Lodges Encouraged to Tour Scenic Masonic Homes' Grounds

The scenic beauty of the 1,500 acres of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown is well known. The pictures reproduced in color on this and other pages of this issue are only examples of what is in store for those making a personal visit to the Homes. Visitors are welcome every day. In fact, well-trained guides are always available in Grand Lodge Hall.

The Grand Master urges Masonic Lodges to plan special trips to the Homes, including families in the party.

Arrangements can be made with the Superintendent for special groups of Masonic Lodges to be served dinner in the main dining room.

Many Masonic Lodges have accepted this opportunity. Others are urged to include it on the program in the near future.

Remember, when visiting the Homes, excess fruit and vegetables are on sale. Be sure to get a bushel of apples for the Thanksgiving Season.

'Guest Fund' for Masonic Homes Needs Support of All Brethren

The Guest Fund—to assist our Guests at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown—must have the support of every Mason in this Jurisdiction to reach the goal of $250,000.

Formerly known as the Christmas, Entertainment and Recreational Fund, the name was changed to Guest Fund since every dollar donated goes to the benefit of our Guests—the older folks, the children and the boys at Patton Masonic School.

Many Masons in the past believed that money collected merely bought presents and entertainment at Christmas. This is far from the fact. Without this important money, your Masonic Homes would be just another institution.

SPECIAL ISSUE

The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown are featured—showing the beauty of the Homes and the continued need to keep it a Home for our Guests and not just another institution.
THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON
Issued Quarterly
January, April, July and October at
Masonic Homes, Danville, Pennsylvania, by
The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most
Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Ac-
ccepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Juris-
diction Thereto Belonging, through its
COMMITTEE ON MASONIC CULTURE—Charles H.
Nitsch, P. G. M., Chairman; William E. Montgomery,
Vice-Chairman; Charles S. Kerner, Master A. D.,
W. Frederick Warren, George Wolrich, J. Warren
Woolrath, M. H. Esquire
Approved and Authorized To Be Printed by
W. LARRY MCKINLEY
Right Worshipful Grand Master
CHARLES H. NITSCH, P. G. M., Editor
Mailing Address:
MASONIC TEMPLE
Broad and Filbert Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107
Send Form 3579 to Distribution Office
Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022
Second Class Postage Paid at
Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania
Vol. X October, 1963 No. 4

The Recessional at any graduation is a happy event. It was no exception at Patton Masonic School. The picture, of Bro. Thomas Ranken Patton, who received the Esquire degree in 1860 at the thirty-sixth Commencement of The Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institute for Boys at Elizabethtown on Saturday, June 8, 1963.

Six of the graduates were in the academic course in preparation for college; two in vocational, machine shop; two in electronics, and one in vocational, carpentry.

The 1963 Patton graduating class included:
William F. Bishop, class president, of Mr. Pocono, sponsored by Pocono Lodge No. 780.
Richard D. Cornerford, of Swarthmore, sponsored by St. Alban Lodge No. 529.
John A. Harris, of Berwindale, sponsored by Coalport Lodge No. 574.
Roderick N. Hildebrand, of Gettysburg, sponsored by Friendship Lodge No. 400.
Ronald W. Mays, of Wheeling, W. Va., sponsored by Ohio Lodge No. 1, Wheeling.
Warren D. Penfield, of Reading, sponsored by Lodge No. 62.
David W. Phillips, of Coalfield, sponsored by Panther Valley Lodge No. 677.
John F. Staff, of Washington, D. C., sponsored by Mt. Pioch Lodge No. 443.
H. W. Sippinger, of Quarryville, sponsored by Washington Lodge No. 156.

The modern Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown is considered one of the finest geriatric hospitals in the world. It is equipped to care for approximately 270 patients, but it was designed so that it can be expanded by doubling the number of beds in the larger rooms.

Patients in Hospital Benefit from Support of Homes' 'Guest Fund'
The Guest Fund is a great help to the nearly 270 patients confined in the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. These Guests—including approximately 240 permanent patients—have very few pleasures in life except those provided by Pennsylvania Masons through the Guest Fund. For example, each hospital patient is provided with $8 a month spending money which amounts to $4,220 a month, or approximately $50,000 a year. This is in addition to the $72,000 needed for all guests' monthly spending money.

This past summer, hospital Guests enjoyed the "outdoor therapy" made possible by two huge canvas shelters purchased with Guest Fund money. Wheel chair Guests were able to enjoy the outdoors without fear of rain or the blistering sun. Television is an important recreation for patients confined to hospitals. This is no exception at the Masonic Homes. Television sets have been placed throughout the hospital with money from the Guest Fund. This fund also keeps them in good repair.

Many other services are provided hospital Guests with money from the Guest Fund, such as magazines, newspapers, special movies and hearing aids.

Perhaps the most important service provided by the Guest Fund is spiritual guidance, coupled with individual visits by ordained ministers.
Grand Lodge Hosts DeMolay Leadership Workshop at Homes

DeMolay “Dads” and officers representing more than 60 DeMolay Chapters in Pennsylvania, attended a DeMolay Leadership Workshop at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown on August 16, 17 and 18.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania provided housing, food and meeting room facilities for the workshop.

The program, attended by more than 100 “Dads” and officers, was undertaken at the suggestion of Bro. W. L. Roy McKinley, R. W. Grand Master, as a continuing program of the Grand Lodge in support of the Order of DeMolay in Pennsylvania. Recognizing adult leadership and continued training of DeMolay officers to be one of the outstanding needs of the Order of DeMolay, Bro. McKinley proposed the workshop program as a contribution which Grand Lodge could make to the work of this outstanding youth organization.

The workshop was under the direction of Bro. William J. McCully of Lancaster, Executive Officer of DeMolay for the DeMolay Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Bro. McCully was assisted by a staff, including: Brothers William C. Graham, of Butler; James E. Sawyer, of Camp Hill; H. Eugene Wright, of Lemoyne; William J. Joling, of Abing­ton; John E. W. Douglass, of Elizabeth­town; Harold F. Shunk, of Bethlehem; James N. Docter, of St. Marys; Kenneth H. Frelich, Sr., of Wilkinsburg, and Paul D. Fishar, of Reading.

The Elizabethtown Chapter, Order of DeMolay, sponsored by Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabeth­town, served as the host Chapter. It holds its regular meetings in the Masonic Temple at the Masonic Homes. A bus tour of the 1,500 acres of the Masonic Homes, in the bus purchased by Guest Fund monies, was also included.

The first night at the Homes, August 16, was devoted to an informal, get acquainted session. Following this session, the “Dads” and leaders attended the regular Friday night movies at the Homes. Included was the DeMolay movie, entitled, “The DeMolay Story,” a color motion picture about the Order of DeMolay.

Saturday, August 17, was devoted to work sessions that started at 8 a.m. and concluded at 10 p.m. Bro. McKinley and Bro. Earl F. Herold, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, were guests at the Saturday dinner. The Grand Master spoke.

Sunday, August 18, was devoted to religious services in churches of their own choice in Elizabethtown.

The Committee on Masonic Homes has allocated $25,000 from the Guest Fund for a complete occupational therapy program for Guests at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. It also has engaged the services of a well trained couple to conduct the program.

In taking this forward action, the Committee has made a major step to see that our Guests have an opportunity for a full life.

This program would not be possible without the continued generosity of Masons contributing to the Guest Fund at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

As Masons, it is our challenge to see that the twilight years of our Guests are meaningful and satisfying.

We can no longer be content with treating our elderly Guests en masse once a week with a movie, card game or band concert.

They need cultural arts, group discussion, occupational hobbies and many other activities which will intrigue their interest and provide an outlet which will allow them to feel they still play a significant role in life.

We can’t turn back the clock for our senior Guests. However, we do have the responsibility to broaden the remaining years of their lives.

This is a country where it is wonderful to be young. Now we can make our Masonic Homes a wonderful place to grow old.

In an effort to inaugurate the occupational therapy program as soon as possible, the Committee on Masonic Homes engaged the services of Mr. Robert F. Holmes and Mrs. Vivian S. Holmes.

This man and wife team reported for duty on July 1. They will live in an apartment on the Homes grounds. The program is now under way.

Mr. Holmes, well qualified in occupational therapy work, graduated from Hartwick College, Oneonta, N. Y., in 1951, and did graduate work at Cortland State University Teachers College and Springfield College.

Mrs. Holmes graduated from Indiana State Teachers College in 1954, and did graduate work at Waynesburg College, Western Reserve University, Lewis Hotel Training School and University of Buffalo.

The $25,000 allocated to the therapy program from the Guest Fund covers the salaries of Mr. and Mrs. Holmes and all the equipment and supplies necessary.

When the program gets into full swing, it will include many of the activities here listed:

Trips: Sporting events, garden shows, shopping, historic points of interest, general sightseeing, and important events in the area.

Special Interest Groups: Instrumental music, choral, photography, ceramics, painting, millinery and sewing, little theater, gardening, woodworking and fishing.

Educational Activities: Swimming, concerts, bingo, cards, arts and crafts, shuffleboard, book reviews, and special holiday programs.

Soon, visitors to the Homes will be able to visit a gift shop where items, made by Guests, will be on display and for sale.
**Beyond the Budget**

By W. LeRoy McKinley

**R.W. Grand Master**

Beyond the cold, calculating, mathematical exactness of the budget, so necessary for the successful operation of any worthwhile activity, is an intangible something which is every bit as important and necessary as the dollar calculations of the budget itself.

This might well be called the heart of the activity and in our Masonic Charity it is that which produces the happiness in the hearts of our adult Guests and the smiles on the faces of our children.

As a fraternal organization we are, of course, dependent upon the dues of our Members, portions of our initiation fees and the income from our trust funds for our very existence, and the limit of expenditures is therefore very definitely established.

We cannot increase the budget, yet there are more and more things we can and should do in our charitable work. The transition from private life to institutional life is quite a shocking experience for many of our Guests, whether they be adults or children, and we must therefore strive constantly to make it shock less severe and the institutional life more acceptable.

To finance this phase of the work we must seek the generosity of the Masons of Pennsylvania. A gift from the heart is necessary for the success of the work.

The transition from private life to institutional life is quite a shocking experience for many of our Guests, whether they be adults or children, and we must therefore strive constantly to make it shock less severe and the institutional life more acceptable.

For the year ending in March, 1962, the Masons of Pennsylvania generously contributed about $175,000.00, and for the year ending in March, 1963, after an explanation of the many uses of the fund to as many Masons as was possible, the total reached approximately $214,000.00.

Now, because of the extended number of activities to make the lives of our adult Guests more pleasant and to "help, aid and assist" to a better life the children entrusted to our care, I have asked for a quarter of a million dollars this year.

That is not very much for 257 Pennsylvania Masons; it is less than one dollar per person. I hope many will make their contribution substantially larger this year than ever before and thus help to create, "beyond the budget," the happiness and smiles so necessary for the kind of a life we want our Guests both young and old, to have.

**Contributions to 'Guest Fund' Provide Extra Services**

The Grand Master has urged Pennsylvania Masons to make a charitable contribution of at least $250,000 this year to the Guest Fund at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

This is important money. It not only provides a wonderful Holiday Season for the Guests, but many other year-around services as outlined in this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason.

Remember that contributions to the Guest Fund are deductible for income tax purposes.

From the Guest Fund in the past several months, the Committee on Masonic Homes was able to completely furnish all the Guests' rooms with new furniture, replacing outdated and old furnishings.

This project alone cost $100,000. The purchases included:

- Lamps, $9,000;
- Beds, $4,000;
- Chairs, $27,000;
- Window shades, $2,500;
- Chests, $5,000;
- Mirrors, $1,000;
- Night tables, $7,000;
- Dressers, $14,500;
- Rugs, $25,500 and draperies, $4,500.

It would be practically impossible to list all the services provided with moneys from the Guest Fund. However, the following are some outstanding examples:

- Guests are given a $8 a month spending money. This totals approximately $72,000 a year.
- Special holiday programs, such as Christmas, Easter, New Year's, Fourth of July and all the others, are financed by the Guest Fund. This takes approximately $35,000.
- Special entertainment, such as movies, band concerts, and other special parties takes $15,000.
- Hearing aids, hearing aid batteries, watch repairs, television repairs and new television sets take approximately $8,000.
- Guests are provided pipe tobacco and other tobacco items, that takes an expenditure of approximately $2,000.
- The services of ordained ministers are a must at the Homes. Sunday services are held in the Sill Memorial Chapel. Prayer meetings are held every week in Grand Lodge Hall. Pastors make weekly calls on the sick at the hospital. This service costs approximately $5,000.
- The swimming pool is a very important facility, especially for the children in the summer months. Life guards must be hired and the pool kept clean and sanitary. This costs approximately $3,000.
- Patton Mason School is an outstanding example of Freemasonry in action. It provides an education for orphaned boys. A school must have an athletic program and other special activities. The Fund provides Patton School with $10,000 to cover these projects.

Other projects where the need varies from year to year include:

- Special bus trips for children and adult Guests. Example of these trips are baseball games, visit to Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, circus, and many others.
- Music lessons for children at the Masonic Homes. Every child is given the opportunity to become proficient in music if he so desires.
- Athletic programs for children at the Masonic Homes.
- Like other children, school is out in the summer months and a playground atmosphere must be maintained at select hours of the day.
- Guests confined to the hospital can't leave their beds to spend their $8 a month. To overcome this, a hospitality cart is wheeled to bedside.
- Books, magazines and "home town" newspapers.
- Special school activities, such as dances, yearbooks, dates and party dresses.
- Post cards and writing paper.

This could go on and on. If you need further proof of the need for the Guest Fund, visit the Masonic Homes.