Date Stone Rededication at Corinthian Lodge No. 573

Bro. Arthur J. Kurtz, R. W. Grand Master attended the Rededication of the Date Stone of Corinthian Lodge No. 573 in Millvale, Pennsylvania last June. The well-attended affair was preceded by a large parade through the community that had been especially decorated for the occasion of Corinthian Lodge's one hundredth anniversary. The Rededication as well as the parade was attended by Freemasons from throughout the area, as well as the general public.


June Quarterly, continued


After this, the Grand Secretary read the list of resignations and appointments since the last Quarterly Communication. Several contributions to our various foundations were then presented. Included in these contributions was a check from Bro. Craig Stone, W. M. of Robert Burns Lodge No. 464 (our Grand Master's Blue Lodge) for a bronze sculpture of the "Tree of Life" to be erected at the Independent Living Community at Elizabethtown.

Following the acceptance of these contributions, the Grand Lodge was closed in Harmony at 9:18 p.m.

Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown

AUTUMN DAY AT THE HOMES
Saturday, October 21, 1989
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Registration Coupon

Name
No. of Adults
No. of Children
Street Address
City State Zip

Telephone (area code):

Transportation:

- CAR
- Driving own car
- Passenger in another
- Require handicapped parking
- BUS
- TRAIN

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and send with coupon to:
Masonic Homes
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Masonic Light, continued

Merchants Guild, and several other associations for the Blind.

Bro. Stewart has studied Martial Arts for many years. He has appeared on the same program with many of the masters of Karate. He currently holds several Black Belts.

It is obvious that Bro. Alex Stewart never let the fact that he is without sight stand in the way of his involvement with his family, his business or to his service to others.

Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown

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Masonic Homes
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

The above photo is of the restored 15th century Dunguaire Castle where the Grand Lodge party enjoyed a medieval banquet.
My Brethren... 
Sure and begorra, it was indeed a beautiful trip to the Emerald Isle and all 108 Brethren and ladies rated it the number one event of the year.

The first eight days, while touring southern Ireland, the weather held magnificent, sunny and 65 to 75 degrees. Everywhere we went, the people of Ireland charmed and delighted us. The climate of the tour, of course, was the
to the Grand Master, the most
designed to include an enjoyable party and banquet for all our ladies and
Brethren with an entire evening of speeches and gifts. The next day our Grand Lodge contingent of 57 Brethren was recognized and received during the Grand Lodge Session of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Truly, it was a gratifying and memorable event and one that will go down in history for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

To sum it all up and in a well-known Irish phrase — my fellow travelers and I agree — Erin Go Bragh!

The June Quarterly at Harrisburg was also extremely successful and I am grateful to the committee in my hometown, for the outstanding job they did, in putting it all together. About 1400 Brethren enjoyed a delicious dinner of filet mignon and shoofly pie and then attended the Grand Lodge session. Among other proceedings at the session, Bro. Marvin G. Speicher, PDDGM, and member of the Grand Lodge Subaudit Committee, was installed as the new Grand Treasurer. He was installed by Past Grand Treasurer, Bro. Arthur R. Diamond, who was retiring after 24 years of service to his Grand Lodge. After being presented with a newly created Past Grand Treasurer Jewel, Bro. Diamond delivered a sincere and heart-warming address.

"Just a reminder Brethren," Autumn Days at the Masonic Homes will be held again this year on Saturday, October 21, 1989. We urge all of you to complete the Request for Tickets to Autumn on page 16 of this edition so that all of you and your families can enjoy this annual event. Brethren, I hope all of you are enjoying the pleasures of the summer and we look forward to once again calling back to labor in our subordinate Lodges...

Sincerely and fraternal,

Grand Master

The Committee on Masonic Homes

The Grand Master Speaks...

Bro. Arthur J. Kurz, R. W. Grand Master

Grand Master's Itinerary

September, October, November 1989

SEPTEMBER 1989
13-17 Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association, Baltimore
22 Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethown
22 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of laying the Cornerstone of the Independent Living Center, Masonic Homes, Elizabethown
23 Lodge No. 579, 100th Anniversary, Taylor
30 Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of dedicating the Lodge Room, Lodge No. 457, Beaver

OCTOBER 1989
4 Grand Lodge of Delaware
17 Lodge No. 3, Philadelphia
20 Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethown
21 Autumn Days, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown
21 Philalethes Society, West Chester
27 Lodge No. 801, 25th Anniversary, Chambersburg

NOVEMBER 1989
1 Lodge No. 347, 125th Anniversary, Girard
3-5 Eastern Regional Assembly of the Grand Imperial Council, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, Hershey Pocono Resort
9 Lodge No. 802, 25th Anniversary, Hershey
16-18 Reunion, Valley of Scranton, A.A.S.R., Scranton

June Quarterly Review

By Bro. Jonathan D. Schau

The R. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons met in Quarterly Communication on Wednesday, June 14, 1989 at 7:00 p.m., at the Zembo Temple in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Nearly twelve hundred Brethren attended.

The merging of McMurray Lodge No. 807 into Charters Lodge No. 297, was announced. The new Lodge shall be known as Charters Lodge No. 297. Also, King Hiram Lodge No. 721 will be merging into Landmark Lodge No. 442; the new Lodge to be known as Landmark Lodge No. 442. Bro. Roger A. Brant, Jr., P.M. of Lawrence Lodge No. 708 was then escorted to the East, and was presented with a certificate for his five years of service as a Field Agent of the Masonic Service Association. Then a report from the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Foundation was read. In addition to this, the Committee on Appeals, By-Laws, Finances, Masonic Homes and Masonic Temples, Halls and Lodge Rooms made their respective reports.

The Grand Master presented the SOLOMON II Throat Medallion to Bros. Murray N. Mill, Jr. and Fred. J. Livingston. These two members represent at least twenty-four new Masons in Pennsylvania.

Several Resolutions to amend the Ahuman Rezon were read. These Amendments have been laid over until the December Quarterly.

Following the Resolutions, Bro. Marvin G. Speicher, PDDG M, was duly installed R. W. Grand Treasurer for the remainder of this Masonic Year. A more indepth article on this installation, and the service that has been rendered in this office by Bro. Arthur R. Diamond, RWP.G.T.; can be found elsewhere in this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason.

The Grand Master then directed the Grand Secretary to read the deaths reported in Grand Lodge. Accordingly, the names of the following deceased Brethren were read: Bros. John R. Benner, PDD.G.M. of District No. 11; Wilfred E. Oakley, Member Emeritus of the Committee on Masonic Education.

continued on page 16

See article on page 6

Book Celebrates 500th Birthday

On the top shelf in the smallest room of the Grand Lodge Library stood a large, fat, friendly-looking volume, well-bound in vellum, patiently waiting for someone to notice it. At the age of five hundred, this impressive book knows a lot about patient waiting. In excellent condition, this monstrosity (that is, a book printed before the arbitrary date of January 1, 1501 the beginning of the sixteenth century) is a double-handed theological sour-de-force in Latin. Two works were printed and bound together at about the same time in Basel, Switzerland in 1499. The binding still has its hinged clasp, and the vellum is stamped with delicate little designs. The paper is surprisingly white; the print is still very clear and black.

The first work, 446 pages long, is an Apocryphal Book of the Bible, used primarily by the Roman Catholic Church. The other work, 172 pages, is St. Augustine’s *Trinity*. The first work, 446 pages long, is an Apocryphal Book of the Bible, used primarily by the Roman Catholic Church. The other work, 172 pages, is St. Augustine’s *Trinity*.

Masonic Education

Greetings from the Committee on Masonic Education for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Masonic Education in our Grand Lodge and each subordinate Lodge is being pursued with a renewed vigor. Many questions are being raised by our Grand Lodge Officers and our general membership, which indicates to those of us on the Committee that we have truly been better off for the job of educating and informing, communicating with Freemasons, who are they, how they live their lives, and what are they doing for themselves and for mankind.

Masonic Education can and should be a very challenging and rewarding part of a Mason’s life. The pursuit of Masonic Education is not a difficult task, but neither is it easy. To learn is to work, and to work is to learn. The achievement of something truly worthwhile is never truly easy. You can learn a little or you can learn a lot, and all at your own speed.

The immediate benefit a Mason receives as he becomes involved in Masonic Education is the respect and appreciation from his Brothers that he is now a more knowledgeable Mason, and is looked to as a future leader.

Every Masonic district and every Masonic Lodge in Pennsylvania is pursuing a renewed interest in Masonic Education. The Committee recognizes the unfortunate fact that over the years interest in educational programs have run hot and cold, good and bad. However, we also recognize that more questions are being asked today about Freemasonry from Masons and non-Masons alike, that we must make a positive educational effort on behalf of our members to have more knowledgeable, correct, and positive answers.

Masonic Health Care Center at the Masonic Homes has a Need for Pianos

Residents of the Masonic Health Care Center at the Masonic Homes derive many hours of pleasure from playing pianos, performing in the music. Unfortunately, time and usage have caught up with several of our pianos and we need to replace five of them with newer pianos.

Several of our pianos date from the 1920s and 1930s and have been lovingly cared for over the years. Their parts are now worn, so they cannot be tuned or repaired further. These pianos provide music for all religious services, social and recreational activities, and the personal pleasure of our Masonic Health Care Center residents.

If you have a good quality piano of any type which you have been thinking of disposing of, please consider donating it to your Masonic Homes where it can be enjoyed by many for years to come.

Masonic Confers 171st Degree On His 95th Birthday

Bro. John H. Kuhn, P.M., who is 95, of Ivy Lodge No. 397 in Williamsport has recently conferred his 171st Degree. His most recent Degree work consisted of performing his 125th Third Degree (see photograph).

Ninety-five of Bro. Kuhn’s fellow Masons showed up to help celebrate his 95th birthday on April 4, 1989. The dinner which preceded the April Stated Meeting, in which there was standing room only, was memorable for more than one reason. First, there was the presentation of a huge birthday cake for Bro. Kuhn. The second surprise occurred when the Brethren in attendance were asked to split into two groups and to sit on opposite sides of the dining hall. The dividing force between the Brethren quickly became all too evident: The Sdaughters had prepared Limberger onions for the one side, and the other members were very grateful for the special seating arrangements.

Bro. Kuhn was born on April 4, 1894, and was made a Mason at the age of 56. He served as Worshipful Master of Ivy Lodge in 1964 when he turned 70. He also served as treasurer from 1966 until 1982. Bro. Kuhn is still quite active, and he serves as one of the Assistant Principal Instructors in the 18th Masonic District School of Instruction.

Ivy Lodge’s records as well as Bro. Kuhn’s memory can account for his conferal of a total of 171 Degrees since his entrance into this, our ancient and honorary Fraternity.

Five hundred old illuminated book from the Grand Lodge library.
Fernwood Lodge Gives $1,000 to Cerebral Palsy Fund

“There is more where this came from,” said Bro. Ralph Rogers, R.W. Grand Tyler and Past Master of Fernwood Lodge No. 543, as he presented a check for $1,000 to United Cerebral Palsy of Delaware County. “We’re going to make this a yearly thing,” added Bro. Bill Conner.

Bro. Bill Hinkle, another member of Fernwood Lodge which meets in Philadelphia, is also vice president of the UCP board. He, too, was there for the presentation. Bro. Conner expressed his pride in this effort, and added: “We have come a long way, and it’s on account of that guy, Bill Benson.”

The Committee on Masonic Homes

The Committee on Masonic Homes is responsible for establishing policies and the mission for the Masonic Homes. The Committee is composed of six Right Worshipful Masters of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and seven elected members. The members of the Committee represent a cross section of the professions, industry, and business. The Committee on Masonic Homes normally has ten scheduled meetings a year at Elizabethtown.

The business for which the Committee is probably best known to the average Pennsylvania Mason is that of reviewing and approving applications to the Masonic Homes. The Committee must consider all state and federal criteria for nursing home admissions as well as the individual information gathered by the admissions counselor from the applicant. In the final analysis it is the need of the individual with which the Committee will concern itself. This need may be financial, medical, or social. The Committee on Masonic Homes establishes operating policy for the Masonic Homes and empowers the Executive Director to carry out the operations of the Masonic Homes on a daily basis. The Committee provides foresight and leadership to ensure that the Masonic Homes will flourish and endure not only to serve current residents, but for Pennsylvania Masons and their families that will need the professional services of the Masonic Homes in the future.

First Scholarships Awarded

At the June Communication of the Grand Lodge, Bro. W.D. G.M., Chairman of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, announced the first four winners of the Educational Endowment Fund Witto Scholarship.

The Educational Endowment Fund was established by the Foundation's Board of Directors and the first contributors to the fund came from the Estate of Bro. Herman Witt, Past District Deputy Grand Master. The scholarship program was initiated this year by the Educational Endowment Fund Committee, chaired by Edward H. Fowler, Jr., R.W.S.G.W.

Eligible for the awards were children, grandchildren and dependents of Masons, and members of the Masonic-related youth groups. Applications were sent to all Lodge secretaries, Lodge representatives to the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and Masonic-related youth group leaders.

Four winners have been selected to receive a scholarship in the amount of $1,000. A courtesy letter was sent to all applicants informing them of the winners.

The District Deputy Grand Master in the area where the winner lives arranged for a personal presentation of the check where a photograph was taken and a press release was issued publicly announcing Freemasonry's commitment to youth through the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation.

The four winners were:

• Miss Lisa Buhler, of Grampian, Pennsylvania, who will be attending Alderson Broaddus College in Philippi, West Virginia, to study medical science and become a physician's assistant.

• Mr. Keith E. James, of Shadyside, Pennsylvania, who will be attending Pennsylvania State University studying Business Administration.

• Miss Renee L. Vaia, of Export, Pennsylvania, who will be attending Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, studying Biotechnology and Food Science.

• Miss Michele H. Wyrkh, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is attending the Frankford School of Nursing in Philadelphia.

This is the first year of a continuing program, and applications for the 1990 awards will be available in the fall of this year. If you have a child or grandchild who would like to apply for financial assistance from the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, or any other Masonic scholarship program next year, write to the PYF office and request a copy of next year's Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide, which will be available in September.

Youth Foundation

Youth Foundation

In recognition of the service performed by the elected youth leaders of the Masonic-related youth groups, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation annually presents a Service Scholarship in the amount of $1,000 to the retiring officers.

These young people spend the year traveling across the Commonwealth to attend meetings, present speeches, conduct workshops and perform ritual in an effort to promote their order. Often they do this at the sacrifice of study time or employment.

This year the Service Scholarships were presented to Tammy L. Flickinger, Past Miss Job's Daughters for Pennsylvania, Scott M. Arnold, Past State Master Councilor for DeMolay and Elizabeth Balmer, Past Grand Worthy Advisor of the Rainbow Girls in Pennsylvania.

In the photograph, W. Scott Stoner, R.W.D.G.M., Chairman of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, presents a Service Scholarship Award to Tammy Flickinger, Past Miss Job's Daughters 1988-1989.
**Happenings at Masonic Homes**

**Construction Begins on the Independent Living Community**

Construction at the site of the Independent Living Community at the Masonic Homes is progressing as scheduled. Phase I buildings, which include 66 apartments, the Clubhouse, and 16 cottages, are under construction. We are pleased to announce that Phase II, which includes 78 apartments, has been approved by the Committee on Masonic Homes to be constructed simultaneously with Phase I.

As shown in the pictures above, every effort has been made to preserve the natural wooded areas on this site as to enhance the setting for our new community.

Meetings take place on a regular basis and are attended by representatives of the Building and Grounds Subcommittee of the Committee on Masonic Homes, administrative staff of the Masonic Homes, construction firm and the architectural firm.

The presence and continuous involvement of members of the Building and Grounds Subcommittee and administrative staff of the Masonic Homes allows for constant input and direction so that our community will be developed to meet the needs and interests of the members of the fraternity and their families.

We have had many of the brethren and their families visit our model apartment and cottage located on the Masonic Homes grounds over the past few months. The positive remarks and suggestions have been very helpful in our effort to tailor the Independent Living Community to be a viable and secure option for our senior brethren and their families.

We invite all members of our fraternity to visit the Masonic Homes and view the model units so that you may become informed as to the security and independence which the Independent Living Community can provide for you and your family.

The models are available for inspection Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for a personally guided tour by one of our staff, or call and schedule an appointment to meet at your convenience. The models are also open for inspection Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at which time our residents serve as hosts and hosettes.

**Special Events Planned for New Residents of the Independent Living Community**

On May 1st a special luncheon was held in the Ice Cream Parlor in Grand Lodge Hall on the grounds of the Masonic Homes for all members who have reserved units in the new Independent Living Community. The luncheon was hosted by Grand Master Arthur J. Kurtz and Mrs. Kurtz, along with R. W. Deputy Grand Master W. Scott Stoner and Mrs. Stoner, and other members of the staff.

This luncheon is just one of many such affairs that are being planned for the Independent Living Community members. These types of community gatherings will provide members of the Independent Living Community an opportunity to become acquainted with their neighbors prior to entering the community in 1990. Our most recent community get-together was a picnic held at the Patton Campus on July 28, 1989. These social gatherings for members continued on page 12.

**Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes**

The fourth annual Masonic Homes "Autumn Day" is scheduled for Saturday, October 21. Fun and festivities will begin at 10 a.m. and will continue until 4:00 p.m.

Delicious, appetizing food will be provided from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at several locations on the grounds. Home-made sausage, sauerkraut, hot dogs, apple butter, and bean soup will be provided as well as ice cream and beverages. These items will be served free of charge to you and your family.

As in past years, you will be able to purchase Masonic Homes apples, cider, pumpkins, and craft items made by the residents of the Masonic Homes. The popularity of these products increases each year.

Musical groups will be featured throughout the day along with entertainment provided by the Zembo Shrine clowns for young and old alike. In Grand Lodge Hall, the Gift Shop, Ice Cream Parlor, and Museum will be open for your enjoyment and pleasure.

As in past years, many of the Masonic Homes residents will be opening their rooms for you to visit with them and allow you to view the excellent living accommodations provided at the Homes.

The full size models of the apartment and cottage, which will be offered in our Independent Living Community, will be open for tours and your personal inspection. We are excited about this new concept in living and are anxious to share it with you.

There will also be booths with information on our admissions policy, Children's Home, Blood Pressure and First Aid Station, Masonic Youth Groups, Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, Grand Lodge Library & Museum and Masonic Education.

A map showing the location of the stands and a schedule of events will be provided upon your arrival at the Masonic Homes. Masonic Homes personnel will be available to assist you with parking and to provide you with any information you may require.

This year, in order to help us serve you better, we are asking that you indicate on your ticket order form if you require handicapped parking. If you do, a color coded parking permit will be mailed to you along with your ticket which will admit you to the handicapped parking area. We are also asking that if you use or need a wheelchair, or similar type of equipment, that you please bring it with you.

Plan now to spend October 21 at the Masonic Homes with family and friends, enjoying good food, great entertainment, good company, and renewing fraternal ties and acquaintances.

For coupon see page 16. Please return this coupon to the address indicated on the coupon.

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**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Al Bethel's French Quartet</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zembo Shrine Highlanders</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carousel Organ</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model Units Open House</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus Tours</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>(See map for pick-up locations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zembo Shrine Highlanders</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Bethel's French Quartet</td>
<td>11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zembo Shrine Highlanders</td>
<td>11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Green Area</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.-1:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>Village Green Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot House</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot House</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bainsbridge Band</td>
<td>2:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Green Area</td>
<td>2:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zembo Shrine Oriental Band</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Green Area</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Hot House</td>
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<td>Village Green Area</td>
<td>3:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.</td>
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66th Annual Children’s Day Held at the Masonic Homes

The Masonic Children’s Home in Elizabethtown recently celebrated its 66th Annual Children’s Day at the Memorial Dining Hall at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus. The Committee on Masonic Homes was present for the dinner and Grand Master Arthur J. Kurtz gave an address. Mr. Arthur R. Diamond in recognition of his recent retirement was presented with a plaque in appreciation of his many years of service to the Children’s Home.

The Children’s Day ceremonies were held to recognize the many varied activities of the children and to announce special honors in the areas of academics, citizenship, and scholastic achievement. The program was underwritten by Mr. C. Donald Barbush, Director of Children’s Services at the Masonic Homes.


Masonic Light for One Who is Without Sight

For Bro. Alex J. Stewart of Potts Grove, 1989 will be a highlight of his Masonic career. First, he served as Master of Pulaski Lodge No. 216; second, his son Kevin joined his Lodge; and third, he received the Grand Master at his Lodge’s April meeting. Bro. Stewart expressed an interest in being active in his Lodge when he joined in 1984. He held two floor offices before being elected to his Lodge’s line. Not such a great feat, one might say, except Bro. Stewart is blind.

Every day, he travels over one hundred miles roundtrip to Harrisburg, where he manages a snack bar at a large downtown building, supervised by the Pennsylvania Bureau for Blindness and Visual Services. Bro. Stewart operates his snack bar the same as he would an independent business matter, with four full time employees. More than thirty-four years of service, his first assignment was as an operator of a snack

continued on page 12

Bro. Arthur R. Diamond Retires as Grand Treasurer

In his other Masonic pursuits, Bro. Diamond has also served as D.D.G.H.P. in the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter, as well as being the senior P.G.H.P. of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

In 1968, Bro. Diamond was coronetted a 33°. Bro. Diamond has held the DeMolay Legion of Honor since 1961. In 1985, he was awarded the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania’s highest honor, the Franklin Medal.

Academically, Bro. Diamond was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity, and he holds several other degrees as well. Bro. Diamond, though he will be missed, states that he will not become a stranger at future Grand Lodge functions.

Bro. Marvin G. Speicher, P.D.D.G.M. Is Installed As R.W. Grand Treasurer


Bro. Speicher was born in Stoufferstown, Berks County, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Conrad Weiser Area High School in Robesonia. He was also graduated from Reading Business Institute as well as two Public Accounting schools.

Since 1971 he has been a partner in the Certified Public Accounting firm of Schulz, Speicher and Company, in Reading. He holds membership in A.I.C.P.A. and P.L.C.P.A.

He is married to the former Shirley M. Degler of Robesonia. They have two sons and two grandsons, as well as being active members of St. Daniel’s Lutheran Church. Bro. Speicher is also active in the Conrad Weiser Lions Club.

Masonically, Bro. Speicher is a Past Master of Williamson Lodge No. 807 in Wormsford, where he has had the honor of conferring all of the Degrees on his two sons. He served as District Deputy Grand Master for the 60th Masonic District for ten years from 1978 to 1988, and on December 27, 1988 he was created a Past District Deputy Grand Master.

His memberships in other Masonic Bodies include, Reading Royal Arch Chapter No. 132, Carthage Council No. 16, Royal and Select Masters; DeMolay Commandery No. 9, Knights Templar. Bro. Speicher is also a member of the Valley of Reading, where he is presently Senior Warden of that Valley’s Lodge of Perfection. He also holds the Red Cross of Constantinople, and is Secretary of Excelsior Mark Lodge No. 206 in Philadelphia, as well as being a member of Rajah Shrine Temple, in Reading.

He is a charter member of the Masonic Homes High Twelve Club No. 629 in Elizabethtown and the Fellowship High Twelve Club No. 660 in Reading.

Money Crunch, UCP Lost about $25,000.

To make matters worse, it rained during the Rotary Fair that is held every year to benefit UCP, as well as other charities.

“With these words, Bro. Marvin G. Speicher,

Fernwood Lodge, continued

This year, when a local television station cancelled its annual telethon, and when the Cereal Patch Fund was cut out of $13,000 by United Way due to a money crunch, UCP lost about $25,000. To make matters worse, it rained during the Rotary Fair that is held every year to benefit UCP, as well as other charities.

“This is a very timely gift and we appreciate it very much, especially this year which has been so hard for us,” said Benson, UCP Executive Director.
From the Grand Secretary’s Desk... 

Bro. Roy Griffith, 74 years of age, died of injuries received in a traffic accident while he and his wife of forty-seven years were delivering Meals on Wheels, a project he was involved with for more than ten years. His wife was very seriously injured. “He is the only person to die in the history of Meals on Wheels while delivering meals.”

Bro. Griffith’s death, according to the article, reflected those principles which should ever characterize the members of our Order. Quoting from the article, “He was a man of conviction who got things done. He was the kind of person belief that if you could not act upon your Christian faith, you did not have Christian faith.”

He was President of the Trustees of his church, as well as an Elder and a Deacon. Bro. Griffith had not missed a day of Sunday School in forty-four years while his wife had sixty years of perfect attendance, excluding a period during World War II when she worked Sundays at an Army Depot.

It is regrettable that the article failed to refer to his Masonic affiliation, but, I would like to think that either Masonry contributed toward those higher qualities he possessed, or that the higher qualities of Freemasonry attracted him to it.

Of the quality and character of Bro. Roy Griffith will do more to promote the future of Freemasonry than all of the propaganda we can print and receive, and all the credits we may search out and have heaped upon us, or all of the glory of our past in which we had.

I am certain that there are hundreds, even thousands, of Roy Griffiths comprising the Masonic Fraternity, each making no great mark on the world, but, in their own way leaving some positive mark.

The newspaper article concluded, “He was a doer, not a talker.” Bro. Griffith may not have been heralded outside of his own community, but, he lived a life that resulted in headline news on the front page of the local newspaper. Few of us, no matter how great we think we are, will achieve as much.

Masonic Light, continued

The disease of drug and alcohol addiction is described as cunning, baffling, and powerful; as well as chronic and if not treated, fatal to those victimized by it. The addict loses control as the addiction disrupts all areas of life, including the addict from all but the chemicals. Yet denial pervades the addiction as well, serving to justify and blame the addiction. It is not only the addict who experiences the effects of the addiction, but so do families, friends and employers. The task of halting the effects of addiction is difficult, often generating feelings of frustration in those who attempt to help.

However, there is strength in numbers, and the Maternal Addiction Project at St. Francis Medical Center in Pittsburgh has been strengthened by the support of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children.

The infants’ physical and psychological development is monitored. Also, the grant has made possible the purchase of a computer system for the program. On a recent visit to the Maternal Addiction Project, two women shared with Past Grand Masters, Bros. Carl W. Steenberg, Jr. and Hiram P. Ball their experiences in entering rehabilitation.

These women both entered the program late in their pregnancies, and shared feelings of guilt and fear. Upon entering the program, the women were able to focus on caring for their children and themselves rather than upon drug use. After delivery, both of the women’s infants were assessed utilizing neonatal abstinence scoring sheets. One baby was detoxified through a program using tincture of opium; the other baby was symptom-free and required only supportive care until discharge five days after delivery.

Throughout pregnancy, the women received individual therapy and developed treatment goals with their therapists. Individual and group therapy addresses issues such as addiction identification, recovery skills, pregnancy, child development, and parenting skills, dynamics of children of addicts, and life skills management. Detoxification has begun for these women and will continue regularly until they are drug-free. Both women expressed gratitude to the program, as well as insight into the process of recovery.

A special joy that day was a visit with the children. Both of the babies were in good spirits, developing well and they show no adverse effects from their mothers’ drug abuse. The mothers took great pride in showing their infants as well as their other children, in the hope that their examples could encourage support for and enrollment in the program.

Through the grants, the Project has been improving the futures of the infants of addicted mothers. More specialized care has increased the chances of healthy infants born to addicted, rehabilitation seeking mothers. Through these efforts, the hope of minimizing the disruptive effects of maternal substance abuse, and intervention into the inter-generational passage of addiction is strengthened.

It is with sincere gratitude that those involved in the Maternal Addiction Project at St. Francis Medical Center would like to thank the Pennsylvania Masons for their financial support and personal encouragement.
Orstown Lodge No. 262

Orstown Lodge No. 262 is the first Lodge to reach the original goal of Project SOLOMON II. The Lodge has reached a net gain in membership of 25%. On December 28th, 1984 Orstown Lodge No. 262 had a membership of 256. Today Orstown Lodge No. 262 has a membership of 256 for a net gain of 25%. Brother Arthur J. Kurtz, Right Worshipful Grand Master will honor Orstown Lodge No. 262 with an informal visitation on October 12, 1989 and present a plaque to the Lodge to mark this achievement.

Project SOLOMON II appreciates this recognition by the Right Worshipful Grand Master.

The Grand Master will be accompanied by Bro. Lester A. Kern, District Deputy Grand Master of the Third Masonic District, Bro. Drew W. Washabau, Director Project SOLOMON Lodge No. 262, Bro. David L. Krempler, Regional Director Area B2, Bro. Duane E. Goodhart, District Director and the rest of the Project SOLOMON II Committee.

Orstown Lodge No. 262 has demonstrated that membership growth can be achieved when Master Masons believe in their Lodge and the value of Freemasonry.

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THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

VOL. XXXVII AUSGT 1989 NO. 3
Publication No. USPS 534-140
issued Quarterly

February, May, August and November at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging.

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Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-2590

Postmaster: Send address changes to above.
Second Class Postage Paid at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

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The Difficult Was Done Immediately, The Impossible Took a Little Longer

By Bro. Tom Sternthal

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In the early morning hours of January 25, 1989, a rampaging 23-year-old arsonist, heavily damaged Hermitage Lodge No. 810 which meets in Hermitage, Pennsylvania, the fourth such fire in as many days. Police have arrested a 23-year-old who has confessed to the crime.

The partially gutted and heavily smoke and water-damaged Lodge, raised damage estimates to over $130,000.

The mammoth job of rebuilding was spearheaded by Bro. Tom Rollison and Carl "Shoogum" Hinkson. The first weekend out saw more than 150 members and non-members stripping and cleaning the upstairs area where the Lodge meetings are held. Unseasonably warm weather permitted the burned through and fire-charred roof to be torn off, and a new roof to be installed. From that point on, once the burned and charred section had been replaced or repaired, it was like building a new Lodge from roof to basement. The first floor, altar room, fore room and Secretary’s office, as well as everything associated with the Lodge Room, was totally stripped and removed. The stairwell leading to the basement, had all carpeting and wall coverings removed and replaced, as well as the basement, including water damaged ceiling tiles. Monthly dinners and Non-Masonic events are held in the basement.

There are not enough words to justly thank all those who gave countless hours of volunteer work and goods to make the impossible, possible. Less than two months after the fire, Hermitage Lodge No. 810 held their stated meeting on March 23, 1989.