Constitution and Presidents' Packets

The informational packet on the United States Constitution, developed by Project SOLOMON II, has been distributed to District Directors and Lodge Directors for use in each Blue Lodge in Pennsylvania. District Deputy Grand Masters received the Constitution Packet at the September Quarterly Communication. Chairmen of the Education Committees of the Blue Lodges received copies of the Constitution Packet in October.

The Constitution Packet included short biographical sketches of the Signers of the Constitution who were Masons. A copy of the Constitution was included along with suggestions for using the information from the packet in a program of the Lodge. Each Master Mason should participate in a ceremony in his Lodge celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the United States Constitution during the Fall of 1987.

A second packet devoted to the Masonic Presidents of the United States is being prepared by Project SOLOMON II. This Packet will be ready for distribution in January 1988 so that all Pennsylvania Masons can honor the Masonic Presidents in February 1988. It will also contain biographical sketches and likenesses (photographs and paintings) of the Masonic Presidents along with suggestions for programs that can be given in each Lodge.

Project SOLOMON II is Working
Suspensions Cut 50% 

The statistics from the Data Processing Department of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania show promising results for Project SOLOMON II. Director Drew W. Washabau stated in his September Report to Grand Lodge the following:

3356 Masons remained suspended on August 31, 1986, and 1180 Masons remained suspended on August 31, 1987. The drop of 50% in the number of suspensions for the non-payment of dues gives clear indication that the members of the Lodges of Pennsylvania and Project SOLOMON II have been working to bring men back to Freemasonry.

R. W. Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr.: A Review

A Grand Master in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania has two years in which to put into action goals that in many instances have been developing in his mind for some time. Many Grand Masters accomplish more in two years than do some professionals engaged in comparable projects and charities over several years. R. W. Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. is no exception. The keynote of his term of office has been administration. Bro. Stenberg, a retired Vice President of Mellon Bank's Trust Department, came to the East ready prepared with a strong managerial background.

When he assumed the office of Grand Master on December 27, 1985, Bro. Stenberg saw the need for analysis and subsequent restructuring of the existing operational framework of the Grand Lodge. Among the most important programs that Bro. Stenberg has initiated occurred at the Masonic Temple. A salary study conducted by Hay Management Consultants, a firm specializing in this field, was instrumental in providing the ground work for necessary reorganization, including adjusted salaries and better delineated job descriptions. Among other recommendations, the Hay Study also suggested that the Grand Lodge create a new position of Controller. In the final analysis, the Hay Study has contributed to a more effective, efficient and more fairly paid Grand Lodge staff.

Another area of concern for Bro. Stenberg has been the SOLOMON II Program. A revitalization of the Fraternity was necessary and through the appointment of Bro. Drew W. Washabau, a self-employed businessman, as its director, the SOLOMON II Program is undergoing a revival. This reorganization calls for our continued support so that we can rebuild, and always be known as, a respectable, regular, and uniform Fraternity.

Not only have programs themselves been revised, but also the manuals governing them. For example, the Manual for District Deputy Grand Masters, making it more comprehensive, bringing it up to date, refining it in such a way as to make it more clear, concise source of information. A training seminar for new District Deputy Grand Masters was also instituted by Bro. Stenberg. The Digest of Decisions has likewise been revised because continued on page 2
of its many contradictions to the Ahimaa Rezon. Also changed was the Roman numeral system of numbering the Digest of Decisions, to fit the new references to the Digest could be more readily made. There were also certain reasons made by various Grand Masters over the years that had never found their way into this volume; these have now been added.

The Handbook for Lodge Officers has also been reviewed and corrected. Bro. Stenberg brought the instructions up to date and has made it what it should be: a handbook for Lodge officers only; that is, the instructions for District Deputies were taken out and placed in a separate manual so that first time Lodge officers would not become confused with what is not their concern.

Bro. Stenberg also saw a need for a totally redone Funeral Service booklet. This was important because the ceremony that we as Masons perform for our deceased brethren is often the only exposure to Freemasonry outside of our Fraternity we have of us. It is therefore very important that this final act be carried out with all the solemnity and dignity for which we are known. The new Funeral Service is now in booklet form that can be presented to the Lodge officers with the understanding of the service, making it an excellent means of reminding the bereaved of our concern for them.

Bro. Stenberg has also contributed to the publication of The Master Builders: A History of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, Volume II, by Dr. Wayn A. Huss. Such a volume of Masonic history as The Master Builders will become an excellent reminder to all Pennsylvania Masons of Bro. Stenberg’s concern for the past and his desire to leave a legacy for the future.

The first depicted the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania returning the Warrant to the Grand Lodge of England in 1785. The highest ranking members of the Constitutional Convention contemplating their document in 1787. Bro. Stenberg has also issued two titles. The first was a局限于 the Commonweal of Pennsylvania commemorating the two hundredth anniversary of the independence of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The second, like Bro. Stenberg’s second medalion, commemorated the Constitution Convention. As part of the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the Masonic Temple at One North State Street, Philadelphia was declared a National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

On September 11, 1987 Bro. Stenberg made Lieutenant General Robert D. Springer, U.S.A.F., an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania, the Mason at-Right. Bro. Stenberg is the second Mason, I currently hold a Masonic background from whence he came.

Clearly, Bro. Stenberg’s greatest achievement has been the Pennsylvania for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children. There could be no more timely a cause than the prevention of substance abuse among our children. Bro. Stenberg has been responsible for the incorporation of the Foundation and has worked with various organizations including the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Education through the Foundation. He has included the National Children’s Medical Center in the program, and has arranged a billboard campaign among many other programs to make it clear that the Foundation is successful in its efforts. Most importantly, Bro. Stenberg, through his laudable work with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America, has been instrumental in making the Pennsylvania Program an example for the Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children. Bro. Stenberg has secured for our Fraternity an on-going tradition that Masons truly care about.

Administrative improvement and an awareness that the preservation of our future comes through a review of the past and through the protection of our children has marked the tenure of our Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. Bro. Stenberg has, through the Hay Stud at the Masonic Temple, insured the advice staff and greater fiscal responsibility; secured a future for Pennsylvania Freemasonry through the revitalization of the Solomon II Program; assured a better managed Fraternity through the review and rewriting of several Grand Lodge Manuals; obtained an objective review of our Fraternity’s past within the context of the broader society that surrounds us through the publication of The Master Builders; and through the Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children, Bro. Stenberg has guaranteed that Masons and non-Masons alike know that although we are one of the world’s oldest Fraternities, we address the vital questions that plague our youth today.

THE PENNSYLVANIA~~MASONIC TEMPLE

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THE PENNSYLVANIA MASONIC TEMPLE

February 19, 1988

Robert A. Post, Assistant to the Grand Master

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PENNSYLVANIA MASONIC TEMPLE

On August 15, 1987 the Scottish Rite Masons of the Valley of Philadelphia sponsored a Masonic Family Picnic at the Lakeview Park in Lansdale. The Right Worshipful Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. approved the plan to invite all Masons, their families and friends to a day of fellowship and fun.

The picnic provided an opportunity for Masonic organizations to make presentations to those in attendance. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania presented its Project SOLOMON II Program. Job’s Daughters, Rainbows for Girls, DeMolay for Boys, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children showed materials with an interest for youth. The Lu Lu Shrine Temple, The Tall Cedars and the York Rite Bodies gave presentations on their activities.

The Grand Lodge Library and Museum contributed to the day through the sale of many items of Masonic interest. Among these items were Masonic coins, lapel pins, and books including The Master Builders and The Exemplar. Many items, including several Grand Lodge Medallions, that were not before available were sold.

Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Joseph E. Trait served as coordinator of this Masonic family outing. More than 2000 people attended West Point Park to picnic together and enjoyed wholesome entertainment on the 20 rides and attractions. The favorable reaction to the picnic should make Masons recognize the Fraternity can influence family life.

The success of the Masonic picnic indicates the affair will be held again in 1989.

Scottish Rite Masonic Picnic


Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., R.W. Grand Master, in a ceremony held August 1, 1987 in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, that Masonic Temple for Waynesburg Lodge No. 153, Waynesburg is the County seat of Greene County which is located in southwestern Pennsylvania.

The new building will be the first temple to be used by Waynesburg Lodge No. 153, which proudly calls itself the third oldest Lodge west of the Alleghenies. The Lodge was constituted on July 17, 1817. The building, which was designed by C.S. Church and Associates of McMurry, is being erected on a lot which was granted by Heck’s Corporation. The building will feature a separate entrance which will lead directly to the outer door and through the outer doors into the lodge rooms itself. A dining room and kitchen will be located in the basement level. It will have its own entrance at the rear of the building. A large Masonic emblem, which will be lit at night, will be placed over the front entrance. The contractor, Robert Cowell and Sons, Inc. of Waynesburg, plans to have the building completed by February 1988.

According to Lodge Historian, Bro. John E. Bailey, P.D.D.G.M., the building has been a number of stages from the same time. In fact it was on July 18, 1825 that a committee was first appointed to look for a lot on which to erect a Masonic Hall. During its 170 year history the Lodge has had 119 members serve as Masters. Bro. Albert B. Morris being the present Worshipful Master. The Lodge has 493 members.

For the last 100 years the Lodge has held its meetings on the third floor of the old building known as the Opera House—a building on which there is no Masonic emblem. Several life long members of the community who are around for a new Masonic Temple did not even know where the Lodge met until they received their petitions. The Lodge now looks forward to its next 170 years, where with greater financial contributions to the knowledge that Masonry is alive and well in southwestern Pennsylvania.
Alfred Prince Honored

Alfred Raleigh Thompson Prince, formerly of Towanda, and now a resident of the Laporte United Methodist Home, was honored Friday, July 10 by Senator Roger A. Madigan.

Mr. Madigan gave Bro. Prince a bound copy of a document authorized by the Senate of Pennsylvania in recognition of his being a member of his Masonic Lodge for seventy years.

Prince joined Union Lodge No. 108 in Towanda in 1917 just before leaving to enter the U.S. Navy, where he served for eight years, reaching the rank of Ensign.

During his professional career, he was a commercial salesman, returning in 1965 to retirement in his native town of Towanda. Harriet, his wife, died in 1984.

During his long career he became affiliated with other Masonic bodies, including the Chapter, Council, Knights Templar, Scottish Rite, Shrine, Sojourners, and the Royal Order of Scotland, and, more recently with the new Northeastern York Rite College in Towanda. Several of his Masonic brothers were with him in Laporte for the presentation.

Grand Master Stenberg Presented the Henry Price Medal

Grand Master Stenberg was presented the Henry Price Medal by Bro. Albert Ames, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Massachusetts, at the Sep-

Cornerstone Ceremony of the Grace Methodist Church

The Grace United Methodist Church of Punxsutawney was originally destroyed in an early morning fire with total loss of structure and contents.

After some deliberation the congregation decided to rebuild. During construction the church used the social rooms of Lodge 534 for their services. During an administrative council meeting a motion was made, seconded and approved to request a Masonic cornerstone ceremony.

Articles that were placed in the box are as follows:
- Grand Masters Bi-centennial Medal
- Miscellaneous Masonic literature
- "Friend to Friend" pamphlet
- Copy of John W. Jenks Lodge 534 bulletin
- Bronze Medal commemorating the Centennial of Ground Hog day.
- Copies of First Wedding Ceremony in the new church
- Copy of First Baptism Ceremony in the new church
- Name of first new member of the new church
- Copy of the Punxsutawney daily paper "The Punxsutawney Spirit"
- Copies of bulletins for consecration service and first worship service.

Secretaries Night

On June 12, 1987, a District Honors Night was held to honor the past and present Secretaries in Masonic District "D" which over two hundred people attended. The Secretaries present represented a total of 265 years of service as Lodge Secretary.

At a dinner that evening, each Worshipful Master presented his Secretary with a plaque and thanked him on behalf of the Lodge for his service. Brother David C. Adams, Past Deputy Grand Secretary, attended the function and represented the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
**I Want to Know...**

**by**

Bro. Frank W. Bobb

Librarian and Curator Emeritus

**Question:** Has the Fraternity lost interest in its shut-ins?  

**E.H.D. Answer:** Charity is a fundamental part of Freemasonry. Charity is love and caring, and extends not only to Masons, but to their families and others as well. Within the Masonic family are many who are in hospitals and nursing homes, or who are shut-ins at home. They need to know that we care.

The Lodge must first be informed of those who need our concern. Members should be encouraged to visit the ill and the shut-in, the guest in a home. Visitation should be brief and cheerful. Even for those who are confused, a quiet voice and the touch of a hand forms a spiritual bond of comfort and peace. Cards can brighten many days. Remembering is the most important thing we can do for those who are no longer able to participate actively in our lives. And those who are long-time “patients” are not in need of being remembered. For most shut-ins, life is lonely. Remember someone today with a card or a visit. Masons do care.

**Question:** Can you identify the emblem on a ring which depicts a flame within the square and compasses, surmounted by the letters J.R.O.U.M.I.?

**Answer:** The ring emblem bearing the square and compasses in the Fellowcraft configuration with a symbolic flame in the center is one of the group of emblems of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, designated by the letters J.R.O.U.M.I. The order was founded in Philadelphia in 1853 as a feeder group for the United American Mechanics. It became independent in 1885. It was a secret, native American, patriotic, fraternal organization, one of many fraternal beneficial groups of the time. Like many of them, the structure of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics was patterned after the Masonic Fraternity.

**Question:** Why is a Jew allowed to belong to our Fraternity?  

**E.C.S. Answer:** The belief in a Supreme Being is the cardinal tenet of Freemasonry. Any man believing in a Supreme Being is eligible to become a Mason. No atheist can be made a Mason. This is the reason why Freemasonry is a universal brotherhood.

The three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, including the Royal Arch, are rooted in Old Testament, or Jewish, history. The building of Solomon’s Temple is basic to Freemasonry. Where the Sacred Book of the Law is the Holy Bible, it is open on the altar of the open Lodge to the Old Testament. Why should a Jew not be a Mason?

**Question:** What is the Masonic position on Masons being members of the Ku Klux Klan?

**R.E.E. Answer:** The decision to accept a member of the Ku Klux Klan into the Fraternity is one that the Lodge must make. Masons have no hold on the thoughts of man. One of the fundamental beliefs of Freemasonry is the Brotherhood of Man under the protection of God. It is up to the individual to reconcile this concept with membership in the Klan.

**Question:** Are there any Roman Catholic Popes who were Masons? 

**C.I.M. Answer:** Some have claimed that there were Popes who were Masons, but there is no proof for these claims.

**Question:** My brother is interested in becoming a Mason. Can he be made a Mason at Sight?  

**E.W.H. Answer:** Making a Mason at Sight is the prerogative of the Grand Master. The selection of the man to be made a Mason is his. A man who wishes to become a Mason should petition the Lodge he wants to join. Age and physical condition are not factors in his petition.

**Send questions to:**

The Pennsylvania Freemason  
Masonic Temple  
One North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598

A well-informed Mason is an effective Mason.

**Items From Our Museum: The Washington Coffin Fragment**

From mid December 1799 until 1837, Bro. Washington’s body lay undisturbed in the crypt at Mt. Vernon. In 1856 Bro. John Struthers of Conoza Lodge No. 67 generously offered to the Washington family to make and present a sarcophagus made of Pennsylvania marble more suitable for the remains of Bro. Washington. The sarcophagus was designed by a close friend of Bro. Struthers, Bro. William Strickland of Columbia Lodge No. 91, designer of the old Masonic Hall on Chestnut Street in Philadelphia that was used by the Grand Lodge. The correspondence relating to the design, building of the sarcophagus and the preparations for its sound, placement in the Washington family vault are a testament to the extreme and exacting care that was taken by our operative Brethren in former times, and greatly helped prove the authenticity of the fragment. The offer of the sarcophagus was greatly appreciated and accepted by the Washington family. Bro. Strickland presented plans for the work, the drawings were accepted and the work was begun.

When Bro. Strickland and Bro. Struthers arrived at Mt. Vernon the vault was opened on October 7, 1857. An outer lead case was opened, revealing Washington’s mahogany coffin, which had greatly deteriorated. One of the larger pieces was retrieved and presented to Bro. Struthers by Mrs. Augustus Washington, wife of a nephew of Bro. Washington. It is speculated that Bro. Struthers was given the frag-
The Children's Home at the Masonic Homes
Elizabethtown, PA

The Masonic concern for helping others in need has been expressed at the Masonic Homes for over 75 years. Almost from the beginning, the care of children has been a part of this concern. In the 1920's separate facilities were established for children and continue today as the Children's Home at the Masonic Homes. These facilities have been completely remodeled during the early 1980's and provide a modern, attractive and well-equipped facility for the care of children who need service. Services are provided to any child who is of school age and who in the belief of the Committee on Masonic Homes has a need which can be met at the Children's Home. Our children come from many different situations, but the most typical situation is the single parent family in which the single parent is no longer able to cope with the complexities of child rearing or with the problems posed by the child. Once admitted, children normally stay through their school years, but the most typical situation is the single parent family in which the single parent is no longer able to cope with the complexities of child rearing or with the problems posed by the child.

Children in Residential Child Care are supervised by child care workers who do what parents would do. This may be something as simple as transporting the child to an event or as complex as helping the child solve an interpersonal problem. It may mean a quiet talk in the evening or a story at bedtime. It may mean a hug or it may mean a scolding. It may mean playing a game with the child, assigning a chore, working on a project together, planning an activity, or any of the many other things parents and children do together.

Residential Living

In the Independent Living Program, which is open only to residents of the Children's Home, children are provided the opportunity for increased responsibility for themselves leading to eventual independence. There are four levels in the program and the amount and type of service provided varies according to the level which is determined by the child's age, school placement, and readiness. Children in Independent Living are housed in rooms or apartments on grounds or in homes in the community.

Education

Children at the Masonic Homes attend the Elizabethtown Area Public Schools, programs conducted by Intermediate Unit 13, or the Lancaster County Vocational Schools. Regular study and tutors are provided to assist those children who need extra help with school work.

Recreation

Recreational opportunities are provided on the grounds of the Children's Home, but children are encouraged to make maximum use of the community for their recreational needs. On the grounds, there is a swimming pool, tennis courts, indoor and outdoor basketball courts, pool tables, Ping-Pong tables, video games, home computers, playground and many other recreational opportunities. In the community, the children take advantage of the opportunities provided by local days of DeMoy, Job's Daughters, the Order of Rainbow for Girls, the Elizabethtown Area Recreational Commission, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and school programs such as sports and music.

When children become old enough, they are also encouraged to find part-time work in the community so that they can begin to establish a work record, learn to manage time and money, and begin to feel responsible for themselves. Working and having own income are important parts of independence, of pride and of self worth.

Religion

Participation in religious life is expected at the Children's Home and they may select to attend the Sell Chapel on the grounds of the Homes or to attend any of the other Christian churches in the Elizabethtown area.

Admission Information

Although children need not have any previous experience of religious services, they must be sponsored by a lodge in order to be considered for admission to the Children's Home. Lodge sponsorship is necessary for an individual's professional and financial responsibility for the care of the child on the part of the lodge. Lodge sponsored information on admissions may be obtained by calling the Children's Home office at the Masonic Homes.

Funding

The Children's Home program is funded by the Masonic Homes which is owned and operated by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. No charges are made to individuals, organizations, or units of government for the services provided to the children accepted for care at the Children's Home.

Funds to operate the Home have been provided over the years through the generous gifts, bequests, endowments and generous giving of Masons and their families. Every Mason has the opportunity to contribute specifically for the operation of the Children's Home. Gifts may be made at any time. Many individuals, families and lodges have found that a gift to the Children's Home for a specific individual makes a fitting memorial for those they wish to have remembered.

An interested in making a contribution of any size or for any purpose may obtain further information by calling the Children's Home office at the Masonic Homes—717-367-1121. The Masonic Homes is recognized as a tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Everyone interested in obtaining tax information for charitable contributions should consult with their attorney or tax consultant to ascertain the possible favorable tax consequences of such giving.

Note: The Pennsylvania Freemason is very happy to have been a part of this wonderful reunion of father and son.

Welsh Choir Entertains Guests at Homes

On Monday, September 21, 1987, the Guests at the Masonic Homes were entertained by the Masonic Choir of North Wales. The Choir, from Wales, U.K., which performed an a cappella program of songs known as the Land of Song, consists of fifty experienced singers from twenty-nine different lodges in North Wales. Their schedule was limited to five concerts, which included appearances in Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York. During their stay, in addition to our Masonic Homes, the choir also sang for the Masonic Homes in Hunt Valley, Maryland and Utica, New York.

The choir was greeted at the Masonic Homes by Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. and Right Worshipful Grand Master, other Grand Lodge Officers and Bro. Joseph F. Murphy, Executive Director of the Masonic Homes.
Grand Master Presents Four Throat Medallions

At the September 12, 1987 Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the Right Worshipful Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., presented four Throat Medallions. The Grand Master was assisted by Brother Drew W. Washabau P.M., Director of Project Solomon II and the District Deputy Grand Master for each Mason receiving a Throat Medallion. The four Masons who brought 48 petitions of the Grand Lodge for each Mason receiving a Throat Medallion were:

- Brothers L. Yarletts, Lodge No. 720, Allentown, Pennsylvania
- Brothers W. Enjoy, Lodge No. 788, Grand Master, Richard J. Elliott, Lodge No. 720, Brother Matthew D. Dupree, Lodge No. 558, Brother Drew W. Washabau, Director Project Solomon II

Project Solomon II Master Builders

- Brother William W. Fawcett, Jr., Lodge No. 767
- Brother Victor M. Frederich, Lodge No. 446
- Brother John F. Frederich, Lodge No. 744
- Brother Paul C. Garber, Lodge No. 782
- Brother Kenneth R. Geib, Lodge No. 456
- Brother William L. Gipple, Lodge No. 782
- Brother Joseph V. Gorka, Lodge No. 677
- Brother Elmer K. Graffe, Lodge No. 227
- Brother Jack L. Grimm, Lodge No. 662
- Brother John T. Hall, Lodge No. 446
- Brother Leonard J. Hartmann, Lodge No. 448
- Brother Ralph J. Hartzelle, Lodge No. 585
- Brother Curtis G. Hepler, Lodge No. 448
- Brother James W. Hines, Lodge No. 346
- Brother Gerald C. Hoffert, Lodge No. 285
- Brother Roger F. Hoover, Lodge No. 409
- Brother Keith Howe, Lodge No. 308
- Brother Homer Jones, Lodge No. 780

Left to right: Bro. Charles Yarletts, Lodge No. 804; Bro. David Jacobs, Lodge No. 788; Grand Master, Richard J. Elliott, Lodge No. 720; Brother Matthew D. Dupree, Lodge No. 558; Brother Drew W. Washabau, Director Project Solomon II

Bro. John H. Platt, Jr. Appointed Grand Lodge Librarian and Curator

On February 1, 1987, Bro. John H. Platt, Jr., previously the Associate Librarian and Curator, was appointed Grand Lodge Librarian and Curator by W. Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. Bro. Platt succeeds Bro. Frank W. Bobb, Librarian and Curator since 1970. A member of Pilgrim Lodge No. 712, Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 3 and the Scottish Rite Valley of Philadelphia, Bro. Platt had held various positions at the library of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania for 25 years including Head Librarian.

Formerly active and a member on the membership committee of the Museum Council of Philadelphia, he is also a member of the American College and Research Libraries, the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Association of American College and Research Libraries, the

Philabiblon Club of Philadelphia, the Peak Club of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, the Pennsylvania Historical Association and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Bro. Platt has been a member of the Brethren of the Masonic Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania for several years and was recently elected its President. With three sons, he has long been active in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) where he is the Elder. Bro. Platt was a member of the General Council of the International Masonic Union and is the first General Assistant to the Secretary for Freemasonry that was held in Philadelphia in 1789.

A Family Affair

Items from Our Museum continued from page 7

ment to return for the sarcophagus. The Museum is said to have been "as fresh as the day it was entombed 40 years before—but that in fifteen minutes from the time it was exposed to the air it had crumbled to dust." This account is taken from a letter written by Robert Hamill, to Rev. J. H. Mathes in 1891 that accompanied the fragment when the Grand Lodge Museum purchased it, further substantiating its authenticity.

Careful consideration was given to how a coffin fragment would be received by the public. A display of such an article might be looked upon as being of a macabre and macabre. This is where appropriate museum display is important. The fragment had already been placed in a black box fitted with brass handles and covered with a piece of glass through which one can view the fragment, so it was decided to place it on a plain stand near to the Washington Apron. Here the Washington Coffin Fragment, a piece of Masonic history inseparably connected with Pennsylvanians, takes its deserved place among the collections of the Museum of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.
September Quarterly Communication

The September Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was held in Philadelphia on September 12.

The R.W. Grand Master, Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. invited Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries of the 13 original colonies to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Constitutional Convention, along with dignitaries from the Shrine, Scottish Rite, and other Masonic groups. Some other famous Brethren in attendance were Bros. George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and James Madison (members of the Valley of Philadelphia, A.A.S.R. who were dressed in period costumes to attend Grand Lodge). Every Mason who attended the Quarterly signed a parchment scroll resembling the Constitution which was later presented to the Grand Lodge Library and Museum for its collections.

The Grand Master presented four SOLOMON II throat medallions, Pennsylvania Youth Foundation award to three lodges, and representatives of 13 lodges, and members of Appendant Bodies who received the Pennsylvania Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children award. Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R.W. Past Grand Master, assisted in the presentation. Bro. Richard D. Miller, P.M., member of Richmond Lodge No. 250 received a Masonic Service Association Certificate of Service Award.

Mason-at-Sight

Lieutenant General Robert D. Springer, Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Military Air Life Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, was created a Mason-at-Sight by the R.W. Grand Master, Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr. at an extra Communication held in Philadelphia on September 11.

Bro. Springer was born in 1933 in Millheim, Pennsylvania, and graduated from the former Patton School, Elizabethtown. After two years, General Springer decided to fly and entered the Aviation Cadet Program. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant and received his navigator wings in 1953. A graduate of George Washington University In Washington, D.C., where he received his undergraduate and master’s degree in International Affairs, he also attended the Air War College in Alabama.

General Springer has had 20 assignments in his 32 years of service, including that of intelligence officer in Vietnam at Bien Hoa and Pleiku Air Bases. With more than 6,000 flying hours and 72 combat missions in Southeast Asia, he has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star and other honors too numerous to mention.

Married to the former Bonnie Brubaker of Elizabethtown, they are the parents of five children.

Mason-at-Sight Degree Teams

Entered Apprentice Degree Team

Lodge No. 695, BRO. THOMAS E. KLOMP, Worshipful Master
Lodge No. 708, BRO. LEWIS L. LAMB, III, Senior Warden
Lodge No. 392, BRO. RICHARD N. FITZSIMMONS, Junior Warden
Lodge No. 416, BRO. LEE A. WINSNEWSKI, Senior Deacon
Lodge No. 399, BRO. DAVID G. RODGERS, Junior Deacon
Lodge No. 695, BRO. JAMES I. SHARPLESS, Junior Master of Ceremonies
Lodge No. 399, BRO. DENNIS F. KÜHN, Pursuivant
Lodge No. 596, BRO. CLIFFORD B. CLINE, Sr., Chaplain
Lodge No. 356, BRO. KETHEL R. SHORT, Guide
Lodge No. 708, BRO. FRANK P. FERRARO, Giving the Charge

Fellowcraft Degree Team

Lodge No. 799, BRO. JOHN N. NEEDEHAM, Worshipful Master
Lodge No. 786, BRO. ROBERT V. SIFORD, Senior Warden
Lodge No. 502, BRO. DENNIS E. GUINEY, Junior Warden
Lodge No. 799, BRO. JAMES W. RAINNEY, Senior Deacon
Lodge No. 783, BRO. ARTHUR F. McQUIGGAN, Junior Deacon
Lodge No. 786, BRO. JOSEPH L. DUNCAN, Senior Master of Ceremonies
Lodge No. 789, BRO. JAMES J. JOHNSON, Junior Master of Ceremonies
Lodge No. 799, BRO. ROBERT G. PURVIS, Pursuivant
Lodge No. 644, BRO. DANA M. CLARK, Guide

Master Mason Degree Team

Lodge No. 596, BRO. LUTHER LIGHTCAP, Worshipful Master
Lodge No. 806, BRO. ALBERT SCHMIDT, Senior Warden
Lodge No. 778, BRO. FRANK EHRFELD, Junior Warden
Lodge No. 245, BRO. CARL SWOPE, Junior Deacon
Lodge No. 400, BRO. ALBERT NINO, Junior Deacon
Lodge No. 508, BRO. E. PIERCE MYERS, Senior Master of Ceremonies
Lodge No. 806, BRO. HELMUT UNGER, Junior Master of Ceremonies
Lodge No. 25, BRO. JOHN KOHLER, Pursuivant
Lodge No. 776, BRO. HAROLD TESNO, Chaplain
Lodge No. 427, BRO. RICHARD HOOVER, Guide
Lodge No. 245, BRO. JOSEPH BOZZUTO, Secretary
General Information Regarding the Special Organization Registration Plate

- Fee required with this application is $20.00. Payment is to be made by check or money order payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. DO NOT SEND CASH.
- No special registration plates will be duplicated, except when defaced. In such cases the defaced plate must be surrendered to the bureau. Charge for replacement will be $20.00.
- In addition, so that the vehicle may be legally operated pending receipt of the duplicated plate, application must be made for reuse of a plate from the regular series for which there will be a charge of $5.00.
- Requests for special registration plates are restricted to vehicles other than motorcycles and trailers with a registered gross weight of not more than 9,000 lbs.
- No refund of fee will be issued when applicant cancels request after order is placed.
- This application, completed in full, along with check or money order should be mailed to the Special Tag Unit, Bureau of Motor Vehicles and Licensing, G-100 Transportation & Safety Building, Harrisburg, PA 17122.
- When the applicant ceases to be a member in the aforementioned organization the registration plate must be returned to the department and a form MV-44 completed and submitted with a fee of $5.00 for a regular registration plate.

Annual Communication, Dinner-Dance Set for Hershey – December 28

The Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 28 in the auditorium of Founders Hall on the campus of the Milton Hershey School.


The communication of the Grand Lodge will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. to allow for the installation of the Grand Master at noon. All Master Masons are welcome to attend.

Tickets for the Grand Master's dinner-dance in the Chocolate Ballroom of the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center are available to the brethren and their ladies at a cost of $15.00 per person and will be sold on a first request basis. Tables will accommodate 10 people, should you wish to attend as a group. Please use the coupon included and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your reservation and your tickets will be mailed to you. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by entertainment and dancing scheduled to end at midnight.

December Quarterly Communication

Free Men's Luncheon

Please send me tickets to the luncheon for Master Masons to be held in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, December 2, 1987.

The Master Builders

A History of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania

Enclosed is my check for $ for reservations at $15.00 per ticket for the Grand Master's Dinner-Dance to be held at 6:30 p.m., December 28, 1987 in the Chocolate Ballroom, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, Pa. Make check payable to Grand Secretary.

Grand Master's Dinner-Dance

Enclosed is my check for $ for reservations at $15.00 per ticket for the Grand Master's Dinner-Dance to be held at 6:30 p.m., December 28, 1987 in the Chocolate Ballroom, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, Pa. Make check payable to Grand Secretary.

The Office of the Grand Master

The Masonic Temple

One North Broad Street

Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598