What Can We Say?

Freemasonry Is A Way of Life

What should we tell our non-Masonic friends when they ask questions about Freemasonry? When these questions arise, and they often do, our response will undoubtedly influence the mental attitude of our friends toward themselves and the Craft in general.

We should not take a timid approach to our answers. We should not indicate a desire to "change the subject." We should not reflect a "mum's-the-word" attitude.

Instead, we should be prepared to speak with ease, pride and authority. What do we have to hide? Make it known that Freemasonry is a way of life.

Freemasonry is liberal in organization, religious in character, based on the belief in the Fatherhood of God, Brotherhood of Man and the Immortality of the Soul.

Be prompt to make known that Freemasonry is not a "secret society" as many surmise. Freemasonry is a voluntary association wherein the interested come of his own free will and accord.

Indicate that Freemasonry is not a religion as many claim. Discourse on religion and politics have no place in our proceedings.

Proclaim that Freemasonry, in its every effort and purpose, strives to do as are most acceptable to all good men. Freemasonry is kindness in the home, honesty in business, charity to society, fairness in work, pity and concern for the unfortunate, resistance toward the wicked, help for the weak, trust in the strong, forgiveness for the penitent, love for one another, and reverence for God and for society.

These and many other answers can be applied to questions your friends may ask about Freemasonry. We have nothing to hide—save that which pertains to our esoteric Work.

Freemasonry is a way of life.

Wages of a Mason

Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are earned and paid in his dealings with others. Sympathy begots sympathy; helpfulness begots helpfulness—these are the wages of a Mason.

Cooper-a Mason

Astronaut Leroy Gordon Cooper is a Member of Carbonado Lodge, No. 82—Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Jurisdiction of Colorado.

CORRECT ADDRESS MOST IMPORTANT

Once again we remind you that it actually costs us ten cents each time you allow the Post Office Department to notify us of your change of address.

You can save us that unnecessary expense by notifying your Lodge Secretary immediately when you change your address. Your Secretary has special forms for keeping our Distribution Office notified of new Members, Deaths, Changes, etc. Your cooperation in this respect will also assure you of staying on our mailing list for future issues of The Pennsylvania Freemason.

In This Issue

This issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason lists the names of the District Chairmen to the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture. Be sure to read about the Masonic Ascents of Pennsylvania.

Looking East in Corinthian Hall, the meeting place of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

One of the Most Beautiful Lodge Rooms in the World

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania holds its Quarterly and Annual Communications in Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. Masonic scholars claim it is one of the most beautiful Masonic rooms in the world.

The features of this magnificent room are in strict conformity with the principles of Greek classical architecture and the best known examples of the Greek Corinthian Order.

Columns and capitals are molded after the perfect type found in the historic monument of Lysicrates at Athens. The paneled ceiling in the apex of the east end of the room, together with the Caryatides supporting it, depicts the Portico of the Caryatides in the Erechtheum at Athens.

Seats on the circular platform in the east are in accordance with those in the Theater of Dionysus, also at Athens. Various subjects for the bas-relief
All Lodges Must Have Clearance for Construction or Remodeling

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Temples, Halls and Lodge Rooms acts as a clearing house between Lodges and the Grand Master for building, remodeling, reconstruction or changing of Temples, Halls or Lodge Rooms.

The Grand Lodge Committee must act on and approve the purchase of all land and old buildings to be used for Masonic purposes before purchase is actually consummated.

The following procedures must be followed by all Masonic Lodges in this Jurisdiction, the Grand Master has ruled.

1. Adopt a fund raising plan, or show adequate financing to handle the entire project, including all furnishings. No specific requirements in this regard have been set up. As in all matters, fund raising methods must be in keeping with good taste and with the high and ennobling principles of Freemasonry. In no case will fund raising methods involving speculation or gains of chance be sanctioned or condoned. This includes the purchase of old buildings.

2. Adopt By-Laws for a Temple or Hall Association to suit all conditions of management and the operation of the Association. It is suggested that the Board of Directors consist of nine or more members, including three elected Lodge Trustees.

3. Adopt Application for Charter for a Temple or Hall Association in compliance with the requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and personal approval.

4. When the By-Laws of the Temple or Hall Association and the Application for a charter are approved by the Grand Lodge Committee and the Grand Master, apply to the local court for a charter to operate as a non-profit corporation.

5. The Grand Lodge Committee must approve plans and specifications for a new Masonic Temple or Hall and alterations to an old building before a contract can be entered into or any building work started.

6. The District Deputy Grand Master must be fully informed and approve all undertakings before they are submitted to the Grand Lodge Committee.

7. When final approval is obtained from the Grand Lodge Committee, the complete plans will be forwarded to the Grand Master for his inspection and personal approval.


Who Is the DeMolay?

Many Masons have asked: “Who is the DeMolay?”

The short explanation that follows will give you some insight into the outstanding organization for young men: He's the young man between the ages of 14 and 21 who has dedicated himself to God, His Country, and to his Parents. He’s the young man who believes in spiritual values, and has the courage to live them every day. He’s the young man we ask to fight for our country when it is in danger, and the measure of his service is the measure of our security. He’s the young man who reverences his Parents. He’s the young man who is never happier than when his Dad is his pal. He’s the young man who seeks to serve others and aspires to leadership, as prerequisites to good citizenship. He’s the young man for whom you are working, and he will carry on what you have started.

He’s the young man who will deliver the fate of our nation, and perhaps the fate of all humanity. He’s a real young man—our sons.

Masonic Ancients of Pennsylvania

Exclusive Group for 50-Year Brethren of Fraternity

The Masonic Ancients of Pennsylvania is one of the most unique Masonic organizations in the country. The first requirement is that you must be a Master Mason for at least 50 years—and in good Masonic standing.

The purpose of the organization is to endeavor to add to the enjoyment of old age and to further cement the bonds of friendship and fraternal regard. The meetings are held twice a year—the fourth Thursday in April and October—in the Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Streets, Philadelphia.

Membership fee is $5.00 and the dues are $3.00 a year. The Life Membership fee is $10.00.

There are now 230 members in this exclusive organization, and at its last April meeting petitions were received from 35 candidates. This was the largest number of candidates received at any one meeting.

Bro. Louis Bacharach, R. W. Grand Treasurer, is the president of the Masonic Ancients. Bro. Louis G. Feitig is the secretary-treasurer.

More than 100 members attend the meetings. Others, unable to attend for various reasons, send Masonic greetings.

Bro. Louis Bacharach

The first meeting of the Masonic Ancients was held on January 31, 1912, when Bro. Mark Richards Muckle was elected as first president. Bro. Muckle remained as president until he died on March 30, 1915.

Bro. George W. Kendrick, Jr. was elected the second president on No-
New District Chairmen for Masonic Culture Committee

Appointment Certificates and Identification Cards, signed by Bro. W. LeRoy McKinley, Right Worshipful Master, have been issued to the new District Chairmen for the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture.

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture, under the leadership of Bro. Charles H. Nitch, Past Grand Master and Chairman, is most pleased with the enthusiastic evidence of this new office in each District.

Within the very near future additional directions and "working tools" will be shared with these new District Chairmen and we are looking forward with great expectation to having a 13th point to serve as District Chairmen for the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture.

Bro. Charles H. Nitch, Past Grand Master and Chairman, is most pleased with the enthusiasm evidenced in this new office in each District.

The purpose of the Workshops was to stimulate interest, to urge better planning for Lodge meetings, to inform Secretaries of new changes, and to instruct Lodge Chairmen of the Committee on Masonic Culture.

All the Workshops started with a combined meeting under the supervision of Bro. W. LeRoy McKinley, Past Grand Master. They were then divided into the following workshops:

- "Workship Masters and Senior Wardens, under direction of Bro. Earl F. Herold, Deputy Grand Master.
- "Secretary, under direction of Bro. Ashby H. Pool, Grand Secretary.
- "Chairmen of the Committee on Masonic Culture, under direction of Bro. Charles H. Nitch, Past Grand Master and Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture.

The Workshops were held in the following locations:

- Philadelphia, January 12, Masonic Temple. Included Lodges in Masonic Districts 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 33, 34, 39, and 40.
- Following the Workshop in Philadelphia, those in attendance were guests of LaSo Shrine Temple for dinner.
- Following the Workshop in Pittsburgh, those in attendance were guests of Tyrone Shrine Temple.
- Following the Workshop in Harrisburg, those in attendance were guests of Zembo Shrine Temple.
- The other four Workshops were held on Friday nights at which a refreshment period followed the work sessions.

District Chairmen to the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture attended the last five Workshops. They were not appointed when the Workshops were held in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Charges Available

The five Charges used for the opening and closing of Lodge were now available in a convenient printed pocket folder upon request. These printed Charges may be had in single copy or in quantities.

You’re Invited, Too

Your Temple Welcomes Lodges

Many Masonic Lodges throughout the jurisdiction have accepted the Grand Master’s invitation to hold Special or Extra Meetings in the beautiful Lodge Rooms of Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.

The visits have been restricted to Saturdays since the Lodge Rooms are in use throughout the week.

In addition, most of the Lodges visiting the Temple have made it a “day out” for their ladies.

They have toured the Temple with expert guides. They have held banquets at which their ladies attended.

Bro. Joseph C. Wear, Secretary of Azalea Lodge No. 587, Haslertown, wrote to the Grand Master:

“On behalf of the Officers and Members of Azalea Lodge and their wives and sweethearts, I want to express our appreciation, also that of my own, for the Temple meeting.

“We also thank you for the dispensation to hold an Extra Meeting in Corinthian Hall for the purpose of conferring the Master Mason Degree.

“It was a pleasant surprise for most of the people in the party to see the various rooms and how they are furnished, and how clean and presentable it was everywhere you went.

“Everyone that was in the Temple that day was most courteous and obliging and tried to help our party in every way possible.

“I also want to say a word about the guide who explained everything in detail and was able to answer all the questions that different people asked of him.

“We also had a fine dinner in the Grand Banquet Hall and a snack after the Lodge meeting.

“Again thanks for a most pleasant visit at Temple No. 3, Philadelphia.

“Other Lodges wishing to take advantage of this opportunity must reserve a date by writing to Bro. William J. Wallace, chairman of the Committee on Temple, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

“After a date has been obtained, the Grand Master must be notified in order that a Dispensation can be issued.

If the Lodge does not plan to hold a meeting, just tour the Masonic Temple and have a dinner, no Dispensation is necessary.

Detailed information on caterers and arrangements for the ladies can be obtained from Bro. Wallace.

Corinthian Hall

(Continued from Page 3)

medallions over the entrance hall and on the pilasters, north and south walls, are copies of historical fragments from Greek mythology relating mostly to spiritual life.

The general scheme of the architectural motif, from floor to cornice, is chisel ivory with gold to accentuate all relief and figure details.

The large cove and ceiling are treated in shades of deep blue, studded with gold stars. This creates a sky above the line of lattice balustrade, and gives an atmosphere of an open hall in an ancient Greek Temple.

The picture shown looks toward the East. There are five murals on this gallery depicting “The Rising Dawn,” “Pouring Dew,” “Weighing of Souls,” “Fine Arts” and “Preparing to Journey.”

Corinthian Hall is 106 feet long, 53 feet wide and 42 feet high. It is almost impossible to show the beauty of this room by picture. It takes a personal inspection.

Guided tours are conducted through Masonic Temple on weekdays at 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

On Saturdays there are tours at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The Temple is closed on legal holidays and on Saturdays during July and August.

Masonic Lodges, or groups wishing to arrange for a special, conducted tour through Masonic Temple, should make advance arrangements with Bro. William J. Wallace, chairman of the Committee on Temple, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Restoration for Non-Payment of Dues Is Possible

A member of a Lodge in Pennsylvania has been suspended for non-payment of dues and desires to fulfill all the regulations of the Lodge in which he stands suspended, i.e., if he pays the delinquent dues within eleven months of the date of his suspension, he is restored to membership by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the stated meeting at which action is had on the motion to restore him.

Such Restoration to Membership must be consummated by vote of the Lodge within one Masonic year of the date of suspension. Inasmuch as the motion to restore must be laid over for one month before action can be taken on the motion to request the suspension be restored and the motion made within eleven months of the date of suspension.

A suspended member who has not been restored to membership within the year, but subsequently desires to reinitiate, must first pay the delinquent dues owed at the time of his suspension, otherwise he may be restored to good Masonic standing by a majority vote of the Lodge.

He may then present a petition for membership to the Lodge from which he was suspended, or to any other Lodge of his choice. In this or any other jurisdiction a unanimous ballot is necessary for his election to membership. He must be restored as far as Pennsylvania Lodges are concerned.

1963 Ahiman Rezon Is Now Available


The cost of copies of the Ahiman Rezon are as follows: 1 Book, $1.50 plus 15 cents mailing charge; 2 Books, $3.00 plus .20 cents; 3 Books, $4.50 plus .25 cents; 4 Books, $6.00 plus .35 cents; 5 Books, $7.50 plus .40 cents; and 6 Books, $9.00 plus .45 cents.

Check or money order must be drawn to order of Ashby B. Paul, Treasurer, The Masonic Temple, Philadelphia 6, Pa.

Earlier this year, Cresonna Lodge accepted the Hoover triplets who had been petitioned at the same time. In like fashion, Brothers Bryan McKinley Hoover, Bruce McKinley Hoover and Bront McKinley Hoover were Entered, Crafted and Raised at the same meetings.

Pennsylvania Masons Are Scattered All Around the World

Our Distribution Office for The Pennsylvania Freemason, located in the handsome Mark McKeen Memorial Cottage at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa., has provided us with some rather revealing figures as to where Pennsylvania Masons reside.

Now that our rather large mailing list is established, we learn that better than 35,000 of our members live outside of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Using round figures, 6,500 live in Florida, 3,200 live in California, 6,000 live in New York, 1,800 live in Maryland, 3,000 live in Ohio and 1,200 live in Virginia.

We have members living in every state in the Union and in practically all countries of the Free World.

A Philosophy of Life

Freemasonry is a philosophy of life for the development of character...a fraternity of character in which virtue, good-will and knowledge are prescribed and practiced precepts.

Freemasonry Can Be a Family Affair

Meridian Sun Lodge

The Gough family is a Masonic family. Last June, when Richard Gough was Raised in Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 158, there were eight members of the Gough family taking part in the Work.

Brother George Sr. proudly states that his brother, his son-in-law and one of his grandsons are members of the Craft.

Thomas R. Patton Lodge

At an Extra Meeting of Thomas R. Patton Lodge, No. 559, of Philadelphia, in December 1959, Brother Horace F. Richter and eight of his sons joined the Entered Apprentice Mason’s Degree upon the youngest son, making it ten Richters on the floor at that time.

Cresonna Lodge

In 1962, Cresonna Lodge, No. 426, of Cresonna, Pa., had the pleasure of accepting three brothers, Charles George Fehr, Richard Donald Fehr and Arthur Robert Fehr. These brothers were Entered, Crafted and Raised at the same meetings.

Summer Office Hours

The Office of the Grand Secretary will be closed on Saturdays during the month of July.

This was approved by Grand Lodge at the December Quarterly Communication on December 5, 1962.