Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Grant Used to Defend Fraternity

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania provided $25,000 in its 1982 budget to underwrite the cost of a promotional program for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. The funds were used to create printed advertisements for use in local newspapers. The four advertisements are titled “A Symbol of Personal Responsibility,” “We’re Proud of Our Masonic Heritage,” “There’s Nothing Secret About Freemasonry” and “What Does a Mason Do?” Designed to communicate a better understanding of Freemasonry to the general public, the four advertisements grow out of a request for information in light of increased attacks against the fraternity by a number of groups. In some instances men are advised to avoid seeking membership; in other cases they are urged to leave the fraternity. The newspaper advertisements, therefore, can act as rebuttal to unfair and irresponsible criticism.

A set of the advertisements has been sent to each Grand Lodge in the United States and are available to any masonic group by writing to the Public Relations Office, George Washington Masonic Memorial, 440 Hancock Street, Quincy, MA 02171.

Itinerary of Elected Grand Lodge Officers

November 5, 1983 - Grand Master will attend the constituting of Fay-West Chapter, Order of DaMoul, in Scottsdale.

November 10, 1983 - Grand Master will attend the 50th Anniversary Banquet of Lehigh Lodge No. 326, Germansville.

November 12, 1983 - Grand Master will attend the Fall Reunion of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Allentown.

November 18, 1983 - Grand Master will attend the Fall Reunion of Caldwell Consistory, A.A.S.R., Bloomsburg.

December 1 & 2, 1983 - Grand Master will attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas in Waco.

December 3, 1983 - Grand Master, accompanied by the Grand Lodge Officers, will attend the dedication ceremony of the Tall Cedar Room in the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia.

December 7, 1983 - Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, at 10:00 a.m.

December 8, 1983 - Grand Master, accompanied by the Grand Lodge Officers, will attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Haly Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, at 10:00 a.m.

December 9, 1983 - Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes meeting, Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

December 26, 1983 - Annual Grand Communication, Founders Hall, Milton Hershey School, Hershey, Pennsylvania at 10:00 a.m.
Brother Carl J. Finney Made a Mason at Sight

Bro. Carl J. Finney, a personal friend and a business associate of the Grand Master, was made a mason at sight during a special communication of the Grand Lodge held on September 17 in Egyptian Hall of the Masonic Temple in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh.

The occasion marked the second time Grand Master Samuel C. Williamson has caused a mason at sight to be created. The authority to make a mason at sight can be exercised only by a Grand Master.

Bro. John E. Rakar, a professional pilot who has traveled more than 170 thousand air miles with the Grand Master in the past 22 months, was made a mason at sight during a meeting of the Grand Master's lodge, Tyrian Lodge No. 612 held at Level Green, on August 22, 1983.

An element of drama and human interest was added to the proceedings when the Grand Master announced that Bro. Rakar would confer the second of the three degrees.

"I could not have served this Grand Lodge as Grand Master had I not been able to rely on Carl Finney for a thousand and one kindnesses," the Grand Master said, adding, "Nor could I have maintained an effective schedule of travel throughout the jurisdiction in meeting my responsibilities as Grand Master without the skills of John Rakar."

"If I appear to be beaming, it is because the person I chose to make a mason at sight last year is able to come before the Grand Lodge and circumscribe with a considerable amount of pressure, and confer a degree for the first time on my second candidate," the Grand Master continued.

"I could not be happier for both my good friends. Perhaps we should make more masons at sight if this is an example of what can turn out to be a success.

The practice of making masons at sight with the exclusive authority of the Grand Master dates to 1885. A study of Grand Lodge records for the year 1878 indicates a total of 62 men had been honored to that point, but because Grand Masters have been known to have created masons at sight in the symbolic lodges on short notice the number may be greater.

Finney, who has been associated with the Grand Master since 1982, is employed by US Steel in Clairton as a supervisor in the Chemicals Department.

He is married to the former Donna J. Spiro and they are the parents of two daughters, Lisa and Carla.

Lisa is a medical secretary at Jefferson Center Hospital in Jefferson Borough.

Carla is a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School.

Much of Bro. Finney's spare time at present is taken up with Carla, who at 16 is an accomplished archer.

Carla is the Pennsylvania Indoor-Outdoor Intermediate Girls champion and is ranked second nationally by the National Archery Association among Intermediate Girls.

She is also the Pennsylvania Junior Olympic Archery Development champion and a member of the Eastern Women's Sports Festival team.

Carla's greatest achievements as an archer may be on the horizon. She recently qualified for the tryouts for the United States Women's Olympic Archery Team.

Bro. James L. Enette, Senior Grand Deacon, conferred the first degree, Bro. John E. Rakar, the second, and Bro. Roy A. McCullough, Aide to the Grand Master, conferred the degrees of Master.

Brothers Enette and McCullough conferred the degrees last August on Bro. Rakar.

(Continued on Page 4)

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON
Publication No. 426-149
Issued Quarterly
February, May, August and November at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by The Knight Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons in Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Therein Belonging.

Grand Lodge Officers
Samuel C. Williamson, R.W. Grand Master
William A. Carpenter, R.W. Deputy Grand Master
Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., R.W. Master Warden
Arthur J. Kurtz, R.W. Junior Grand Warden
Arthur R. Diamond, R.W. Grand Treasurer
Thomas W. Jeffcock, R.W. Grand Secretary

Editor
Maev D. Mandle
Assistant to the Grand Master

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Grand Master Williamson Presents Final Message to the Craft

Editor's Note — Bro. Samuel C. Williamson presented some final thoughts to the Craft in general in preparing to close his administration as Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania for 1982 and 1983.

The complete text is published below.

Two years ago you conferred upon me the honor of Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania. My tenure as Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania has been the greatest challenge and experience of my masonic life. I deeply appreciate the cooperation extended me by the craft during the years 1982 and 1983.

During this administration, your Grand Lodge officers, working as a team, have made changes which have been well received by the members of the craft.

A continuing effort has been made to give us our fraternity a new direction, to improve its appeal.

The major areas of concern were divided into three groups — our lodge meetings, enlightenment of our members and the public, and our masonic-related youth programs.

First, our lodge meetings have, in many instances, been too long and without substance. To a large extent they have excluded the ladies, families and our young people.

Several decisions were issued to permit the lodges to limit their formal meetings and spend more time socializing.

Decisions may be expanded instead of being read in their entirety. Family members may be invited to the lodge building on the meeting night of the lodge with a short business meeting recommended and a combined social activity to include all the family.

Our masonic related youth groups are permitted to be in the lodge building on meeting nights and lodges are encouraged to have these groups provide programs.

Recently a Hospital in Jefferson, a Masonic home and a short bus meeting recommended to reduce the time required for the election and installation of officers by permitting a voice vote for uncontested offices and eliminating the requirement to install re-elected officers.

On April 16, 1983, I declared a moratorium on all physical requirements for membership in our fraternity. Lodges may now accept petitioners from those handicapped individuals that they deem worthy of membership in their respective lodges.

This decision was made to return to the lodge the right to decide which handicapped individuals should be accepted for membership. I firmly believe that each lodge is better qualified to decide who should be permitted to petition than I as your Grand Master.

Secondly, a public relations program has been created to improve our image among our members and the public.

The following decisions were authorized:

1. The posting of masonic signs at the entrance to communities.

2. Use of the media — newspapers, radio and television — to announce the time of lodge meetings and other pertinent information.

3. The wearing of masonic emblems on appropriate clothing approved.

4. Appearance in public processions and church services in masonic dress.

5. The formation of a Public Information Committee.

This committee is having prepared a television documentary that will be aired on public broadcasting stations early next year.

Negotiations are currently underway with the government to obtain an assurance of transportation to a special license plate issued with the square and compass on it. We hope to conclude this agreement later this year.

For the first time in many years, your Grand Lodge laid the cornerstone of a public building. This occurred on August 27, 1983 at the Salvation Army Community Center in Pittsburgh.

Grand Master's Days were held at the Masonic Homes where members of the lodge and their families were invited to attend. Four thousand masons and their families attended these sessions.

In the belief that we as Masons must become more visible in our communities and make some tangible contribution I issued the following decision:

Lodges may make contributions to a community project using lodge funds with the prior approval of the Grand Master.

I strongly believe my brethren that we must become an active part of our community and I urge each masonic lodge to take on one community project. A Masonic Congress was held in Athens, Ohio April 16, 1983 when all the masonic bodies, working as a family, met at Elizabethtown to formulate a united effort for our community.

A fellowship session to implement plans was held on September 10 and will again meet in December.

Our youth outreach was expanded by the formation of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and contributions to the National Council of Knights of Columbus. The Masonic Conference Center rehabilitation program was concluded in June. Over 2,000

SITE OF ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION — Grand Lodge will convene promptly at 10 a.m. on December 27 in the auditorium of Founders Hall on the campus of the Milton Hershey School. The auditorium will also be used for a special meeting of Chester Lodge No. 236 at 3 p.m. when the Grand Masters will be received. See story on page 15.
Youth Foundation to Direct DeMolay Membership Program

A membership recruitment incentive program, directed by the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, is expected to add as many as 600 new members to the rolls of the International Order of DeMolay in Pennsylvania by mid-1984. The program has been designed to allow for the participation of all the various bodies within the state in keeping with Grand Master Samuel C. Williamson's often stated desire to include the entire masonic family in youth programming.

The cost to sponsoring organizations for the various phases of the membership competition ranges from several hundreds to several thousands of dollars. Pledges of participation as sponsors had already been received from the following organizations as this report was being prepared:

- The seven Shrine temples have pledged a total of $26,000 through the Pennsylvania Shrine Association.
- Valley of Pittsburgh, Scotch Rite, $1,000.
- Tall Cedars of Lebanon, $1,000.
- Lancaster Lodge of Perfection, a trophy.
- Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, $7,000.

A competitive structure has been developed that provides incentives for individual DeMolays and the DeMolay chapters.

The top individual prize, to be given to the young man who sponsors the most new members (minimum of five), is an all expense paid trip to the International DeMolay Congress to be held in Sarasota, Florida in May of 1984.

Time will be allotted for a special tour of Disney World.

The winner will be chosen by March 31 to allow adequate travel planning time.

The top membership recruiters who place second through fifth will receive the opportunity to visit the International DeMolay headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri.

This phase of the competition will end on May 1, 1984. The trip to Kansas City will be made in July.

A rather unique individual incentive will help many DeMolays with the costs required in attending the annual conclaves scheduled for June.

A rebate check in the amount of $25 will be presented to each active DeMolay who is the first line signer on at least two petitions of new members.

This part of the program should encourage those who sign only one petition to work harder on a second petition and will also encourage more young men to attend the annual conclaves.

Winners must be registered participants at the conclaves. The deadline for this part of the competition is May 31, 1984.

Perhaps the most sought after group award will be the cash prize of $1,000 that will go to the DeMolay chapter which initiates the most new members by May 31.

The winning chapter is required to specify whether it will use the award to purchase equipment for ritual work, recreation, etc., or for a special activity for members.

Several trophies will also be provided. One will go to the chapter that takes in the most new members by December 31 of this year. Another will go to the top chapter in new initiates as of May 31, 1984.

Currently, there are some 3,100 DeMolays in Pennsylvania. The number of new initiates has increased by 20 per cent since the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation was established in 1982.

The participation of all masonic organizations in this membership recruitment incentive program is strongly encouraged.

Any body, lodge or club seeking additional information is asked to contact the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation at the Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus, RD1 Box 197, Elizabeth Township, PA 17022 or by calling (717)367-1838.

Mason at Sight

(Continued from Page 2)


Bro. Arthur J. Kurtz, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, delivered the annual change at the conclusion of the first degree; Bro. Carl W. Steinberg, Jr., the change following the second degree, and the Grand Master gave the change after the third degree.

A man who is made a mason at sight becomes a mason at large until successfully petitioning a lodge for membership.

Bro. Finney, like Bro. Rakar before him, has already petitioned for membership in Tyrann Lodge No. 612.

Grand Master Presents Final Message

(Continued from Page 3)

members of the Order of DeMolay, Order of Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters have made use of the facility to date.

A 20-minute film, Transitions, will be available in December to all lodges. It will cover the transition of a trade school to a conference center. The transition of a philosophy of charity geared primarily to the elderly to a combined emphasis on old and youth.

I am extremely grateful for the generosity of the members of Cornishian Philo Lodge No. 368 for underwriting the entire cost of this film concerning the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation.

Results are already evident in our youth work. State College Chapter, Order of DeMolay, was instituted on March 12, 1983, the first new chapter since 1975. Two additional new DeMolay chapters are scheduled to be constituted, Edward Martin Chapter in Waynesburg on October 16, and Fay-West Chapter in Scottsdale on November 5.

One Job's Daughter Bethel, No. 19, was constituted in Camp Hill on January 22, 1983.

The masonic family, working together, has made great strides in the past 21 months. Much more is left to be done. I am sure that by working together we will make our fraternity a stronger, better organization that will include family, youth and our members.

A bold new program is being developed to enlighten our own members. This project, Solomon II, will be jointly announced by Bro. William A. Carpenter, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and myself on December 27.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, committee members, employees and all those on the Grand Lodge team for their cooperation, counsel and help.

Without the dedicated help of many it would not have been possible for me to fulfill my duties. By the use of this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason, I extend my sincerest and heartfelt thanks to you as my tenure of office as Grand Master approaches December 27, 1983.
Youth Foundation to Benefit
Grand Lodge and Wendell August Forge Strike Bargain

Wendell August Forge of Grove City, Pennsylvania, the firm that created the limited edition pewter plates bearing the image of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia that sold out within five days of their being offered last May, has agreed to create a series of items, using the same dies, in pewter, bronze and silver.

The Grand Lodge has agreed to allow the use of the dies and will make the items available to its membership in exchange for a portion of all profit; that profit to be given to the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation.

The first phase of the new agreement will be the striking of a pewter plate similar to the limited edition announced in May.

The price has been established at $100 per plate.

Hundreds of requests had to be turned away. This offering, then, is made primarily to attempt to satisfy those who were unable to purchase the limited edition. This striking, while using the same dies, will not be marked with sequential numbers or bear the seal of (Continued on Page 15)
Marie L. Plank Wins Job's Daughters' Essay Competition

Marie L. Plank, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney W. Plank, 402 Beechwood Road, Luthicum, Maryland, is the winner of the International Order of Job's Daughters portion of an essay contest sponsored by the International Order of the Daughters of Job, of Pennsylvania.

The contest was won by Marie L. Plank, a member of New Castle Assembly No. 1, International Order of Job's Daughters portion of an essay contest conducted by the Grand Lodge through the offices of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation.

The first contest, among the members of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, was won in June by a member of DeMolay of Pennsylvania. The second of three identical contests, among the members of the Daughters, was won in June by Marie L. Plank, a member of New Castle Assembly No. 1, International Order of Job's Daughters portion of an essay contest conducted by the Grand Lodge through the offices of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation.

The last phase of the program will be completed in December when the winner of the competition among members of the International Order of DeMolay of Pennsylvania will be announced prior to the December Quarterly Communication.

Marie L. Plank presented her winning essay to the members and officers of the Grand Lodge in Corinthian Hall at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia just before the opening of the September Quarterly Communication.

She was received by the Grand Master, Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, and accompanied by her father and by Helen Gochonour, the Grand Guardian of the International Order of Job's Daughters in Pennsylvania.

Marie addressed the subject, "I'm Proud of My Masonic Heritage." The complete text follows:

Believing in one God, helping others, regarding our elders and those who have been honored is the 1950's, 18, daughter of MI. Beechwood Road, Luthicum, Maryland, is the winner of the International Order of Job's Daughters portion of an essay contest sponsored by the International Order of the Daughters of Job, of Pennsylvania.

During that time I learned to respect my parents and guardians. I listened to them, did my very best to do as they said. Even when I failed they pointed out my mistakes and helped me to better myself by learning from my mistakes.

I learned respect for God. It didn't matter what religion I was, as long as I believed in and loved God with all of my heart.

I learned respect for my country — that to salute our nation's flag was a privilege and an honor which should be honored, but at the same time, my respect grows even more.

I have realized that from my parents and guardians I can gain a great deal of knowledge. As long as I am willing to listen and learn, they are willing to teach.

At almost every meeting during my term as a member of DeMolay of Pennsylvania, I have felt important and honored to be doing an American singer of the 1950's, 18, daughter of MI. Beechwood Road, Luthicum, Maryland, is the winner of the International Order of Job's Daughters portion of an essay contest sponsored by the International Order of the Daughters of Job, of Pennsylvania.

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Annual Communication, Dinner-Dance Set for Hershey - December 27

The Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 27 in the auditorium of Founders Hall on the campus of the Milton Hershey School. The communication will mark the end of the administration of Samuel C. Williamson as R.W. Grand Master and the beginning of the expected service in the highest office of Freemasonry of Bro. William A. Carpenter.

The meeting of the Grand Lodge will begin promptly at 10 a.m. to allow for the installation of the Grand Master at noon. All Master Masons are welcome to attend. It is not necessary that you be a member of the Grand Lodge to be present.

Masons and their ladies are also invited to attend a dinner-dance Tuesday evening in the Chocolate Ballroom at the nearby Hershey Lodge and Convention Center.

The featured entertainment for the evening will be an appearance by the Original Four Aces featuring Al Alberts to be followed by dancing to the music of the Joe Martin Orchestra.

Tickets for the dinner-dance are available at a cost of $15.95 per couple and will be distributed on a first request basis. Reservations will be limited to approximately 1,200 persons in order to assure comfortable seating.

There will be limited to accommodate 10 persons. Should you wish to attend in a group, it is suggested you make reservations soon your tickets are mailed to you promptly.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The Original Four Aces will appear at about 8:30 p.m.

If you have any questions you are invited to write the Grand Master's Office, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107, or call (215) 958-1929.

The Original Four Aces gained national attention in 1946 when Lou Silverstil, Sid Vaccaro, Dave Mahoney and Al Alberts recorded the million-seller hit, "It's No Sin!" Together they have sold over 30 million records and albums, including eight gold records and two Academy Award winning songs, "Three Coins in the Fountain" and "Love Is a Many Splendored Thing." They were able to turn almost any song into a hit, a distinctive sound among fellow musicians with unusual harmonies made them a group apart. They set the pattern for all young people.

Alberts left the group in 1958 to pursue a show business career on his own. He's been a fixture on Philadelphia television with the "Al Alberts Showcase" for talented youngsters for the past 16 years and was followed shortly by Vaccaro and Mahoney. By the end of the 1960's, the Original Four Aces was no more.

Alberts started the somewhat difficult task of putting the group back together in the late 1970's only to find that the "Four Aces" had not been protected by trademark when established in the 1940's. Thus the name, The Original Four Aces.

Believe it or not, except for being older and greyer, nothing much has changed. The arrangements we use today, Alberts says, "are in the exact same keys as they were 30 years ago."

The choreography, it must be admitted, has become less ambitious, but the initial sound is still there. Most of the dinner-dance audience, in all probability, will remember the words to every Four Aces' song. These are, after all, the same men who recorded "Heart of My Heart" at a time when we used to harmonize all summer long on the back porches of most homes in America.

The group has been performing to rave reviews, making the same impression on groups of youngsters as they have made on their contemporaries.

The entertainment promises to be lively and rewarding.