Closed Circuit TV Being Used at Homes To Entertain Guests

What began a few years ago as a simple audio system, installed so that religious services held in Sell Chapel could be heard by Guests in other buildings on the grounds, has since expanded into a complete closed circuit television installation.

The channel reserved for closed circuit programs enables all Guests throughout the various buildings to view as well as hear entertainment and other activities emanating from Delke Auditorium and from the Main Dining Room and the Assembly Room in Grand Lodge Hall. A master antenna located on a hill north of the grounds brings in outside programs over seven additional channels.

Individual television receivers, equipped with remote controls and pillow speakers, have been installed in all hospital rooms in Areas 1, 2 and 3, North, so that those patients unable to leave their beds, may now enjoy this entertainment.

Included in the installation is a complete underground cable network. For closed circuit programs, one portable and three permanently mounted cameras are available. A control center with monitor has been installed in one of the basement rooms in Grand Lodge Hall.

Three-month itinerary of Grand Lodge Officers

Following is the schedule of Grand Lodge Officers for the next three months:

June 3 — Grand Lodge Officers, June Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Williamsport.
June 6 — Graduation Exercises, Pastor Masonic School, Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.
June 9 — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Secoe Lodge, No. 499, Cooperstown.
June 13 — Grand Lodge Officers, Cornerstone Laying Ceremony, Berks Hospital for Crippled Children, Erle.
June 20 — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Secoe Lodge, No. 455, Erie.
June 20 — Deputy Grand Master, 55th Anniversary, Mount Olive Lodge, No. 764, Lebanon.
June 24 — Grand Lodge Officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
June 27 — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Lambskin Lodge, No. 476, Lancaster.
July 8 — Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Master’s Day, Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.
July 12 — Grand Lodge Officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
July 15 — Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Master’s Day, Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.
August 2 — Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Master’s Day, Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.
August 8 — Grand Lodge Officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
August 12 — Grand Lodge Officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

The dates are:
Saturday, July 18; Saturday, July 25; Saturday, August 1 and Saturday, August 29.

Bro. Hirn P. Ball, R.W. Grand Master, has extended the invitation to the following Lodges:

Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Representative in the Grand Lodge and Chairman of the Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture.

The District Deputy Grand Masters and District Chairmen for the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture are also expected to attend.

In an effort to assure that adequate plans are made to handle the large gathering, the Grand Master has made the following assignments for the four days:

SATURDAY, JULY 18TH —
Lodges in Districts A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J and the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 40th Masonic Districts.

SATURDAY, JULY 25TH —
Lodges in the 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 37th, 38th, 39th, 43rd, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 54th, 55th and 57th Masonic Districts.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST —
Lodges in the 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 27th, 30th, 36th, 37th, 41th, 44th, 46th, 52nd, 53rd and 56th Masonic Districts.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH —
Lodges in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 9th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 42nd, 45th, 50th, 59th, 59th and 60th Masonic Districts.

The program will include:
10:00 a.m. — Meeting with the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers.
12:00 Noon — Lunch for all those attending.
1:00 p.m. — Guided tours of the Masonic Homes and Patton Masonic School.
4:00 p.m. — Conclusion of activities.

Bro. William A. Carpenter, Secretary to the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture, has been appointed Co-ordinating Chairman by the Grand Master.

Lodges have been urged to work with other District Lodges to charter buses for the trip to Elizabethtown.

District Deputy Grand Masters have been directed by the Grand Master to assist Lodges to formulate transportation plans.

Bro. Ball has authorized the use of Subordinate Lodge funds to defray the expenses of the Lodge Officers. He added:

"This is the most important function that we have scheduled in Freemasonry in Pennsylvania this year."

"This will give our Lodge Officers an opportunity to visit the Masonic Homes — for most, the first time in their Masonic careers."

Because of the details necessary to plan for the four events, Bro. Ball has urged Masonic Districts not to request changes of dates.

If the assigned date presents a serious conflict with other activities in the District, Bro. Ball has requested the District Deputy to ask for a change of dates. The Grand Master explained:

"We do not want to create a hardship. Our goal is to have every Lodge Officer in Pennsylvania visit the Masonic Homes."

"I am sure this will be worth every effort put into the visitations."
THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON
Issued Quarterly
February, May, August, and November at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, by The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdictions Theretofore Organized through COMMITTEE ON MASONIC CULTURE — John L. McConnon, J.W., Right Worshipful Warden; Martin D. B. W., Edward Seltzer, John E. Milner, Jr., Ralph D. Hornbeck, and Robert S. Skelton.

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Seven New District Chairmen Appointed

The following new District Chairmen for the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture have been appointed by Bro. R. P. Ball, R.W. Grand Master:

MASONIC DISTRICT No. 4 — Bro. G. H. Hulse, R.W. Grand Master.
MASONIC DISTRICT No. 5 — Bro. W. Ball, R.W. Grand Master.

Four Phase Program of Our Grand Lodge Committee On Masonic Culture Now Includes a Speakers' Bureau

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture is subdivided into four categories — Library and Museum, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia; Masonic Culture and Information; "The Pennsylvania Freemason" and Other Publications, and new a sub-divisions, a Speakers' Bureau.

The Speakers' Bureau is being established as another effort to better serve the Symbolic Lodges in planning and conducting interesting and informative meetings. The new Speakers' Bureau will be subdivided by geographical areas within our Jurisdiction to minimize the time and travel of those Brethren wishing to participate.

The daughter of a former Guest at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown wrote the following letter:

"I want to try to express my most sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you for having my Grand as the Most Worshipful Brothers in Elizabethtown. I have never seen such loving care, thoughtfulness,可靠性 and refinement in all respects as doctors, nurses, porters, and all sorts of personnel, during all this time, and in addition to the medical and medical equipment, hose, bedding, hairdresser, etc. etc., and I am that the Hobby Shop where my mother made perfectly lovely gifts and was able to contribute her skills to the livelihoods of many people.

"Mother was in the hospital with a broken leg, but she was mentally alert and was content and able to participate from the wheelchair in the activities and participated in the committee on many subjects.

"The food was delicious, the beds and rooms spotless, and most of all, her bed was immediately at all times.

"The care and attention there at Elizabethtown is the most I have seen at a hospital in more than a few years. She was visited by both a doctor and a nurse there at least twice a week.

"I always like to express my most sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you for having my Grand as the Most Worshipful Brothers in Elizabethtown."
Four Timely Topics Discussed at Grand Masters’ Conference

Highlighting the two days of business and activity at the Annual Conference of Grand Masters in North America, held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C., on February 24th and 25th, were four group discussions on the following topics:


2. What are proper civic, political, religious and charitable activities for Freemasons? As a Craft, as individuals?

3. What is the ultimate purpose and end for Masonic teaching and what should be achieved?

4. What should the Masonic Fraternity do to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Revolution?

Our R.W. Grand Master, Bro. Hiram P. Ball, was honored by being asked to chair the group discussing the “300th Anniversary of the Constitution.”

Many of the Grand Lodge delegations showed an interest in the particular group and attended in great numbers.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania seems to have taken the lead in the 1976 Celebration, having appointed a Special Committee nearly two years ago. Our preliminary plans were reviewed by the Conference for the benefit of the particular jurisdiction represented.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Maryland have been actively planning in the important period and are aware of the Masonic responsibilities concerning the 200th Anniversary of our Nation. The report of this group discussion at the Conference certainly made all of the jurisdictions realize that the year 1976 is close at hand and planning must begin.

The 1976 Committee of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has been appointed by the R.W. Grand Master and is designing and planning for that eventful year.

Improvements and Plans Reported at Meeting Of The George Washington Masonic Memorial

The Sixtieth Annual Convention of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association was held in the Memorial Building, Alexandria, Va., on February 23. The meeting was presided over by Bro. John H. Hemey, Past Grand Master of Maryland and President of the Association. Bro. William T. Watkins, Grand Master of Virginia, gave the address of welcome to the 400 Brethren present and Bro. Charles P. Gonnell, Grand Master of New York, gave the response.

Our various Masonic Jurisdictions of the United States were well represented. There were also representatives from Canada, Mexico, Austria, Belgium, France and Germany.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Bro. John Brunson, Grand Master of Alabama, nominated the current slate of Officers and those Trustees whose terms expired on February 22, 1970. All were reelected.

Bro. William B. Stamps, Jr., Grand Master of Maryland, served as Chairman for the Committee responsible for the wreath placement on the Tomb of Bro. George Washington at Mount Vernon. This ceremony was performed during the afternoon on February 23.

It was reported that the cost of operating the Memorial during the past year was $149,096.00. The income from the Endowment Fund failed to cover this expenditure, as it amounted to $116,000. Fortunately, contributions from the various Grand Lodges and other Masonic Bodies amounted to $87,000, thus avoiding a deficit. The many Grand Masters present were made cognizant of the financial problems of the Masonic Association and were urged to increase contributions to the Endowment Fund.

Improvements to the Memorial Building included the installation of new gas fired boilers in the heating plant at a cost of $185,000.00. These new boilers are completely automatic and should result in reduced heating costs and maintenance and landscape programming for the 14 acres of the grounds of the Memorial.

A Special Loan Exhibit for 1970 has been arranged in the beautiful new Museum Room in the Memorial Building by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Many other exhibits relating to the Masonic Shrine, were on display throughout the building.

Pennsylvania Masons and their families and friends are urged to visit this outstanding Masonic Shrine located on Shooter Hill high above the Potomac River in Alexandria, Va., and overlooking the Nation’s Capitol.

Your Correct Address Is Always Needed!

While the Masonic leagues are in session, the time is now to notify your Lodge Secretary. In doing so, please print your name and address in our general mailing list. For mailing your copies of “Pennsylvania Freemasonry.” THANK YOU.
The Grand Master has changed the Digest of Decisions to permit greater uses for Masonic Lodge Rooms.

The new Decision follows:

"In communities in which there is a definite need for a meeting place by ladies' organizations that require Masonic relationship as a prerequisite for membership, and by youth organizations sponsored by them, such organizations may meet in a Masonic Hall (Temple) or in a Lodge Room even though the Lodge Room is dedicated to Masonic use, provided the District Deputy Grand Master first certifies in writing to the Grand Master that the need does exist and that such certification is approved by the Grand Master. Every request received by the District Deputy Grand Master must be submitted to the Grand Master."

To approve the change in the Decision, the Grand Master pointed out that Masonic Lodge Rooms are not secret and that many Masonic Temples, including the headquarters of Grand Lodge in Philadelphia, conduct tours through Lodge rooms.

He pointed out that it is his desire to make it possible for the sisters, mothers and wives of Masons to make it possible for the sisters, mothers and wives of Masons, to tour through Lodge Rooms.

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At one end of the receiving line, Bro. Horace P. Ball, R.W. Grand Master and Mrs. Ball are shown greeting and chatting with one of the guests at a Special Reception arranged for the guests at the Homes on February 27. Also shown in the receiving line are Bro. Rochester W. Woodall, R.W. Senior Grand Warden and Bro. W. Orrville Klindermens, R.W. Deputy Grand Master and Mrs. Klindermens. Other Grand Lodge Officers and their ladies and members of the Committee on Masonic Homes and their ladies participated in the receiving line. The Reception included a banquet followed by entertainment. Closed-circuit television covered the full evening of activities for those Guests confined to the hospital.

For First Time . . .

Williamsport Site Of June Quarterly

The June Quarterly Communication will be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, in the Scottish Rite Auditorium, Williamsport.

This will be the first time in the history of Grand Lodge for a Quarterly Communication to be held in Williamsport.

The Grand Master has urged as many Brethren as possible to make a special effort to attend the Communication. He said:

"This will give Masons in the central part of Pennsylvania an excellent opportunity to participate in a Grand Lodge activity."

"Williamsport is centrally located and easy to reach for most Brethren."

"Lodge Secretaries have been provided with a list of hotels, motels and restaurants in the Williamsport area."

If you are planning to attend the Communication, check with the Lodge Secretary to obtain reservations.

In urging a large attendance, the Grand Master pointed out that it is not necessary to be a Lodge Officer or Past Master to attend a Grand Lodge Communication. All Master Masons are invited.

New and Larger Picnic Area Now Ready at Homes

Pennsylvania Lodges and other Masonic Bodies and groups planning a picnic as part of their summer programs, are invited to make use of the new picnic grounds at the Masonic Homes.

An area for this purpose has been set apart in the attractive Memorial Grove of 268 oak trees planted after World War I to honor 268 Pennsylvania Masons who gave their lives in that struggle.

Arrangements may be made to have meals catered by a local restaurant or food can be brought in by picnic groups. A guided tour of the grounds and buildings and visits with Guests living at the Homes may be had as a part of the picnic activities.

A comfort station, tables with benches, a drinking fountain, several charcoal grills and water supply have been provided. The facilities are intended for daytime use only.

All Masonic groups are cordially invited to take advantage of this opportunity. Inquiries concerning available dates and any other questions should be addressed to Bro. Robert W. Westcott, Executive Director, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022.

Advance Notice

September Quarterly To be at Coudersport

The September Quarterly Communication will be held on Wednesday, September 2, in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Coudersport.

The Grand Master has urged Masons to prepare now to attend the Communication and visit in the picturesque Coudersport area.

Bro. Orville David J. Godschall, District Deputy Grand Master, is General Chairman of Arrangements for the Communication.

Masons desiring to have dinner at 5:30 p.m., September 2, in Coudersport, should make reservations as soon as possible by sending $3.00 per person to Bro. Edward T. Fuller, Secretary, Coudersport Scottish Rite Bodies, Box 69, Coudersport, Pa. 16915.

The dinner will be held in the spacious dining room of the Scottish Rite Cathedral.