Grand Chapter Now Has Charitable Foundation

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania has established the Grand Chapter Charitable Foundation and has transferred to it some of its capital assets received as legacies in prior years. The income from the foundation will be used to support the present charitable program of the Grand Chapter, as well as others which may be selected from time to time as the funds of the foundation grow in volume. Several sizable gifts have already been received. The Officers of Grand Chapter hope to enlist the generous support of all Royal Arch Masons as well as other interested donors.

An application has been filed with the Internal Revenue Service for the registration of the foundation as a Charitable Foundation exempt from federal taxes under the Internal Revenue Code.

Over 20,000 Attend Dedication Of Washington at Prayer Statue Presented to Freedoms Foundation

More than 20,000 Masons and their families saw the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter, as one of the greatest gatherings of Masonic leaders he has ever witnessed.

At the dedication, the statue was unveiled by Bro. Robert E. Deyoe, R. W. Grand Master, as one of the greatest gatherings of Masons in the history of Grand Lodge.

Music for the dedication was provided by the Scottish Rite Choir of the Valley of Harrisburg and Lu Lu Shrine Concert Band of Philadelphia. The procession preceding the dedication included Scottish Rite York Rite, Shriner and other Masonic Bodies.

A reproduction of the statue is shown on the reverse side of the medalion. These medallions may be purchased for $5.00 each, including boxing and mailing charges. Make check or money order payable to Dedication Committee and mail to506 East Washington Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

Bronze Medallions Still Available

The special three-inch bronze medallion, struck by the Grand Lodge to commemorate the dedication of the George Washington at Prayer Statue at Freedoms Foundation, is still available for those interested.

A reproduction of the statue is shown on the reverse side of the medallion. These medallions may be purchased for $5.00 each, including boxing and mailing charges. Make check or money order payable to Dedication Committee and mail to 506 East Washington Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

Let Us Not Forget The 'GUEST FUND'

If you have misplaced, or have not received a self-addressed envelope for your annual contribution to the Guest Fund for the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, send your check direct to: Superintendent, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022. Be sure to note your Lodge Number in order that your Lodge will be credited with your contribution.

A picture taken the moment of the unveiling of the large bronze statue of George Washington at Prayer, dedicated on Saturday, September 9, 1967, at Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge. Shown with Bro. Robert E. Deyoe, R. W. Grand Master, is Mr. Donald D'Allesio, sculptor of the statue, and on the left is Bro. Floyd W. Hughes, Grand Sword Bearer. In the background is just a portion of the twenty thousand that applauded the dedication, held in "ancient Masonic custom and tradition."
Over 20,000 Attend the Dedication of Statue At Freemasons Foundation

From the Grand Secretary’s Office

Gratitude; Sits Several Goals Reached in His Term

Freemason

Dedication Committee, the Committee

May the Supreme Architect bless and prosper Masonry continue to be a bond of brotherhood.

As I approach the end of my term as your Grand Master, I look back on the last two years with a deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity of serving you.

I am most appreciative of the high honor you have bestowed and have tried, so far as possible, to give a plain dealing, business-like administration.

My thanks go to the Elected and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, the Trustees of the various funds of Grand Lodge, and the Chairmen and Members of several Committees.

I am pleased that so much favorable interest has been shown by the Members of this Grand Jurisdiction in the efforts to modernize and adapt to the changing needs of the Lodge and the Fort Knox Masonic Temple.

The financial program is in excellent hands.

Following short talks by the Grand Master and Bro. Wells, the activities of the past year were concluded, ending one of the most colorful events in the history of Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction.

Dr. C. Harry Lefever is Appointed Grand Chaplain

Grand Master expresses gratitude; sits several goals reached in his term.

The September Quarterly Communication held in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia was well attended.

To the Committee on Finances in the afternoon. Then in the evening, at the close of Athelstan Lodge, No. 482, various informative skits were performed by a panel discussion, in Cornhill Hall.

This skit was witnessed by the Grand Master, his Officers and the Committee on Masonic Culture with the suppression of the stage, any stage, to be made available for all our Lodges.

The Grand Master held a most instructive session with the District Deputy Grand Masters the next morning, followed by a meeting of the Committee on Masonic Culture in the afternoon.

Many interesting and informative Committee Reports were presented at the Quarterly Communication. The Reports indicated that additional employment and employment possibilities were desired by the Lodges being used up to date. It will be most helpful if these lists are kept current for each mailing.

There is much activity at the Potomac School and among the Children at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. Additional musical instruments can be used if by the day. You may have you don't need, they can be put to good use.

Dedications

The present Lodge rooms will be dedicated before the end of the year, including those at Donora, Kittanning, Zelienople, Sewickley and Emmaus. Many more are underway.

It is anticipated that the new Lodge will be complete in the Summit area next February. If interested in becoming a Warden, please get in touch with Bro. Robert E. Hayes.

Active Senior Members

Here we have three young men, each a Guest at the Masonic Homes, and each now serving as President of their Lodge (and all of these are dynamic). William Ward, seated on the left, is President of the Sophomore Class; Thomas Dawson, IV, seated on the right, is President of the Junior Class, and standing is Nicholas Zander, President of the Senior Class.
Support of More Masons Needed To Fulfill Purposes for the Guest Fund

Letters to the Grand Master in answer to his appeal for the Guest Fund at the Masonic Homes are proof that many Masons and friends of Masonry understand the Holy Scripture, which reminds us:

"And now abide faith, hope, and charity; three; but the greatest of these is charity." (1 Cor. 13:13)

For instance, a Mason living in a retirement home sent a major portion of his monthly allowance.

Several widows contributed gifts in memory of their husbands, former Masons.

And then a 14-year-old boy sent a dollar contribution, with a letter that stated:

"This money is for the Guest Fund collection. I read about it in my Dad's Freemason paper. I know it's not much, but I'm still too young to work, so I can only send you my week's allowance now."

"I love old people and I wish they didn't have to get lonely and suffer. I pray for them and I hope God will help them to be happy and not be sick."

"Sorry I can't give you more money, but I hope you will be able to use it for the old folks."

Bro. Robert C. Deyoe, Grand Master, urged:

"As we approach the Holiday Seaso-

n, it should be remembered that Charity is one of the Landmarks of our Fraternity. Let us urge contributions from those who have greater responsibilities. However, the vast majority of Masons should send a contribution, even though it might only be a small amount."

Like Raymond Nelson, many members of the Masonic Fraternity have made special sacrifices to assist others.

The proof of the above statement is the fact that the Guest Fund has increased in the past eight years from $90,000 to $378,000.

Bro. Deyoe has listed the minimum need for the fund at $350,000. This is for such expenditures as $10 a month spending money for each of the 800 guests, occupational therapy programs, religious activities, holiday activities, clothing and other related benefits.

He pointed out that not one cent of the Guest Fund money is used for activities that make the Masonic Homes a "Home" and not just another institution.

For instance, with the extra money received last year, special television sets are being installed in hospital rooms for those confined to beds.

The Grand Master pointed out that many other projects can be initiated if the fund is great enough. All gifts to the Guest Fund can be listed as tax exemptions.

Masons who have neglected to send their contributions this year, or who have missed their postage-free envelopes, may make their checks payable to the Superintendent and mail to the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa., 17022.

In concluding his final appeal on behalf of the Guest Fund, Bro. Deyoe said:

"As we approach this important religious period for all Masons of all religions, we are again reminded that the Holy Scriptures say that it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Many Musical Instruments Needed for Patton School, Children at The Homes

There is a need for musical instruments for young Masons at the Masonic Homes and young men at Patton Masonic School.

Many Masonic Homes' youngsters play in the Elizabethtown High School Band, some with instruments that should be replaced. Others would welcome the opportunity to take lessons and also participate in band activities.

If a sufficient number of instruments can be found, Patton School hopes to start a drum and bugle corps.

Many Masons have serviceable musical instruments stored in attics. They can be put to use by sending them to the Grand Master's Office, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pa., 19107.

The instruments will be serviced and restored from monies in the Guest Fund and immediately put into active service.

Testimonial Honors Dr. C. Howard Witmer On His Retirement from Homes' Committee

On the evening of August 25, 1967, the beautiful Gold Room in the Hotel Hershey was the scene of a memorable occasion. The occasion was a testimonial dinner honoring Dr. C. Howard Witmer who had recently resigned from the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes after serving continuously for more than two decades. The Grand Lodge Officers, the Committee on Homes, Staff members of the Homes and their ladies attended.

Bro. Robert E. Deyoe, R. W. Grand Master, with appropriate words of gratitude, presented Bro. Witmer with a bronze Masonic emblem suitably engraved for the occasion.

Many of those present paid high tributes to this distinguished Brother who has given a lifetime of service to his fellowmen through Masonic activity and in the fields of medicine, education, religion and civic endeavors.

In particular, the Grand Master of the Lancaster County area as a physician for more than half a century. He held the appointment of Medical Director for Patton County and was Chief of Staff at St. Joseph Hospital, Lancaster. He has also served as president of the local Tuberculosis and Health Society and as representative director from Pennsylvania to the National Tuberculosis and Health Society.

He has been President of the Pennsylvania State Board for 36 years and has long served as president of the Lancaster Public Library. He has been President of the School Board in a number of Pennsylvania communities.

Many Masons have been greatly benefitted by such services rendered to their fellowmen through Masonic activity and his dedication to a lifetime of service to his church, the Masonic Fraternity and his fellowmen in general.

In addition, stand as an inspiration and challenge to all who would live by the lessons taught in Freemasonry.

Bro. Witmer is a Past Master and Trustee of Lebanon Lodge, No. 476, Lancaster. He is a Trustee of Lancaster Lodge of Perfection and Trustee of Harrisburg Consistory. He has been coroneted an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, 33rd, of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Northwestern Ritualistic Meeting Well Attended

The Sectional Meeting of the School of Instruction, held in the Masonic Temple, Kane, on Saturday, October 7, 1967, was well attended.

The registered attendance was 195 with 47 Lodges of nine Masonic Districts being represented.

Bro. Raymond H. Grimm, Instructor of Ritualistic Work, claims this was the largest attendance for any Sectional Meeting held in the Northwestern Region.

Other activities identified with Dr. Witmer have been leadership in Community Chest campaigns, membership on the Selective Service Board of Appeal, president of the Rotary Club in Lancaster and District Governor of Rotary International. Dr. Witmer is a member of the Board of Directors of the Lancaster County Farmer's National Bank.

Those fortunate enough to have known and worked with Dr. Witmer have been greatly benefitted by such services rendered to their fellowmen through Masonic activity and his dedication to a lifetime of service to his church, the Masonic Fraternity and his fellowmen in general.
A view of the main platform while Bro. Milton Fritsche was delivering his dedication address. Shown in the lower right hand part of the picture is a portion of our Grand Lodge Officers and guests. Also on the platform are members of the Board of Directors and staff of Freemasons Foundation and in the back, members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. 

Supreme Council, N.M.J. Holds Annual Meeting In City of Pittsburgh

The 155th Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council, N.M.J. accepted the Scottish Rite for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was held from September 21 to 28 in the City of Pittsburgh, Pa. The Supreme Council and the Members present attended the meeting were representatives of Supreme Councils in Israel, Italy, the Dominican Republic, France, Columbia, Nicaragua and Panama.

On September 27, the 33rd and last Degree of the Scottish Rite was conferred on a class of 187 Masons, including Federal Judge John J. Kane of the Philadelphia Bar, President of the Pennsylvania Masonic Homes, Vice Bro. C. Howard Witmer, a member of the Board of Directors, and several hundred Masonic Officers, Grand Lodge guests and officials of Freedoms Foundation.

During an executive meeting of the Master of ceremonies on the afternoon of September 28, 1968, members of the Executive Committee and Physical Plant Committee.

Bro. Fritsche also serves on the Joint Committee for the Health Care Center, now under construction, vice president of the Board of Trustees of the Horn College, Frederick, Md.; Board of Directors, Decatur Investment Fund.

Bro. and Mrs. Fritsche and their three daughters live on their farm in Douglassville, Pa.

Proposed Amendments To the Ahiman Rezon Due for Final Action

Action will be taken at the Quarterly Communication on December 6 on the proposed amendments to the Ahiman Rezon, two of which were submitted at the March Communication and the third at the June Communication. They were explained in the May and August issues of The Pennsylvania Freemason. A copy of the amendments have also been mailed to all of our Members.

Article XXI, Section 2, was amended in 1962 to permit transfer of Members between Lodges both of which are within our Jurisdiction. The proposed amendment would also allow transfer of Membership between our Lodges and Lodges in other Jurisdictions. This procedure is now sanctioned in most other Grand Lodges.

An aerial picture showing the complex of Freedoms Foundation on the afternoon of the dedication of the new headquarters. The large crowd seen in some of the open area, near the statue and platform. Between the two long stairways, an aerial picture showing the complex of Freedoms Foundation on the afternoon of the dedication of the new headquarters. The large crowd seen in some of the open area, near the statue and platform. Between the two long stairways, one can see a multitude of people, stretching the entire length of the building.