Questions & Answers

Question: Explain the word "profane" when used Masonically.
Answer: The word refers to one not initiated. It comes from "pro," without, and "famum," a temple—thus outside the temple. It does not mean blasphemy when used Masonically. The Quirks references to "a profane" or "the profane" means only the individual is not a member or member.

Question: What does "hail" mean?
Answer: Helle (pronounced hall) is derived from Hallo (hola) and means to greet or welcome.

Question: What is the origin of the expression "blue lodge?"
Answer: There are several theories of which two have the most adherents. Some believe that Operative Masons felt that blue, the color of the sky both day by day and by night, was a symbol of the purity of Deity, which Masons attempt to emulate. Others refer to the change made by Speculative Masons shortly after the establishment of the original Grand Lodge of England when blue was substituted for white as the official Masonic color, presumably because it was the color of the Order of the Garter in which a number of Masonic leaders were members.

Question: Is Freemasonry a religion or has it a religion?
Answer: Freemasonry is non-sectarian and many Masons of all religious faiths and beliefs can join in its rites and ceremonies. Although it is definitely not a religion, nor does it have a religion, it certainly is religious in character and practice in that it teaches morality, the Bible is open on its altar whenever a Lodge is in session, reverence for God is present in its ceremonies, and most of morality are constantly addressed to its Members.

Question: are we obtained additional information concerning Freemasonry?
Answer: Freemasons and Lodge of Perpetuity has quite a storehouse of Masonic information, a Masonic Library and Museum, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and all these sources can be used. A full-time staff of this Library and Museum is always ready to provide any information, possible to relate, concerning Freemasonry. Write to Librarian and Curator, Masonic Temple, One North Second Street, Elizabethtown, Pa.

Question: Where was the first Masonic Hall in America?
Answer: Freemasons’ Lodge built in 1755 in Philadelphia on the south side of North (or Lodge) Alley which extend west from Second Street is parallel to and north of Walnut Street and to the east of Market Street.

Question: Who was the first Mason reporting Masonic meetings in America?
Answer: In 1739 John Senn, Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, wrote in a letter that he had "spent a few evenings of Masonic society with my Masonic Brethren." Senn’s Notes was a question about Freemasonry, share it with us. We will make every effort to answer it. If permissible, we will include both the question and the answer in this Questions and Answer column for others to read.

Question: If you have misplaced the self-addressed, postage-free envelope provided in the Lodge Notice for your contribution to the Guest Fund, you can send your contribution directly to:
Superintendent, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022

Bro. Earl F. Herold
W. Grand Master

The Scottish Rite Cathedral, New Castle, Pa., where the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania was held on June 3, 1964.

Being Well and Prepared

Being “Well and Duly Prepared” is a Masonic expression. Masons understand its significance in the Lodge even if the Lodge Sparkles, but so simple is it his dress that it proves no envy. He is dressed properly for the occasion, and himself the ground floor of the rich to boast of fine raiment and proper for the occasion, and every outside the Lodge. No Mason

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASON'S OF PENNSYLVANIA VOLUME XI AUGUST . 1964 NUMBER 3

Grand Master Urges Use of Special Envelope Provided for 9 Guest Fund

Once again we are approaching the Holiday Season—days to be thankful for our blessings in life—and days to remember others. Each year this time it is customary for the Grand Master to urge the Brethren to remember the needs at the Masonic Homes at Elizabeth-town. This year is no exception. Every member of Lodges in this Jurisdiction will receive a special Guest Fund appeal letter, along with a self-addressed envelope, in the September Lodge Notice. In this special appeal, I point out:

“This is a very important fund, and one of the major factors that make Elizabethtown a home and not just another institution. Your continued financial assistance is needed. For the past several years we have kept records to see how many Brethren, and from which Lodges, contribute to this fund. It may surprise you to know that only 14.5 per cent of the approximately 25,000 Masons in this Jurisdiction contributed through the special envelopes to the fund last year. It will please you to know that this small percentage contributed slightly more than $25,000. This was the goal set by the Grand Master.

I express a deep appreciation to those Brethren who contributed to the Guest Fund last year. I also urge you to continue this support.

On the other hand, I urge those who have not participated to please make a special effort this year. Every dollar you contribute is deductible for income tax purposes. To many of you Brethren, this would be a welcome reduction when filing tax statements.

Several weeks ago I received the following letter:

“A small check for your lovely home at Elizabethtown, Pa. I am an old member of Melita Lodge No. 295, long over 50 years, Will be 92 years young. Best Wishes.”

“The size of the check is immaterial. However, it is material that the Brother who wrote the above letter is himself a guest in a home—not a Masonic home.

I could cite many additional instances where Masons have made personal sacrifices in order to participate in the Guest Fund. Many of the contributors have retired and are living on pensions. It would not be possible in the short space allocated to this article to list the many ways the Guest Fund is used.

For instance, a new ambulance was purchased several weeks ago. It cost approximately $10,000 and was very badly needed. The fund will provide a summer vacation period for Masonic Homes children who have no families to visit. The Guest Fund provides for many more costly projects, including a complete occupational therapy program, religious services, nursing pictures, and special entertainment throughout the entire year.

The name of the Guest Fund was formerly “Christmas Entertainment and Recreational Fund.” The name was changed because it gave the impression the fund was very limited in its use.

For instance, it did not show that the fund provides each Guest with $100 a month spending money, an annual requirement of $84,000.

Brethren, I am sure we all agree as to the need at the Masonic Homes at Elizabeth-town.

Now I personally urge each one of you to send a check in the envelope provided in your September Lodge Notice. By using the envelope method of contributing, your Lodge will be credited with your gift. Each contributor will be provided with a receipt. I sincerely appreciate your continued dedication and interest.

Fraternally yours,

R. W. Grand Master

POSTMASTER: Please Include Complete Name, Address and Identification No. on Return clipping.
Cornerstone Is Placed
In New Masonic Hall
Located at Paoli, Pa.

Thomson Lodge, No. 346, was host to a Special Communication of Grand Lodge on June 6th, for the purpose of placing the cornerstone of their new Masonic Hall at 19 Valley Road, Paoli. The cornerstone was placed by Bro. Earl F. Herold, Right Worshipful Grand Master, assisted by twenty-five Grand Lodge officers. After the cornerstone ceremony and banquet was served in the Lodge dining room for 150 members and guests, including the Worshipful Masters and other officers of the Lodges in the Fifth Masonic District.

In the Grand Master’s address to the Brethren at the banquet he expressed his pleasure in the number of Lodges throughout the Jurisdiction that are improving the image of Freemasonry in their communities by building new Temples and remodeling existing buildings and facilities. He particularly complimented Thomson Lodge for the way it had altered a former church into a fine Masonic Hall with modern and adequate facilities for the present and future needs. He mentioned that this had been accomplished at a cost much less than a new building because of the existing facilities, thereby keeping their Lodge in a sound financial condition. He noted also the substantial increase in new members in the short time the new Masonic Hall has been occupied.

**From Our Grand Secretary’s Office**

June Quarterly Communication

The June Quarterly Communication was moved to the western part of the Jurisdiction and was held on June 3rd in the spacious and beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral, on the hilltop, high above the business section of New Castle.

A Special Communication of Grand Lodge had been held here the day before when Dr. F. W. Spencer, a distinguished physician and scientist, was made a Mason at Sight before an overflow audience of 850.

Never before had a Quarterly Communication been held in New Castle, about 27 miles from Butler, the home of F. W. Spencer, nor had it been in the jurisdiction of the Grand Master.

There is no doubt but that many of the Brethren present had never attended a Grand Lodge Communication, nor seen a Mason made at Sight. Both meetings elicited many favorable comments.

A request for fraternal recognition was received from the Grand Lodge of Peru, which was referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

Two Lodges each submitted requests for permission to receive a fourth petition, which were on motion granted.

The Committee of By-Laws presented resolutions whereby the proposed By-Laws submitted by 6 Lodges and the amendments suggested by 25 Lodges were approved, some with minor revisions or exceptions. The proposed amendments submitted by 2 Lodges were rejected.

**Committee on Finance**

Bro. Sanford M. Chilcot, Past Grand Master and Chairman of the Finance Committee, reviewed the receipts of $815,600 and expenditures of $905,900 for the fiscal quarter ending March 31st, presented a resolution covering the renewal of certain underground wiring at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown at a cost of $8,000, which was adopted. Bro. William E. Yeager, Past Grand Master and Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Culture, commented on the Workshops now being held throughout the Jurisdiction and urged a large attendance at all future gatherings. He also stressed the necessity to properly train and inspire all the Lodge Officers to provide adequate leadership; also to promote Masonic education.

**Guest Fund**

Bro. Earl F. Herold, R. W. Grand Master who is Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Homes, was happy to announce that the goal of $250,000 for the Guest Fund at the Homes that had been set by Brother W. LeRoy McKinley, while Grand Master, had been reached.

He also stated that an ambulance had been purchased for the Homes.

Bro. Robert E. Downey, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Temples, was the keynote speaker. He reported on the continuing activity of the Lodges in this Jurisdiction in improving their lodge quarters. Chairman of this Committee are located in the Eastern, Central and Western sections of the State to assist the Lodges in any problems that might arise in connection with their betterment program.

**Patton School**

Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Senior Grand Warden and a Trustee of the Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys, presented a brief report, outlining some of the requirements for admission. It is hoped that the Faf’s Class will have a full complement of 60 boys.

The report of the Committee on Temple indicated expenditures of $31,800 for the past Quarter.

**1963 Membership Statistics**

The revised Membership Statistics for 1963, based on the corrected General Returns are as follows:

- Admitted during 1963: 823
- Initiated during 1963: 5,666
- Suspended during 1963: 1,378
- Reinstated during 1963: 681
- Dropped during 1963: 5,505
- Decrease (net): 1963: 1,520
- Membership, Dec. 31, 1963: 254,613

Bro. David J. Wymo, Grand Chaplain, gave a most inspiring address on “What Is Right with America.”

The Grand Master sincerely thanked all the Brethren for their assistance and cooperation in making these two Communications so successful and enjoyable.

Grand Lodge closed at 9:10 P.M.
Grand Lodge Hosts Order of DeMolay Leadership Workshop

Over 150 DeMolay "Dabie" and Charter officers of DeMolay Chapter in Pennsylvania attended a DeMolay Leadership Workshop held at the Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys, Elizabethtown, on August 21, 22 and 23.

Long an advocate of active DeMolay Chapters and strong DeMolay leadership, Bro. Earl F. Herold, Right Worshipful Grand Master, was pleased to arrange for the use of the facilities of the Patton School with meals served at the Home.

A full schedule of events, mostly work sessions, was highlighted with a banquet Saturday evening at which time the Grand Master addressed the DeMolay officers and advisers.

Sunday morning, August 23, was devoted to religious services in churches of their choice in Elizabethtown.

Communication Held At New Castle Was Outstanding Success

The Grand Master reports that the June Quarterly Communication, held at New Castle, was an outstanding success and that many Brethren had their first opportunity to attend a Grand Lodge meeting.

Bro. Earl F. Herold, R. W. Grand Master, said: "I deeply appreciate the splendid cooperation Grand Lodge received from the Brethren in the New Castle area.

"It was further evidence that Masons throughout the state are interested in the affairs of Grand Lodge and will participate in Grand Lodge meetings when given the opportunity."

DeMolay Has Conclave At Lycoming College

Over 600 DeMolay boys and Masonic leaders attended the 29th Annual Conclave of the Associated Chapters, Order of DeMolay of Pennsylvania, held at Lycoming College, Williamsport, June 25 through June 28, 1964.

Bro. Earl F. Herold, Right Worshipful Grand Master, not only delivered a most inspiring address at the annual banquet but he presented the coveted Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Trophy to the outstanding Conclave in this year's competition. The outstanding Conclave was Reading Chapter, Order of DeMolay.

Bro. Herold was honored for his interest and service as an advisor to DeMolay for the past 40 years. Highlighted by the keen competition in the various contests, the attendance of many Masonic leaders and the fine facilities provided by Lycoming College, this 29th Annual Conclave was the most spirited and successful of many years.

Have You Any Items For Our Grand Lodge Library and Museum?

Our Grand Lodge Library and Museum provides an ideal repository for Masonic books, documents and other Masonic articles.

Most of the Masonic articles already in our rare collection have come from Pennsylvania Masons and their friends.

If you have any Masonic articles or know of others who may have some, assured that all such articles are welcomed as an addition to our famous collection.

All articles received are immediately cataloged and placed in their proper category for display or reference.

Address all correspondence or shipments to:

Librarian and Curator
Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

Grand Master Makes Physician-Scientist A Mason at Sight

Bro. Earl F. Herold, Right Worshipful Grand Master, made Dr. F. William Sunderman, prominent physician and scientist of Philadelphia, a Mason at Sight. Sunderman's name was bestowed upon him and he addressed the audience at a Special Communication of Grand Lodge.

Dr. Sunderman, a Mason at Sight, was not only pleased with the evening's events, but was especially impressed with the working parts of the lodge. He was pleased to see Masons working in an organized and disciplined manner, and was especially impressed with the Masonic values that he saw in operation.

He was pleased to see that Masons were working together toward a common goal, and that they were working for the betterment of the community.

Sunderman has been a Mason for many years, and has been active in lodge work. He has been a member of the Lodge of Perfection, and has served as an officer in the Lodge of Perfection.

He is a well-respected and well-known Mason, and has been a strong advocate of Masonry.

He has been active in lodge work for many years, and has served as an officer in the Lodge of Perfection.

Sunderman is a physician and scientist, and has been active in the field of clinical research. He has been a strong advocate of Masonry and has been an active member of the Lodge of Perfection for many years.

Sunderman has been active in lodge work for many years, and has served as an officer in the Lodge of Perfection.

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The Philosophy of Freemasonry

By William E. Montgomery

The Warrant Members of our senior Lodge, Cedar Lodge, No. 800, located at Grove City, Pa. This Lodge, with 72 Warrant Members, was Constituted on May 2, 1964, in Crawford Hall of Grove City College.

The Philosophy of Freemasonry

(Continued From Preceding Page)

interpreter, poet, scholar, it is

while studying a subject that is

important to us, for it is

aspects of life, inasmuch as

the most essential and

the most acute and

one of the most

to the study of

and its symbols, is

implication of our

behave. Our symbolic teachings, our

are basic to an understanding of

with emphasis on the fact that

reach these ends?

such a churchman should

a principal undertaking of all

the other Masonic and

and their antiquity. They are

Man's responsibility to

the Masonic idealist would be

the most essential of all that our mission is the same as a

The role of the Masonic observer is to

we might describe as

in the present age, rather than

women toward righteousness while Freemasonry

seeks the same and by cultivating

as a result many serious defects appear in it, and

through Science; also by tradition and

the Lodge Room.

To Preston, Freemasonry was the

existence. Third, what

else becomes part of the fundamental

sufficiently comprehensive to

the Masons should study the lessons

human existence. Third, what

the declaration of knowledge and religion with the

activity? Preston, as the

the Masonic system of philosophy? First, from what

questions must be answered? Has

that to a large extent all that is

in Freemasonry, as well as

to be found in the ancient

time. Scientists, formerly

towards righteous living while Freemasonry

involves, and by what

other institutions to us in order that they may 

if Masons seek to reach these ends?

men to meaning so far as they are

by such an adherent.

It has been said that the reconciliation of

the world. As the principle exponent of a twentieth

of human life, between the

human beings. To Pike

the Masons and Science are each means through

or religious authority, the law and

moral, social, and

the church and the law have

to answer these questions, has given us five

and the corresponding interpretation of new ideas, the influence of

as a system of organized morality.

the Masons should

Masonic philosophy and

in its relation to knowledge, so in

be compared with ancient or

Masonic philosophy. First, where does

Masonic philosophy enter into

be compared with other systems of organized morality,

the church and the law have

Pike was an advocate of complete

and its symbols, is

be taught. Our symbolic teachings, our

by so doing we

in what way did Masons

of otherwise have been utilised by

traditional and present Masonic institutions,

of the Masonic system of philosophy? First, for what does the

is a Mason. Pike, as a legal scholar,

in Freemasonry, the allusions, the symbols, the

fundamentals of Science; also by tradition and

of the church and

Pike seeks that which will

the Masons and Science are each means

of William E. Montgomery

The Warrant Members of our senior Lodge, Cedar Lodge, No. 800, located at Grove City, Pa. This Lodge, with 72 Warrant Members, was Constituted on May 2, 1964, in Crawford Hall of Grove City College.