We Celebrate the Vitality of Some of Pennsylvania’s Most Active and Historic Lodges (pg. 12)
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New online magazine!
If you would prefer to receive an electronic version of the magazine for your convenience and/or to save the fraternity printing and mailing costs, please make your request by e-mailing pafreemason@masonicvillagespa.org. An electronic version of the magazine is also available online at www.pagrandlodge.org.

Mailing address changes
If your address on the back cover of this magazine is not exactly as you have provided it to us, please be aware that addresses are modified through the various mailing process requirements required by the U.S. Postal Service. If you have any questions or would like to inform us of a change in address, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at (800) 599-6454 or giving@masonicvillagespa.org.

Corrections from February 2009 issue:
Bro. William S. Johnston, P.M., Indiana Franklin Lodge No. 313, was inadvertently omitted from the list of brethren eligible to receive their 60-year member service awards this year. On p. 17, the photo caption and article, “Forging a Masonic Bond,” incorrectly identified Bro. Alfred Much, P.M., as having conferred the Master Mason Degree on Bro. Christian Danninger. Bro. Harry E. Poch, P.M., Teutonia Lodge No. 367, West Reading, was the conferring Master and Bro. Much delivered the charge.

We apologize for these errors.

Brethren:

It has now been a year and a half since my service as Right Worshipful Grand Master began. Quite literally, over that entire period of time, we all have born witness to the onset of a global recession. This recession has impacted each and every one of us in some manner. It has been longer and deeper than even those most learned financial professionals could have ever imagined. It has commanded significant amounts of time, energy and the passions of the Grand Lodge officers and others in positions of responsibility in their service to Grand Lodge. I felt it was appropriate to use this forum to provide some manner of update on its impact on Grand Lodge.

The various Grand Lodge finance-related committees have been very aggressive in their efforts to protect and secure the investments of Grand Lodge and the Masonic Villages. Due to their efforts, even though we, too, took a significant hit, our investments have been better protected than those of the average investor. This is a testament to the efforts of the Grand Lodge officers and the many professionals overseeing these critical assets of the Grand Lodge and our Masonic Villages.

Just as the impact of the recession has been felt in the operations of both Grand Lodge and in each of our five Masonic Villages, so has the response. Difficult times have required difficult decisions. Within the operations of Grand Lodge, already reduced budgets were again lowered by another 10%. Painful decisions, including personnel reductions, became necessary. Additional measures including reduction of one full-time employee to part-time, no overtime, a hiring freeze and renegotiation of service and maintenance contracts were only some of the measures implemented.

Within our Masonic Village operations, an ambitious goal of reducing operating costs this year by $10,000,000 is well underway, and they are getting close to meeting this goal. This is all being done under the umbrella guidelines of absolutely no reduction in services to our residents nor any layoffs at the Villages. In working to achieve this goal, the Masonic Village leadership voluntarily passed on salary increases for 2009, a hiring freeze and reduction in overtime where possible has been implemented, the Florida reunions for 2009 were cancelled, we reduced the number of editions of “The Pennsylvania Freemason” magazine and made a personally painful decision to cancel Autumn Day for 2009. These are only the tip of the iceberg of a huge number of cost-saving initiatives that have occurred.

I wish to extend my personal appreciation and gratitude to our leadership, staff and residents who have stepped forward from both Grand Lodge operations and our Masonic Villages in response to these challenges. There is no doubt that because of efforts such as these, that we will come through this crisis in a strong financial condition. To each of you, thank you for your part in getting us through these financially challenging times. It is because of your efforts that we will be able to continue the level of services we might be tempted to take for granted.

On a more upbeat note, the “Change for the Troops” program continues to reach levels that are a compliment to our beloved fraternity. As of this writing, contributions in excess of $209,000 have been received. This is enough to purchase calling cards for over 11,500 troops. Due to the kind generosity of the entire Masonic family in Pennsylvania, this has been made possible. We can measure the dollar contributions, but we cannot measure the personal value of those calls back home. In this edition are some of the letters we received. My name is the name they had, but their letters are to YOU. Some of these were written on scraps of paper mailed from the desert. Read, listen and feel the appreciation of these modern day heroes and their families.

Sincerely & fraternally,

Stephen Gardner
R.W. Grand Master
For the first time in the history of the lodge, Vaux Lodge No. 406, Hamburg, Entered, Passed and Raised Sgt. Luis Augusto Molina Ojeda to the sublime degree of Master Mason all on the same night, Dec. 22, 2008. Bro. Luis was about to be deployed to Iraq along with the Stryker Brigade from the Pennsylvania National Guard based in Willow Grove, as was his first-line signer, Bro. Gonzolo Gonzalez.

Along with a Masonic Bible, Masonic pins and books, and a “Change for the Troops” calling card, the brethren presented Brothers Ojeda and Gonzalez with a Grand Lodge Masonic license plate and a license plate from Vaux Lodge, with a request to send back a picture of the brethren with the plates in Iraq. All the personnel in the Stryker Brigade’s unit were presented calling cards by Grand Lodge and the brethren both reported back that the calling cards are very much appreciated. The members of Vaux Lodge are especially proud to be part of the program that has hit so close to home.

Three in One

Through the “Change for the Troops,” the Grand Lodge continues to provide 150 cards each month to the Family Support Services for troops departing from the McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix, and Lakehurst Naval Air Station.

Grand Lodge is planning to send additional cards to the Pennsylvania National Guard’s 56th Stryker Brigade in Iraq and the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, which cares for troops injured in war zones.

As quickly as the money comes in, calling cards are purchased and sent right away so they can get into the hands of our troops. Please continue your generous support!

Serving a Brother Serving Abroad

When the wife of a brother serving our country in Iraq faced legal issues, she turned to the military, and ultimately, to the Masons for help. At dinner before Brotherhood Lodge No. 126’s stated meeting, Bro. and Col. Harris Brooks told Bro. Anthony Stefanski of his frustration with the legal system pertaining to this particular case.

A Philadelphia criminal defense attorney, Bro. Stefanski, without hesitation, traveled over an hour away and provided his services to the brother’s wife free of charge. “I did it to help a brother in need and to thank him for serving our country,” he said.

The Pennsylvania Freemason
CALLING CARDS PRESENTED TO OUR COUNTRY’S BRAVEST FOR THEIR SERVICE & SACRIFICE

On March 17, Rodney E. Boyce, District Deputy Grand Master of the 30th Masonic District, on behalf of R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner, presented calling cards to 14th Quartermaster Company, 1st Platoon, at their departure ceremony in Greensburg, Pa. Twenty service men and women departed for a one-year deployment to northern Iraq. The company operates and maintains reverse-osmosis water units to provide drinking water for troops.

Many may remember the 14th Quartermaster as the unit whose barracks were struck by an Iraqi Scud missile in 1991, killing 29 soldiers and wounding 99, just days after their arrival. Thirteen of the dead and 43 of the injured were from the 14th. The unit never had an opportunity to accomplish its mission because 80 percent of the unit was killed or wounded.

Many community leaders and military personnel were on hand to address the departing soldiers. During his remarks, Bro. Boyce praised and thanked the soldiers and family members of the unit: “To be in the presence of you who are sacrificing so much, either by placing yourselves in harm’s way, or by keeping your homes and families together while a loved one is serving, is a true reminder that freedom is not free.” He described the “Change for the Troops” program and the staggering pace of support the 116,000 Masons across Pennsylvania have generously given.

Bro. Boyce was accompanied by Brothers Scott B. Mason, W.M., Philanthropy Lodge No. 225, and Robert S. Metcalfe, W.M., Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, both of Greensburg. The lodges were made aware of this deployment at a March 9 lodge meeting and immediately contacted Grand Lodge to make certain calling cards could be secured for this deploying unit. Thanks to the support and help of Bro. and Col. Harris Brooks, calling cards arrived in time for the presentation.

In closing, Bro. Boyce stated: “We are incredibly proud of your dedication. We thank you all for the service and sacrifice you are making to assure that our flag will continue to wave. And I ask God, who is the defender of all that is good and the Great Architect of the Universe, to preserve you from all peril and bless the country we all love.”

The highlight was presenting the cards and speaking with the servicemen and women about to deploy. All Masons in Pennsylvania should be incredibly proud of the difference our Grand Master’s “Change for the Troops” program has made in the lives of those who are sacrificing so much.

On May 11, Dorothy Fenyacko-Carbisiero, Unit Administrator, 14th Quartermaster Company, contacted Bro. and Col. Brooks to let him know that the soldiers had been delayed in Kuwait on their way to the theater in Iraq and had used up their calling cards ensuring their families that they were safe. The Grand Lodge immediately sent out an additional 100 cards, some for the soldiers to use in the interim and some to be issued once they arrive in the theater.

The troops and their families wish to pass along their sincere gratitude and appreciation to all Pennsylvania Masons.

PA MASONIC FLAG PRESENTED TO 56TH STRYKER BRIGADE

At a fellowship picnic in August 2008 hosted by Hiram Lodge No. 616, Altoona, Bro. Scott V. Farabaugh asked Bro. Thomas R. Ford about obtaining a Masonic flag to take to Iraq upon his deployment with the Pennsylvania National Guard’s 56th Stryker Brigade for placement in the company’s “ready room.” With the help of R.W. Grand Secretary Mark A. Haines, Bro. Ford obtained the flag, which was presented to Bro. Farabaugh by David B. Smith, District Deputy Grand Master for District 20, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, at the Pennsylvania National Guard Armory in Altoona on Dec. 30, 2008.

The 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team is scheduled to return in late summer 2009, at which time Bro. Farabaugh will present the flag to the Grand Lodge to be displayed in the Masonic Museum.

Brothers David B. Smith (left) and Thomas R. Ford, S.W., (right) present a Pennsylvania Masonic flag to Bro. and Sgt. Scott V. Farabaugh (center), B Company, 1/112, 56th Stryker Brigade of the Pennsylvania National Guard.
Nov. 13, 2008

Steve,

I just wanted to send you a quick note thanking you for the calling card. While it may seem like a simple act, it is truly appreciated and will make getting in touch with friends and family more meaningful.

Please extend my thanks to your fine organization on my behalf. Also, let them know their troops are doing fine here and could not be prouder of the work we are doing here for the greatest nation on earth and for the most noble cause of defending freedom!

Paul D. Rauh
COL, MP
Deputy Commander

Dec. 3, 2008

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for sending a phone card to Sam. It arrived while he was home for some R & R. So your timing was perfect. He also appreciated the letter of support and understanding. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Lentz
Sam’s Mom

18 Dec. 2008

Dear Mr. Gardner,

I just received the phone card that you sent in September 2008... Thank you very much for your gratitude and for keeping all of us who are deployed in your thoughts and prayers. My brother Greg and I communicate weekly, and today’s technology allows me to speak with my family almost daily. Christmas is almost here and I believe this will be the toughest time for being away from home and family.

Thank you again for your caring and support of all of us who willingly serve our country.

God Bless,

Chris Latchford

Dear Mr. Gardner,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your very kind letter and the gift of a phone card that you sent to me here in our deployed location.

Communication with family back home is one of our most precious pleasures, and is absolutely vital to morale here. The Masons’ assistance is more appreciated than you may know. I have used the card to speak with my wife, children, mom and dad, and my brothers over the holidays.

A truly wonderful Christmas gift!

It is my honor to be here, representing the U.S. and Pennsylvania, taking a small part in operations defending the People of the United States and avenging those aboard United Airlines Flight 93 in Shanksville, PA, Sept. 11, 2001.

Thank you to you and your brother Masons in PA for your ongoing support of deployed U.S. troops. We literally can not do it without the support of patriotic Americans on the home front. Know that your involvement has supported the most powerful air wing currently assembled on the planet. Its mission is to provide air power for ongoing Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa.

My very best wishes to the Masons for a peaceful and fulfilling New Year.

Sincerely,

James A. Dauber, Major, United States Air Force
379th Expeditionary Air Wing “The Grand Slam Wing”

TO THE MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA

Please accept my heartfelt thanks to your organization for the AT&T Phone Calling Card I received prior to my deployment to Southwest Asia this past September. Before deploying, each member of my unit, the 21st Air Mobility Operations Squadron, at McGuire AFB, NJ was given a calling card generously donated by your organization.

This calling card was extremely beneficial during my four month deployment because I missed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year’s and the birthdays of my 12-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter. This was my first deployment where my kids would know that their dad was gone for a long time.

Through your generous donation, I was able to make phone calls to both my children on their birthday, as well as the holidays I missed, without having to worry about the financial burden these calls would have. Additionally, I was able to call my parents, my sister, and my grandmother, who had to be hospitalized for an illness while I was deployed.

The calling card the Masons of Pennsylvania donated helped me maintain a connection with my loved ones during my deployment, freeing my mind to concentrate on the task at hand and allowing me to perform my duties better. Thus, your act of generosity had a direct impact on mission accomplishment here in Southwest Asia.

Thank you for your patriotism and willingness to support all the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who are deployed overseas. This support reminds us every day that what we do is important, and members of the Masons of Pennsylvania are behind us 100%! Thanks again!

With sincere thanks and gratitude,

Jay Updegraff, Lt Col USAF

Greetings from A-TRP, 5-1 CAV
FOB Caldwell, Iraq

R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner

I want to thank you for the phone card; I would like you to know that I have allowed soldiers who are going on leave take it and use it when they get to Kuwait or back to the states to call home. Small victories are made with the smallest notion of thanks, and soldiers smiling when they call home is a great feeling. Thank you for all your support.

Very Respectfully,
Heath Major

19 Dec. 08

Sir,

I received your letter and the calling card. I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness. I also wanted to let you know, when my
deployment is over, I will pass on this calling card to a deployed military member; that way, your generosity can be shared with others.

Thanks again,
Sincerely,
Mark Bucci

19 January 2009
R.W. Grand Master,

Thank you for your nice letter and the enclosed phone card you sent. I am now safely back in the United State and catching up on things. Please excuse my delay in sending this note. Your letter and the phone card were a great morale booster for me.

Moreover, thank you for the support you and The Grand Lodge have provided to all the Brothers in Pennsylvania who have been mobilized and deployed.

Thanks again for thinking of me!
Sincerely and fraternally,
“Jim” James W. Rinier, (member #410, W.K. Bray)

Mr. Gardner,

As the parents of Clay and Ty, we wish to thank you for the phone cards our sons have used since their deployment. Please thank all those who have been involved in the generous endeavor.

Again, Thanks
Merle and Sandy Ammerman

31 Jan. 2009
To the Brothers of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of PA,

I just wanted to thank you for your generosity in sending a pre-paid phone card to me while in Iraq. I apologize for the delay in writing the thank you note... time had been a very scarce and precious resource for me.

I commanded a military police battalion taken with securing over 3,500 Iranian terrorists in the Iraqi city of Ashraf. It’s a very remote, often forgotten outpost, in eastern Iraq. The nearest big base is about 1 1/2 hours away by convoy, so we didn’t have access to a lot of the “luxuries” that soldiers at the larger bases did. One of the things we were in desperate need of was phone cards for my Soldiers to call home with. I have donated this card to my MWR (Morale, Welfare, Recreation) Center to pass on to a needy soldier to call his family.

Again, thanks for your support. I think the world of your organization...I first became introduced to your organization, in a very personal sense, when I had the opportunity to spend a few weeks several years ago at the Elizabethtown facility. I was a police officer then, and your organization contributed a lot of money to the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, and that’s where I received my training.

Anyway, my year in Iraq is almost over – I’m at an air base in Kuwait awaiting our plane to take us home.

Thanks again for your wonderful support, and may God bless.
Mark Martin,
Lieutenant Colonel, MP
Commanding

Hello and GREETINGS TO ALL G.L. OFFICERS;

I, Robert L. Baker, and the 328th BSB, 1/111th HHC, A,B,C,D AND THE REST OF THE 56 Brigade would like to thank you for the phone cards you sent us to use in Iraq while we are stationed over there. You made a lot of people happy to be able to call home. People come up to me and say thank you and your friends for the cards I tell them you are welcome for it. I also tell them which Grand Lodge they came from. Again thank you very much.

TRAVEL LIGHT AND MAY G.A.O.T.U. BE WITH U 4 LIFE
Robert L. Baker Jr. 32
William Scruggs Military Lodge #147
Great Lakes, ILL. P.H.A.

Department of the Army
50th Stryker Brigade Combat Team
Headquarters, 1st Battalion 111th Infantry
APO AE 09378
March 25, 2009
Dear R.W. Grand Master,

I want to start off by saying thank you. The support we’ve received from home has been overwhelming. Still, I was particularly touched by your letter. I have always respected the work your organization has done for our community. Even now I feel I should be thanking you, not the other way around.

The phone cards will not go to waste. I’ve given them to a few soldiers that need them more than I do. Because I work on the staff, I have phone and internet access more often than most. The soldiers fighting the fight can use the cards to call home when they get a chance to come in from the field.

Please accept my deepest thanks for your concern and support. I cannot begin to explain how much it lifts a soldier’s spirits when they get something as simple as a letter from home.

Stay safe and again, thank you.

Brian A. Truesdale
SGT, PAARNG
Human Resources NCO

Wednesday, April 15, 2009
Mr. Brooks,

I want to send you a personal thank you for the phone cards you and your organization have provided for the deployed troops. These deployments are so much easier to get through when you can stay in touch with family, and my wife and I have been able to do that because of your generosity. It is a pleasure to serve with great Americans like SMSgt John Lyon, and I have relied upon his friendship and leadership while he has done an outstanding job of taking care of a 600-member squadron. Keep supporting the troops – it makes a difference! Please pass on to all the people involved our heartfelt thanks.

Capt Bobby Buckner
Maintenance Operations Officer
379th EAMXS

Dec. 17, 2008
Mr. Gardner,

Thank you for the phone card! I really appreciate it and keep it with me for whenever I need it. It’s great to call home and not have to worry about minutes. It’s also good to see people who care about soldiers over here.

Thanks again,
ILT Aaron Oswald

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NEW ASSEMBLAGE: “THE OPERATIVES”

On Nov. 29, 2008, the Bryn Athyn Quarry Assemblage of the Worshipful Society of Free Masons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviors, Plaisterers and Bricklayers was constituted at the Allentown Masonic Temple. The three Grand Master Masons of the order traveled from England to constitute the new assemblage, which is the first in the United States.

Fourteen founders, who had previously joined the order in Canada, were joined by 38 newly-initiated members to form the new assemblage. The new members received the first two degrees of the order. The exemplar candidate for the First Degree was Bro. Willie Clemmer, S.W., Shiloh Lodge No. 558, Lansdale, and Bro. Edward H. Fowler, Jr., R.W.P.G.M., Avalon Lodge No. 657, Pittsburgh, was the exemplar for the Second Degree. The remaining candidates included Masonic dignitaries from around the country as well as active Freemasons from Pennsylvania. The Worshipful Society of Free Masons, commonly known as “The Operatives,” preserves the structure, rituals and practices of medieval stonemason guilds. Candidates for membership must have received the degrees of Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason. The seven degrees conferred within the order are based on the initiation and advancement rituals of medieval stonemasons’ guilds. The three Grand Master Masons jointly and equally rule the order, with the Third Grand Master Mason being replaced annually when he is ritually slain in the Ancient Drama that is performed each September in London. The applied use of geometry and architecture played an important and impressive part in the ritual.

The new assemblage will meet three times a year in Allentown, with an additional meeting during Masonic Week in Alexandria, Va.

ONLINE MASONIC SPEAKERS DIRECTORY

Are you planning to serve as Master of your lodge? Do you want to have interesting and thought-provoking programs and speakers at your meetings? You can benefit from Grand Lodge’s Online Speakers Directory. There are more than 150 different speakers, offering more than 300 different programs already registered in the Speakers Directory. In 2008, more than 130 speakers were contacted through the online Speakers Directory. Already this year, more than 50 speakers have been contacted for future programs.

Finding a speaker for your lodge meetings is simple. Go to www.pagrandlodge.org and click on the link to “Speakers” in the sidebar. You can search out any subject or speaker by name, topic or even region of the state where the speaker resides. Complete the online form, and request all the speakers you need for your lodge programs.

If the speaker has e-mail, the request will go directly to him, and he will respond directly back to you. If the speaker does not have e-mail, a member of the Committee on Internet Services will forward a copy of the request, and the speaker will respond by telephone or by mail. If, for some reason, the requested speaker does not respond, please report this to the Committee, and the registration will be reviewed. Some speakers do not ask for a fee, but others may seek reimbursement of travel expenses or require a small donation to a favorite charity. Most will cooperate and work within your budget.

Masonic speakers can now register themselves with the directory. They can enter their information using an online form, and their programs will be made available upon approval of their District Deputy Grand Master. Topics may be Masonic in nature or of general interest. If you know of a good speaker, please encourage him to register with the Online Speakers Directory.
### Schedule for the Travel of the Unity Box and Gavel

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Bro. Edward W. Steele, W.M., Lake Erie Lodge No. 347, Girard, and District Deputy Grand Master for District 24 Bro. Richard Fitzsimmons show off the Unity Box and Gavel used for the closing of the lodge’s Feb. 11 meeting despite record-setting snow falls in Northwestern Pennsylvania.
12TH ANNUAL "MEETING IN THE HILLS"

On June 26, 2009, the 12th Annual Meeting in the Hills will again be held at a remote wooded location along the Youghiogheny River near Dawson, Pa. A New York strip steak with a baked potato, corn, salad, rolls and beverage will be served beginning at 6 p.m., with a Special Meeting of Marion Lodge No. 562 to follow at 7:30 p.m. Following the meeting, all will enjoy apple pie and ice cream. Tickets are $25.00 each and may be ordered via mail from Bro. Richard E. Bigley, 107 Ashton Drive, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666. Make checks payable to CDS Building Corporation and include a return, self-addressed, stamped envelope. The deadline for ticket orders is June 22, 2009. For additional details, contact Bro. Bigley at (724) 547-2367 or (724) 331-2061.

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES THE JUNE 2009 QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

The June Quarterly Communication, open to all Master Masons, will be held at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia on Saturday, June 20, 2009, at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided immediately following the meeting. Masonic dress is required.

FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER

An occasional periodical on Masonic Knowledge published by the Pennsylvania Lodge of Research


Some of the best sources for Masonic Knowledge are the Masonic Service Association of North America (MSA) and the Masonic Information Center (MIC). MSA regularly puts out a very interesting publication called “The Short Talk Bulletin,” first published in 1923, which features an interesting Masonic subject that is informative and applicable to presentation at lodge meetings and other Masonic functions. They also issue a catalog each year which lists those Bulletins, which can be purchased for a nominal cost. MSA also offers brochures, pictures, VHS and DVD video presentations, charts, photographs, digests and an assortment of other helpful items, such as church bulletin covers and handout brochures.

The MIC’s “Statement of Purpose” is to be a central source of accurate information about Freemasonry. It provides this information to the general public, directly and through national and local media; responds to criticism of the Masonic fraternity; and assists Masonic Grand Lodges and their members in disseminating accurate and authoritative information about Freemasonry within and outside the Craft.

As MSA notes, many Grand Lodges are seeing an upsurge in younger men joining the fraternity, and enthusiastically seeking “Masonic light and knowledge.” To help recognize and honor those lodges that are making meaningful efforts in “asserting an energetic identity for Masonic awareness within the lodge and throughout the greater community, consistent with the fraternity’s historic focus on education, self-improvement, good works and fellowship,” MSA/MIC instituted The Twain Award Program. Bro. Richard E. Fletcher, P.G.M., Executive Secretary of the MIC, states that the center “provides Twain Award competition through its Web site and through numerous publications.” As Bro. Fletcher further states, “Lodge by lodge, we see new levels of enthusiasm for communicating the relevance of Freemasonry to members and to our communities. The Twain competition is just one way that our new and veteran members are working together to innovate Masonic education and communication.” Further information can be learned by accessing their Web site.

We, as Masons, have each pledged to pursue Masonic knowledge. The Pennsylvania Lodge of Research stands as a fountain of Masonic Knowledge to all who would attend. Any Pennsylvania Freemason, in good standing, may join the Pennsylvania Lodge of Research, and any Freemason, in good standing, may attend any of its meetings. For further information on how you can join or when and where the next meeting will be held, just go to the Grand Lodge Web site and click on the PA Lodge of Research link. You can also contact its Secretary, Bro. James F. Standish, 1 Pierce Court, Glen Mills, PA 19342.

FIRST-EVER MASONIC LAW WORKSHOP

On Oct. 18, 2008, approximately 350 lodge officers from around the state came to the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown for the first-ever Masonic Law Workshop. The program was designed by Grand Lodge’s Committee on Masonic Education to help lodge officers understand the complex, and sometimes inconsistent, body of civil and Masonic Law applicable to their operations. Bro. Scott Meyer, Esq., Melita Lodge No. 295, provided information concerning the tax status and governance of the Grand Lodge, its charities and subordinate lodges and Hall Associations. Robin Dobson, Compliance and Risk Officer for the Masonic Villages, described the insurance coverage made available to the lodges through the Grand Lodge and shared many helpful recommendations concerning insurance and risk management for lodges. Then each attendee was provided a remote control device to answer questions concerning Masonic Law in game show fashion with hosts Bros. William L. Kingsbury, Esq., District Deputy Grand Master for District C and S. Eugene Herritt, District Deputy Grand Master for District 3. The results were posted to a large-screen and tabulated for each attendee in real time. Those in attendance reported that it was an exceptionally educational and enjoyable program.
CELEBRATING AMERICA

21st Century Masonic Renaissance

Monday, December 28, 2009
David L. Lawrence Convention Center
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania

Schedule

10AM
Anticipated Open Installation of
Thomas K. Sturgeon
as Right Worshipful Grand Master
(immediately following installation)
FREE Luncheon (reservations requested)

5:30PM
Cash Bar Reception

6:30PM
Dinner (advanced tickets required)
Entertainment

COST
$50.00 per person

FOR TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS PLEASE CONTACT:
Your District Deputy Grand Master
or the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Office at
215-988-1901 or gsoffice@pagrandlodge.org

Reservations are due by November 15, 2009

Entertainment by Grammy Award Winner
Lee Greenwood
featuring the 1985 Song of the Year, “God Bless the USA.”
In 1859, the following lodges were constituted, Oregon joined the Union as the 33rd state, and the discovery of gold at Gregory Gulch in Kansas and Sutter’s Mill in California sparked a small gold rush. Edwin L. Drake discovered oil near Titusville, Pa., and soon produced 20 barrels per day, sparking an “oil rush.” Charles Darwin published “On the Origin of Species” based on his studies of animal species on the Galapagos Islands as well as observations of variation due to natural selection and domestication. Amherst College beat Williams College, 66-32 in the first intercollegiate baseball game. The Philadelphia Zoo, the first zoological garden in the United States, opened, and Mount Vernon, Bro. George Washington’s home, was dedicated as a national monument.

FREEDOM LODGE NO. 328, THOMPSON

Former members of North Star Lodge No. 119 successfully petitioned for Freedom Lodge No. 328, which was constituted on May 5, 1859. Lodge members originally met in Hartford, then moved to Gibson and Jackson townships before finally settling in the borough of Thompson, Hartford Township, in 1919.

Freedom Lodge members celebrated their 150th year Anniversary with an Open Meeting of the lodge followed by a Special Commemorative Service at the Thompson United Methodist Church and banquet held at the Thompson Volunteer Fire Company Hall. There were approximately 160 in attendance at the events. Brothers Stephen Gardner, R.W. Grand Master; Jay W. Smith, R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Robert J. Bateman, R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Robert J. Bateman, R.W. Past Grand Master; four Appointed Grand Lodge Officers and five District Deputy Grand Masters attended the celebration. Grand Master Gardner presented five 50-year and six 60-year Masonic Service Awards and delivered an inspiring address.

Freedom Lodge has 90 members today, many of whom are military veterans. When you consider that the population of the Borough of Thompson is 308, the lodge membership is much better than the average throughout the state of Pennsylvania.

Susquehanna County, home to Freedom Lodge, was established in 1810 from part of Luzerne County. The name Susquehanna derives from the Native American word sisku, meaning “mud,” and hame, meaning “river.”

In the middle of the 19th century, local agricultural products, especially butter and wool, yielded enough of a surplus to contribute to the early economy of the county as a whole. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroads made the area significantly more accessible.

PLYMOUTH LODGE NO. 332, PLYMOUTH

Through the recommendation of Lodge No. 61, Wilkes-Barre, Plymouth Lodge No. 332 was constituted on April 27, 1859.

The lodge celebrated its 150th anniversary on April 28 with a banquet and a visit from R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner.

The lodge is located in Luzerne County, which is underlain with coal of the highest known quality. In the late 1800s, it was the center of the anthracite coal region of America. The soil is fertile and well watered by the north branch of the Susquehanna River, which flows for 45 miles through the county. Since coal was cheap and shipping was adequate, many industries settled in and around Wilkes-Barre, the county seat. Everything from locomotives to miners’ caps and lace was manufactured there. Since the 1970s, the population of Wilkes-Barre has waned, but nevertheless, all sorts of things, from swimming pools to electrical components are manufactured in the city.

Originally called Shawneetown after a village of Shawnee Indians, the borough of Plymouth was incorporated in 1866.

SALEM LODGE NO. 330, HAMLIN

Through the recommendations of Carbondale Lodge No. 249, Honesdale Lodge No. 218 and Hawley Lodge No. 305, Salem Lodge No. 330 was constituted on May 23, 1859.

Salem Lodge celebrated 150 years on Saturday, May 23 at the Masonic Temple in Scranton. R.W. Grand Master Gardner joined the brethren for their Sesquicentennial Celebration Gala.

Wayne County, Salem Lodge’s home, was established in 1798 from northern Northampton County and was named in honor of probable Bro. and General Anthony Wayne; he is said to have been a member of Winchester Lodge No. 12, but there is no verification of it. General Wayne was called “Mad Anthony” because his bravery during the Revolutionary War bordered on foolhardiness.

Wayne County was developed primarily by coal interests, followed closely by glass manufacturing. A glass factory started in 1816 was the first to blow window glass in the United States. Agriculture, especially dairy farming, has enjoyed prosperity in the area, with most of the butter and cheese going to the New York market.

Hamlin, the meeting place of Salem Lodge, in the Scranton/ Wilkes-Barre/Hazleton area, boasts a new industrial park, resorts and wildlife sanctuaries.
Certification. He spent about three years researching and documenting his paper for the Academy of Masonic Knowledge's Masonic Scholar that come together for a common goal, and within a well-run lodge, championship trophy. Freemasonry, in some ways, is also individuals trust each other as friends, as they work toward a common goal – the individuals," he said. "They develop respect for each other and learn to hockey: camaraderie.

Found one major commonality between Freemasons and the sport of biographies of Masons within the Hockey Hall of Fame. Bro. Goodman of Masons within the Hershey Bears; and period three lists the American Hockey League (AHL) team; period 2 includes the biographies hockey players. He is the author of "Forged on Ice: Freemasonry within the spoke about Freemasonry and its prevalence amongst professional ice and enlightening presentations for more than 240 members.

The book evolved as Bro. Goodman was conducting research for "A hockey team, in order to win, must function as one team, not individuals," he said. "They develop respect for each other and learn to trust each other as friends, as they work toward a common goal – the championship trophy. Freemasonry, in some ways, is also individuals that come together for a common goal, and within a well-run lodge, they are all equals and treat each other as friends or brothers."

The book merged two of Bro. Goodman's interests: hockey and history. He played hockey when he was younger and has been officiating for the AHL, including the Hershey Bears, for 15 years. One of his reasons for becoming a Mason, in addition to his father and grandfather being members, was the fraternity's history.

"I really love the history associated with the Masons," he said. "Not only the 300-year-old history, but also the fact that many great, prominent men have been a part of the fraternity over the centuries."

"Forged on Ice: Freemasonry within the Hockey Hall of Fame" is available at www.amazon.com and costs $13. Members living near the Stanley Cup's presence at Bro. Goodman's speech was quite a feat because requests to the Hockey Hall of Fame to "borrow" it number in the thousands each year. Bro. Marshall Johnston, Bemidji Lodge No. 233, Minn., a former NHL player and coach, was able to help Bro. Goodman obtain the trophy.

"I enjoyed the opportunity to speak and highlight a small, but significant part of previously unresearched history of the Freemasons," Bro. Goodman said.

He has given lectures to several different organizations about the book, including those with no Masonic affiliation such as the Hershey Historical Society. The Hershey Bears also invited him to do a book signing at one of their games.

The book merged two of Bro. Goodman's interests: hockey and history. He played hockey when he was younger and has been officiating for the AHL, including the Hershey Bears, for 15 years. One of his reasons for becoming a Mason, in addition to his father and grandfather being members, was the fraternity's history.

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

Pre-registration is required. To pre-register, simply e-mail Bro. James F. Standish at jstandish@thirdageconsulting.com or write him at 1 Pierce Court, Glenn Mills, PA 19342-1787. Include your name, address, lodge number, telephone number and e-mail address.
CONGRATULATIONS TO...

R.W. Deputy Grand Master Thomas K. Sturgeon, Oakdale Lodge No. 669, has been selected as the 2010 Conference Chair of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons of North America.

Bro. George A. Fraley (left) was named “Mason of the Year” by the members of Munsey Lodge No. 299 at the February meeting for his dedication, service and commitment to the lodge, other Masonic bodies and the community. The plaque was presented by Bro. Scott S. Farley, W.M. (right).

R.W. Deputy Grand Master Thomas K. Sturgeon, Oakdale Lodge No. 669, has been selected as the 2010 Conference Chair of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons of North America.

A TRUE ACT OF BROTHERHOOD

On March 7, Bro. Ken Rose, Concord Lodge No. 625, Concordville, sent Rick Swalm, District Deputy Grand Master for District 36, an e-mail about Bro. Ken MacDonald, who had just arrived home from the hospital, diagnosed with stage four cancer. Without a ramp, Bro. MacDonald, who was confined to a wheelchair/scooter, was essentially trapped in his home unless carried outside. Bro. Swalm sent a request to the officers of District 36 and within 24 hours, the research on what was needed to meet state and local codes, as well as options for two different approaches, was accomplished by Bro. John Heyburn, S.W., Concord Lodge.

A collection was taken at the lodge’s meeting that Wednesday to start financing the project, and $340 was collected. Bro. Heyburn presented the situation with alternatives at the Wayfarers meeting the next night and after much discussion, it was decided that a ramp versus a lift was the best approach. An additional $160 was collected. Additional monies from lodges in the district and individual donations have pushed the total contributions to over $1,800.

That Friday, Bro. Rich Jones found a used ramp on Craig’s List, a Web site featuring classified ads, and fellow Concord Lodge brothers Curt Barrett, P.M., and Heyburn took a road trip to northeast Philadelphia to locate the ramp. It was in excellent condition, and after some discussion with the woman who was selling the ramp, they purchased it for $940. (The excess money is going toward purchasing a lift for Bro. MacDonald’s vehicle.) The brethren dismantled the ramp, loaded it into Bro. Heyburn’s truck and took it back to Bro. MacDonald’s home.

The next day, Concord Lodge brothers Barrett, Heyburn, Tim DeMarco, J.W., and William Shaw, P.M., assembled the ramp, and Bro. MacDonald tested it out. The time line from request to success was nine days. This was a great example of fraternal love and fellowship demonstrated through Masonic actions. Congratulations, brethren of Concord Lodge, for living your obligations!
On Friday, Oct. 17, an exchange program two years in the making came to fruition as Canadian brothers and their wives were greeted at a Masons’ Night Out dinner at the Oakhurst Tearoom in Somerset, Pa., hosted by members of King Solomon's Lodge No. 346, Connellsville, Pa.

On Saturday, members of King Solomon's Lodge served breakfast at the new Pleasant Valley Masonic Center in Connellsville. Following a guided tour of historic Fort Ligonier and a visit to Autumnfest at Seven Springs Mountain Resort, several of the Canadian members found time to play a round of golf hosted by Rodney E. Boyce, District Deputy Grand Master of the 30th District. Bro. Paul Truxel, III, P.M., prepared a fellowship dinner served in the lodge social room. Afterward, while the ladies were escorted to nearby Scottdale, Pa., for a performance of “Arsenic and Old Lace” at the Geyer Performing Arts Center, a degree team composed of members from various lodges in the St. Lawrence and Frontenac Districts of the Grand Lodge A.F.& A.M. of Canada in the province of Ontario, exemplified a Master Mason’s Degree at an extra meeting of King Solomon’s Lodge.

The evening concluded with dessert and fraternal fellowship. Plans are in preparation for a visit of a degree team from King Solomon’s Lodge to the Canadian lodges in October 2009.

On Feb. 13, 25-year-old Philadelphia Police Officer John Pawlowski, brother of Brothers Bob and Vince Pawlowski, was fatally shot while responding to a dispute between a cab driver and a suspected murderer charged with narcotics possession.

At the March 11 Stated Meeting of Washington Lodge No. 59, Philadelphia, Worshipful Master Russell G. Hinkel, on behalf of the lodge, presented the Pawlowski family a check for $500 as well as several personal checks from the brethren in attendance to help support John’s wife, Kimberly, and their unborn son.

Having served on the force for 5½ years, Officer John Pawlowski received accolades last summer after wresting a gun away from a felon on a city bus. Bro. and Corporal Bob Pawlowski also serves with the Philadelphia police department and their father, John Sr., retired from the agency.

At the Extra Meeting on April 15, in the Corinthian Hall of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Shield and Square Degree Team and Washington Lodge raised Bro. Mark Klein, the partner of the late John Pawlowski, who returned fire on John’s alleged murderer. More than 100 brethren turned out to show their support. Before the degree took place, Bro. Michael A. Nutter, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, was welcomed to the East where he spoke to the gathering and praised Mark’s work. Among other welcomed guests that evening was Bro. and Congressman Patrick J. Murphy, member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Bro. Charles A. Bishop, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, also praised Mark’s work and commented on the continued cooperation between the fraternities. Several other Prince Hall brethren attended.


For those who wish to honor this fallen hero by supporting his wife and son, donations can be made out to “The John Pawlowski Fund” and sent to Bro. Bob Pawlowski at 15108 Kalaste Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19116.
This Summer, Don’t Forget To “Call ‘Em All”
To Communicate With Your Fellow Brethren About:
• Upcoming events such as picnics and get-togethers
• A brother in need of assistance
• Masonic funeral services
• Fundraising programs
...or anything else of importance to the membership!
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The card is also available with a picture of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, a group of famous Masons or a circle of children.

May/June 2009 • Vol. LVI • No. 2
At the recent donor recognition celebrations held on May 13 at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown and on May 14 at the Masonic Village at Sewickley, R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner shared his thoughts with the more than 250 combined attendees. Here is an excerpt from his comments:

“This first-ever Masonic Charities’ capital campaign, ‘Yesterday’s Legacy…Tomorrow’s Promise’ was a vision shared and accomplished in unanimity. This campaign began with Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., and Right Worshipful Past Grand Masters William Slater II and Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., carried the torch with steadfast commitment. This truly is a testament to the strength of Pennsylvania Freemasonry’s vision and our focus on ‘Preserving our History for Future Generations.’

“I am proud and honored to announce the completion of the $50 million campaign, with a grand total of $50,177,398. What an outstanding accomplishment considering we are in the midst of one of our nation’s, and the world’s, most challenging economic times!

‘Yesterday’s Legacy’ is the history of Freemasons’ dedication to responsibility, action and philanthropy. It has spanned the centuries, and despite tremendous changes and trials, this commitment to excellence is apparent in the mission of each of the Masonic Charities, delivering the highest quality services in the most magnificent and compassionate environments. Lives are changed every day through the benevolence of the family and friends of Freemasonry.

Five years ago, we established a vision and created a steadfast plan to ensure ‘Tomorrow’s Promise.’ In 2003, the Grand Lodge leadership made a commitment, and from there, the building of this campaign began by the formation of a steering committee and regional committees, who met to establish and implement policies, procedures and strategies. I thank each and every one of you for your help.

“We are certainly aware and acknowledge that many long hours and hard work to achieve this goal came from the efforts of the Office of Gift Planning, Public Relations and Administration staff. It is great to have a dedicated group of employees on our team with servant hearts. Thank you.

“The TRUE success of this campaign came from YOU, our donors, and YOUR commitment and generous support. From each of us, THANK YOU for making this first-ever capital campaign a success, for EXCEEDING the goal by an incredible $177,000!”

As Grand Master Gardner closed the program with his comments, he invited Past Grand Masters Cunningham, Slater and Aungst to come forward and assist with the unveiling of a mock bronze plaque.
Comes To A Successful Completion

During this 5-year campaign, we had the opportunity to recognize and highlight a few of the individuals who made significant gifts to help build the endowments of the Masonic Temple, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania and the Caring Masonic Communities (Masonic Villages and the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation).

The first area to be named as a result of the Capital Campaign was the large lobby at the Masonic Conference Center-Patton Campus thanks to a gift made by Bro. Robert F. Stark to officially name this area “The Stark Atrium.”

Bro. William M. Ryan selected the Clinics Building of the Masonic Health Care Center at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown to memorialize his parents, Bro. William F. and Mary E. Ryan.

Then-R.W. Grand Master Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., honored the late Bro. John W. Dean, III and his wife, Kay, at the Renaissance Gala in December 2006 at the Masonic Temple for their generous gift to the restoration and preservation of Corinthian Hall.

R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner, center, heralded the completion of the Masonic Charities’ first-ever Capital Campaign along with two of the three R.W. Past Grand Masters who also provided leadership during the five-year campaign, Bro. Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., left, and Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., far right. Missing is William Slater II. The 30” x 23” plaque, which proudly displays more than 250 names of all those who helped make this campaign successful, will be located in the Atrium of the Freemasons Cultural Center at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown.

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The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, which is currently celebrating the centennial year of its official founding by Bro. John Wanamaker, possesses many extraordinary pieces, representing both Masonic and American history, within its collection of 30,000 objects. Among the most important and remarkable entities within this National Historic Landmark is the circa 1803 “Support, Our Constitution” flag which was quietly displayed for many decades on the lower level. More than two years ago, the flag’s prominence as one of fewer than three dozen remaining from the early years of the American Republic was brought to the forefront by several members. A major effort was begun by the museum’s professional staff to conserve and exhibit this national banner (as it properly should be called) to insure its preservation for countless future generations.

The banner is a magnificent example of the symbols representing the beginning days of this country’s proud history. Depicted on it is a beautiful early version of the great Federal Eagle with 17 stars and elements of America’s Great Seal emblazoned with the words “Support, Our Constitution” beneath the emblem. The banner was originally owned by Bro. William Fulton, who donated it to Washington Lodge No. 59, Philadelphia, which in turn generously gave it to the Masonic Temple in 1885. Last year, Bro. Fulton’s descendants made a special visit to see their ancestor’s banner. Since 2006, when efforts were formulated for the banner, more than $65,000 has been raised from many benevolent sources from both within and outside of the Masonic fraternity. These funds are supporting the preservation and stabilization of the banner by the respected textile conservator Nancy Love; the construction of a specially-made, environmentally-secure display case by Dean Kahn, who built the prominent display piece for the Bro. George Washington Masonic apron; and the implementation of the exhibition’s plan by Cornerstone Spatial Design & Production and the J.J. Deluca Company. Coordinating these efforts, and crafting the exhibition’s design, is the local Philadelphia firm of Steve Feldman Designs, selected following careful consideration.

While the physical aspects of the exhibition were being formulated, great effort was placed into learning more background information on the “Support, Our Constitution” banner which would prove to be of tremendous assistance to Van Buren & Associates, a professional firm charged with writing the exhibition text. It was first believed that the banner was carried in the American Revolution, but that was quickly dismissed when its fabric and symbolism were studied. One of the most important details was the fact that the banner had 17 stars and the same number of leaves in the olive branch. With the assistance of history professors Simon Newman, of the University of Glasgow in Scotland, and David Waldstreicher, from Philadelphia’s Temple University, it was concluded that this number signified the entry of Ohio into the Union as the 17th state. With this fact, the banner’s creation could be pinpointed as between the years 1803-1812, as Louisiana became the 18th state in 1812. Although officially the United States had a 15-star, 15-stripe flag until 1818, privately issued flags and banners tended to reflect a general agreement that all states should be represented in some way. It was also suggested by David Borodin, of Frisk & Borodin Appraisers, that this banner was probably made in Philadelphia for political purposes, such as local rallies and parades, by the Federalist Party, which espoused the views that several of President Thomas Jefferson’s actions, such as the Louisiana Purchase, were unconstitutional. More than two centuries later, it is interesting that scholars are still studying and learning from this extraordinary piece of America’s heritage.
The Masonic Magician

By Philippa Faulks and Robert L.D. Cooper
Reviewed by Cathy Giaimo, Assistant Librarian

Freemasonry has attracted many thoughtful and insightful men through the ages, as any knowledgeable Mason will attest. It has also attracted its share of the more colorful personages.

“The Masonic Magician” is a sympathetic look at one of the 18th century’s more complicated and controversial men. Philippa Faulks brings her knowledge of Ancient Egyptian magic and the occult, and Bro. Robert L.D. Cooper, Curator of the Grand Lodge of Scotland Museum and Library, brings his Masonic knowledge to the book. Together they weave a story that is at once as intriguing and informative as it is fascinating to read.

Count Cagliostro led an extraordinary life (b. 1743), living in Malta, Egypt, Mecca and Medina as a child, and gaining an education in the sciences and esoteric teachings. As an adult, he became the toast of European society, popular as a healer and psychic to all classes of people. He was also interested in alchemy, mysticism and hermetic teachings which provided the background and impetus to his development of Egyptian Rite Freemasonry. It was ultimately this ritual that was his downfall and led to his arrest by Church authorities. He was put on trial in Rome by the Inquisition and imprisoned for life, dying in 1795.

“The Masonic Magician” is more than a biography of a controversial figure. The authors spend time explaining what alchemy is, who the leading lights of hermetic philosophy were, the origins of Freemasonry and its eventual persecution by religious and political authorities. Perhaps the whole point of this book is the English translation of Cagliostro’s “Ritual of Egyptian Freemasonry.” The manuscript, written in French, was saved from the fires of the French Revolution in 1789 by Scots Freemason Charles Morison. After his death, it was donated to the Grand Lodge of Scotland by his wife. There are three chapters devoted to this ritual: one on the sources and philosophies that influenced and inspired Cagliostro to write it, the ritual itself and the final chapter that serves as a commentary.

Check the Circulating Library Web site at www.pagrandlodge.org or call the Library at (800) 462-0430, ext. 1933 for more books on Masonic history and biography.

The Secrets of Masonic Washington: A Guidebook to Signs, Symbols, and Ceremonies at the Origin of America’s Capital

By James Wasserman
Reviewed by Bro. Charles S. Canning, MMS, Academy of Masonic Knowledge

“The Secrets of Masonic Washington” is termed a “guidebook” and provides a description of the District of Columbia, its history and the archetypal motif the District represents with its classical style of architecture. Included in the first 70 pages of text are photos, maps and anecdotes to add an understanding of the drama that the developing Capitol city portrayed. Each traveler who follows the guideposts will find treasures in the concepts, architecture and statuary that reveal to the seasoned Mason their inner secrets.

Wasserman provides a fascinating tour with insightful commentary. While “Masonic Washington” may not make a direct correlation of Masonic ideas to all the statuary and symbols in the text, there is significant information that credits Freemasons or relates to our teachings. “Masonic Washington” is an interesting reading, if for no other reason than to reinforce our national vision and guiding principles.

Wasserman provides a tour of Washington and makes it all too clear that a belief in God is an integral part of our heritage. In 100 pages, he takes us on a walking tour of the Capitol, Union Station, Judiciary Square, Federal Triangle, the White House, Lafayette Park, the Federal Reserve, the National Academy of Science, West Potomac Park and the Tidal Basin and the National Mall. The tour provides maps and crystal-clear photographs of the most vivid displays of classical art. Its influence is seen in Freemasonry and undeniably in the public image of Washington, D.C.

Wasserman provides a detailed sketch of our underlying American values represented in the art and architecture. The text reveals a broader picture of our national collective consciousness and at the same time weaves Freemasonry into the theme.

The classical gods brought back to life in the Renaissance found their way into the Neo-classical art of Washington. While not true Masonic symbols, they still have a place in Masonic art. Apollo is depicted in the seal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Other classical figures are emblematic of Masonic concepts as well, and provide interesting discovery in the federal architecture.

The national memorials to our country’s great and greatness are physical testimonies of the collective vision that leads us. In Wasserman’s tour, we can find outright Masonic emblems and symbols, allegorical representations of Masonic tenets, art and architecture produced by or illustrative of Freemasons, and buildings and statuary that are not Masonic but portray concepts and ideals that reflect Masonic thought. As an example, the Library of Congress or the National Archives are not Masonic Temples but represent temples of knowledge and enlightenment, which can help guide every Freemason.

The text is recommended for novice and veteran Masons alike who want to better understand our national heritage and search for Masonic ideals illustrated in the federal city.
RAINBOW ALL-CALL WEEKEND

At the Rainbow All-Call Weekend at the Patton Campus in March, the girls were privileged to have R. W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner as their special guest instructor on the subject of “The Masonic Family of Organizations.” Accompanied by Lady Patricia, the Grand Master spent the entire weekend with the girls, participating in educational, fun and social activities and the Sunday morning worship service.

RAINBOW GIRLS CAP THEIR SERVICE WITH A SMILE

It may be a gloomy day outside, but on the Saturdays when the Rainbow Girls visit the Masonic Village at Sewickley, it is always cheerful. “It is very nice that the Rainbow Girls give their time and visit with us,” village resident Virginia Fouse said.

At least six times a year, the girls plan and carry out a themed social event for an average of 50 residents. The girls arrive around 10:30 a.m. to decorate the assembly room, make name tags, plan music or skits, make signs and help decide on the activities for the day.

The socials have varied themes, such as A Rainbow Colored World, Spring Tea and Spring Bonnets, Halloween and the yearly favorite, the annual New Year’s Eve Day party. On Dec. 31, the girls provide decorations, noise makers, hats and balloons to support the entertainment provided by the village staff. The program includes dancing, fancy appetizers, sparkling juice and at “midnight” (somewhere in the world) they have a countdown and “drop the crystal ball” to the delight of every participant.

Mary Finney, resident, said, “I think it is very kind and generous of the Rainbow Girls to give up their Saturday afternoon to entertain us.”

Clara Stumpf agrees. “The Rainbow Girls always have some interesting presentations for us. It’s fun having them here. They are always friendly and helpful,” she said.

Often the girls start working in the program to earn recognition for their service hours, but after spending time with the residents and developing close friendships, they realize the reward that simply comes with service for its own sake.

Sewickley resident Anna Mary Young said, “I enjoy having the Rainbow Girls come here. It reminds me of when my three daughters were Rainbow Girls and all the time I spent with them.”

After lunch, the girls escort residents to the assembly room. At the end of the activities, they all share a snack and then escort the residents back to their rooms. Clean-up follows, and the Rainbow contingent leaves by 4 p.m. The girls usually earn five hours of service credit for each visit. They are recognized once a year for their accumulated service hours in a formal Capping Ceremony held at the Masonic Village. The girls earn certificates for 15 hours of service; a cap for 25 hours; and red, orange, yellow, blue and indigo stripes for their caps for every additional 25 hours of service. At the Feb. 7 Capping Ceremony, 18 Rainbow Girls were recognized for a total of over 615 career service hours, with an indigo stripe being presented to Martha Kryskowiak of Ohio Valley Assembly No. 157 for her 175 hours of service at the village as a Rainbow Girl.

The program, started in 1985 by Helen Snedden, who is now serving as the Supreme Deputy for Rainbow in Pennsylvania, is a cornerstone of service for the Rainbow Assemblies in the greater Pittsburgh area. Betty Marshall is the western Rainbow volunteers director, assisted by Nancy Blackwood and Thelma Antis.

Ann Beck, Masonic Village’s Activities Director, describes the residents as “excited when they see a Rainbow Day approaching and talk about the fun they had for days afterwards. It is commendable for these girls to give up a free Saturday in their busy schedules to bring joy to the residents in the nursing and assisted living facility.”

The Pennsylvania Freemason
Members and adult leaders of DeMolay, Rainbow and Job’s Daughters and their friends, traveled as a group to Washington, D.C., on Jan. 20, to witness the historic Inauguration of President Barack H. Obama as he took the oath of office.

Two bus loads left the Patton Campus in Elizabethtown at 5 a.m. and arrived at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Va., where they were given a bagged lunch and instructions on how to use their souvenir Metro pass to get to the city for an attempt at seeing the ceremony or the parade. The crowds were as large as expected, and the security lines long, but many of the intrepid youth and their adult leaders were able to get a good view of the action. Some managed to get as close as two blocks from the Capitol! Others avoided the hustle and bustle and toured the monuments and Arlington National Cemetery.

Pennsylvania DeMolay State Master Councilor Jeff Bortz met with “Dad” George Seghers, Executive Director of the Memorial, and presented a check for $500 to sponsor a tree to be planted on the grounds of the Memorial. This was done to honor “Dad” Leslie J. Loomis, the current Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, a Senior DeMolay, and a long time supporter of DeMolay in Pennsylvania.

The International Master Councilor of DeMolay, Bro. Richard Eels, was also in town, visiting from Georgia. He made a special trip to the memorial to meet the DeMolay members, who were tired after a long day of walking and “site”-seeing, but filled with stories and memories to pass down to future generations.
TREICHLER LODGE VISITS JOB’S DAUGHTERS

Members of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown, recently visited Job’s Daughters Bethel No. 15, Elizabethtown, on the evening when the Grand Guardian and Associate Grand Guardian, Linda and Perry Bates, made their Grand Visit. The group was entertained by the Daughters’ reports on activities and impressed with the business portion of their meeting. The girls were amazed at having so many visiting Masons at one time, and while some of the youngest members were at first apprehensive of all the men in full Masonic regalia, when they saw the older members of the Bethel talking with them and having fun, they soon joined in the conversations. One Master Mason remarked that this was his first Job’s Daughters meeting, and he truly enjoyed the evening. March is traditionally the time when Job’s Daughters honor their founder, Mrs. Ethel T. Wead Mick, and the visiting Masons really enjoyed the birthday cake celebrating her 128th birthday!

MISS JOB’S DAUGHTERS PAGEANT

On March 28, R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner presided over the annual Miss Job’s Daughters Pageant, and once again had a great time supporting the girls. The results are in, and the new Miss Job’s Daughters for 2009-2010 is Katherine Price, Honored Queen from Bethel 15 in Elizabethtown. The new Miss Congeniality for 2009-2010 is Renee Daniels, Past Grand Bethel Honored Queen, from Bethel 19, Mechanicsburg.

Runners up in the competition are important because if Miss Job’s Daughters cannot complete her term, the 1st runner up would be called on to take her place.

1st runner up: Cecile Madonna, PHQ from Bethel 15, Elizabethtown
2nd runner up: Ashley Kissinger, HQ from Bethel 7, Columbia
3rd runner up: Louesa Piatak, PHQ, HQ from Bethel 12, Gettysburg
4th runner up: Lauren Nace, PHQ from Bethel 21, Butler

Daughters earned awards for their knowledge of their Order. This year the best ritual score produced a tie between Lauren Nace of Bethel 21, Butler, and Romaynse Smith of Bethel 1, York. The highest speech score was earned by Katherine Price.

The most amazing announcement of the night was that the high sponsor was Lauren Nace, who raised $2,087 in sponsorships as a contestant! Congratulations go to all the contestants for their hard work and dedication. More than $10,000 was raised for Job’s Daughters’ scholarships this year!

THREE BROTHERS RAISED

On Jan. 24, 2009, something happened in Butler Lodge No. 272 that hadn’t happened in 60 years: three brothers were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Carl, Howard and Michael Wagner completed their journey to becoming Master Masons in the same lodge to which their grandfather, the late Bro. John Carl Bortnas, belonged for over 30 years. Their mother was a Rainbow Girl in Butler and is now the Mother Advisor of the same Rainbow Assembly. Active in the Eastern Star, Mary Ann Wagner encouraged her sons to join Lorraine Chapter, Order of DeMolay as soon as they were eligible. Each of them has served as Master Councilor of Lorraine Chapter twice, earning the Past Master Councilor’s Meritorious Service award each time and have been honored by being created Chevaliers. Last June, Howard was elected Deputy State Master Councilor of DeMolay in Pennsylvania. Curtis R. Rauschenberger, Chapter “Dad” of Lorraine Chapter, said that he has watched the Wagner brothers grow from their first days in DeMolay to being raised as Master Masons and looks forward to their continued activities with DeMolay and the Masonic fraternity.

The Pennsylvania Freemason
A DOZEN GOOD REASONS TO CELEBRATE

On March 14, DeMolay chapters from all over Pennsylvania gathered together for the annual Rose Croix Class. The class of new members is sponsored every year by the Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix of the Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh, represented by the Most Wise Master, Charles Bombich, and his officers.

The day started at 9 a.m. at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, with an intense ritual rehearsal for the Initiatory and DeMolay Degrees. The team members represented the best ritualists from all of the Chapters, but with just one rehearsal, everyone must be prepared in advance. All of the hard work paid off, and two nearly perfect degrees were performed, including the costumed dramatic depiction of the last trial of Jacques DeMolay on the magnificent Scottish Rite Auditorium stage.

The Initiatory Degree was conferred by Bro. Branden Glass and the 4th Section was conferred by Bro. Howard Wagner, D.S.M.C., both of Lorraine Chapter in Butler. Both did a fabulous job with the help of the rest of the degree casts, including Kevin Hunt, P.M.C. of Lorraine Chapter, in the role of Jacques DeMolay, and Max Ullom, Master Councilor of the newly instituted Joppa Chapter of Washington, in the role of Master Inquisitor.

Twelve new brothers received their degrees during the day, including the first class of inductees for al-Aksa Chapter, which is working hard to return to active status in Altoona.

PHILLY SPRING FLING

On April 4, members of several Masonic Youth Groups attended a Spring Fling/St. Patrick's Day Dance at the Tacony Masonic Center in Philadelphia. Forty-two members and their prospects from Freedom, Friendship Bray and Northeast Chapters; Penn Valley and Martha B. Mathews Rainbow Assemblies; and Job’s Daughters Bethel #14, Lancaster City, and Bethel #17, Hershey. Everyone enjoyed an evening of food, fun, friendship and dancing thanks to some great music provided by D.J. “Dad” Fred Wichterman of Friendship-Bray Chapter. The event was sponsored by several Masonic lodges in the Philadelphia area. Led by Bill “LB” Harner, members of Northeast Chapter decorated Tacony Temple in fine fashion.

Attendees enjoyed pizza, soda, Philadelphia hoagies and snacks in abundance. Door prizes were awarded to several winners of a drawing that included signed autograph pictures of professional sports teams, signed hockey pucks, movie tickets and gift cards to Wendy’s restaurants. The dance floor was jumping as the dancers strutted their stuff to a popular selection of dance music.

On behalf of the Masonic Youth, a special “thank you” goes out to the following who contributed their time and effort to make this event possible:

Thomas Hopkins, D.D.G.M., Masonic District B
David Tanzy, D.D.G.M., Masonic District D
Charles Holloway, D.D.G.M., Masonic District E
Robert Taylor, P.D.D.G.M., Masonic District B
Robert Crotts, P.M., Tacony Temple Association
Joseph G. Coniglio, P.M., Lodge No. 9, Philadelphia
Paul Knapp, P.M., Widener-Apollo-Kensington Lodge No. 211, Philadelphia
William Harner, W.M., Tacony Lodge No. 600, Philadelphia
THANKS FOR FULFILLING OUR WISH LIST

It is with great appreciation that Masonic Villages acknowledges the many gifts in support of the Masonic Children’s Home Wish Lists that have been published in recent months. The outpouring of generosity from lodges, the Grand Chapter and very gracious individuals has been most gratifying. As a result of the tremendous caring for young people, many of the Masonic Children’s Home Wish List items have now been supported, including office desks, dining room chairs, a stove, a fan and a deck for one of the cottages.

The Masonic Children’s Home Wish List items are things that make a difference for the children in a practical way every day. These items support the educational and recreational needs of the youth, as well as the essential operational functions of the home. A childhood without a bicycle? No computer access in today’s world? A shortage of modern office equipment for managing the home? Fortunately for our youth, the generous Masonic and Eastern Star communities have stepped forward to ensure that our children are on equal footing with other children their age.

Because the Wish List items for our youth have been supported so generously, we now turn to the needs of the villages’ older residents with the publication this month of the Masonic Villages’ Wish List. As many readers will recognize from Chief Executive Officer Bro. Joseph E. Murphy’s communications in recent months, the challenging economy has affected the Masonic Villages’ budgets, cutting out many vital capital purchases that would normally be made for the fulfillment of our Mission of Love.

The items in the Masonic Villages’ Wish List below serve the needs of residents receiving health care services, as well as the broader campuses. Contributions to support these needs will be hard-working gifts indeed, bringing physical aid and comfort to village residents every day. For further information, please call the Office of Gift Planning at (800) 599-6454.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WISH LIST ITEMS NEEDED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quantity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Masonic Village at Elizabethtown</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacations/Day Trips</td>
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<td>Masonic Village at Sewickley</td>
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<td>Masonic Village at Warminster</td>
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The Pennsylvania Freemason
On May 1, the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown began offering residents home care services. After evaluating the program’s success in Elizabethtown, these services may be available at other Masonic Village locations, where demand exists.

Masonic Village Home Care services provide a secure, convenient option for those who want to receive personalized care or individualized services in the comfort of their home. These services include homemakers and/or home care assistants providing care based on a consultation with a registered nurse, who will tailor a plan to allow each resident to remain as independent and active as possible for as long as possible.

Trained Masonic Village staff know best which services residents need most, and now they can bring those services right to residents’ doorsteps. For more information about these services, call (717) 367-1121, ext. 33700. For information about living opportunities at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown, call (800) 676-6452 for Retirement Living accommodations or (800) 422-1207 for Residential Living, Personal Care and Nursing Services.

Home Care Services vary depending on level of individual need. They may include:

- Medication reminders
- Personal grooming/hygiene care
- Menu planning/meal preparation
- Feeding/eating assistance
- Grocery shopping/preparing list
- Washing/drying dishes
- Assistance with laundry/ironing
- Escorting to/arranging appointments
- Running basic errands
- Escorting to church

- Letter/card writing
- Arranging/participating in outings/trips
- Crafts/puzzles
- Bathing/showering assistance
- Transfers in/out of bed/chair
- Assistance with mechanical lifts (as trained)
- Basic vital sign monitoring
- Completing a prescribed exercise program
- Oxygen assistance (no adjustment to levels)
- Day surgery assistance care

- Basic post surgical/procedural assistance
- Basic wound care
- Medication administration
- Catheterizations
- Enema administration
- Post-surgical monitoring
- RN assessment for care/safety needs
- Tube feedings
- Diabetic teaching
- Decision-making capability evaluation

Residents of the Masonic Children’s Home were honored at the 86th annual Youth Appreciation Day on May 22 at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown.

Following light refreshments, Virginia Migrala, Director of Children’s Services, presented each of the youth from the Masonic Children’s Home with medallions, certificates or plaques for their participation in various academic and extracurricular activities.

Two graduating seniors, Shawna Bratina and Jareth Wolk, were honored with special words of encouragement and graduation certificates. Both graduated from Elizabethtown Area High School and Lancaster County Career and Technical Center. A certified nursing assistant, Shawna plans to attend the Baltimore School of Massage. Jareth will attend Anthem Institute in Springfield, Pa., for Networking/Security. He has used his computer skills to help a resident at the Masonic Village.

Stephen Gardner, R.W. Grand Master, and Mrs. Migrala presented various trust fund awards to youth who exemplify the characteristics and qualities taught at the Masonic Children’s Home.

The two graduates, Grand Master Gardner and Mrs. Migrala, planted a tree to commemorate the occasion and to leave a living symbol of the graduating seniors’ ties to the Masonic Children’s Home.
We have listened to YOU, and because of the worldwide economic challenges, we will not host Autumn Day in 2009. Many Masons, family members and friends who support the Masonic Villages have shared that we should use these funds and staff time to focus on residents who need care and services.

For individuals who are considering a move to one of our Masonic Villages, or who need our help, we are always here for you.

We have visitors every day, and encourage you to call us at one of the numbers to the right. Visit us online any time at www.masonicvillagespa.org for detailed information about all of Masonic Villages' amenities and services.

Thank you for your continued support and advice.

MASONIC VILLAGE AT ELIZABETHTOWN
Residential Living, Personal Care & Nursing Services: (717) 361-4552 or toll-free (800) 422-1207
Marketing Office - Retirement Living Apartments & Cottages: (717) 361-5534 or toll-free (800) 676-6452
Farm Market: (717) 361-4520
Masonic Children’s Home: (717) 367-1121, ext. 33301
Office of Gift Planning: (717) 367-1121, ext. 33460 or toll-free (800) 599-6454
Outreach Program: (717) 361-5080 or toll-free (800) 462-7664
Bleiler Caring Cottage: (717) 361-5080 or toll-free (800) 462-7664
Volunteer Services: (717) 367-1121, ext. 33175

MASONIC VILLAGE AT DALLAS
Retirement living apartments and villas: (570) 675-1866

MASONIC VILLAGE AT LAFAYETTE HILL
Retirement living apartments, personal care accommodations and nursing care services: (610) 828-5760

MASONIC VILLAGE AT SEWICKLEY
Retirement living apartments and villas: (412) 741-1400, ext. 3530 or toll-free (866) 872-0664
Personal care apartments and nursing care services: (412) 741-1400, ext. 3600

MASONIC VILLAGE AT WARMINSTER
Nursing accommodations and personal care suites: (215) 672-2500
Construction of the new Irem Shrine Center and Clubhouse in Dallas, Pa., is complete and the building officially opened on May 12. All Irem Shrine members and their ladies are invited to attend a datestone ceremony on Sunday, June 28, 2009, at 2 p.m. This monumental event will include a tour of the 26,868 square foot facility. The Irem Clubhouse Pub and Restaurant will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., so members can enjoy full menu service prior to the ceremony.

Featuring delectable menus, the pub and restaurant offer indoor and outdoor dining with a breathtaking view of the golf course and the endless Northeastern mountains. The patio off the bar is perfect for golfers looking for a mid-game snack break and overlooks the No. 1 tee and 18th green. The upper level also features a Grand Ballroom that seats up to 250 guests and includes a full dance floor, ideal for hosting a wedding, reception, reunion, meeting or other special event. The room also can be divided into two smaller ballrooms, one which can accommodate 50-70 people and another that can hold 160.

The lower level includes an entertainment room, billiards, darts and other games, locker rooms, smaller meeting rooms, offices and other spaces available for future potential retail. An elevator provides access between floors. There is a carport at the main entrance and valet service is available for special events.

Visit www.iremcountryclub.com or contact Laurie Knauer, Event/Sales Coordinator, at (570) 675-1134, ext. 100, for details.

Masonic Village at Dallas Offers New Amenities & Options

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Masonic Village Offers New Payment Options & Services

Join Masonic Village at Dallas for an Open House at 10 a.m.
(in the Irem Clubhouse):
June 16 & 30 • July 14 & 29 • Aug. 13 & 25

The Masonic Village at Dallas, located on the grounds of the beautiful Irem Country Club, features villas and apartments available in various floor plans for active seniors 60 years of age and older. New in 2009, we are offering apartment rental fees starting at just $875 per month. Additionally, for those seniors interested in pursuing one of our entrance fee options, prices have been reduced, so now is the time to reserve your new home!

The Masonic Village has partnered with neighboring Misericordia University to offer residents access to the university’s swimming pool and fitness center, including exercise classes and an indoor walking track; continuing education and lifelong learning programs, such as non-credit courses and the Elderhostel and Senior Fellows Program; state-of-the-art library featuring an extensive collection of books, publications, archives and a computer lab; and cultural events including art exhibits, sporting events, theater presentations and musical concerts.

In the event health care services are needed, residents have preferred access to skilled nursing care and personal care (assisted living) services at the following local providers: the Mercy Center, located on the campus of Misericordia University; the Meadows Campus; and Davis Manor, as well as the Masonic Villages’ health care services in Elizabethtown, Lafayette Hill, Sewickley and Warminster, Pa.

For Open House reservations, please call (570) 675-1866 or toll-free (866) 851-4243. Visit us online at www.masonicvillagespa.org/dallas.
Major Charitable Giving During Tough Recessions? Well, maybe and maybe not.

The “maybe not” is where a lot of people are leaning during these tough times. The Office of Gift Planning recognizes this and always wants donors to do what is best for themselves.

So what about the “maybe?” Why would anyone consider a higher charitable gift with economic conditions in such a downturn?

The answer lies, first and foremost, in the reason for any charitable gift: the donor believes in the charitable organization. They also realize the charity needs the support even more during tough times.

The other reason, though, is surprising: it is the bad market that causes some people to take action in charitable giving. The devastated market in recent months makes a guaranteed lifetime income stream at very attractive rates look mighty good. Such an income stream is offered by charitable gifts of $5,000 and above—permanent, guaranteed, fixed income at very appealing rates.

Well, maybe and maybe not.

Sound too good to be true? Not at all. This income stream has been available in charitable giving since the 1850s, and hundreds of Masonic donors are now enjoying it. It’s called the Charitable Gift Annuity, and it offers rates often 4% to 6% higher than CDs, stock dividends or some other common investments. Even better, much of the income is tax-free. Additional benefits include a substantial tax deduction and capital gains tax savings if an appreciated asset is used.

A gift annuity is primarily a charitable gift made by philanthropic persons. But for people who want a guaranteed stable lifetime income as part of their financial picture, it is a very rewarding type of gift in more ways than one. Gift annuities can benefit one or two people.

What about the many people who can’t part with any money now, but still want to support Masonic Charities? A bequest is the ideal solution. They keep all their assets for their lifetime, and then only after they pass on does Masonic Charities benefit.

For information on a gift annuity or bequests, please complete and mail the attached form, or call the Gift Planning Office nearest you:

Central Pennsylvania
(717) 367-1121, ext. 33437 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
(717) 367-1121, ext. 33312 or (800) 599-6454

SAMPLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES

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<td>90+</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>90+ &amp; 90+</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
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