purchase of a pre-fabricated house at a discounted rate. By the second week in June, the house was near completion, and Bro. Richards, Sr., and his wife were settling in.

"He's really the type of person who wouldn't ask you for anything," Bro. Robert Hawk, Worshipful Master, Moscow Lodge No. 504, said.

"They didn't expect it," Bro. Richards, Jr., said. "A lot of people really stepped up. They are very appreciative."

The fact that Masons are such benevolent men is one of the reasons Bro. Richards, Sr., joined the fraternity. His father was also involved and now, his three sons and several sons-in-law have become Masons. He recently received his 25-Year Service Award.

Prior to being handed a check, he was not aware the lodge was organizing a fund raiser for him, although the gesture did not come as a complete shock.

"It was not a total surprise," he said. "[Masons] are such good people and they do this type of thing all the time. I was impressed with the whole aspect of people coming together to do something for me."

## Lodge No. 474 Donates Flag Pole

Coalville Lodge No. 474, Sugar Notch, donated a flag pole to Sugar Notch Boro and held a dedication on Memorial Day 2007. Bro. William A. Davis, Sr., P.M., W.M., served as Master of Ceremonies. The former pole was many years old and in poor condition.



Left to right: Brothers Frank Patts; Dr. Mark Bohn; Wilson Wickiser, P.M.; Carl Fedak, S.W.; PFC Thomas Fedak; William Brandt, District Deputy Grand Master for District 12; William A. Davis, Sr., P.M., W.M.; Joseph Koonrad, J.M.C.; William A. Davis, Jr., P.M.; Gerald George and Christopher Balliet.

## Racing to a Clean Finish

Masonic District 24 sponsored the All American Soap Box Derby for the 14th time on Saturday, June 16 in Erie. Lodges within the district provide funding and manpower to run the race for young boys and girls in the area. This year there were 37 young people registered to race. A pre-race banquet was held the night before at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Erie.



## Ossea Lodge Restores Masonic Monument

Discolored, covered with moss and tilting, the Masonic Monument in Wellsboro Cemetery was in desperate need of restoration. Brethren from Ossea Lodge No. 317, Wellsboro, cleaned the monument, seeded, mulched and repainted the background. Bro. Gary Cooper, P.M. of Tioga Lodge No. 373 and owner of Wellsboro Monument Company, removed the monument, dug a new footer 4' deep, poured it with concrete and reset the stone.

The monument was originally dedicated on Dec. 28, 1973.



Left to right: Brothers Richard M. Boyce, P.M., whom, along with the late Ronald Mogush, P.M., transported the monument from its creator three decades ago; Timothy S. McConnell, D.D.G.M. for District 17; Robert B. Reilly, W.M. of Ossea Lodge; and Brad Boyce, Pursuivant, newly raised Mason and grandson of Bro. Richard. Photo by James L. Patterson, P.M.

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The Members of the Grand Lodge are requested to attend:  
**The Quarterly Communication  
of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania**

in the Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA,  
on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2007, at 10 o'clock a.m. For more information, call (215) 988-1901.  
**Come and experience the many wonderful upgrades our brethren have made possible in our Masonic Temple!**

## Garfield Lodge No. 559 Celebrates 125 Years

Garfield Lodge No. 559, DuBois, celebrated its 125th anniversary with a banquet on May 4 at the Brady Township Community Center in Luthersburg.

The evening began with a social hour and refreshments, a display of 11 special acknowledgements and a Wall of Honor with names of 655 famous Masons from all walks of life. The banquet began with the head table procession led by the Grand Marshal and piped in by Bro. Donald Rutch, an accomplished piper.

Bro. John S. Yargar, W.M., welcomed all 279 guests, which included Grand Lodge Officers, as well as officers from five visiting lodges, York Rite, Scottish Rite and Jaffa Shrine. He then asked Bro. William P. Lowe to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and one verse of the national anthem, followed by the invocation by Bro. Jerry D. Belloit, Grand Chaplain.

After a delicious meal, Bro. Yargar gave recognition to the following elected officials who sent special acknowledgements to commemorate the 125th anniversary celebration: President George W. Bush; Congressman John E. Peterson; Governor Bro. Edward G. Rendell, Alhethan Lodge No. 484, Philadelphia; State Senator Joseph B. Scarnati; State Representative Dan A. Surra; Chairman of the Clearfield County Board of Commissioners, Mark McCracken; Chairman of Sandy Township Supervisors Brady LaBorde; and Mayor of DuBois John "Herm" Suplizio. In addition to sending a special acknowledgement, Congressman Peterson requested to have and was granted that the Garfield Lodge's 125th Anniversary be noted in the Congressional Record of the First Session of the 110th Congress.

One of the highlights of this memorable celebration was the presentation of the 50-year Service Emblem to Bro. Robert DuBois by Bro. Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, which was pinned on him by his wife, Marilou. Everyone then rose to observe a moment of silence for deceased brethren and a verse of "Amazing Grace" was played by Bro. Rutch.

Bro. Yargar then recognized the dedication of the lodge's first Worshipful Master, Rev. William M. Burchfield, P.M., and Bro. William D. Menzie, P.M., who were among 18 known Masons in DuBois in 1882. He also gave special recognition to Bro. Charles W. Burchfield, great-grandson of the late Bro. Burchfield and Bro. J. Menzie, Sr., grandson of the late Bro. Menzie.

Bro. Donald L. Miller, District Deputy Grand Master for District 52, remarked on the growth of Garfield Lodge and its activities.

Bro. Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, presented a brief history of Garfield Lodge, followed by some pertinent and

interesting remarks. Bro. Yargar presented Grand Master Aungst with a \$1,000 check for the Masonic Temple.

Following the benediction, the official celebration was followed by musical entertainment provided by "Precious Seed."



On April 18, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives unanimously adopted a resolution offered by State Representative Dan Surra that designates May 1-May 7, as Free and Accepted Masons Week in Pennsylvania. Surra also issued a resolution honoring Garfield Lodge No. 559, F. & A.M. in DuBois, by designating May 4, in its honor in the city. Shown from left to right are: David Shepherd, S.W., John Yargar, W.M., Rep. Surra, presenting the resolution on behalf of the House of Representatives, and Donald Senior, J.W. Rep. Surra said, "Freemasonry is the largest and most widely established fraternal order in the world. Communities across Pennsylvania, across the United States and around the world continue to benefit from the virtues of charity, benevolence and brotherly values that are instilled in its members."

## Widows Recognition Events

### District 12

On July 21, 50 widows attended a luncheon hosted by District 12, 18 of whom are shown in the photograph below. Each widow was presented with a long-stemmed red rose and a pin that was also replicated on the cake. Bro. Joseph Koonrad, Coalville Lodge No. 474, Sugar Notch, is the district chairman.



First Row: Joseph Koonrad, District Widows Chairman, Betty Lux, Betty Nevin, Elizabeth Gruver, Betty Metzgar, Melba Dickson and William Brandt, D.D.G.M. for Masonic District 12

Second Row: Agnes Watkins, Cara Hennes, Charlotte Ruck, Helen Traver, Donna Traver, Hilda Griffiths, Effie Metcalf, Shirley Littleton, Shirley Norcross

Third Row: Dorothy Blakeslee, Ruth Major, Lorraine Richards, Pat Luff

### District 24



The 24th District's Masonic Widows Recognition Dinner was held on May 30 at the new Scottish Rite Building in Erie. More than 50 were in attendance at the dinner, which was hosted by Tyrian-Commonwealth Lodge No. 362, Erie, and coordinated by its Worshipful Master, Bro. J.B. Salter, along with the 24th District's Widows Program Chairman, Bro. Jesse J. Ferraro, P.M., Lawrence Lodge No. 708, Erie.

Bro. James H. Richardson, member of Tyrian-Commonwealth Lodge No. 362 and High Priest and Prophet of Zem Zem Shrine Temple, updated all in attendance on the various services available from the Shrine Hospitals. Bro. Richard N. Fitzsimmons, District Deputy Grand Master of District 24, addressed the gathering and extended fraternal greetings to all from the Grand Master.

### Bradford Lodge No. 749

During the evening of April 4, members of Bradford Masonic Lodge No. 749, their wives and guests paid tribute to widows of lodge members. Fourteen widows and one widow's daughter were present, and were pinned with a corsage upon entrance to the Temple.

Bro. Gordon Burdick, P.D.D.G.M., and member of McKean Lodge No. 388, Smethport, showed a presentation of the Masonic Villages and answered any questions. Bro. William Woodring, Secretary of Bradford Lodge 749, answered many questions concerning Freemasonry from the attendees. Each widow was then escorted to the front where Bro. Tom Madine, Worshipful Master, pinned a special Masonic Widow's Pin on her. A photo of each presentation was taken by Jill Owens, M.D., daughter of Bro. Robert and Frances Slike, and sent to each widow as a memento. Brothers Bruce Sherwin, Treasurer, and Robert Slike co-chaired the event and personally delivered pins to the homes of the widows unable to attend.

Bro. Hilton "Woody" Woodruff was Master of Ceremonies for the event with the assistance of his wife, Pat. Bro. Sherwin's wife, Emma, Pat Woodruff and Frances Slike served an assortment of cookies, cakes and soft drinks in the banquet hall at the conclusion of the program.

Topping off the evening, Mrs. Max Tyger presented her late husband's Blue Lodge ring to her son, Kenneth, who recently received the Master Mason degree, and is a member of Lodge No. 749. Bro. Kenneth was very surprised and deeply honored to have and wear his father's ring.



Worshipful Master Tom Madine pins a Widow's Pin on Mrs. Max Tyger while her son, Bro. Kenneth Tyger, and his daughter look on.

### Doric Lodge No. 630

What goes with tea and cookies? Fellowship and a chance to meet and greet new people!

That's what happened on July 16 during a tea party hosted by Doric Lodge No. 630, Sewickley, and the Masonic Village at Sewickley to honor the widows of Freemasons living at the Masonic Village and those from Doric Lodge. Approximately 30 ladies attended to chat with each other and members of Doric Lodge No. 630. Bro. Jim LaSalle, W.M., and Bro. Arnie Steinberg, S.W., presented the ladies with Widows' Pins.



## Bro. Carl V. Dreisbach Receives Scouter Award

On April 5, with the consent of Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, and with the assistance of Teddy D. Sizemore, District Deputy Grand Master for District 42, 11 Master Masons from the Grand Jurisdiction of Delaware, including four Past Grand Masters, sojourned to Zeredatha Lodge No. 451, York, to present to Bro. Carl V. Dreisbach the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award.

Bro. Dreisbach was unable to attend the award presentation in his lodge that evening, however, so the brethren traveled on to the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown and made the presentation there in the presence of his wife, Frances.

Bro. Dreisbach, in his service as a teacher, serviceman, Scout Leader and noble Freemason, has enriched the lives of thousands of young men through his thoughtfulness, caring, dedication and devotion. Carl's nickname is "Miserable," which is ironic, because one cannot look upon Bro. Dreisbach and call him "Miserable" without having a smile come to his face.

## Bro. Peterman Celebrates His 100th Birthday

On June 2, members of Muncy Lodge No. 299, traveled to the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown to celebrate Bro. Howard M. Peterman's 100th birthday (his actual birthday is June 4). The celebration also was attended by many of his family members and friends. Brothers Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master; Stephen Gardner, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; and Jay W. Smith, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, were honored to be part of the celebration. Earlier this year, Bro. Peterman received his 70-Year Service Emblem from the Grand Master. He is a 74-year member of the fraternity.

Bro. Peterman is believed to be the first member of Muncy Lodge to have attained the age of 100. Cake and refreshments were served and a great day of fellowship was enjoyed by all in attendance.



Front row, left to right: Brothers Jay W. Smith, R.W.J.G.W.; Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W.G.M.; Howard M. Peterman; Stephen Gardner, R.W.D.G.M.; and Kenneth W. McClintock, D.D.G.M. for District 18.

Back row, left to right: Brothers Robert G. Peterman, J.W.; C. Lamont Wallis; Leon C. Myers, P.M.; George A. Fnaley, P.M., Sec.; and Allen L. Smith, W.M., all members of Muncy Lodge No. 299.

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## 100 Years Young, 60 Years a Mason

Bro. Clayton E. Kilpatrick, of Whitfield Lodge No. 622, Tatamy, was honored with a surprise 100th birthday party on June 19, when 24 brethren gathered in the Lafayette Dining Hall at Moravian Hall Square, Nazareth. Bro. Kilpatrick enjoyed the evening reminiscing and being presented with his 60-year Masonic Service Award by Bro. Michael J. Febbo, District Deputy Grand Master for District 50.



Left to right: Brothers Lee E. Betzenberger, W.M.; Michael J. Febbo, D.D.G.M. for District 50; Clayton E. Kilpatrick, seated; Dennis Kromer, P.M.; Jason T. Poulette, S.W.; and Richard W. Shevalier, III, J.W.

## Became Mason at Age 83

On May 16 at Prospect Lodge 578, Warren Kenneth Welsh "Barney," age 83, was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

Barney is very enthusiastic about being a Freemason, and the lodge is pleased to have this energetic octogenarian among its membership. He may have started a family tradition, as both his sons have recently sent in their petitions as well.



Front row: Brothers Steve Elkins; Bill Fairman, P.M.; Barney Welsh, Lynwood J. Dixon, Sr., P.D.D.G.M.; and Charles Dixon.

Back row: Brothers Bill Stauffer; David Bellenzen; Gerhard O. Urban, P.M.; Dick Bower; and Lynwood J. Dixon, Jr.

## "The Biggest Small Lodge You've Ever Seen"

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

How could a relatively small lodge with a membership of 131 possibly make a difference?

If you really want to find out, plan a visit to Western Star Lodge No. 304, located in the 25th Masonic District in Albion, and you'll see for yourself.

Recruiting volunteers is often a challenge for any lodge. And with 131 brethren, Western Star Lodge could share the same dilemma - but they don't. Instead, they roll up their sleeves and jump right on in.

Take their fund raising efforts, for example. The brothers of Western



Star Lodge host only one event each year, but they do it with zest, vigor and a little help from their friends. When the Albion Fair rolls into town each September, the lodge sets up their tent right next to the grand stand. It's one of the most popular hot spots at the fair, and the endeavor requires all of the lodge members' participation, as well as help from the local DeMolay, Rainbow and Order of the Eastern Star groups to set-up, tear down and serve food from Tuesday to Saturday. But their efforts pay off - in less than one week, they raise about enough to cover their expenses for the year. "The community loves what we do at the fair," said Bro. Kim Jeffreys, P.D.D.G.M. of District 25. "They ask for us to come back every year."

The lodge is active within its local Masonic family, as well as in the local community, by supporting a myriad of groups and events. The lodge supports the Rainbow Girls Assembly No. 8 in Erie, both financially and through the provision of leadership. The same is true of the Erie Chapter of DeMolay. "Our lodge provides adult leadership because our kids are active in the Masonic Youth groups," Bro. Jeffreys said. Several members and their ladies are on the advisory boards. Jacob Palo, son of Bro. Dennis L. Palo, is currently the State Master Counselor for Pennsylvania DeMolay, and several other members' sons are serving in State Appointed offices. Eastern Star Chapter No. 22 meets in the lodge building and they all work together, like a true family of Freemasonry.

The local Boy Scout troop was started by Bro. Dennis L. Palo in December 2000, and symbolically, the troop even shares the same number (304) as the lodge. The brethren support the troop both with man-power in the form of leaders, and financially. As a result, the lodge has actually gained more members because fathers of the scouts, after experiencing the Eagle Scout Award presentations by District Deputy Grand Master Bro. Jack E. Flaugh, have inquired about membership. In fact, Bro. Flaugh has been asked to present the awards in other areas because of the positive impression he has made on those in attendance.

"It's like an unspoken, unofficial reciprocity agreement [with various fraternal and community groups]," Bro. Jeffreys said. "They give us support because we support them."

The lodge also has supported the Northwestern High School marching band in its fund

raising efforts by allowing their spaghetti dinner to be held in the lodge building. The brethren help the girls' high school softball team both financially and with fund raisers, as well.

For the past several years, the lodge has worked with the Albion Sportsmen's Club to sponsor a local fishing derby for kids under 12, which exposes them to fishing by providing the rods, bait, tackle, food and prizes. The lodge also hosts a regular blood drive in the lodge building as part of the Masonic Blood Donor program, thanks to Chairman Bro. Terry L. Barton Sr.



in fact, it's such a well-known event that when the lodge building was under renovation for its 150th anniversary, a local church offered for the event to be held there, instead.

This year, on September 11, the lodge teamed with the French Creek Boy Scout Council, Washington Trail District, to host the 6th Annual Patriots Day Awards. Approximately 100 people from Erie, Crawford, Venango, Mercer and Warren counties attended this event in the lodge room. The event was covered by local news media.

So how did the lodge get started with all of these programs? Well, many of them began when the matching grant program was put into place during R.W. Past Grand Master James L. Ernette's term. The first thing the lodge did was to adopt a park that was neglected, and worked with the VFW to improve the landscaping, repair benches and erect a new flag pole. The lodge was able to provide half the funding for the effort, and drew rave reviews from the community.

"We've gotten such positive feedback that now we look for opportunities to participate in other projects, because we enjoy it," Bro. Jeffreys said.

And that's how the enthusiasm has remained strong. "If someone is willing to be a leader, wants to take a project on and find a way to fund it, our brothers get behind it," Bro. Jeffreys said. "It's not unusual to have a brother stand up [at lodge] to make a request, and take up a collection right there."

Another major advantage the lodge enjoys is location, location, location! Since the lodge building sits at the entrance to a number of schools in the Northwestern School District, every school bus and many parents drive by it on a daily basis. This helps to increase the lodge's visibility, and was especially advantageous when the lodge erected a new sign for its 150th anniversary this year. The brethren held a two-hour open house before the celebratory banquet to showcase the activities the lodge supports.

Indeed, the building is a functional focal point in the community. Because of its proximity and the positive relationships built over the years, the lodge has partnered with the school district to provide a meeting place for special education events, and is the designated meeting place for the school in the event of an evacuation. The lodge also is available for rent by the members for special events such as receptions and class reunions, which has earned it positive media attention.

"I guess what makes [the lodge] so active is that we do a variety of things - there's enough to choose from that anyone can find something to be interested in," Bro. John R. Beatty, Worshipful Master, said.

Perhaps that is the key to the lodge's success, and why Grand Master Aungst recently deemed it, "The biggest small lodge you've ever seen."





# How One Brother Helped to Shape History

It is a day the United States, and the world, will not soon forget: Aug. 6, 1945. On this day, the United States dropped an atomic bomb, the first of its kind, on Hiroshima, Japan. For one Pennsylvania Mason, this day is remembered through his first-hand account aboard the Enola Gay, the B-29 Superfortress bomber responsible for dropping the bomb on Japan.

Navigator Lt. and Bro. Ted "Dutch" Van Kirk, Eureka Lodge No. 404, Northumberland, joined the U.S. Air Force in 1939, at age 19, knowing the country would be in a war sooner or later. To make the best of a bad situation, he decided he'd "rather fly than walk in the mud."

His primary job was guiding the plane to the target and returning to base, but Bro. Van Kirk also faced situations in which he had to use the B-17's machine gun. It was always a thrilling experience to see the wings of attacking planes light up as they fired. He recalls his aim was less than perfect.

"We were the loudest shot you ever saw," he said of himself and bombardier, Lt. Tom Ferebee. "We were credited with using the most ammunition without hitting anything."

Throughout his career as a navigator, he flew on 58 missions in Europe and one in the Pacific. He was a member of the first B-17 bomber groups out of England to fly over occupied Europe. Another one of his missions was to lead a group of six planes transporting Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and his staff over hostile waters, from England to Gibraltar, in the southern tip of the Iberian Peninsula. All insignia identifying the planes and the crew as American was removed.

"A higher authority tells you what you're going to do and when, and as the lead airplane, it's your job not to [foul] it up," Bro. Van Kirk said. "If you do, everyone will follow."

Once in Gibraltar, an important naval base for the British, Bro. Van Kirk saw an image he'll never forget.

"To watch the invasion fleet steaming through the Strait of Gibraltar was a sight to see," he said. "It was small in comparison to the invasion at Normandy, but to this day, it makes my blood chill."

His most famous mission, at the age of 24, was to drop the atomic bomb on Japan.

"At the time, we didn't realize we were making history," Bro. Van Kirk said. "Our objective was to shorten or end the war; to stop the killing. We didn't realize until the press brought it up what a big deal it was."

His crew included Lt. Ferebee and pilot Col. Paul Tibbets, with whom he had flown many missions. They were told about the mission in early 1945, and were given full disclosure on the purpose and significance of it. After months of training and briefings, the only detail left undetermined was the weather.

"We knew how much money had been spent on atomic energy," he said. "They built cities just to develop its capabilities. The amount of scientific man power - all of it - was resting on our shoulders. If we were not successful, we didn't have many other chances to end the war."



"We would have to invade Japan and many lives would be lost."

Typically, a bomb explodes with the delivery plane still in the air above it, so the pilot immediately sees if the target was hit. With the atomic bomb, according to scientists, the plane had to be nine miles away before the bomb detonated or they "wouldn't make it," Bro. Van Kirk said. "We stripped the airplane of any weight we could to make it lighter. After releasing the bomb, we had to make an immediate 150 degree turn to get the maximum distance from the explosion. There were 43 seconds from the time the bomb was dropped to its explosion."

"All we saw was a bright flash, like a photographer's flash in a dark closet. The first shock wave, with a magnitude of 2½ g, hit us and it sounded like sheet metal snapping. We turned around to take a look and saw the large white cloud well above our altitude. It was shades and hues of purple on top and white around the base. The entire city was covered with thick black smoke, so we couldn't make any visuals of the damage."

After that unforgettable flight one summer day, debates flourished about the use of nuclear weapons. Immediately after the war, people seemed in favor of using atomic bombs, but as time has passed, opinion has changed and the today the argument still rages.

"It caused a lot of casualties, but overall saved many lives. The Japanese would not have surrendered by August 6. They had large land armies and thousands of people were being killed throughout China and other countries they had invaded," Bro. Van Kirk said. "Now that we understand the dangers of using one, I hope atomic weapons are never again used in warfare."

His military service earned him a Silver Star and other medals and ribbons. He went on to receive a bachelor's and master's degree in chemical engineering and moved all over the world as an employee of DuPont. He has four children and seven grandchildren, and enjoys taking vacations with his family.

"I'm really blessed with a wonderful family," he said. "We practice togetherness, when we have the time."

His father, uncle and many other relatives were Masons, so it was an easy decision for him to join the fraternity. He has made many friends in the process. Members of his lodge presented him with his 50-year Masonic Service Award in the spring.

Bro. Van Kirk was featured in the HBO documentary, "White Light/Black Rain: The Destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki," which premiered in August. He also speaks at many schools and other events, including a recent occasion at his lodge. The interview requests have waned over the years, although close to the anniversary of the bombing, he receives inquiries from talk shows and radio shows.

A modern-day hero, patriot and Mason, Bro. Van Kirk's brave and selfless service helped to change the course of history and preserve the freedom we enjoy today.



# Grand Master's Charity Golf Tournaments

## Eastern Region

The Grand Master's Eastern Pennsylvania Charity Golf Tournament was held on Oct. 29 at Lu Lu Country Club in North Hills. The event featured a full day of golf, music, cocktails, dinner and a silent auction.

Credit for the successful event goes to Tournament Committee members, Brothers Dale H. Fera, Sr., William J. Greet and LeRoy O. McClelland, as well as Masonic Village staff Joyce F. Michelfelder and Carol Wolfinger. In addition, Bro. Bill Melnyk lent his professional skills as a bagpiper, to the enjoyment of the crowd. More than a dozen residents from the Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill also volunteered their time to assist with the set-up of the auction, act as "hole monitors" and help to stuff the goodie bags.

Although it's early, it is estimated that the net proceeds will be in excess of \$20,000 to benefit special projects at the Masonic Villages at Lafayette Hill and Warminster.



## Central Region

The Second Annual Grand Master's Central Golf Tournament at Irem Country Club was held on Wednesday, Sept. 19; a sunny and perfect temperature day. The tournament began with registration and lunch at 11 a.m., followed by a "shot-gun" start at noon.

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, started the day at hole one along with his group, Brothers Ryan Aungst, Chad Haldeman and Ken Kocher. Irem's Potentate, Harry Wood, III, played his "home" course along with Brothers Marvin Cunningham, Sr., R.W.P.G.M., Rich Belmont and Don Hoppes. All in all, 18 groups participated.

First place winners were Brothers Dave Mohn, Jim Clay, Bob Speicher and Jim Lord. Second place winners were Brothers John Sunday, Ken Woods, Dave Ruhf and Skeeter Fry.

Approximately \$5,000 was raised to benefit the Masonic Children's Home and the Grand Master's Charity. Many thanks to all who helped to make this event a success.



## Western Region

The Grand Master's Western Pennsylvania Golf Tournament hosted 70 golfers and a group of 25 Masonic Village at Sewickley retirement living resident volunteers. The sight for this year's tournament for the second year in a row was Shannopin Country Club in Ben Avon Heights.

The day's events began with registration, and then a shot-gun start for the golfers at noon. After completing their round of golf, the men and women golfers enjoyed Shannopin's beautiful patio for hors d'oeuvres and then proceeded into the clubhouse for a fabulous buffet dinner. This year, the tournament committee coordinated a Chinese auction, silent auction and a reverse club auction, which added to the competitive fun of the day's events.

Due to the overwhelming support of sponsors, golfers and volunteers, this year's proceeds, over \$15,000, will benefit the Masonic Village at Sewickley's Valley Care Masonic Center.

Mark your calendar for next year's event to be held on Sept. 22, 2008.





## Letter From Most Worshipful Jerry Carver to Baptist Courier Paper

Below are excerpts from a letter written by Bro. Gerald L. Carver, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina, to Don Kirkland, Editor and President of the Baptist Courier newspaper, and printed on May 29, 2007. Grand Master Carver was responding to a letter that appeared in the Courier, written by an individual who was offended at pictures published in the newspaper showing Freemasons attending church in their aprons during a Masonic Recognition Service. His answers and explanations may serve to assist any brother in attempting to explain various aspects of Freemasonry which are misunderstood and/or misinterpreted by others in our communities.

As a member and leader in a Southern Baptist Church for over 47 years, I was deeply saddened to see the May 17th issue of our Baptist Courier used as a vehicle to bash and to try to discredit such an old and honorable institution as Freemasonry. In Columbia, on April 27, I was installed during a public ceremony as Grand Master at the 270th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina. The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina is comprised of 43,315 Masons, of which over 20,000 (a conservative estimate) are currently members in Southern Baptist Churches in South Carolina and many of them serve as leaders and pastors.

Below, I would like to respond to several misrepresentations made by the offended writer:

- Freemasonry is not a religion, and therefore does not teach any form of salvation. Freemasonry directs its membership to seek those teachings in the house of worship of their choice. Freemasonry teaches men to be men of their word, to be of good and moral character and to aid and assist their fellow man in need. In today's society, these teachings are needed as much now as ever before.
- Freemasons never refer to God in a blasphemous manner. Freemasons always refer to God in the most reverent manner as a creature to his creator. We refer to God as God, and as the Great Architect of the Universe, the Creator of all things.
- There are oaths and promises made in Freemasonry just as there are oaths of office, oaths for citizenship and oaths taken in many organizations. My pastor and I both agree that the Bible verse quoted as prohibiting oaths is actually dealing with those who take oaths for show and then break those oaths. In Freemasonry, oaths are taken seriously. Freemasonry teaches its members to be men of their word and to keep their commitments made to God and man. There are

those misguided organizations that use this same scripture to teach that the pledge of allegiance to Old Glory, the beloved flag of our country, is non-compatible with our faith.

- Every Bible verse used by Freemasonry is found in the King James Version of the Holy Bible. The Holy Bible is referred to as the Great Light of Masonry. "Light" is a term used by Freemasons to describe knowledge, with the greatest light coming from the Holy Scriptures. The Bible, or Holy Scriptures, is referred to as the Great Light of Masonry because from the Bible comes the greatest knowledge. In my 33 years as a Mason, I have never heard a pagan reading in a lodge.

- Referring to the Bible as the furniture of the lodge is not a disrespectful term, but rather a term of honor because no lodge can ever open or conduct a meeting without [a book of sacred law] being present.

- The tenets and teachings of Freemasonry are the same as those that our great country was founded upon. That all men (people) are equal regardless of their station in life, their religion, their race or whether they are rich or poor. George Washington, a great man, the father of our country and a great Freemason, used his Masonic teachings in his everyday life and as the President of this country. He was Master of his lodge while serving as President of the United States.

- Masons are taught never to discriminate, but to treat all men (people) equal, "on the level." Men of all races, religions and stations in life are Freemasons and hold high offices in the Masonic fraternity.

- Freemasons contribute over \$2,500,000 per day to the fraternity's many charities, which include helping children with burns, orthopedic issues and language disorders. Those same Freemasons contribute even more daily to support their houses of worship and their communities.

There is probably someone who disagrees with every activity pictured in the Courier and could criticize every church for having those events with which that person disagrees, but we should maintain our conduct on a higher plane.

I sincerely hope that you will provide an unbiased approach by also publishing this letter in the "Your Views" section of the Courier and continuing to publish the provided pictures of all the events held by our member churches, without prejudice.

## Masonic Village at Dallas Celebrates First Phase

The Masonic Village at Dallas celebrated the construction of the first phase of its retirement community on July 29 when Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge Officers performed a datestone ceremony at the site of the Walther Apartments, named in memory of Capt. F. W. Walther, USN-Ret.

The late Frederick W. Walther was a well-traveled, career Navy officer and a 58-year member of Mitchell Lodge No. 296, Jenkintown. He had planned to move to the Masonic Village at Dallas, and gifted a charitable bequest through his will to benefit the retirement community. His son, Attorney Bro. Bernard Walter, George M. Dallas Lodge No. 532, unveiled a naming plaque for the building following the datestone ceremony. Dignitaries from Luzerne County and Dallas Township,

Irem Shrine members, representatives from local Masonic lodges and other community leaders also attended the ceremony.

"My father treasured the traditional values of the founding fathers of our country, many whom were Masons," Bro. Walter said. "He wanted to surround himself with a like-minded fellowship.

When we learned about the coming [Masonic Village at] Dallas, we were overjoyed. It offered everything he wanted, including a comfortable and attractive living environment, compatible companionship, access to medical facilities, proximity to family and substantial personal independence."

A tour of the apartment building followed the ceremony. The first residents of the new apartment building are expected to move into their new homes in November.

*The datestone ceremony is an ancient and symbolic ceremony performed by Freemasons during the construction of a building. The rituals of the ceremony have remained the same since President George Washington laid the cornerstone of the Capitol building in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 18, 1793.*



### Sycamore Square Datestone

A Datestone Ceremony was held for the Sycamore Apartments at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown on Friday, Sept. 14. Music was provided by the Masonic Villages' Men's Chorus and Bro. John E. Goodman, Grand Lodge Organist. Special recognition was

given to the future residents of the apartments in attendance.

The Sycamore Apartments have been provided in memory of Bro. Arthur T. Ibbotson, Pennsylvania Meridian Sun Lodge No. 2, Philadelphia. Move-ins are scheduled for the beginning of 2008.



Photo by Bro. Wilson Kile

## Gratitude from the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands



Bro. Simon Q. "Juni" Oduber, Eminent Commander-Consistory Solomon's Wisdom, Valley of Aruba, and P.M. Lodge El Sol Naciente No. 113, Aruba (under the jurisdiction of the Grand East of the Netherlands) presents a check to Bro. Mark A. Haines, R.W. Grand Secretary, for the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

Dear Bro. Mark A. Haines,

Attached, please find a photo taken during our visit to your magnificent edifice.

The group from Aruba and others would like to thank you for the fraternal way we were received and the excellent tour we were given. Please express our gratitude to our tour guide.

The envelope I presented to you for the collection of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was issued in commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands. Aruba, as part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, also partook in this celebration, as did Suriname and the Netherlands Antilles.

I hope this small gesture will be received as a token of good fraternal relations between the Freemasons of Aruba and Pennsylvania.

Once more, thank you so very much for the fraternal reception given to us.

Simon Q. "Juni" Oduber



## Those Men Who Wear Those Mason Rings



Reprinted with permission by Composer Michael R. Strampe, P.M.,  
Lake Lodge No. 189, F&A.M., Milwaukee, WI

Those Men Who Help My  
Dad Each Day,  
They Wear Those Mason Rings,  
A Square and Compass Set in  
Gold,  
The Praise of Which I Sing.

My Dad, He Hurt His Back,  
You Know,  
One Cold and Wintry Day.  
He Slipped and Fell Upon the  
Ice,  
The Insurance Would Not Pay.

And Since That Time Those  
Rings I See  
On Hands That Help Us  
Much,  
With Mowing Lawns and  
Hauling Trash,  
Each Day My Heart They  
Touch.

They Even Built a House for Me  
Amid Our Backyard Tree,  
Where All the Neighbor Kids  
Would Play  
With Laughter Full of Glee.

My Mom she Cried from  
Happiness  
Each Time the Masons Came,  
To Aid Our Family in Distress  
Without a Thought of Gain.

And When I'm Big, Just Like  
My Dad  
Of This it Must Be Told,  
I Want to Wear a Ring Like  
His-  
A Square and Compass Gold.

Long Years Have Passed Since  
When  
My Dad Was in That Plaster  
Cast,  
And Since I Swore That  
Solemn Oath  
Which Unites Us to the Last.

But More Than That I'm  
Proud to Say  
I Wear His Mason Ring  
The One Dad Wore for Many  
Years,  
Until His Death This Spring.

And One Last Time His  
Comrades Came  
To Aid My Weeping Mother,  
They Praised and Bid a Fond  
Farewell  
To Our Fallen Brother.

And After Which My Son Did  
Ask  
About Their Aprons White,  
And of the Rings Upon Their  
Hands  
Of Gold So Shiny Bright.

With Tearful Eyes I Said with  
Pride  
They're Men of Spirit Pure  
Those Men Who Wear Those  
Mason Rings  
Of That You Can Be Sure.

And Before He Went to Bed  
That Night  
The Family He Foretold,  
Someday I'll Wear a Ring Like  
Dad's-  
A Square and Compass Gold.

Bro. Strampe is a member and published contributor to The Philaethes Society and to the Wisconsin Masonic Journal. He serves as the Area Administrator (D12 A4) for the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin and holds the Grand Lodge Ritual Proficiency Certification. He is also a member of the Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, College of Wisconsin; and the Royal Order of Scotland, Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter of the United States of America.

Letter from Mrs. Ruth Gerus,  
widow of Bro. John Gerus,  
formerly of Olive Temple  
Lodge No. 557,  
Tionesta:



I just read the article, "My Father's Ring" and I have to write and tell you the story about my husband's ring. My husband, John and I always had a little vegetable garden in our backyard. We spent quite a bit of time planting and weeding and just sitting in the backyard visiting. About 25 or more years ago, John lost his gold Masonic ring. We just couldn't find it, so I suggested getting another one, which he did.

This spring, I was making a row to put some tomato plants and spied something glistening in the morning sun. I picked up a clump of soil and started to break the soil away and inside was his gold band! I took it into the house and washed it, put it on my finger and have been wearing it ever since.

I tell my children it is some kind of omen and they say, "Yes, Dad wants you to keep planting tomatoes." John and I had a beautiful life together for almost 60 years. He passed away last year at 93. He was always proud to be a Mason and was a wonderful husband and father.

May 20, 2007

Dear Brother Ronald Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master

I truly never expected to receive help from the Masonic fraternity, not because I didn't think you wouldn't consider it, but because I didn't think there was any way that you could help me. Well, that certainly doesn't hold true and I was so overwhelmed, emotionally, when I found out there may be a chance of receiving help from you, my wife asked me what happened and if I was all right?

As I stated in my previous letter to you, I had been in touch with the VA and they turned me down two times and ultimately the third time, for help in getting a hitch and scooter lift for our car.

They did give me a fancy walker with hand brakes, etc., but it does not help when out on long excursions with my wife, I just get a lot of back and leg pain when I'm [standing] on them.

I do not wish to bore you with a lot of details; however, I wanted to say, Thank You so very much for the help in securing a hitch and lift for my HP Scooter. It is installed and I have used it already and it works just great. They also installed two new batteries in the scooter.

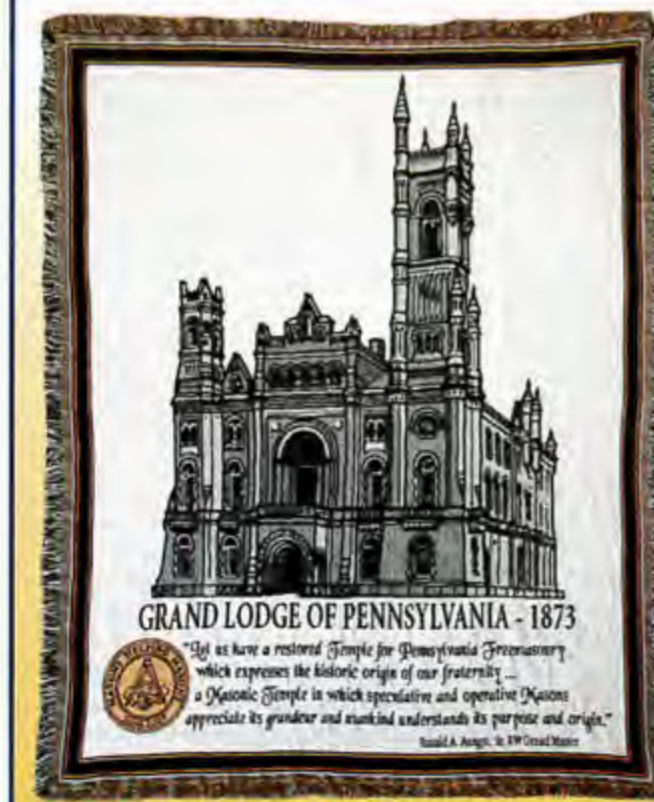
A very special thanks to you and to Deb Brockman with Masonic Villages for her help and involvement in my situation.

We are in Pennsylvania for a few months to visit our daughter and grandchildren. Thanks to our son, who is a pilot for Continental Airlines, we can fly free on stand-by to get to Pennsylvania. Long drives would be detrimental to my health.

Our heartfelt thanks to all who participated in my financial situation, and to my Lodge No. 106, Williamsport, for their help and concern. May God bless you all.

Sincerely,  
Louis J. Paulauski, Jr.

## Introducing the Commemorative Masonic Temple Throw... available just in time for the holidays!



The proceeds from the purchase of this soft, over-sized woven throw will go toward the restoration of Philadelphia's 1873 National Historic Landmark Masonic Temple. It is available exclusively through the Temple Treasures Gift Shop in the Masonic Temple. It is made entirely in the USA by Loom Craft in Belton, S.C. The size is approx. 52" x 68" including 4 fringed sides, a tapestry style weave. Colors of natural, navy and burgundy, maize/gold medallion, and grays and black for the building.

Cost \$59

Plus \$9 Shipping and \$4.76 Tax

Please call to place your order with the Temple Treasures Gift Shop:  
1-800-336-7317. All credit cards are accepted.

## Three Generations Raised Together

On Saturday, June 16, three generations of the Barchesky family were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason at LaMonte Lodge No. 568, Derry.



Right to left: Bro. Donald F. Barchesky, his son, Bro. Daniel M. Barchesky and grandson, Bro. Franklin D. Barchesky.

## Brethren Recognized for Long-term Service as Past Masters

At the April 3 stated meeting of Corry Lodge No. 365, C. Donald Nelson, District Deputy Grand Master of District 56, presented Bro. Howard F. Ross, P.M., a 68-year member of Corry Lodge, with the Grand Lodge 60-year Masonic Service Emblem and a Grand Lodge certificate for 60 years as a Past Master. He also presented Brothers John M. Mohr and John W. Rickers with the Grand Lodge 60-year Masonic Service Emblem. Bro. H. Richard Hays, P.M., was presented a Grand Lodge certificate for 50 years as a Past Master.



Left to right: Brothers H. Richard Hays, P.M.; Howard F. Ross, P.M.; Blaine M. Boleratz, W.M.; C. Donald Nelson, D.D.G.M.; John W. Rickers and John M. Mohr.



# KABBALAH for Health and Wellness

by Mark Stavish Reviewed by Bro. Charles S. Canning, Academy of Masonic Knowledge

Initially, I was hesitant to submit this text for review in *The Pennsylvania Freemason*, as it appeared removed from a study of Freemasonry. However, there is a growing body of published works on the esoteric philosophy underlying Freemasonry, and Stavish's text might provide a better mental and physical preparation for the serious student of Freemasonry in understanding those hidden areas of ritual and allegory that escape notice. Freemasonry does not prescribe or teach Hermeticism or the Kabbalah, yet there are ritual motifs and symbols that hint at a background of esoteric influence.

Stavish provides a clear picture of a subject that seems to lurk in our Masonic origin. You don't have to become an adept, but utilizing some of the meditation practices found in the text may allow one to see Masonic ritual in a more meaningful light. Self-improvement is the goal of both Freemasonry and Esotericism. We can't be sure what ideas are contained in the "primordial soup" that gave birth to speculative Freemasonry.

Stavish examines various aspects and schools of the Kabbalah and provides an organized means of understanding the overall focus of a rather complex subject. The first half of the text is a preparation for applying the principles of Kabbalah and includes

various exercises for meditation. There are references in the text to Masonic symbolism that point to an esoteric origin. The theme of York Rite Masonry is the "word," which is lost, recovered, preserved and given new meaning in the Christian Orders of Knights Templar. The Kabbalah is also about the "word," and is studied in the context of Jewish mysticism.

The second portion of the book familiarizes the reader with the pathworking and relationships of the Tree of Life.

For the Master Mason who is curious about the esoteric aspects of Freemasonry, *Kabbalah for Health and Wellness* is an excellent text to study the basics of meditation and the use of pathways. As the degrees of Freemasonry provide pathways that reflect back upon themselves to give us new understanding of the ritual, so the pathways of the Tree of Life allow one to build a stronger and better balanced understanding of self. The text offers us a new approach to understanding and self improvement.

By reflecting, I have always found new meaning in the Masonic ritual. I would recommend the book for the Mason who wishes to add a new dimension to his Masonic journey by exploring the ritual motifs in a deeper meditative and reflective manner.



## Builders of Empire: Freemasonry and British Imperialism, 1717-1927

by Jessica L. Harland-Jacobs Reviewed by Cathy Giaimo, Assistant Librarian

Freemasons pride themselves on their universal fellowship with their brother Masons around the world. Did you ever wonder how this fraternity became so global or what influences it had on the countries to which it was brought? Jessica L. Harland-Jacobs discusses these questions and others in "Builders of Empire: Freemasonry and British Imperialism, 1717-1927."

Ms. Harland-Jacobs develops her study of British Freemasonry through five themes that include globalization, supranational institutions and identities, imperial power, masculinity and fraternalism. Even though any one of these might make your eyes glaze over, she does show how an organization that started with some pretty radical ideas such as universal brotherhood and tolerance, eventually becomes identified with the ruling elite of the British Empire. Of special interest is that by admitting the native elite into the local lodges, these men were exposed to Masonic principles that would eventually lead to the overthrow of the status quo.



The reader will note that Ms. Harland-Jacobs begins her story with the formation of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717. She also does an admirable job of explaining the history of the Ancients and Modern Freemasons, their rivalry and the effectiveness of the Ancients in spreading Freemasonry beyond the shores of Great Britain. By approaching this history chronologically, the reader gets a good picture of how Freemasonry spread itself throughout the world (much like the proverbial pebble thrown into a lake), the traditions it brought with it, the conflicts and resolutions and the intertwining of empire building and Freemasonry.

Jessica L. Harland-Jacobs also references other authors, such as Margaret Jacob and Steven Bullock, whose books can be found in the Circulating Library.

For these authors' books, check out the Circulating Library Web site at [www.pagrandlodge.org](http://www.pagrandlodge.org) or call the librarian at (800) 462-0430, ext. 1933 for specific titles.

# Priceless Treasures Adorn the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia

By Andrew A. Zellers-Frederick, Executive Director  
The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia's National Historic Landmark Masonic Temple is world-renowned for its fantastic architecture and wonderful artworks. One of its priceless treasures, that is sometimes overlooked amid William Rush's sculptures or George Herzog's finely detailed frescos, is a single 19th century painting of Thomas Kittera, the Right Worshipful Grand Master of Pennsylvania from 1826-1828, by Thomas Sully. Bro. Kittera is an interesting historical individual in his own right: he was the first Grand Master to make Masons-at-Sight and was widely known as a man of culture and learning. An 1805 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, he studied law and enjoyed a respected career in this field which included governmental positions as the Deputy Attorney General for Pennsylvania (1817); a prosecuting attorney in the Philadelphia's Mayor's Court (1817-18); and service in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the Court of Over & Terminer (1821-24). He was also elected to both the Philadelphia Common Council (1821) and Select Council (1822-26) where he later served for two years (1824-26) as its president. Bro. Kittera was selected to fill a vacancy as a United States Congressman (1826-27), but was defeated in his quest for another term. It is fitting that Bro. Kittera was portrayed by the most respected portrait painter of the day, Thomas Sully, whose prominent career lasted for nearly seven decades.

Thomas Sully was born in 1783, just as the United States had finally achieved its independence with the end of the American Revolutionary War. Although originally from England, his parents brought him to the young American republic at the age of 9, where the family settled in Charleston, S.C. Sully's father initially tried to encourage him to become an insurance broker, but fortunately for us, his artistic talent became apparent and his true vocation was encouraged. Sully's work took him initially to Richmond and Norfolk, Va. The demand for an artist of his ability caused him in 1806 to settle in the rapidly growing New York City, which became his home and center for his artistic work for several years. During this time, he briefly traveled to Boston for three weeks of professional instruction by the internationally famous Gilbert Stuart, known forever for his revered painting of Bro. George Washington. Stuart undoubtedly recognized Sully's impressive talents and his need to receive additional training in one of the artistic



19th century painting of Thomas Kittera, R.W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania, 1826-1828, by Thomas Sully.

fraternity himself, painted the portraits of many prominent Masons, such as Brothers George Washington, James Monroe, the Marquis de Lafayette, Andrew Jackson, Benjamin Rush, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Stephen Decatur and John Marshall. It is fitting that Sully also consented to paint the portrait of an individual, Bro. Kittera, who was respected in the city in which both men simultaneously lived.



Recent painting of a young Benjamin Franklin, R.W.P.G.M., by David Larned.

centers of the world, London. While in London (one of his two trips across the Atlantic) for a relatively brief period of time, artistic fortune again smiled on Sully when he was able to learn from the master of portrait painting, the American-born Benjamin West. In 1810, Sully returned to the United States, but decided to make his home and the center for his career in the "Athens of America," the city of Philadelphia.

Thomas Sully quickly became the city's most accomplished portrait painter with a reputation of excellence for over half a century. Many people will contend he was the most gifted portraitist of the Romantic era, and the feeling portrayed by his works can easily be experienced in the painting of Bro. Kittera. Sully had little trouble in obtaining artistic commissions, as demonstrated by his prolific number of works, and his portraits included many notable historical individuals as Thomas Jefferson, Britain's Queen Victoria and James Madison. Sully, although to our knowledge not a member of the Masonic

fraternity himself, painted the portraits of many prominent Masons, such as Brothers George Washington, James Monroe, the Marquis de Lafayette, Andrew Jackson, Benjamin Rush, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Stephen Decatur and John Marshall. It is fitting that Sully also consented to paint the portrait of an individual, Bro. Kittera, who was respected in the city in which both men simultaneously lived.

Today, these beautiful works of Thomas Sully can be viewed in museums, galleries and private collections throughout the world. The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania is fortunate to be able to count itself among these fortunate institutions, and it continues to collect beautiful and historic works of art.

The recently painted portrait of Bro. Benjamin Franklin, commissioned by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, is one of them. Painted by artist David Larned, this work takes its place among the nearly countless number of paintings and portraits on the walls of the National Historic Landmark Masonic Temple.





## Life Just Keeps Getting Better

Biggest isn't always best, but in the case of the 2007 LifeSkills/LifeChangers Conference, we really think it was. Since the conference's beginning in 2000, the staff and volunteers of LifeSkills have been instilling the values of respect, responsibility and relationships into conferees from around Pennsylvania and beyond. Again and again, our youth graduates tell us the same thing: "This week changed my life."

Each year, impossible as it seems, this great thing gets even greater. Through creative and sometimes zany problem-solving and team-building activities, participants learn to trust, communicate, understand and build community. The young men and women of LifeSkills learned first-hand how to tackle conflicts and come together for common goals and mutual affirmation. Unless you've been to LifeSkills, you probably can't even imagine such a relentlessly positive atmosphere... generated and maintained by the youth involved.

One 13-year-old conferee put it this way in a thank you letter sent just after the conference: "Thank you so much for bringing me to the LifeSkills conference ... What I learned about myself is that I am actually a strong leader and that I can lead others on a good path... I don't have to follow the crowd... I'm going to bring that concept to school and use it there." This same young man asked for information on how he can get

involved in DeMolay in his community.

This year's conference was also the biggest yet, with 77 youth conferees in attendance. 62 LifeSkills conferees (at least 50 of whom were attending for the first time this year) were joined by seven "LifeChangers," older youth, usually LifeSkills graduates, who are training in how to "pass on" the lessons of LifeSkills; eight Counselors in Training, young adults who have completed the LifeChangers program and have been invited to assist in conference leadership; and 20 volunteer and professional adult staff.

Although the conference has gotten better and better every year, there's one complaint we just can't seem to get past: "What? We have to go HOME?" It is tough to part after such a meaningful week, but conferees take up the challenge to take LifeSkills home with them, bringing the positive messages of respect, responsibility and relationships into their daily lives in school, family and community.

Many of our conferees joined us through the generous scholarship assistance of local Pennsylvania lodges. To all of the generous Pennsylvania lodges and Masons who continue to support the programs of the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation, we say thank you for making a difference. Plans are underway for another life-changing week of LifeSkills, July 20-25, 2008.

*"What I learned about myself is that I am actually a strong leader and that I can lead others on a good path"*



The Pennsylvania Freemason

## DeMolays Pay Tribute to Flight 93

The Flight 93 National Memorial, in Shensville, Pa., was the site of a moving experience for the members and adult leaders of Pilgrim Chapter, Order of DeMolay on Sunday, July 22. They were on their way home from an exhausting weekend of fun, competition and excitement at the Annual DeMolay Convention in Greensburg, and thought it would be an interesting place to visit on the way home. They were not prepared for what they experienced, but it turned out to be the highlight of the trip.

They knew that they were going there to pay respects to those who died on that unforgettable day in September of 2001. It is said that each generation is defined by the events of their childhood. For these young men, who were in grade school at the time of the attacks six years ago, terrorism darkens the news and entertainment media that influences them daily, and colors their view of our country's place in the world.

When they arrived, they were surprised to see the large group of people who were there from all over the country and had also stopped to remember the spontaneous courage of the passengers and crew of United Flight 93. As they looked at what first appeared to be a wall, they realized it was a 40' long, 9' high chain-linked fence overlooking the crash site, completely covered with flags, hats, toys, jewelry, flowers, posters, license plates, religious symbols from many traditions and many other impromptu gifts. They were overwhelmed by what they saw, and at a loss for words.

Then they noticed people beginning to gather around a woman who held a photo album. At first, they didn't realize that she was one of 43 volunteer "Ambassadors" from the Shensville area who make sure that someone is always present to greet visitors and to tell the story of Flight 93. The young men joined the crowd and listened to her give a time line of events that took place on Sept. 11, 2001. She reminded the crowd about the heroic sacrifice made by the men and women who were on Flight 93 and who chose to prevent the deaths of hundreds or thousands of others by overpowering the hijackers. After her heartfelt presentation, one of the DeMolay members asked out loud, "Why did this have to happen?" Another member was heard to respond, "It probably didn't have to happen, but things happen for a reason. What that



Eight DeMolays from Pilgrim Chapter in Harrisburg conducted a brief Memorial Service at the site of the crash of Flight 93 in front of the temporary memorial wall.

reason is, well, it isn't always obvious right away, but eventually we'll understand."

Then the young men remembered the new Memorial Service they had just witnessed at the DeMolay Convention. The service was adopted this year by DeMolay International for chapters to use to remember "Masons, Advisors and Friends of DeMolay" who were significant to the chapter. Deciding that the heroes of Flight 93 were indeed significant to them, Past Master Councilor Tom Moyer and the top three elected Councilors of the chapter performed the ceremony, and named all of those who were aboard the plane. Some of the visitors to the site paused to watch the brief ceremony, which was performed with great solemnity by the DeMolays. Inspired to leave a piece of themselves behind, as a tribute to the fallen heroes, they placed a DeMolay logo magnet on the fence before they left, satisfied that they had done a very worthwhile service to themselves and to others by simply taking the time to remember.

## Prince Hall Grand Lodge Embraces CHIP

Twice this summer, the Masonic Child Identification Program (CHIP) was conducted in cooperation with members of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Both events were successful, and point to future opportunities for cooperative efforts to provide CHIP to parents seeking good identification materials.

On June 16, the Light of Elmwood Lodge #45, Philadelphia, held a family day and requested a CHIP program for the children in attendance. The District D CHIP team provided the program, led by Charles Lankert, CHIP Coordinator for Pennsylvania, and supported by Freedom Chapter, Order of DeMolay.

The July 28 Children's Festival at the Prince Hall Grand Lodge Building, 4301 N. Broad Street, Phila., found Bro. Lankert with the CHIP Team from Concordia Lodge No. 67, Jenkintown, and Freedom DeMolays, teaching and assisting our Prince Hall brothers to provide CHIP packets to 174 children and families. At least 20 Prince Hall Masons and members of their youth group, the Knights of Pythagoras, participated in this event, gaining the experience to conduct more CHIP events in the future.



M.W. Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons, Bro. Samuel King, (front row, 3rd from left) was present for the Children's Festival and CHIP event, and took some time to talk and pose with the DeMolays and Knights of Pythagoras, thanking them for working together in this community service project.



## Turning It Over to the Youth

Turning the four-day Annual DeMolay Convention and the week-long Key Man Leadership Training Conference over to youth was not an easy pill for Pennsylvania DeMolay leaders to swallow. But for the Order of DeMolay in Pennsylvania to live up to its potential, it was essential to make this transition and prove that the program is entirely youth-driven. With adults serving as mentors, the two biggest programs of PA DeMolay are now in the hands of its youthful members.



Mike Brown (right) and Tom Moyer (left) served as Youth Director and Assistant Director of the PA DeMolay Key Man Conference this year.

This transition took place over the past 18 months, beginning with the appointment of a Convention Youth Coordinator in 2006. The coordinator took care of all hotel, meal and logistical arrangements for on-site and off-site events. After the great experience at the 2006 Convention, it seemed natural to do the same thing for the 2007 Key Man Conference, resulting in the selection of a Youth Director for this complicated leadership training program. Not only was the Youth Director responsible for all logistical arrangements at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus in Elizabethtown, he was also involved in all staffing, scheduling and curriculum decisions made for the program this year.

Michael L. Brown, an 18-year-old Past Master Councilor of Elizabethtown DeMolay, and a recently raised Master Mason of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown, was appointed to the position of Youth Director for the Key Man Conference in the Spring of 2007, after submitting a two-page letter of interest in which he detailed his goals for improving the conference while improving his own organizational and leadership abilities. Mike, in turn, interviewed and chose

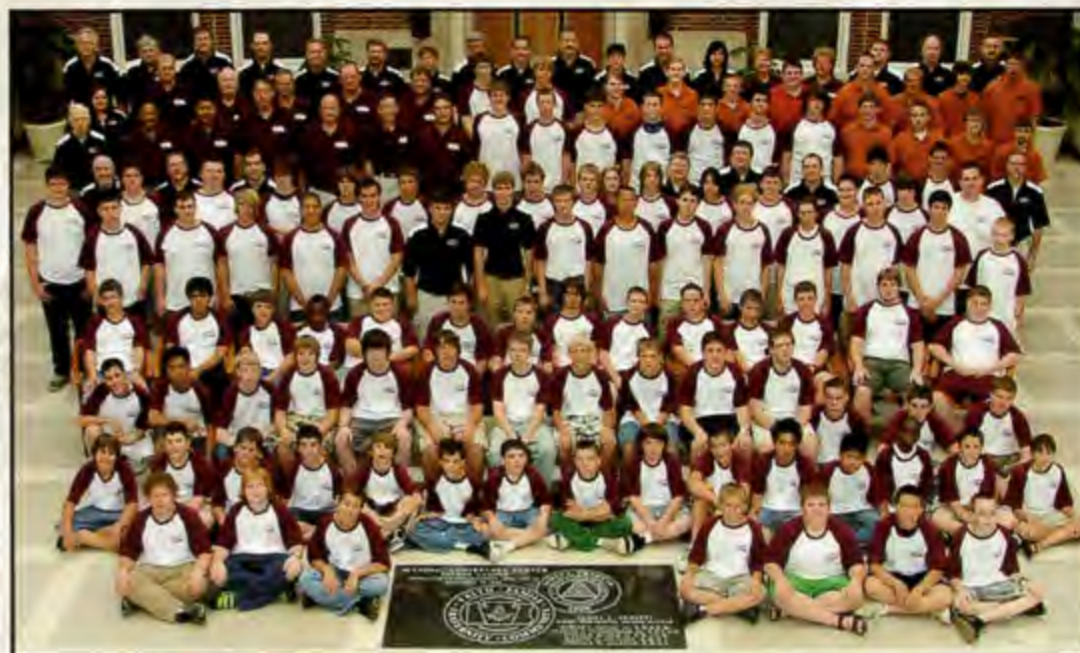
W. Thomas Moyer, a 15-year-old Past Master Councilor of Pilgrim Chapter, to be his Assistant Youth Director.

Along with several improvements made to the schedule and program elements, Mike also developed a comprehensive marketing plan to increase the participation by Pennsylvania DeMolays in the Key Man Conference. A priority was placed on acquiring sponsors to help provide scholarships for deserving Pennsylvania DeMolays who could not afford the \$200.00 registration fee. The response was overwhelming, and a total of 23 scholarships were offered, thanks to the generous donations from five Masonic organizations and 25 Master Masons and Senior DeMolays.

The next step was to better promote the program to the DeMolay members. Bro. Brown developed a special Key Man brochure that was sent to all Junior and Senior Councilors—the future chapter leaders who would most benefit from attending the program. The work paid off—the Pennsylvania DeMolay participants nearly doubled in 2007!

With the planning and preparation done under the watchful eyes of adult director, "Dad" Dave Berry, Mike and Tom settled into their supervisory roles for the conference by running the pre-conference staff meeting; daily meetings with the Chapter Advisors and Chairmen for the week; assisting with the instruction of daily classes; and managing the many details that are a part of a conference for 138 youth and adult "students" and 23 volunteer staff members. Imagine these two young men giving advice and direction to a staff that included three DeMolay Executive Officers; several Past State Master Councilors; a Past Grand Master of DeMolay International; and R.W. Past Grand Master Samuel C. Williamson, who conceived the concept of the first Key Man Conference 22 years ago!

They were outstanding leaders, and were accorded the respect they earned by their thorough preparation. When given the opportunity, they took charge and proved to all the skeptics that DeMolay can raise its standards of excellence by allowing youth to lead!



## Pittsburgh Pirates Beat Philadelphia Phillies at Lincoln DeMolay's 2nd Annual Cookout

PNC Park, Pittsburgh, Pa., Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007 – Three nights during the baseball season, the Pittsburgh Pirates have their annual Skyblast evenings. The evening includes the baseball game with a live band and the largest fireworks display in Pittsburgh.

Lincoln Chapter Order of DeMolay, sponsored by Verona Lodge No. 548 and Plumcreek-Monroeville Lodge No. 799, Pittsburgh, hosted their annual tailgate cookout in a parking lot near the baseball park. The chapter sold 200 tickets to their members, families, friends, other DeMolay chapters and members from the local Masonic lodges. The day included an all-you-can-eat dinner. Each participant also received a patriotic backpack souvenir and could bid on silent auction items. The day started off by the chapter organizing and preparing for the cookout, arriving at 3 p.m., when the parking lots open to secure a cookout location and setting up to entertain their guests. Food, fellowship and fun from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., filled the entire end of the parking lot. Then everyone headed into the park for the 7:05 p.m. start of the game.

With the Pirates in last place in their division, they won Thursday night against the NY Mets, lost Friday to the Phillies and won Saturday night 11 to 6. The 38,132 sell-out crowd, including the friends of Lincoln chapter, enjoyed a great game and fireworks accompanied by country music by the Poverty Neck Hillbillies.



## CHIP in District 12



The 12th Masonic District, under the direction of Bro. William H. Brandt, Sr., District Deputy Grand Master, recently held a CHIP event at Trinity Learning Center, Dallas. Twenty-six children were photographed, videotaped and finger-printed, and their parents received a safety kit. Shown with some of the children participating in CHIP are the following program volunteers:

Front Row: Martin L. Braen, P.M., Landmark Lodge No. 442, Wilkes-Barre, and Chairman, CHIP for the 12th Masonic District.

Back Row: Barbara R. Mohr, O.E.S.; Donald Mohr, P.M., Landmark Lodge No. 442; and Charles W. Brandt, W.M., P.M., Lodge No. 61, Wilkes-Barre.

## Hiram Lodge Shows Support for DeMolay



Bro. Stephen G. Arnawoodian, P.M., initiates support for Friendship-Bray Chapter Order of DeMolay from Hiram Lodge No. 81, Philadelphia, by presenting a check to Bro. Alexander Ralston, Master Councilor.



## Grand Master Hosts Picnic at Masonic Village at Sewickley

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, hosted a picnic for the entire Masonic Village at Sewickley campus on Saturday, July 28. Residents, staff, families and volunteers were invited to attend the event, held outside the Star Points assisted living building. Guests were treated to picnic fare, popcorn and ice cream. Entertainment included an accordion player and ragtime band, which kept people clapping. Shrine clowns made their way around the crowd, inciting smiles all around. The Grand Master spent time greeting and talking with attendees.



Grand Master Aungst places a Diamond Jubilee pin on Bro. Sherwood Lennartson, St. James Lodge, No. 457, Bridgewater, in the presence of his wife, Britta.



Bro. Tracy Miller, Myrtle Lodge No. 316, Franklin, and his wife, Sandy, enjoy the food and festivities.

## Masonic Villages Retirement Living Update

As the Masonic Villages continue to look for ways to serve our members, their families and others in providing quality retirement living services, we are pleased to announce some significant changes recently approved by the Committee on Masonic Homes.

In the past, you may be aware the minimum age to become a resident in one of our active, adult Masonic retirement communities has been age 65. (In the case of two spouses, at least one spouse had to meet the age criteria.) As more individuals continue to look to earlier retirement, it has become evident a change to this policy is now warranted.

The required age to move into Retirement Living at all campuses has now been reduced from age 65 to 60. (In the case of two spouses, one needs to be 60 and the other not less than 55 years old.) This enhancement will provide an opportunity for more individuals to continue to lead an active, adult lifestyle in a secure environment whereby quality health care services would be available should they ever need them.

Construction continues at the Masonic Village at Dallas, where there are still some apartment homes and a few cottages available for immediate reservation. These apartment and cottage homes, located on the grounds of the beautiful Irem Country Club, feature a variety of floor plans in order to allow you a choice in living accommodations. Currently, this means that persons taking advantage of this exciting opportunity would not need to be placed on a waiting list.

At the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown, a 90 percent refundable entrance fee is now available in addition to the 8-year declining balance option, which has always been available. What that means to you, is that if you pay a higher entrance fee than the traditional eight-year declining balance entrance fee for the home of your preference, then you, your estate, etc., would be entitled to a 90 percent refund of your specific entrance fee in the future. This option also is available at Dallas, Lafayette Hill and Sewickley.

As a result of our latest construction initiative in Elizabethtown, there are a few deluxe apartment homes still available for immediate reservation. These one, two, and two-bedroom/den apartment homes, to be located adjacent to the Sycamore Marketplace, will feature a variety of floor plans in order

to allow you a choice in living accommodations. Currently, this means that persons taking advantage of this exciting opportunity would not have to get on a waiting list.

After nine months of pre-marketing a potential Masonic Village at Erie on the grounds of the Zem Zem Shrine, the Committee on Masonic Homes in September determined that there is not sufficient interest to support building a new community on that site.

At the Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill, a few of our 21 newly renovated deluxe apartments are available for immediate reservation. We currently are pre-marketing 85 new deluxe apartments connected to the existing building, and based upon interest levels, construction could begin sometime in 2008. These new apartment homes feature a variety of floor plans and if you reserve one now, you would not need to be placed on a waiting list. If you haven't been for a tour recently, we invite you to view our new dining room, bistro and complete remodeling on the campus.

The beautiful Masonic Village at Sewickley is nearly fully reserved and/or occupied at this time. As a result, a waiting list will begin in the near future, which means that anyone who may be interested in making a move to this state-of-the-art community should consider reserving their accommodation of preference now. If you have not visited the Masonic Village at Sewickley, it's time to experience the tranquil surroundings, unique lifestyle and the fun that a community can offer. Call today to schedule a personal tour or to make a reservation for our upcoming open house on Nov. 29.

Should you have questions regarding these changes and/or an interest in potentially reserving a new apartment or cottage at this time, we encourage you to call the Masonic Village of your choice at your earliest convenience:

Masonic Village at Dallas	(866) 851-4243
Masonic Village at Elizabethtown	(800) 676-6452
Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill	(610) 828-5760
Masonic Village at Sewickley	(866) 872-0664

## Make a Change.... Make a Difference!

If you are a Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse or a Certified Nursing Assistant, or know somebody who is, consider making a change in your career path to a place where you can really make a difference. Our Masonic Villages are wonderful places to work because our Mission of Love includes caring for Masons, their family members and others in need of your expertise, care and compassion.

So if you are looking for rewarding employment opportunities with an established, growing organization, or if you know someone who is, contact the Masonic Village nearest you for more information:



Elizabethtown: Call toll-free (877) 753-3228 or locally, dial (717) 361-4522.

Email-MVEmployment@masonicvillagespa.org

Lafayette Hill: Call (610) 825-6100

Email-MVLHemployment@masonicvillagespa.org

Sewickley: Call (412) 741-1400

Email-MVSEmployment@masonicvillagespa.org

Warminster: Call (215) 672-2500

Email-MVWemployment@masonicvillagespa.org

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.







## Autumn Day Veterans Grove Dedication



The Veterans Grove Dedication was the focal event during Autumn Day at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown on Sept. 15. While the sun dried away the morning rain in plenty of time for the ceremony, it wasn't long before there was not a dry eye in the crowd.

Following a musical prelude by the Bainbridge Band, a flyover of 193<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Wing C-130 Hercules signaled the start of the dedication. Following introductions by Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, CEO for the Masonic Villages, the service branch flags were presented by the following veterans: Army flag by Bro. Tom M. Werner, Corporal, World War II, Prospect Lodge No. 578, Prospect Park, Masonic Village resident; Navy flag by Bro. Russell W. Baker, Master Chief Petty Officer, Howell Lodge No. 405, Honey Brook, Masonic Village resident; Marine flag by Jeffrey L. Kincaid, Marine, Masonic Village employee; Air Force flag by Bro. William G. Atherton, Staff Sergeant, World War II, Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown, Masonic Village resident; and the Coast Guard flag by Bro. Raymond A. Vaughan, Chief Warrant Officer Grade, Eureka Lodge No. 302, Mechanicsburg, Masonic Village resident. The leader for the Presentation of the Service Flags was Bro. Chester W. Brown, Master Sergeant, U.S. Air Force, Air Weather Services, World War II, Isaac Heister Lodge No. 660, West Reading, Masonic Village resident.

Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W. Grand Master, welcomed the crowd and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The national anthem was performed by Bro. Raymond E. Foose, Grand Lodge Soloist. Rev. David L. Danneker, Ph.D., St. Peter's Catholic Church,

Elizabethtown, provided the invocation.

All veterans were invited to stand or raise their hand and be recognized during the playing of their service branch song.

The guest speaker was Bro. and Superior Court of Pennsylvania Judge Seamus McCaffery, Richard Vaux-Ivanhoe Lodge No. 384, Philadelphia. Once an Irish immigrant of meager means, Bro. McCaffery said, "I live the American dream every single day... I am a living example of what this country is all about... You are American by birth - I am American by choice."

Directing his words to the Masonic Village residents in the audience, he said, "I am humbled by you, the greatest of all generations. When the call came, none of you backed down; you proudly served. You are my heroes, my history books. The young troops serving today, they are our future."

"I have been blessed by the opportunity to serve with World War II veterans, veterans from Vietnam, Korea, up to the current War for Iraqi Freedom," Bro. McCaffery said. He described the young men and women proudly wearing their uniforms in our armed forces as strong, tough and dedicated professionals, "willing to give their lives without hesitation, just as you were willing, 20, 30, 40 or more years ago."

***"When the call came, none of you backed down... you proudly served. You are my heroes, my history books. The young troops serving today, they are our future."***

***- Bro. and Superior Court Judge Seamus McCaffery***

Following the singing of "God Bless America," Bro. and Rev. A. Preston Van Deursen, Director of Pastoral Care for the Masonic Villages, read Psalm 27:1-3 and Psalm 67:1-7 and provided the benediction.

Following a rendition of "Stars and Stripes Forever," written by Bro. John Philip Sousa, the ceremony concluded with a flyover by a B25J Mitchell Bomber from the Mid Atlantic Air Museum, Reading. Grand Master Aungst thanked all veterans present and summed up the feelings of the audience: "It is my greatest honor to be here today among all who have served for us to have the freedom we enjoy today." The Grand Lodge Officers then invited the attendees to view the Veterans Grove Monument.



### About the Veterans Grove...

In 1920, Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, Harrisburg, contributed funds for the planting of 268 oak trees on the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown campus, as a living representation of the Masons who died serving our country during World War I.

Honoring veterans is important to the fraternity and society as a whole. As part of the Masonic Village's master plan, updating and enhancing our Memorial Grove into the renamed Veterans Grove was an essential priority.

The renovations to the monument encourage reflection of wars past and the continuing potential for peace and freedom. The Veterans Grove has been restored to its original splendor with the planting of 123 oak trees to bring the number back to 268. The stone pathway leading up to the monument displays the various conflicts our nation fought, beginning with the Revolutionary War through current conflicts. The entrance and tablets throughout the monument proclaim the inspirational words of those who have led our country during times of unrest, leading up to the Word of God, upon which our country was founded.

The walking paths, picnic area and future restroom facilities are provided for family and friends to take time to remember, honor and pray for those currently serving in our Armed Forces and pay respect to all veterans who have served to preserve our freedom.

The design of the Veterans Grove Monument, renovation and construction was graciously donated by Reese, Lower, Patrick and Scott Architects, Ltd., of Lancaster.





# Heckman Named Gift Planning Director for Central Pennsylvania Region

James R. Heckman has been named Director of Gift Planning-Central Region for the Masonic Charities of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. His office is located at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown.

Heckman's responsibilities include developing and implementing a planned giving program in Central Pennsylvania, including the oversight of the legacy society program, with the aim of fostering and securing deferred and outright gifts. He also assists with the implementation of an endowment campaign.

Heckman brings 20 years of experience in fund raising to Masonic Village. He was most recently employed as Director of Gift Planning for the American Red Cross in the Susquehanna Valley region.



Heckman earned his bachelor's degree in political science from Villanova University and his master's degree in international administration from the School for International Training.

He is the president of the Estate Planning Council of Central Pennsylvania, serves on the Board of Directors for the Central Pennsylvania Association of Fundraising Professionals and is a member of the Susquehanna Valley Planned Giving Council.

Heckman is a former Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia, whose efforts included education and job development. He also worked in rural development in Indonesia for the nonprofit aid organization, Save the Children. He resides in Halifax.

## JOIN YOUR BRETHREN! Use the NEW Masonic Credit Card and Benefit Our Masonic Charities



The new Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Visa credit card is the **only** card that supports the Grand Lodge and our Masonic Charities. U.S. Bank offers a rewards program that benefits members and allows you to support our Masonic Charities every time you use it. 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 balance transfers.

Apply today using the Visa applications that are available at your lodge, or call U.S. Bank at (800) 853-5576, ext. 8878. The creditor and issuer of the Visa Platinum card is the U.S. Bank National Association ND.

The card is also available with a picture of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, a group of famous Masons or a circle of children.

# Masonic Village



## FARM MARKET

## Great Holiday Gift Items, Shipped Anywhere in the U.S.!

Our popular Gift Boxes come in a variety of sizes and prices and make great holiday presents. You can also customize your gift with items such as fresh apples, homemade fruit butters and preserves.

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Hours: Mon. - Sat., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed Sundays.

Call for directions.

One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown

Located on the grounds of the Masonic Village, Elizabethtown



# Autumn Day 2007

8,000 Visitors Attend the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown's Annual Open House



Clockwise, from bottom left to bottom right:

Bro. Mike Manderevic, Ephrata Lodge No. 665, enjoyed the day with his wife, Carole, and children Aaron and Chelsea.

Bro. Carlton Stauffer, Valley Lodge No. 499, West Pittston, Masonic Village resident, donated his 160th pint of blood, having begun giving 57 years ago. According to the Central PA Blood Bank, one pint can save up to three lives, so Bro. Stauffer may have saved up to 480 lives!

Staff and residents of the Masonic Children's Home receive a generous donation from Chester County Consistory members.

Bro. Jay G. Brossman, Ephrata Lodge No. 665 (currently residing in Colorado), took an opportunity to catch up with his first grade teacher, Ms. Esther Williamson, shown pictured with Bro. Jay's wife, Sally, and daughter, Judy Ann Berger.

"Princess" Isabella Maust, granddaughter of Bro. Daniel Maust, Perkiomen Lodge No. 595, Red Hill, has a grand time!

The Ferko String Band entertains the crowd.

Teresa Hellem helps her daughter, Alaina, make a spin art picture at a Job's Daughters-sponsored activity for kids.

Joseph Chubb, Pilgrim Chapter of DeMolay, Hershey, escorts Masonic Village resident and veteran Bro. Ferree C. Grossman, Brandywine Goddard Lodge No. 383, Coatesville, to the Veterans Grove Dedication ceremony.



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Call for directions.

One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown

Located on the grounds of the Masonic Village, Elizabethtown



# Autumn Day 2007

8,000 Visitors Attend the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown's Annual Open House



Clockwise, from bottom left to bottom right:

Bro. Mike Manderevicz, Ephrata Lodge No. 665, enjoyed the day with his wife, Carole, and children Aaron and Chelsea.

Bro. Carlton Stauffer, Valley Lodge No. 499, West Pittston, Masonic Village resident, donated his 160th pint of blood, having begun giving 57 years ago. According to the Central PA Blood Bank, one pint can save up to three lives, so Bro. Stauffer may have saved up to 480 lives!

Staff and residents of the Masonic Children's Home receive a generous donation from Chester County Consistory members.

Bro. Jay G. Brossman, Ephrata Lodge No. 665 (currently residing in Colorado), took an opportunity to catch up with his first grade teacher, Ms. Esther Williamson, shown pictured with Bro. Jay's wife, Sally, and daughter, Judy Ann Berger.

"Princess" Isabella Maust, granddaughter of Bro. Daniel Maust, Perkioman Lodge No. 595, Red Hill, has a grand time!

The Ferko String Band entertains the crowd.

Teresa Hellein helps her daughter, Alaina, make a spin art picture at a Job's Daughters-sponsored activity for kids.

Joseph Chubb, Pilgrim Chapter of DeMolay, Hershey, escorts Masonic Village resident and veteran Bro. Ferree C. Grossman, Brandywine Goddard Lodge No. 383, Coatesville, to the Veterans Grove Dedication ceremony.