SEPTEMBER 1988

SEPT 15, 88
7 Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Corinth Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA
8-10 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge 228, Elderberry, PA
11 Grand Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA
13 Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA
23-29 Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., Grand Rapids, MI

OCTOBER 1988
1 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge 228, Elderberry, PA
8 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the cornerstone and dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge No. 378, Mount Carmel, PA
11 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the cornerstone and dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge No. 278, Johnstown, PA
13 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the cornerstone and dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge No. 378, Mount Carmel, PA
23-29 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the cornerstone and dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge No. 378, Mount Carmel, PA

NOVEMBER 1988
4-6 Eastern Regional Assembly of the Grand Imperial Council, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, Verona, PA
11 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge 228, Elderberry, PA
11 Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

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THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASTERS OF PENNSYLVANIA

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASTERS OF PENNSYLVANIA

VOLUME XXXV AUGUST 1988 NUMBER 8

Grand Lodge Approves Independent Living Community

On May 27, 1988, the Committee on Masonic Homes approved the master plan for an Independent Living Community to be erected on the grounds of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. Subsequently, at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on June 1, 1988, the Committee on Masonic Homes recommendation was approved for the construction of Phase I. This community, which will be developed on the north side of the Masonic Homes grounds, will be developed in three phases. Groundbreaking ceremonies for Phase I will take place in spring of 1989. Phase I will include the construction of the clubhouse, eight cottages, sixty-five apartments, and the courtyard.

The clubhouse will contain activity areas, dining rooms, a library, convenience store, mail room, lounge, wellness center, and administrative offices. The dining area will overlook a meticulously landscaped courtyard and meals will be served in a fine dining atmosphere from a varied menu.

Residents will have a choice of selecting from a variety of available living accommodations which will include one

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June Quarterly Review

The R. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons met in Quarterly Communication on June 1, 1988. Over four hundred Brethren were in attendance.

Three motions were announced after the reading of the minutes of both the last Quarterly and several Special Communications of the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge adopted Full Code By-Laws and Amendments to several Lodge's By-Laws.

Following this, Bro. Charles R. Eshleman, D.D.G.M. of the 5th Masonic District of Pennsylvania Franklin Medal, with the addition that the ribbon which suspends the gold medal has been changed to the color purple, from blue, in keeping with the colors of the Grand Lodge, Bro. Carl W. Steenberg, R. W. Past Grand Master then called upon to receive this, the highest honor awarded by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, for his service to the Grand Lodge and for his work in creating the Pennsylvania Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children.

Bro. John K. Young, R. W. Past Grand Master and General Counsel for Grand Lodge presented three Resolutions to amend the Ahiman Rezon. The first of these three Resolutions concerned the elimination of the Committee on Prancing and Publishing whose duties are now performed through the Office of the Grand Secretary. The second and third Resolutions concerned the planned creation of the Grand Lodge Committee on Library and Museum. In accordance with Article 25:01 of the Ahiman Rezon, these three Resolutions will be acted upon at the December Quarterly Communication. Also read were two other Resolutions concerning the new Admission policy for the Masonic Homes at Elizabeth-town.

The Grand Master then instructed the Grand Secretary to read the deaths reported in Grand Lodge. Bro. Albert R. Eisenhauer of Lodge No. 283, P.D.D.G.M. of the 8th Masonic District, died on January 1, 1988, and Bro. Frank W. Robb of Lodge No. 690, Librarian and Custodian Emeritus and member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Correspondence, died on March 24, 1988.

The Grand Master then received several contributions to our various foundations and programs from their contributors.

Following this, the Grand Master asked for the ten Brethren who were representing their Lodges to receive the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Award. Nine other Brethren representing their Lodges received the Pennsylvania Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children Award.

After the Awards were given out announcement was made of the upcoming Quarterly Communication that will be held in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia on Wednesday, September 7, 1988 at 7:00 p.m. and the Grand Lodge was closed in Harmony at 9:12 p.m.

Bro. James T. Young, D.D.G.M. Earns a Throat Medallation


Bro. James T. Young, D.D.G.M. tells us Bro. Hackman was the first Candidate he recommended for Freemasonry under the SOLOMON II Program. Bro. Anderson was the twelfth Candidate Bro. Young recommended. Seven of the men that Bro. Young recommended for initiation and membership are deeply involved in Masonic Fraternity. As he brings men of integrity into Freemasonry, his support and influence will live as long as each of his Candidates shall live. Bro. Young says, "I'm convinced that SOLOMON II will work if given the opportunity."
Columbia Lodge Donates “The Constitution Bowl”

Columbia Lodge No. 91 graciously donated a large lead-crystal bowl and stand to the Museum of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The piece, “The Constitution Bowl,” which was produced by J. E. Caldwell Jewelers, is given in loving memory of Bro. Irving J. Fischer, P.M. (1951), and was formally presented to the Museum on April 25, 1988.

The bowl stands 8 inches tall on its ebonized wood stand and measures 11 inches in diameter. The exterior is embellished with the seal of the United States and those of the 13 states ratifying the Constitution in 1787. The etched designs are restrained and attractive, and provide the numbers of senators, representatives and the population for each state at the time. Pennsylvania had two senators, as do all states, and 8 representatives for the 360,000 people in the Commonwealth, making it the second most populous state in the Union. The whole of the United States boasted 2,897,444 citizens, or roughly three-fifths of the population of the Philadelphia metro area today.

This beautiful bowl has been placed on display in the Museum, and is an elegant reminder of the Constitution’s Bicentennial.

Items From Our Museum: From a Forgotten Corner

Do you remember rooting through Grandma’s attic? All old houses have wonderful treasures stashed in the rafters, and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is no different. From a forgotten corner of an attic at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia four chairs emerged coated in a blanket of dust. A good cleaning revealed four important pieces in the history of the Grand Lodge.

The first chair is a spear-headed rodback Windsor, stained brown, with simple turned legs and stretchers (M. 1988.11). The woods are typical of Delaware Valley chairs, with a crest rail of what is probably hickory, the legs and stretchers are most likely maple, and the seat is poplar. Under the seat is a maker’s stamp, “J. BURDEN, PHILAD.” and the scratched initials, “AB”. Whereas the initials have no meaning for us yet, the stamp identifies the work of Bro. Joseph Burden who was in business from 1793 to 1827. He entered into a partnership in 1806 with one of Philadelphia’s most famous Windsor chairmakers, Francis Trumbull, and they kept an establishment at Third and Pine Streets.

From 1809 to 1813 the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was busy erecting a new Masonic Hall on Chestnut Street. The Committee on Furnishing met on December 28, 1809 and “Resolved that One Dozen good strong Windsor Chairs be purchased of Bro. Joseph Burden for the Committee Room in the New Hall ...”. A year and a half later on September 24, 1811 the minutes record that “Joseph Burden met the Committee and took measure for some Settees which he was requested to make for the small Lodge Room.” For all this, Bro. Burden was paid $568 on January 19, 1813 for his Account for Settees & Chairs for the Lodge Rooms.

The other three chairs (M. 1988.12:1-3) are a matched set of painted fancy chairs. In the early nineteenth century the “fancy chair” was a very fashionable piece of furniture with highly decorated, painted designs of flowers, eagles, houses, symbols, etc. They often came in matched suites, as are these three with the exception of the designs across the crest rails: a plumb, a level, and “C 197 S”. This identified the set as having belonged to Cumberland Star Lodge No. 197 in Carlisle. The chairs, then, were obviously the Senior Warden’s, Junior Warden’s, and a chair with less specific designation. The decoration follows a simple, yet elegant pattern; faux grain to resemble mahogany covers the plain woods of maple, hickory and poplar. Details from the turned elements on the legs are picked out in green, and fine stringing is likewise painted in green. Ornamental motifs in addition to those on the crest rails include small circles and shields that run down the flat surfaces of the rod-back spindles.

Documentation for these chairs has failed to come to light. Stylistically, the chairs are typical in shape and decoration for the 1820s, and they reflect a naiveté that would be found in a more rural area in the Pennsylvania interior. Interestingly, Cumberland Star Lodge constituted in 1825 would fit perfectly as a date for the chairs. There is reasonable room to deduce that the chairs were in the lodge room in 1825 by reading the minutes for Cumberland Star in the Archives of the Grand Lodge. Unfortunately, the records from 1825 do not exist, but start with 1826, and they indicate that the lodge room was already fitted up, and the only expenses in 1826 were for incidental small purchases and for a cleaning woman.

Together, the four chairs assemble to form a picture of part of the history of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. We see a utilitarian Windsor being ordered for the new Masonic Hall, and the faithful patronage of a Brother for that order. And in the western areas we see the Brethren in a new Blue Lodge proud of their surroundings, and so order fashionable painted furniture which was all the rage in the big metropolitan areas such as Philadelphia.

These four chairs are currently on exhibit in the Museum of the Grand Lodge.

I Want to Know...

If any of our readers has a question about Freemasonry that he would like to have answered (with the exception of questions dealing with the ritual, or if any readers have any interesting “hours,” or information from laboratories of interest to the Brethren-at-large, then please submit them to:

Office of the Librarian and Curator
The Pennsylvania Freemason
Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-2598

Please read the article, “Rules for Submissions to The Pennsylvania Freemason” elsewhere in this issue for information on how to submit your questions properly.

Horse Sense

This poem that follows is an excerpt from Bro. Stewart M. L. Pollard’s latest collection of Masonic humor, wit, thoughts and poetry entitled At Refreshment. This 1987 publication follows Bro. Pollard’s volume The Lighter Side of Masonry.

A horse can’t pull while kicking.
This fact I merely mention.
And he can’t kick while pulling.
Which is my chief contention.
Let’s emulate the good old horse
And lead a life that’s fitting.
Just pull an honest load and then
There’ll be no time for kicking.
(unknown)

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5
Rededication Planned in West Reading

The “Masonic Family” in Berks County will join Grand Master, Bro. Arthur J. Kurtz, and Grand Lodge Officers in rededicating West Reading’s Masonic Temple.

The two-day occasion on September 17 and 18 will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Reading Masonic Center in which the Temple is located. In rededicating the Temple, Grand Lodge officers will lay the date stone of the memorial at 1:30 p.m. on the 17th. An Open House, including refreshments, is scheduled from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Bro. Earl G. Hasenauer, D.D.G.M., chairman of the rededication committee, said that the ten Lodges meeting in Berks County have been invited to participate.

Seven of these Lodges meet in the West Reading location.

All visitors will have an opportunity to meet the other “Family” members. The Rajah Temple Shrine Band and the Scottish Rite Choir will provide music for the rededication services while members of the Blue Lodges, Royal Arch, Council, Knights Templar, Rainbows for Girls and Order of DeMolay will be hosting the affair, dispensing refreshments and sharing information about their organizations.

Sunday, September 18, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. will be devoted exclusively to Open House activities. The White Shrine, Aマラン and Eastern Star will join the aforementioned groups while Rajah Shrine Temple will share its String Band, Chanters and Clowns for entertainment.

Bro. Hasenauer emphasized: “This is an excellent opportunity for the Brethren to introduce family and friends to Masonry. They and the public are most welcome.”

Masons Honor Three Generations

Three generations of the Cecil G. Walker family were recently honored at ceremonies at the Osten Masonic Temple in Welboro. Shown above are (from left, front) Cecil G. Walker, Arthur J. Kurtz, of Hanover, the Right Worshipful Grand Master of Pennsylvania and James Walker; (back) James Schott, District Deputy Grand Master and Steven Walker, current Worshipful Master. The elder Walker, Cecil, served as Worshipful Master in 1915 when the lodge burned the mortgage for its original building. His son, James, served as Worshipful Master in 1978 when the cornerstone was laid and a new Masonic Temple dedicated. The lodge is observing its 130th anniversary this year. According to Kurtz, the ceremony was the first time three generations of one family have been recognized.

Union Lodge No. 324, Millfflintown

Members of Union Lodge No. 324, Millflintown, attended the swearing-in ceremony of the County Commissioners of Juniata County held on January 4, 1986. They are Richard Kerstetter, elected to a third 4-year term; Ronald G. Sherrer, elected to a fourth 4-year term; and John P. Henry, Jr., elected to a second 4-year term. Brother John P. Henry, Jr. is also a P.D.D.G.M. of the 19th Masonic District, having served that position for 11 years.

Union Lodge No. 324 is proud of these Brethren as well as the people of Juniata County. This is “first” in Juniata County and possibly in Pennsylvania. All three of the Brethren are members of Union Lodge No. 324.

Left to Right: Richard Kerstetter, Ronald G. Sherrer and John P. Henry, Jr.

William Zacharellis Appointed to Committee on Masonic Homes


Bro. Zacharellis is a prominent attorney in Schenectady. He is a Past Master of Hyde Park Lodge No. 338 and was the Northwestern Ritualistic Instructor for the Grand Lodge from 1969 to October 1982. He is Past Most Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix, Valley of Schenectady; former Director of Work; Grand Master of several Degrees; former Chairman of the Ritualistic Committee; former Trustee for the Masonic Temple Scottish Rite Cathedral Association and was considered an Honorary Member of Supreme Council, Thirty Third Degree on September 26, 1968.

Bro. Richard M. Wilson, a member of Lewistown Lodge No. 536, resigned from the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes after serving 10 years. He was appointed August 23, 1978 by the Late Grand Master, Bro. Walter P. Wells.

Bro. Wilson is a member of Coudersport Chapter No. 205, Royal Arch Masons; Potter Commandery No. 59, Knights Templar; Coudersport and Iron Temple Shrine of Wilkes-Barre.

50 Year Award, New Mason Spans Three Generations in Family Affair in St. John’s Lodge in Reading

It was a family affair in St. John’s Lodge No. 435 in Reading on May 9. One man entered a 50 year award while the Worshipful Master raised his son.

The Worship Master, Brother Dennis R. Rahn, P.M., assisted Brother Earl G. Hasenauer, District Deputy Grand Master for the Seventh Masonic District, in presenting a 50 Year Emblem of Gold to his father, Brother William H. Rahn. At the same meeting, Brother Dennis R. Rahn, P.M., Worshipful Master, raised his son, Brother Michael Dennis Rahn.

District Deputy Grand Master Hasenauer noted the tradition in Masonry in this family representing more than 100 years of Masonic service. “Brother Michael Dennis Rahn, the newly raised Master, can look forward to carrying on a rich heritage in St. John’s Lodge,” Hasenauer said.

The 50 year recipient, William H. Rahn, was entered May 6, 1936; William J. Rahn was entered June 5, 1925, and Worshipful Master Dennis R. Rahn was entered January 2, 1970. Brother Dennis R. Rahn also was Worshipful Master in 1975.

Pennsylvania Masonic Homes Residents Visit New Jersey Masonic Homes

May the 10th is a day that 45 Pennsylvania Masonic Homes residents will long remember and cherish. On that day they, and three staff members, journeyed to the Masonic Homes of New Jersey to enjoy the hospitality of our New Jersey Brethren, ladies, and staff.

As our caravan pulled into the entrance driveway of our homes we could see a welcoming group of residents and staff of the New Jersey Masonic Homes. Doubts of anything less than a perfect day faded rapidly, as we received a warm and sincere welcome and were conducted on a brief tour, before setting down to a well prepared lunch. The Administrator, Brother Rick Smalls, welcomed us to his facility and joined us for lunch and good fellowship. Throughout the day Rick, his staff, and residents extended to us every courtesy and consideration.

After lunch our residents were conducted, in small groups, to various parts of the New Jersey Homes, so that each of them had the opportunity to see the entire operation in a personalized way. Introductions and friendships were easily and sincerely made. There was much exchanging of information about each others respective Masonic Homes. Differences were noted, as were the basic tenets of caring and sharing so fundamental to each.

Our residents thoroughly enjoyed touring the building housing the New Jersey Grand Lodge’s operations, as well as the adjacent Museum, depicting New Jersey Masonic history. Souvenirs and postcards for keepsakes, were purchased in the well appointed gift shop.

All too quickly, the day passed and then it was time to board the bus for the journey home to Elizabethtown. It had been decided that an overnight exchange visitation program would transpire. Four of our residents stayed overnight at the New Jersey Homes and four of their residents from the New Jersey Masonic Homes accompanied us back, as our extended guests. A return exchange was made later in the week when the New Jersey Masonic Homes residents and staff visited our Home.

It was apparent at our departure, that enduring friendships had been made and common bonds strengthened. Brethren and ladies who had been strangers in the morning, felt regret when leaving their new found friends. There were hugs and the bus was boarded, and a few tears from the heart were wiped.

On Thursday, May 12th, approximately 40 residents and 8 staff from the Masonic Homes in New Jersey arrived at our Elizabethtown Masonic Homes. They showed an equal measure of hospitality from our residents, as was extended to them, as they visited our Home. Here, like in New Jersey, heartfelt regret would be expressed that the day of visitation had ended all too soon. One thing that was mutually agreed upon was that all of the Brethren and ladies wanted to do another exchange visitation as soon as possible.

Brother Herbert C. Wolstoncroft, Jr.

Since receiving a heart transplant on May 21, 1987, Brother Herbert C. Wolstoncroft, Jr., has been very active in the transplant program. He has appeared on television twice and visits patients who are waiting for heart transplants and those who have just received them at Presbyterian University Hospital in Pittsburgh. He is an active speaker for the Pittsburgh Transplant Foundation. His talk “A Gift of Life” describes the quality of life before and after a transplant as well as the need for donor organs. Brother Wolstoncroft is also on the Board of Directors for the Pittsburgh Chapter of TRIO (Transplant Recipients International Organization).

He remains active in the Masonic circles where he is a Past Master of Gypsyau Lodge No. 513 F & AM, Past High Priest of Crafton R.A. Chapter No. 312, Past Commander of Charter Commandery No. 78 K.T., Orator Pennsylvania Consistory Valley of Pittsburgh Chapter of TRIO (Transplant Recipients International Organization). He has received the “Grand Cross of Color” for services to Rainbow Girls and “Cross of Honor,” “Legion of Honor,” and “Guild of the Leather Apron” for services to DeMolay.

September Quarterly will be Held at Masonic Temple

The R.W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania will meet in Quarterly Communication on September 7, 1987 at the Masonic Temple located at One North Broad Street, Philadelphia. As always, the Communication is open to all Masons. Dinner is free and will be served at 5:00 p.m. that evening. The Communication will follow at 7:00 p.m.

Employment Opportunities at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown

The Personnel Office at the Masonic Homes is actively recruiting candidates for several positions. Below is a summary list of the available positions and basic qualifications.

Full-time Positions

Assistant Director of Nursing
R.N.’s and L.P.N.’s
Nursing Assistant
Landscape Supervisor
Laundry Worker
Part-time Positions
R.N.’s and L.P.N.’s
Nursing Assistants
Kitchen Worker
Boiler Operator

Assistant Director of Nursing must be a graduate from (N.L.N.) accredited School of Nursing, five years experience with emphasis in supervising, staff scheduling and nursing education. A.B.S.N. degree is preferred.

R.N.’s and L.P.N.’s must be graduates from (N.L.N.) accredited Schools of Nursing and be currently licensed by the State Board of Nursing.

There are R.N. and L.P.N. Scholarship Programs available at the Masonic Homes for employees who qualify. These programs have been designed to give current employees of the Masonic Homes an opportunity for advancement within the nursing profession by subsidizing their education through scholarship monies.

Nursing Assistants receive a three week on-the-job orientation program.

Landscape Supervisor should be a high school graduate with four years of practical experience in landscape management, general maintenance in ornamental horticulture, forestry, botany and plant pathology, any equivalent combination of experience and training would be accepted.

Boiler Operator must be a high school graduate with at least one year of experience with high pressure boilers. However, any equivalent combination of experience and training would be accepted.

The Kitchen Worker and Laundry Worker will receive on-the-job training.

Further information regarding these positions, or other available positions, would be available by writing to the

Masonic Homes Personnel Office
Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022
(717) 367-1121

Pennsylvania Masonic Homes Residents Enjoy the Hospitality of New Jersey Masonic Homes residents and those who have just received them at Presbyterian University Hospital in Pittsburgh. He is an active speaker for the Pittsburgh Transplant Foundation. His talk “A Gift of Life” describes the quality of life before and after a transplant as well as the need for donor organs. Brother Wolstoncroft is also on the Board of Directors for the Pittsburgh Chapter of TRIO (Transplant Recipients International Organization). He has received the “Grand Cross of Color” for services to Rainbow Girls and “Cross of Honor,” “Legion of Honor,” and “Guild of the Leather Apron” for services to DeMolay.

New Admission Policy

The Masonic Homes new Admissions Policy was implemented on June 6, 1988.

With the announcement of the new policy in the May issue of the Freemason, there has been a tremendous response from interested individuals inquiring about admission.

As mentioned in that article, Admissions Counselors will be utilized in the Admissions Procedure. There are approximately seventeen counselors throughout the state of Pennsylvania who will be responsible for completion of the applications and answering questions for admission to the Masonic Homes.

The Admissions Counselors were brought to the Masonic Homes for a week-long training session. During that week they had an opportunity to live with the residents, talk with them about the Homes and to see how the Homes operate. The comprehensive background and information they obtained will facilitate their position as Admissions Counselors to communicate with individuals interested in admission.

The Admissions process will begin with contacting your Lodge Secretary, who will request an application be started. The Administrations Office will then assign the application to an Admissions Counselor.

An information packet is now available to anyone interested in admission to the Masonic Homes. This packet provides information on admission requirements, services provided by the Homes and an explanation of the new Admissions Policy. It can be obtained by calling or writing to:

Admissions Office
Masonic Homes
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
(717) 367-1121
Project SOLOMON II District Directors’ Conference

The second conference for District Directors of Project SOLOMON II was held at the Paxton Campus, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania on June 3rd and 4th, 1988. A Regional Directors’ meeting was held on the 3rd. After the meeting an informal exchange session was held with the District Directors.

The second workshop day began with a church service in the Conference Center. Bro. Drew Washbun, P.M., Director, presided at the conference. Bro. Stewart M. L. Pollard, formerly Executive Director of the Masonic Service Association, presided at the conference. Bro. Stewart M. L. Pollard, formerly Executive Director of the Masonic Service Association, presided at the conference. You Recognize this Lodge Hall?

According to a historical marker placed in front of this Lodge Hall by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission:

The Masonic Temple was built in 1825-26. Oldest Pennsylvania building still in service for its original intended use and now used exclusively for that purpose. Spared when the Confederates burned the town on July 30, 1863.

The information on the sign tells us this building is the home of George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The history of this Lodge goes back to 1815 when the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania issued a Warrant to constitute George Washington Lodge.

Land to build this historic building was purchased in 1823. A contract for $2,500 was given to Silas Harry, a brick builder, to erect the temple. Bro. Harry was paid $5 to draw the plans for the building.

The lot on which the Temple was built was not paid for so on November 16, 1829 Bro. Harry, Heyer and Crawford paid for the lot and took control of the Temple. From references in the Lodge Minutes there is evidence a large part of the subscription to pay for the building was not collected. Members in the Lodge dropped to thirty men in 1830. The charter was returned to Grand Lodge in 1851.

In 1845 George Washington Lodge was reconstituted. The old temple became available to the Lodge in 1860 for a cost of $2,000. During the time the Temple was not the property of the Lodge, it was used as a church printing house.

Prior to the Battle of Gettysburg, General Jno Early of the Confederate forces, marched into Chambersburg and demanded a ransom of $100,000 in gold or he would have the town burned. The ransom was not paid and the town was burned, resulting in almost $2 million damage. The buildings in the building where the Temple stood were not burned.

The story is told of a Confederate Officer seeing the Temple and Masonic Square and Compass displayed then asked if the Temple was a Masonic meeting place. The name of the Officer is not known, but the building stands today as a testimony of the force of Freemasonry in the hearts of men. The George Washington Lodge is an active Lodge today with 750 members. Bro. Roger L. Warren is the Worshipful Master. Information about the Temple was taken from material prepared by Bro. Carl Florh, P.M. The story and photographs were submitted by Bro. Donald Wagman.

Masonic Handyman’s Day

Bro. Brian R. Moyes is the Worshipful Master of Philanthropy Lodge, Pennsylvania Lodge No. 225, Greenbush, Pennsylvania scheduled a hands-on day for the members of the Lodge on June 11, 1988. Instructions to the brethren stated: "We will be helping a widow repair a room and spending the things you do around your house. Bring your favorite paint brush, paint scraper or any other favorite tool."
Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children

Reported by Bro. Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., R. W. Past Grand Master
June Quarterly Communication, June 1, 1988

As a matter of information, we have arranged to continue displaying the “Masons Care About Children” billboards program as free space is available. Every Brother has contacts for billboards as a community service, please obtain the necessary information and forward it to the Pennsylvania Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children, c/o Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022-0703.

Now I have a pleasant surprise for you. We all know the value of credit cards in American society today. As you will recall in September 1986, with the approval of Grand Lodge, we entered into an agreement with Maryland National Bank, N.A. to provide such a program for Pennsylvania Masons and named the Foundation as the beneficiary through 1991. In 1987 we received royalties amounting to $27,019.07 and for the first quarter of 1988 we have received the sum of $16,200.00, thereby providing a total of $53,209.07 to date, thus proving this program to be an excellent means of raising funds for such a noble cause for our children.

Then some of our members in the southeastern part of Pennsylvania executed United Way Donor Option Card. This procedure generated an unexpected $1,196.28. We have discussed this method of giving with representatives of several agencies of the United Way and assure that we have qualified to participate in such a program. If you should desire to use this option to make a gift to the Drug and Alcohol Foundation, please obtain a United Way Donor Option Card from your employer. If there are any questions, or if you wish additional papers with other offices of the United Way, we will be glad to do so.

I have said on many occasions that we must never lose sight of the final objective of our efforts to “help children.” The public exposure, however, which Pennsylvania Freemasonry has experienced since the formation of the Foundation has been an unexpected side benefit outside the initial purpose of its origins. It is not predictable as to what lasting effect the success of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation may have on the history of Freemasonry.

We can, however, say with little reservation that we may have another great foundation, that the Shrine did not make the Crippled Childrens Hospital; the Crippled Childrens Hospital made the Shrine. Perhaps one of the great needs of the Masonic Fraternity has been a national cause to unite our efforts. Someday it may be said that Freemasonry did not make the National Foundation but the National Foundation made Freemasonry.

From the Grand Secretary’s Desk...

My Brothers:

As you have probably noted in the last issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason, I have been given the opportunity to present an article for publication in such an issue. I extend to you this opportunity as a forum to disseminate information which I feel may be of Masonic interest to you and, perhaps, at times, to reflect upon the philosophical principles of Freemasonry.

From time to time I receive requests from various individuals or organizations asking me to relay information to Members of our Jurisdiction, and I will also use this column to fulfill these requests if practical. The column in this issue will basically deal specifically with two of these requests.

To most Members of the Masonic Fraternity, knowledge of Freemasonry is limited to perhaps a half dozen Masonically-affiliated organizations which have a Blue Lodge, organizations such as the York Rite, the Scottish Rite, the Shriners, the Ancient Arabic, and others. There are, however, numerous organizations which require Masonic affiliation as a prerequisite to membership. Without considering memberships in Research Lodges, some of our Brothers have affiliations with more than 30 different Masonically-related bodies. Each of these bodies has something specific to offer to Freemasonry in particular and, in many cases, to society in general through their adopted charitable purpose. I never cease to be amazed at the willingness of Members of the Masonic Fraternity to contribute to the welfare of others. Even those organizations which upon the surface seem to be self-centered when subject to scrutiny divulge the principles of giving. One request I received was to expose our members to the N.C.T. This year is the 20th year as a Freemason, and I have spent considerably more years enjoying camping. Yet it was only several years ago that I became aware of a camping association composed of Freemasons. This organization is the “National Camping Travellers, Inc.” club. It was organized in 1969 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with the object of bringing together Masons and their families who use tents, campers and other recreational vehicles to promote good fellowship and get more out of life.

Affiliation requires Masonic membership in good standing in a Lodge whose Grand Lodge is recognized by other Grand Lodges of the United States, Canada and Mexico. At the present time, membership nationally includes approximately 7,000 members. It is an official “News to Campers” publication along with local chapter publications provided promoting district, state and national rallies.

For N.C.T. members with minor children, there is also a youth N.C.T. under the direction of the National Youth Director. For any further information contact either Brother Gerald H. Haines, 56 Begonia Lane, Levittown, Pennsylvania 19056 or N.C.T. National Secretary, P.O. Box 11949, Norfolk, Virginia 23518.

In the May issue of “Emesways” of the Masonic Service Association, an article was included recognizing the contribution of Brother and Lord Baden-Powell, Founder of the Boy Scout movement. The article indicated that in many parts of the world there are Lodges named for Baden-Powell out of respect for his contributions.

Brother Kenneth H. Grace, Marshal of the Southern California Research Lodge, is attempting to compile data on how many Members of the Craft have attained the rank of Eagle Scout in the United States or King Scout in Canada.

I have a great deal of respect for the Boy Scout organization and will always acknowledge a debt of gratitude for their influence on my life. I was fortunate to have been awarded the rank of Eagle in 1952 and for that reason feel a personal interest in the project of Brother Grace. If you have attained the rank of Eagle, we would request that you assist Brother Grace in compiling his data. The information which he is requesting is in the year and state in which you attained the rank of Eagle and, Masonically, your Lodge name and number, city and state. Please send this information to Brother Kenneth H. Grace, 64 West 16th Place, Hawthorne, California 90250. I trust you have been experiencing a happy and restful summer and will return to your Lodge in the fall with a renewed dedication to our great Fraternity.

Proposed Grand Lodge Committee on Library and Museum — to be approved at December Quarterly Communication

CHAIRMAN

Edward H. Fowler, Jr.
R. W. Senior Grand Warden

John K. Young
R. W. Past Grand Master

Wildfield J. Bell, Jr.
Russell F. Weigley

Robert Bato, P.D.D.G.M.

Gerald W. West

Harold Kerns

Grand Lodge, continued

Construction of two full scale model units are planned to be completed for the Autumn Masonic Homes on October 22, 1988.

For more information on Independent Living, call or write to:

Administrator of the Independent Living Community
Masonic Homes
Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022
(717) 367-1121

St. Francis Medical Center
Honor’s Foundation

Dr. Lorento P. Finnegan reported on a rare but special event at the St. Francis Medical Center in Pittsburgh. The Pennsylvania Foundation Against Alcohol and Other Drug Use in Infants and Youth was paid special tribute. As its Sixth Annual Alumni Banquet for the graduates and families of its Adolescent Chemical Dependency Program, St. Francis hailed the recognition of adolescent wellness and family recovery to thank the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for its leadership and sustained dedication in combating youthful chemical dependency throughout Pennsylvania. In specifically noting the broad and magnanimous efforts of the Pennsylvania Foundation, Mr. Michael Flaherty, Director of the St. Francis program, called the gratitude of the over 300 in attendance to the “inspirational leadership and commitment of the Founders in leading our State and Nation to hope and many sound solutions for the threat of drugs in our society.”

Hiram P. Bull, R.W.P.G.M., accepted the first plaque ever presented by St. Francis, on behalf of the Foundation. St. Francis is one of America’s largest and most comprehensive programs for the treatment of chemical dependency. The Foundation has actively supported programs for Maternal Addiction, Adolescent Chemical Dependency and the Children of Alcoholics at this fine Medical Center.

Left to Right: Sister M. Rosita Welling, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, St. Francis Medical Center; Sister M. Sylvia Schuler, President and Chief Executive Officer, St. Francis Health System; Himam Bell; Michael T. Flaherty, Director, Chemical Dependency Programs, St. Francis Medical Center.
On October 1, 1987 at a regular stated meeting, the Slatton Lodge No. 440 held a Project SOLOMON II reunion. Bro. Lero K. Reichenbach, P.M. and SOLOMON II Task Force Chairman provided information about the meeting.

One purpose of the meeting was to honor eleven Brothers who had completed fifty years and twenty-five years of membership. Bro. Carl W. Kegel, P.M., Bro. Sylvester C. Turnbach and Bro. Paul T. Settles were given awards for fifty years of membership. Receiving awards for twenty-five years of service were: Bros. Sherwood D. Yensen, P.M., Joseph W. Gower, Russell F. Feller, Milton D. Metzger, William L. Kuder, and Richard F. Yensaer, Marvin C. Oltzine and John C. McCammon. Bro. Robert S. Swoyer, D.D.G.M., presented the pins to the Brethren.

Bro. Paul K. Funkel, P.D.D.G.M. and Regional Director of A.I. for Project SOLOMON II gave a brief history of the Grand Lodge Project. It was conceived as a plan to rebuild membership within each Lodge by creating interest and enthusiasm for Freemasonry.

Bro. Charles E. Radcliffe, P.M. of Lehigh Lodge and District 10 Chairman for Project SOLOMON II introduced. He spoke about SOLOMON II activities in the district.

Bro. Leroy K. Reichenbach presented a detailed report of Project SOLOMON II in the Slatton Lodge No. 440. He reported beneficial results in the Lodge since the downward trend in membership has been reversed and the Lodge has experienced a net gain in membership. Attendence at regular and special meetings has increased. The content and quality of programs have shown great improvement.

Bro. Gerald C. Berger, Worshipful Master, presided over this important meeting. We congratulate Worshipful Master Berger and all program participants for building toward the future of Freemasonry in the Blue Lodge.