The Annual Grand Communication and Grand Master’s High Hat Gala Set for December 27, in Philadelphia.

The Annual Grand Communication of The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is scheduled to be held in The Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, December 27, 1995, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The Communication will mark the end of the Administration of Bro. George H. Hohenshildt as the R.W. Grand Master and the beginning of the expected term of Bro. Edward O. Weisser.

Tickets for the Grand Master’s High Hat Gala are available for $30.00 per person and will be sold through Lodges or the Grand Master’s Office on a first request basis. Early reservations are encouraged. See coupons on this page.

GRAND MASTER’S HIGH HAT GALA

Enclosed is my check for ______ for ______ reservations at $30.00 per ticket for the Grand Master’s dinner-dance and entertainment to be held at 6:30 p.m., December 27, 1995, in the Balroom, Philadelphia Masonic, 1851 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Make check payable to “Grand Secretary.”

Name ____________________________

Lodge No. _______________________

Address __________________________

City/State/Zip _____________________

Telephone (Area Code) ____________

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and send with coupon to:

The Office of the Grand Master
The Masonic Temple • One North Broad Street • Philadelphia, PA 19107-2988

ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION LUNCHEON

December 27, 1995

Nome ____________________________

Lodge No. _______________________

Address __________________________

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Telephone (Area Code) ____________

Number of Luncheon Tickets Requested

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THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

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

VOLUME XLII AUGUST 1995 NUMBER 3

MONUMENTAL RECOGNITION FOR FRIEND TO FRIEND STATUE

The Friend to Friend Masonic Monument in Gettysburg will mark its Second anniversary with national acclaim as well as being a popular attraction for visitors to the historic Battlefield Cemeteries. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Welfol Construction Co. of Lancaster, Pennsylvania were recognized nationally for outstanding achievement in constructing and installing the magnificent plaza, landscaping and granite base supporting the Friend to Friend Masonic Monument in the Gettysburg National Cemetery. Uniquely designed, pyramid-shaped, jade-colored trophies representing the recognition were presented to the Grand Lodge as original owners who decided it is the National Park Service and to Welfol as the contractor by the National Associated Builders and Contractors during its national convention in Hawaii last February. R.W. Grand Master George H. Hohenshildt (left in upper photo) is shown with Bro. George Rakoczy, President of Welfol Construction with one of the trophies at the Monument in Gettysburg. Bro. Rakoczy (left, lower photo) and Ralph Simpson (right), Partner in Welfol Construction, officially presented the trophy to Grand Lodge during the June Quarterly Communication.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to above.
Please include complete imprint of address on your postal return clipping.
The Grand Master Speaks ...

Brethren:
The Membership have been overwhelmed, and I am sure success will crown our efforts.

As thousands of new Masons join our ranks, they will be seeking positive things to do, and it is my hope that many will join our monthly Lodge Visitation initiative to a Chapter of DeMolay, a Bethel of Job’s Daughters, or an open house at the Masonic Temple, and displays, food and fun outside the Lodge Hall.

Who are the Masons? What do Masons do? What do Masons believe? These three questions and how our Members are able to answer them along with how the public perceives them is the challenge of our Education program.

I appreciate greatly all the efforts of everyone involved because these efforts are indeed paramount to all our future successes.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

George H. Hohenshilt, R.W. Grand Master

R.W. Grand Master Receives Title

"HONORARY PAST GRAND COMMANDER"

The title “Honorary Past Grand Commander” was conferred upon R. W. Grand Master George H. Hohenshilt at the 142nd Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania on May 22. That honorary title is given to Sir Knights who have rendered long, outstanding and distinguished service in the cause of Temporal.

In the line of parade were the many musical, marching and mounted units of Rajah Shrine and marching contingents and floats of York Rite Bodies, Scottish Rite Bodies, Tall Cedars, Order of Eastern Star, DeMolay and Rainbow for Girls.

Friend to Friend on Parade, Displayed as Community Day Marks 125th Anniversary of Union Lodge No. 479

Birdsboro in eastern Berks County was overflowing with Friend to Friend enthusiasm on Saturday, May 6. To commemorate its 125th Anniversary, Union Lodge No. 479 organized and sponsored a "Community Day for the town and invited everybody to participate. The whole community responded, and friends came from miles around to join in the day-long event that started with a parade that took an hour and a half to pass, continued with an open house at the Masonic Temple, and displays, food and fun outside the Lodge Hall.


A Knights Templar color guard led the way, preceding the Twin Valley High School Band, for the one-and-a-half-mile march. The hometown Daniel Boone High School Band and the neighboring Exeter High School Band were in the line of march.

The Friend to Friend banner leads the way in the Union Lodge No. 479 Community Day parade marking its 125th Anniversary. Behind the banner in the 1917 Oldsmobile convertible is the parade’s Grand Marshal, R. W. Deputy Grand Master Edward O. Weisser, accompanied by the 7th Masonic District Deputy, Bro. Frank E. Daniels.

"It was a great Friend to Friend day," said District Deputy Daniels. "Freemasonry and the community of Birdsboro celebrated their heritage and that of the Fraternity and gained a new appreciation for who are the Freemasons, what we do and what we believe."

Friend to Friend information about Freemasonry was widely communicated before and at the time of the event. The 125th Anniversary Celebration and Community Day were well-publicized in an eight-page tabloid distributed with the May 3 edition of The News of Southern Berks.that morning, Pottstown radio Station WPAC broadcast interviews with five Masonic organization leaders: Bros. Kent Hackney of Leadership and Management, John Platt of the Library and Museum, Robert Santana of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, David Berry of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, and John Suchane of the Masonic Homes.

Several weeks before the event a panel of Masons was...
Dramatic Banners for Philadelphia’s Best-Kept Secret!

To identify the Fraternity more positively and further decorate the already fantastic building that is the headquarters of our Grand Lodge, new banners have been designed and hung on light standards just outside the main entrance on Broad Street. They made their debut at the June Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge. So many people say “I’ve lived here all my life, and never knew what this was” or “I pass by every day, and had no idea…” If there are signs on the building on each side of the Broad and Filbert Streets corner, but they are tastefully modest, and therefore often go unnoticed. The banners are variations of existing flags: the purple and gold of Grand Lodge, and the blue of the Symbolic Lodge.

Committee on Masonic Education Awards Scholarships

Seven scholarships were awarded to senior high school students from the seven Masonic Regions of Pennsylvania at a ceremony on May 12 at the Independent Living Community, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown. The seven regional winners and their parents attended the awards ceremony.

The Senior Essay Contest required each entrant to prepare a 1,500-word essay on one of the famous Masons depicted on the Friend to Friend brochure and their contributions to American society. The state winner and recipient of a $2,500 Grand Lodge Scholarship was Matthew C. Cochran, Westfield, Region 6. Six regional winners who received a $1,000 Grand Lodge Scholarship were: Tara Patricia Armstrong, Kennett Square, Region 1; Andrew J. Baldwin, Lancaster, Region 2; Julie Osterburg, Region 3; Patricia Webster, Butler, Region 4; Bryn Erin Bosley, Butler, Region 5; and Jason Kumpas, Clearfield, Region 6.

Bro. Edward O. Weissert, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master and Chairman of the Masonic Education Committee, conducted the awards ceremony and presented the scholarships. Bro. Anthony J. Garvey, Director of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children, gave a presentation about the Drug and Alcohol Program.

Bro. Weissert asked each of the seven recipients to tell about the many activities in which they are involved in their schools and communities. The state winner of the contest, Matthew C. Cochran, was asked to present his essay to the audience. Matthew will attend the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York to study classical guitar. The six other winners also have plans to attend college.


1996 Senior Essay Competition

“How Important is Charity to You?” is the competition topic selected by the Committee on Masonic Education for the Sixth Annual Senior Essay Contest. In announcing the topic, R. W. Deputy Grand Master Edward O. Weissert said that each student will be asked to write a 1,500-word essay.

The contest is open to all senior students in the public, parochial and private high schools of Pennsylvania. Announcements and applications will be sent to all of the schools in the Commonwealth during August. Essays must be received in the Office of Masonic Education, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street Philadelphia, 19107-2598 by February 1, 1996. Masons of Pennsylvania support the youth of our state in many ways. The scholarships to be awarded in 1996 will help seven students to further their education. Masons are asked to encourage seniors they know to submit essays in this competition.
Before You Sell...

Are you thinking of selling your home, a vacation place, a vacant lot, or some other piece of real estate? Are you wanting to liquidate some appreciated stocks or bonds? Whether real estate or securities, if you've owned the asset for more than a year and the value is higher than your cost, you may want to consider placing the property in a charitable remainder trust.

Here's why: The trustee (could be you) can sell the appreciated property without incurring tax on the capital gains. The trustee will then invest the entire proceeds, less selling costs, to provide you a flow of income for life. If you wish, following your demise, this income can continue for the benefit of one or more beneficiaries you have named.

Because the trust is irrevocable (you can't undo it) and the remainder eventually goes to charity, you receive an immediate income tax deduction. In fact, if you can't use all of this deduction the first year, the government allows you five additional years.

Depending on your circumstances, other gift planning options you may wish to consider include Masonic Homes' Pooled Income Fund, Charitable Gift Annuity, and the Deferred Payment Gift Annuity.

The beautiful thing about a planned gift to the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown is that it allows you to make a gift now while retaining a lifetime flow of income to help you through your retirement years. Such a gift may also help you to realize important personal goals such as helping with the college education of a child or grandchild and providing for a loved one with special needs. A planned gift is a wonderful way to use some of your assets to provide for a loved one with special needs and without obligation.

To provide information on giving through a charitable remainder trust, pooled income fund, gift annuity, or any of the following topics (all of which are provided in confidence and without obligation), please call the Development Office at 7-800-599-6454 or mail the handy coupon.

Thank You!

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Income For Life Through:

- A Charitable Remainder Trust
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- A Charitable Gift Annuity
- Planning For Additional Income To Begin At Retirement Or Other Future Date
- Aiding With A Child's Or Grandchild's College Education
- The Benefit Of Gifts Of Life Insurance
- A Complete Guide To Charitable Giving
- A Complete Guide To Writing A Will
- The Benefits Of Gifts Of Appreciated Property

Please note that I have already indicated provisions in my Will for the Masonic Homes of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Name
Phone
Date of Birth
Address
City
State Zip

Mail Completed Form To:
Development Office
Fred D. Rissinger, Director
Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

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Hero's Award Given to Bro. Kennedy for Saving Woman at Niagara Falls

During the May 27 Visitation of R. W. Grand Master George H. Hohenshmidt for the 125th Anniversary of Monongahela Valley Lodge No. 416, California, PA, Bro. Frank J. Kennedy was recognized as a hero. Grand Master Hohenshmidt presented him with his Lodge's special recognition for valor.

Two years ago, Bro. Kennedy insti tively acted to clutch a woman from the rapid river waters and save her five feet before she reached the brink of Niagara Falls. As reported in the newspaper at the time of the June 14, 1993, heroic event, Bro. Kennedy and his family usually stop to see the Falls on the way home from visiting his sister in Toronto. They were going to skip it that time because of a late start toward home; but his son prodded and the family decided to make a fast stop at the Falls.

"We weren't there five minutes when my daughter started screaming, 'Dad, there's somebody in the water,'" Bro. Kennedy said. "I turned around and here she comes like a piece of driftwood bobbing along some thirty feet from the Falls. Bro. Kennedy bolted over a railing, ran down to the bank and across twenty feet to the river's edge. He thought he could intercept her about fifteen feet from the Falls, but he reached out and missed her. She disappeared behind a bush and he thought he lost her. But, he dashed around the bush and saw her frantically grasping at rocks. He yelled at her to grab his arm as he jumped on a rock, braced himself and snatched her five feet from the edge of the Falls.

Bro. Kennedy recalled, "I don't know who was holding on tighter. The force of the current, estimated at 23 m.p.h., kept him from pulling her to the bank. At that point, Bro. Kennedy's father, nephew and two other visitors grabbed him to prevent him from being dragged into the water and together they pulled the woman onto the bank.

Bro. Kennedy received hero's honors from the National Park Management and several months ago was specially recognized by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of Pittsburgh.

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After a successful career, Bro. Frank J. Kennedy and his family made their home in Winterhaven, PA. Although he has not been able to attend his Lodge for a number of years, he attends regularly with his friends in Winterhaven.

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Twenty-five years ago, Bro. Ronald E. Hummel joined Lafayette Lodge No. 194, Steelingrove. One year later he developed Multiple Schiess. He became progressively worse until 17 years ago when he was completely confined to his bed.

On April 17, five Brethren from Lafayette Lodge went to Bro. Hummel's home to present him with his 25-year Masonic Pin. He looked forward to receiving his pin, and with his facial expression made it a very happy occasion. In the photo below are (left to right) Bros. James F. Parerry, Secretary; Edward E. Ineich, P.M.; and Ronald G. Stahl, W.M. Kneeling is Bro. Calvin M. Winour, P.M.
AutoMasonry Establishing Electronic Bulletin Board

An electronic Bulletin Board for Freemasons is being established as part of the AutoMasonry system that evolved in conjunction with the planning and tracking needs of the Friend to Friend Program. The Bulletin Board is now in partial operation and is expected to be in full service statewide by summer's end.


The electronic Bulletin Board is designed for Freemasons all over Pennsylvania who are "recognized" in the program to "talk" to one another, leave and receive messages; keep and track Lodge Meeting dates and times; download files and graphics for word processing; and forward reports. A security system is included to recognize qualified Freemasons who register for the program. In addition to Blue Lodge Masons, registered access will be available to Members of all of the Appendant Bodies, Order of Eastern Star and Youth Organizations.

The electronic Friend to Friend Bulletin Board will operate 24 hours, every day. The telephone number is (215) 988-1971.

33rd District Hosts Rainbow Girls Tour

In support of the R.W. Grand Master's program to visit with Masonic Youth groups, the 33rd Masonic District invited the Order of Rainbow for Girls to bring the annual Promotional Tour to Elk Lodge No. 379.

On March 30, girls from all parts of the state left the Patton Campus by bus and arrived at the Elk Lodge late in the afternoon. After a rehearsal and dinner, the Grand Officers exemplified the Rainbow Initiation flawlessly.

For information on scheduling a visit from the Rainbow Grand Officers Tour next year, contact:

Mrs. Beryl L. Nogue at (412) 654-4883.

Yeager to Preside Over National Masonic Body

William E. Yeager, Jr., of Warren, Pennsylvania was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign of the United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine at the Annual Assembly held in Jackson, Mississippi on June 8, 9, and 10, 1995.

He will preside over the affairs of the organization for the next year, including the observance of the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the Order in America by the Grand Council of England on December 14, 1870.

The Order which invites into its Membership outstanding Masons who have distinguished themselves either through their Masonic activities or through public service for the improvement of their Council, which includes the United States, Mexico, the Philippines, and Japan, is limited and by invitation only.

Yeager is a Past Master of Joseph Waffen Lodge No. 726, F. & A. M. in Warren and is presently serving his seventh year as District Deputy Grand Master of the 56th Masonic District of Pennsylvania. He has served also the Grand Lodge as Grand Marshal and Senior Grand Deacon. He is active in both the Scotch, The Japan and York Rite Bodies of Masonry as well as numerous Masonically Related Organizations.

For Further Information Contact: Red E. Dull, Grand Recorder United Grand Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine P.O. Box 5716 Springfield, IL 62707-5716 (217) 788-9290.
Resident Computer Pioneers

Recently, residents of the Village Green Area of the Masonic Homes have been invited to pursue yet another learning opportunity. Nine residents have challenged themselves to conquer the world of the computer. Four of these students have completed the course, most of whom have taken a mini-final exam and received a certificate of merit for their efforts. Aimee Kulp, Village Green Area resident of the Masonic Homes, is delighted to teach this course, sharing her knowledge and skills with other interested residents.

The computer was a gift to Aimee Kulp when she retired after 40 years of service as a Library Director at the Mercersburg Academy. She brought it with her, hoping to share it with her fellow residents. She admits, she is not an expert, but rather a hobbyist when it comes to computer use. It takes about eight weeks to master the technique of word processing with one class per student per week. Each student is taught individually at her or his own pace. Graduates include Jim Brown, who is already composing, editing, saving, and printing; Gladys Kromer, who has compiled instructions for the physically challenged, teaching residents who have the use of just one hand how to use the word processor; Mildred Simpson; and Hazel Johnson, who claims, "Having completed the course, I find I am much more alert to fine details. I really enjoyed the experience!"

Masonic Homes Construction Update

The Committee on Masonic Homes has retained an architectural firm to prepare a master plan for cottages. The preliminary meeting with the architects has been held and multiple sites on the campus will be reviewed to determine the best location for cottages. It is anticipated that master planning will be completed by the end of September.

Progress on the Brown Apartments includes the new addition now under roof. The Charles Eisenhower Building will house sixteen residents in six one-bedroom apartments and four efficiency apartments. This building will also have a common resident dining room on the main floor.

From the look of the outside of the Masonic Health Care Center, it is easy to see the speed at which the Phase 4 Project is continuing to move forward. Outside brick work on the four-story building is nearly 100% complete. The one-story, multi-purpose worship room is about 80% complete. They have begun inside drywall work which will continue from the fourth floor to the first floor. Completion is expected by the end of 1995.

Youth Appreciation Day 1995

The Masonic Children's Home celebrated its 72nd Annual Youth Appreciation Day Awards Banquet on Friday, May 26, in Memorial Hall at the Masonic Conference Center. Attending the event were the R. W. Grand Master George H. Hochenshmidt; Bro. Noah Wenger, State Senator from the 38th District; Members of the Committee on the Masonic Homes; Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director of Masonic Homes; Masonic Homes Administrative staff; Elizabethtown Area School District Administrators; and Masonic Homes Children's Home staff, children, their families, relatives and friends.

Bro. and Rev. Charles H. Laccum, Consultant, Director of Pastoral Care, offered the Invocation. Numerous residents of the Children's Home took part in the program. Shaun Benettch led the Pledge of Allegiance. Tracey Evans, Tellia Mercado, Sasha Carnes, Amanda Davey and Kriston Muldoon, along with their piano teacher, Ed Smith, provided musical entertainment. A group of 14 children sang the National Anthem. David Lyons designed the program cover and Denise Witmer and Gene Tobias, child care workers, prepared a scrapbook of photo memories for the children.

After the luncheon was served, Jessica Bastress, Crystal Evans, David Lyons, David Hunger, Todd Cook, Lynnette Boer, Tellia Mercado and Anita Serrano served as announcers and award presenters for the program. Jennifer Paquette, Victor Carnes, Heather Crozier and Doug Sheppard were ushers.

The children received awards for their achievements in academics, citizenship, creativity, vocation and athletics. All 27 children were recognized for their participation and accomplishments in various activities. Bro. Jerry Migra, Children's Home Assistant Director, announced the awards.

The two graduates, Jessica Bastress and Crystal Evans, were presented with Bibles from Bro. Laccum. Bro. Gilson (Bus) G. Cash, Director of Children's Services, presented the seniors with their graduation certificates. Bro. Dean Cramer, President of the Masonic Homes-Potson School Alumni Association, also made a presentation to the seniors.

After the awards ceremony Bros. Wayne and Hochenshmidt addressed the group. Bro. and Rev. Ted E. Bowers, Assistant Pastor at the Masonic Homes, offered the Benediction.

The two seniors also planted a tree next to the new Children's Home complex to leave a lasting symbol of their ties to the Children's Home. They were graduated from Elizabethtown Area High School on June 8. Jessica will attend Penn State, York Campus in the fall majoring in Criminal Justice. Crystal Evans will attend classes at Hiltop in Lancaster and work at Willow Valley Family Resort.
When it comes to talking about men's health and fitness these days, the discussion seems endless. Men are talking about cholesterol levels, blood pressure, and cardiovascular exercise. Yet, one of the most significant factors in men's health is often overlooked — and that's prostate health, particularly the awareness and early detection of prostate cancer.

It's rather puzzling how little is discussed about the prostate when you consider the facts. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among American men. In fact, it's the second leading cause of cancer death in men.

That's why the Masonic Homes' Outreach Program is teaming up with the Pennsylvania Public Television Network to distribute educational outreach information in conjunction with a recently produced television program, "The Prostate Puzzle," hosted by former Pittsburgh Steeler and ABC sportscaster Lynn Swann. The hour-long program, produced by WQED in Pittsburgh, promotes public awareness about the prostate gland — its functions, the necessity for early detection of cancer, the treatments available, and sources of information and help.

This year, more than 244,000 American men will develop prostate cancer and more than 40,000 will die of it. Having a father or brother with prostate cancer greatly increases a man's likelihood of developing prostate cancer. The community most at-risk is African American men, who currently have the highest rate of prostate cancer in the world.

Early detection that allows doctors to find many prostate cancers before symptoms develop is available through a quick, simple office procedure called the digital rectal examination (DRE). Many doctors recommend the DRE be performed annually on men over age 50. The American Cancer Society recommends that after age 40, a man's annual health checkup should include a DRE.

An additional early detection method is available through the National Cancer Institute Information Service by calling toll-free to 1-800-4-CANCER. Other sources of information include The American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or the Prostate Health Council of the American Foundation For Urologic Disease at 1-800-242-2263.

A diagnosis of prostate cancer, although serious, does not necessarily mean disability or death. There are many new and effective ways to treat cancer being developed through research. A specific treatment is determined by a man and his doctor after consulting and considering the options. The choice of options depends on a number of factors, including the stage of the cancer, a man's age, and his present health status.

Awareness and information may help you identify symptoms that lead to early detection. With that in mind, Prostate Puzzle brochures and posters are available from the Outreach Program by calling 1-800-4-MASONIC. Display of these items in any Lodge would help increase awareness of prostate cancer. A 20-minute version of the video as also available for loan.

Additional information regarding prostate cancer is available through the National Cancer Institute Information Service by calling toll-free to 1-800-4-CANCER. Other sources of information include The American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or the Prostate Health Council of the American Foundation For Urologic Disease at 1-800-242-2263.

Forty-one law enforcement officers were in the second class of D.A.R.E. training at the Masonic Conference Center — Patton Campus at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. Thirty-three officers completed the training last October and a third class is planned for next October.

In the D.A.R.E. program, made possible by The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children, the law enforcement officers are trained to work in schools instructing elementary students to resist drugs and alcohol and peer pressure. The 80-hour program spanning two weeks is conducted by the D.A.R.E. Training Center of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. (D.A.R.E. is the acronym for Drug Abuse Resistance Education.)

The Foundation, with the cooperation of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and Masonic Homes provides the facilities, supplies, housing and meals for the program. This program functions in the same manner as that provided by the Foundation for the training of educators in the Student Assistance Program of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

No Matter What the Score, the Kids are the Winners!

During the two weeks of their D.A.R.E. training at the Masonic Conference Center — Patton Campus at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, the law enforcement officers visited the Masonic Children's Home and challenged the youngsters to volleyball matches. Reports are that the competition was keen and most enjoyable.

No matter what the scores of the games were, the kids won! At their graduation, the police officers took up a collection and donated more than $300 to be used for the children's recreation.
My Brothers:

Several weeks ago someone suggested to me that, since 1995 is the 85th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America and since I was active in scouting for 20 years and because of the similarity in philosophy with Freemasonry, I might wish to write on that subject at the time.

An article recently appeared in The Wall Street Journal discussing the "graying" of the Shrine. Specifically, the article dealt with the aging of the Members of the Shrine with the concomitant loss of Membership which must accompany an organization with aging Membership. It is well documented that as the average age of the Shrine increases the average age of the Mason also increases.

In this article, it was noted that the Shrine was looking to stimulate an interest in Membership through fraternities on college campuses. This approach seems inasmuch as college fraternities stimulate a feeling of brotherhood and camaraderie which men develop during wartime experience. There can be little doubt that this feeling is a large motivating factor in men uniting together through organizational membership.

I was very active in the Boy Scouts for more than 20 years and state unequivocally that I have achieved whatever success I have because of the initial impact of scouting on my life. I did not have the opportunity to be a Member of the Order of DeMolay which I certainly regret, but I was a Boy Scout and must credit the Boy Scouts of America for being a guiding force in my life.

I have been pleasantly surprised over the years at the number of Freemasons who stop me when I am wearing my National Eagle Scout Association lapel pin and tell me that they also are Eagle Scouts. Yet, why should I be surprised?

The basic principles of the Boy Scouts of America, as those of DeMolay, are not unlike the basic principles of Freemasonry. They require a belief in God and Country. They require that Members do their duty to both. They require that Membership in both be of a lifetime. There is in fact an organization of Freemasons who are also Eagle Scouts. So again ask, why should I be surprised?

It was the Boy Scouts who taught me the importance of an interrelationship with other people and how to be a friend. It was the Boy Scouts who taught me that it was easier to be a friend than a foe. It was the Boy Scouts who taught me that I learn to love and hate. It was the Boy Scouts who taught me the first basic qualities which I found in Freemasonry, and, probably most important of all, it was the Boy Scouts who first taught me the meaning of the Brotherhood of man.

I was talking with General Westmoreland last year when we were speaking at the Vietnam Memorial, and I commented that it was always good to meet another Eagle Scout. He came back to me to ask what vintage, and I told him 1951. He laughed and said, "Miles was 1925." It was then that in the past, that I recognized that unbreakable bond of the Boy Scout organization. It is that same bond which characterizes Freemasonry. It is that bond which I have had the great privilege to experience in so many ways and in so many different locations in the world.

When I began contemplating what to write about in this column and following the reading of the article in The Wall Street Journal, I began to think that perhaps the Boy Scouts of America might be a great place to look for future Members of Freemasonry. We look today to the Order of DeMolay as a normal transition into Masonic Membership. Why not look at the Boy Scouts for the same?

There is a great similarity between their teachings and the teachings of the Order of DeMolay. The only major difference I can observe is the lack of Ritual found in DeMolay. The greatest preparation for manhood would probably have been to have the opportunity to experience membership in both of these organizations. They indeed could almost be regarded as the proving grounds of the qualification for training grounds for the quality man.

We all know that if the philosophy of Freemasonry was practiced worldwide—many of man's greatest problems would be solved. We teach a form of Brotherhood found in few organizations requiring a belief in a Supreme Being. This Brotherhood is found in both organizations—DeMolay and Boy Scouts.

Freemasonry has proven its importance to the world and so, too, has the Boy Scouts of America. I am proud to have been accepted by both. I suggest that a natural progression could be from Boy Scout to Freemasonry. It is the largest youth organization in the world. Perhaps we should consider the prospect.

Wesley Orville Kimmel, 33°

Born January 2, 1908 at Harrisburg, PA

Died March 8, 1995 at Harrisburg, PA

The son of Roy V. and Marietta McLaughlin Kimmel attended the Harrisburg Public Schools, graduated from its Technical High School and from Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 1928. He also attended Penn State University and was a Funeral Director in Harrisburg for the past 59 years.

He was an active member of the Green Street Church of God, in Harrisburg, having served as President of its Church Council, Teacher of its Men’s Bible Class and lay delegate to its General Eldership. On July 10, 1930 he married Florence H. Lefever and this union was blessed with a daughter, Lorna Kimmel Baer, who survives along with two granddaughters and six great-grandchildren. Mrs. Kimmel pre-deceased her husband.

Active in civic life, Brother Kimmel was a former member of the Harrisburg Housing Authority, the Harrisburg School Board and a former President of the Harrisburg Kiwanis Club. Professionally he was a Past President of the Capital City Funeral Directors Association and a member of the National Masonic Organizations of the United States. Also, he was a Trustee of Findlay College, Ohio.

Ill. Brother Kimmel enjoyed a distinguished Masonic career that began with membership in Robert Burns Lodge No. 464 in which he served as Worshipful Master in 1947, and he served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania in 1972-1973. In the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, he was a Past Thrice Potent Master of the Harrisburg Lodge of Perfection serving in 1949-1950, a Past Commander-in-Chief of the Harrisburg Consistory serving in 1958-1961 and a Past Trustee in the Valley of Harrisburg. He also served as Grand Lieutenant Commander of the Supreme Council during the period 1972-1973. In recognition of his dedicated leadership, he was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the U.S., on September 27, 1930, in Philadelphia, PA, and crowned an Active Member thereof on September 29, 1946 in Boston, MA. He was appointed Deputy for Pennsylvania on April 23, 1974, serving until his enthrone into an Active Emeritus status in 1983.

Our Illustrious Brother had Affiliated Membership in Tall Cedars of Lebanon Forest No. 43 and Zembo Temple, AAMNS; Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter No. 21, Harrisburg Council No. 7, and Lodge No. 11, Knights Templar; all York Rite Bodies of Harrisburg; Trinity Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Royal Order of Scotland; Pennsylvania Knights Ritis Clara; National Sojourners Chapter No. 75, and the Eastern Star. He was a Past Commander, Zembo Temple.

Brother Kimmel was a Past Lapel Pin Day Chairman. Funeral Services were held March 12, 1995 at the Kimmel Funeral Home with Rev. Dennis E. Hansher and Rev. Dr. Charles H. Lachmoun officiating. Internment was made in East Harrisburg Cemetery, Harrisburg, PA.

Many of his friends referred to him as just "Orville" but his presence commanded "Illustrious Brother" or the old-fashioned "Mister." His life had an aura exemplifying friendliness with humor, leadership with talent and dignity with humility. His influence was not missed by the Masonic community he dearly loved and now, as he joins those who "behold the good," his influence and stature will become more prolific among us.

Shrine Masons Mark Irem Temple’s 100th

A gigantic Shrine parade through Kingston and Wilkes-Barre and special ceremonies marked the 100th Anniversary of Irem Shrine Temple. Freemasonry and Friend to Friend were on display generating considerable interest in the Fraternity. The Friend to Friend banner identified some 1,500 marchers who, in addition to the hundreds of the Masons in the Shrine Units from Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New York and Virginia, included Brethren from 75 Blue Lodges led by R.W. Grand Master George H. Hohnenholtz (in photo) and Irem Potentate Paul G. Nicholson (right). R.W. Junior Grand Warden Robert L. Ulge, Jr. and seven District Deputy Grand Masters (Brothers Stephen E. Sugar, Dist. 10; Harold R. Snyder, Dist. 12; Benjamin H. Lee, Dist. 13; Dieter G. Dauber, Dist. 15; John W. Haines, Jr., Dist. 35; William J. Ray, Dist. 45; and Alfred W. Kotula, Dist. 59.) District Deputy Snyder, Masonic Liaison for the event, said that while the parade was being formed, a Shrine Mason from Zembo Temple introduced himself and his son who was not a Mason. Bro. Snyder answered the younger man’s question and gave him a Friend to Friend brochure. This gesture has since turned into a request for a Petition.
Youth Recognition Night

Sunset Lodge No. 623, Washington, held its first annual "Youth Recognition Night" at its Stated Meeting in May. The evening was capped by the presentation of this year's $500 cash scholarships to the winners and their parents. Miss Lesa Bednarz and Miss Angela McIeanathan, both graduating seniors from two local high schools, were chosen from the many applications submitted to the Lodge for the cash awards. Also honored were Members and Advisors of the local Rainbow Assembly. Entertainment was provided by young singers from a local middle school. Masonic dignitaries present included Bros. Samuel C. Williamson, R.W.P.G.M. and William M. Baily, D.D.G.M.

The Lodge's Recognition Program was instituted in 1992 by Bro. Joseph A. Donham, while serving as W.M. Since its inception, the program has provided eighty $500 cash awards to graduating seniors and sixty-eight $50 U.S. Savings Bonds to students in several local elementary and middle schools. Funding for the program is accomplished through projects conducted by the Lodges and donations from the Membership. The program has its own distinctive newsletter to communicate to the Members of the Lodge, and an established special committee chaired by Bro. Jon L. DePoe, P.M.

Recognizing 75 Years

Bro. Frederick M. Hartranft was presented a 75-year certificate of Membership by Bro. Glen E. Paulhusam, District Deputy Grand Master, 18th Masonic District, during ceremonies at the Buffalo Valley Nursing Home, Lewisberry. Bro. Hartranft was made a Mason in Muncy Lodge No. 298 in 1920. Six Members of his Lodge accompanied the District Deputy for the presentation. Another Mason of the 18th District, Bro. Clifford V. Laudon, Ivy Lodge No. 397, Williamsport, also is a 75-year Member.

In Memoriam

Brother James K. Thompson, Instructor of Ritualistic Work for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, died July 3 at the age of 74 in the Memorial Medical Center, Johnstown. He was the Instructor of Ritualistic Work from 1984 until his death and Member of the Grand Master's Advisory Board of the B.W. Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania. He formerly was the Central Regional Instructor. He was Consecrated a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33rd Degree, and made an Honorary Member of Supreme Council in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction in Detroit. Bro. Thompson was a Member of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Transfiguration Temple No. XXX; Royal Order of Scotland; Honorary Legion of Honor; Order of DeMolay; Trustee of Masonic Temple Association; and Roland Fisher Mark Lodge No. 401, Pittsburgh.

In Scottish Rite, Bro. Thompson was a Past Thrice Potent Master of the Valley of Altoona, Lodge of Perfection, 1985-1986; Chairman of Executive Board, Valley of Altoona, 1985-1986; Jaffa Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., and Legion of Honor. He was a Past Chairman and Ritual Adviser of Oriental Chapter Order of DeMolay, Johnstown.

A Past Master of Johnstown Lodge No. 538 F. & A.M., he was a Member since 1954. He was a Past High Priest, Portage Royal Arch Chapter No. 195, Past Thrice Illustrious Master, Cambria Council No. 32, R. & S. M.; Past Commander, Oriental Commandary No. 61, Knights Templar; and Past Grand Tail Cedar of Allegeny Mountain Forest No. 127, Tall Cedars of Lebanon. Bro. Thompson also served as Supreme Forest Membership Committee Chairman, on the Supreme Forest Publications and Scrapbook Committee, and was a Past Governor of Commanagh Gap York Rite College No. 34. He received the York Rite Purple Cross, Associate Regent, York Rite Sovereign College of North America in 1976. He was Past Puisant Sovereign of Consam Conclave, Knights of Red Cross of Constantine, Johnstown; Past Sovereign Master of Laurel Ridge Council No. 67, Allied Masonic Degrees; a Member of Keystone Priory No. 26, Knights of the York Cross of Honor, Pittsburgh; Council of Anointed Kings, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania-Order of the Silver Travel; and the Association of Masonic Veterans of Western Pennsylvania.

Bro. Thompson was an active member of Belmont United Methodist Church, where he was general church treasurer for twenty years and member of the Finance Committee and Board of Administration. He was a retired welder from Bethlehem Steel Corp., with 38 years service, a veteran of U.S. Marine Corps and served in the South Pacific in World War II. Surviving are his wife, the former Marian E. Holzapfel, and children: Nancy Lynn Mountain, James D. Thompson and Debra D. Burkhard; also six grandchildren.

Services were held at Belmont United Methodist Church with the Rev. David S. Evans officiating. Entombment was in the Richland Mausoleum.

Contributions may be made to:
Masonic Charities, Development Office
Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199
Turning Vision Into Reality

Goal-Setting and Team Planning at Work in Victory Lodge

Before he became Worshipful Master of Victory Lodge No. 694, Bro. Jerrold (Jerry) H. Robison brought back from the HIRAM I training the dynamics of leadership, the challenges of goal-setting, the value of team planning and the enthusiasm of vision. A third of the way through his year as Worshipful Master, he and “the Victory Team” could see the vision materializing into reality — a victory for Victory Lodge in renewed enthusiasm for fraternal activities in the Lodge and among the Brethren and their families.

“Bro. Robison and the team set their goals for 1995, following the challenges of the HIRAM I training guidelines,” explained Bro. G. Kent Hackney, the Director of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Leadership and Management, Inc. “The team wasted no time in setting into motion the elements of the Leadership and Management process that would fulfill their goals.”

The Worshipful Master explained that actually his first goal was his dream — a vision, if you will. He wanted to experience the thrill of seeing the Lodge filled with Members, not just once, but several times during his term as Worshipful Master. “As of the April Meeting, this has been accomplished twice,” he reported. Among the goals is permanently increasing attendance. Sponsoring a family event is another 1995 goal for Victory Lodge and one of those occurred in June. It was a Friend to Friend “Three Lodge Family Picnic” for Members, families and friends of Victory Lodge, Butler Lodge No. 272 and William H. Miller Lodge No. 764, all of which Meet in the Butler Masonic Temple.

Three Lodge Picnic — Members, families and friends of Butler Lodge No. 272, Victory Lodge No. 694 and William H. Miller Lodge No. 764, all of which Meet in the Butler Masonic Temple, enjoyed a Friend to Friend “Three Lodge Family Picnic.”

“Share a Ride” Brings Brethren Back to Lodge

“Share a Ride” in Victory Lodge has brought Brethren back to the Lodge who hadn’t been there for quite some time because of a lack of transportation. Junior Master of Ceremonies, Bro. Wade Kendrick, suggested the plan and with the help of the Secretary, Bro. Charles Montag, P.M., Members were contacted.

Unique Programs for Brethren, Ladies at Annual Meeting

Worshipful Master Bro. Jerrold H. Robison and his wife organized the annual Ladies Night for Victory Lodge. The Ladies attended a program on “Self Defense” while the Brethren conducted their Stated Meeting. Then, everyone assembled in the Lodge Room for a special program on “Organized Chaos,” a program about a useful process for organizing one’s activities. Dinner followed the program.

Masonic Cycle Club offers Lodge Program

The Masonic Motorcycle Club visited Victory Lodge, presented the June program and displayed their cycles for the public. The club brings together Masons with a common interest in motorcycle riding and through it promotes fellowship and interest in the Fraternity.

Reminding Heroic Brethren of WWII

The heroic contributions of Masons in World War II are recalled in a nostalgic display in the Masonic Center in West Reading, commemorating the anniversary of the D-Day landing in Normandy through the anniversary of the unconditional surrender by Japan in 1945.

The first thing Bro. Raymond Gottschall, Ill (right in photo), Immediate Past Master of Reading Lodge No. 469, did when he became the Librarian for the Masonic Center last March, was to collect World War II military memorabilia from the Brethren of the Lodges who are WWII veterans. Historical items such as uniforms, flags, equipment, weapons, news clippings, and more, came from attics, trunks and trophy cases to make up a dramatic display. In fact, Bro. Gottschall said that he has “so many interesting things” that he changes the display every week or two to give all a chance to be seen and to maintain a high level of interest.

Bro. Gottschall succeeded Bro. Robert E. Miller, P.M. of Lodge No. 62, Reading, who had held that volunteer position for many years. In the photo, Bro. Gottschall (right) shows some of the WWII uniform memorabilia to Bro. Miller, who feels comfortable with the Marine Corps hat and helmet. Bro. Miller said that as a veteran of both WWII and the Korean War, he virtually lived out of the helmet at times and recalls even using it one time to make fudge.