THE GRAND LODGE F. & A.M. OF PENNSYLVANIA
Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2198

Postmaster: Send address changes to above.
Please include complete list of address on your postal return slipping.
Brethren:

Having served several months as your R.W. Grand Master, I have found the position to be challenging and a very interesting experience. Thank you all for the courtesies and expressions of confidence extended to me through calls, letters and fellowship of the fraternity. I will do my utmost to fulfill your trust in me.

During my inaugural address, I announced that my time would be devoted to Pennsylvania Masonry, visiting Schools of Instruction and Blue Lodges across the Commonwealth. I have visited several schools and several lodges. In some instances, I found that the work being done is outstanding, but also it has been my observation that in some lodges, the work needs attention. I will be visiting many other lodges during the next several months and I trust that each of you will endeavor to improve the mechanics and the ritual that is so vital to the success of our fraternity.

Brethren, without good work, we can not impress the candidates who are joining our fraternity. They deserve the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of our work and to gain a full, working understanding of the meaning of the grips, words and signs of our degrees and realize their application to our daily lives.

It also is important that we, as Masons, contact our brethren who do not attend lodge for one reason or another. Those individuals need your fraternal concern. We should be interested in their well-being, as well as determining if they are in financial need. Be especially alert if members neglect to pay their dues and thereby are at risk of being suspended. As such, they cannot enjoy the many benefits our fraternity offers them and their families. Remember, a man suspended for non-payment of dues cannot receive an application to our Masonic Homes for himself or his family; cannot take advantage of the thousands of dollars offered in scholarships for his children; and cannot continue his membership in the coordinate bodies.

During the first three months as your Grand Master, I have contacted by telephone more than 26 Brethren who are recuperating from operations or strokes. Each of them has truly appreciated my concern. As long as my time permits, I will continue to contact those who are sick, or those who are in need of friendship. Brethren, I cannot contact everyone; but I trust that the District Deputy Grand Masters and the members of the fraternity will take on the responsibility to look after those who are in need.

Please assist me. Contact a lonely brother and seek to know how he is doing. Charles Dickens put it this way:

"I shall not pass this way again through this bustling world, alas! Once, and only once, I pass, if a knave or a knothead I may prove. If a good deed I may do To a suffering fellow man, Let me do it while I can.

No delay, for it is plain, I shall not pass this way again.

Brethren, we must make every effort to stop suspensions. We must continue to realize that our brotherhood cannot continue to exist as one of the oldest fraternities in the world unless you bring worthy men into the lodge. Just introduce one man like yourself into your lodge. We know that you have good friends who would desire to share the fraternal fellowship of your lodge. You can make it happen. Help your lodge grow in membership because you care about your fraternity — a fraternity that helps society every day.

We trust that each of you has taken the opportunity to attend the family programs being offered across the state. We look forward to meeting you as you attend the family entertainment programs in the future.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Edward O. Weisser, R.W. Grand Master

Edward O. Weisser, R.W. Grand Master

About the Cover

With the former grandeur of the National Memorial Arch as a backdrop on the cover, the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and officials of the National Park Service are shown during ceremonies for signing the agreement to restore the historical monument.

In the top photo, the agreement is being signed (left to right): R.W. Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson; R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser; Marie Rust, Field Director for National Park Service; and Arthur L. Stewart, Superintendent of the Valley Forge National Historical Park.

R.W. Grand Master Weisser leads the R.W. Grand Lodge Officers in procession after signing the agreement to restore the Arch.

In the bottom photo, Superintendent Stewart (left), Ms. Rust and Grand Master Weisser join in commemorative remarks at the signing of the agreement.

Memorial Arch

continued from page 1

"Masonry has always been there to answer the call," said R.W. Grand Master Weisser. "Certainly, Brother Washington and his embattled troops did when they endured that brutal winter encampment in 1777 and 1778.

In his address to those gathered on the hillside upon which the Arch stands, Grand Master Weisser said: "One may ask, ‘why would Masons of Pennsylvania spend $1.5-million to repair this Arch?’ The answer is easy. It is because we, as Masons, believe our children, and their children, need to know that the men in 1777 cared about freedom and that the Masons in 1996 still care about freedom and remember those who encamped here."

When the restoration is completed, The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will place a time capsule at the Arch to contain national and Masonic historical items, including a memorial pice containing the names of those who join in supporting the restoration of this national treasure. The time capsule will be covered by a capstone including the square and compasses emblem and attribution to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

A wayside display will be designed and positioned at the approach to the Memorial Arch referencing the dedication of the Freemasons in restoring the Arch. Visiting the Arch will be an integral part of the official Valley Forge National Park tour.

The ceremony for the signing of the $1.5-million agreement was conducted beneath the Arch. Superintendent of the Valley Forge National Historical Park, Arthur L. Stewart, presided and explained enthusiastically about how the Masons of Pennsylvania have come forward to meet the need to preserve an important piece of our nation’s heritage. Congressman and Bro. Jon D. Fox, of the 13th District where Valley Forge is located, was present to express appreciation to the Masons.

Marie Rust, Field Director for the Northeast Area of the National Park Service, represented the U.S. Secretary of Interior, and signed the agreement on behalf of the government. Addressing the audience clustered on the hillside around the monument, stated Freemasonry’s historic dedication to the principles of freedom, liberty and brotherhood exemplified by General Washington.

Grand Master Weisser said that the cornerstone of George Washington’s Headquarters at Valley Forge was originally laid by General Washington.

Grand Master Weisser said that the cornerstone of George Washington’s Headquarters at Valley Forge was originally laid by General Washington.

Dean E. Vaughn, P.M., was named chairman. Serving on the Committee are: Edward O. Weisser, R.W.G.M.; George H. Hohenshilft, R.W.P.G.M.; Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer; Henry Cole, P.M.; Carl R. Rohm, P.M., Dr. Ethel G. Warfel; and Elaine F. Fabian, P.M. The architect is Edwin R. Junkin, P.M., of JWF Architects, Harrisburg.

Benjamin and Libby Arbuckle, are the restoration contractors.

This will be the third important Valley Forge building project in which the Masons of Pennsylvania will have participated. On June 18, 1777, on the 101st anniversary of the evacuation by Gen. Washington and the Continental Army, Washington Monument was dedicated by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

On June 19, 1928, the 150th anniversary of the evacuation, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania laid the cornerstone of the Washington Memorial Chapel in the Valley Forge National Park.
Brethren:

Having served several months as your R.W. Grand Master, I have found the position to be challenging and a very interesting experience. Thank you all for the courtesies and expressions of confidence extended to me through calls, letters and fellowship of the fraternity. I will do my utmost to fulfill my trust in me. During my inaugural address, I announced that my time would be devoted to Pennsylvania Masonry, visiting Schools of Instruction and Blue Lodges across the Commonwealth, I have visited several schools and several lodges. In some instances, I found that the work being done is outstanding; but, also it has been my observation that in some lodges, the work needs attention. I will be visiting many other lodges during the next several months and I trust that each of you will endeavor to improve the mechanics and the ritual that is so vital to the success of our fraternity.

Brethren, without good work, we can not impress the candidates who are joining our fraternity. They deserve the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of our work and to gain a full, working understanding of the meaning of the grips, words and signs of our degrees and find in them their realization of our application to our daily lives.

It also is important that we, as Masons, contact our brethren who do not attend lodge for one reason or another. Those individuals need our fraternal concern. We should be interested in their well-being, as well as determining if they are in financial trouble or not. Those individuals need your attention, they cannot enjoy the many benefits our fraternity offers them and their families. Remember, a man suspended for non-payment of dues cannot receive an application to our Masonic Homes for himself or his family cannot take advantage of the thousands of dollars offered in scholarships for his children; and cannot continue his membership in the coordinate bodies.

During the first three months as your Grand Master, I have contacted by telephone more than 25 brethren who are recuperating from operations or strokes. Each of them has truly appreciated my concern. As long as my time permits, I will continue to contact those who are sick, or those who are in need of friendship. Brethren, I cannot contact everyone, but I trust that the District Deputy Grand Masters and the members of the fraternity will take on the responsibility to look after those who are in need.

Please assist me. Contact a lonely brother and seek to know how he is doing. Charles Dickens put it this way:

"I shall not pass this way again."

Through this broken world, alas!

Once, and only once, I pass;
If a kindness I may show,
If a good deed I may do,
To a suffering fellow man,
If kindness I may show,
Let me do it while I can.
No delay, for it is plain,
I shall not pass this way again.

Brethren, we must make every effort to stop suspensions. We must continue to realize that our brotherhood cannot continue to exist as one of the oldest fraternities in the world unless you bring worthy men into the lodge. Just introduce one man like yourself into your lodge. We know that you have good friends who would desire to share the fraternal fellowship of your lodge. You can make it happen. Help your lodge grow in membership because you care about your fraternity—a fraternity that helps society every day.

We trust that each of you has taken the opportunity to attend the family entertainment programs being offered across the state. We look forward to meeting you as you attend the family entertainment programs in the future.

Sincerely and fraternal,

Edward O. Weisser, R.W. Grand Master

About the Cover

With the former grandurce of the National Memorial Arch as a backdrop on the cover, the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and officials of the National Park Service are shown during ceremonies for signing the agreement to restore the historical monument.

In the top photo, the agreement is being signed (left to right): R.W. Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson; R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser; Marie Rust, Field Director for National Park Service; and Arthur L. Stewar, Superintendent of the Valley Forge National Historical Park.

R.W. Grand Master Weisser reads the R.W. Grand Lodge Officers in procession after signing the agreement to restore the Arch.

In the bottom photo, Superintendent Stewart (left), Mr. Rust and Grand Master Weisser join in commemorative remarks at the signing of the agreement.

Memorial Arch continued from page 1

"Masonry has always been there to answer the call," said R.W. Grand Master Weisser. "Certainly, Brother Washington and his embattled troops did when they endured that brutal winter encampment in 1777 and 1778."

In his address to those gathered on the hillside upon which the Arch stands, Grand Master Weisser said: "One may ask, 'why would Masons spend $1.5-million to repair this Arch?' The answer is easy: It is because we, as Masons, believe our children, and their children, need to know that the men in 1777 cared about freedom and the Masonic Homes in 1968 still care about freedom and remember those who encamped here."

When the restoration is completed, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will place a time capsule at the Arch to contain national and Masonic historical items, including a monumental piece containing the names of those who join in supporting the restoration of this national treasure. The time capsule will be covered by a capstone including the square and compass emblem and attribution to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

A wayside display will be designed and positioned at the approach to the Memorial Arch referencing the dedication of the Freemasons in restoring the Arch. Visiting the Arch will be an integral part of the official Valley Forge National Park tour.

The ceremony for the signing of the $1.5-million agreement was con-

R.W. Grand Master Weisser (second from right) explains to R.W. Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson (left) and Committee Chairman Dean E. Vaughn, that it was Bro. Henry Cole, P.M. (right), of Southampton Rufus Star Lodge No. 896, Hatboro, who suggested that Pennsylvania Masons should undertake the restoration of the National Memorial Arch.

R.W. Grand Master Weisser, (second from right) explains to R.W. Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson (left) and Committee Chairman Dean E. Vaughn, that it was Bro. Henry Cole, P.M. (right), of Southampton Rufus Star Lodge No. 896, Hatboro, who suggested that Pennsylvania Masons should undertake the restoration of the National Memorial Arch.

Dean E. Vaughn, P.M., was named chairman. Serving on the Committee are: Edward O. Weisser, R.W.O.M.; George H. Hohneshildt, R.W.P.G.M.; Marvin G. Speicher, R.W. Grand Treasurer; Henry Cole, P.M.; Carl R. Fahn, P.F.; Dr. Elwin G. Wartef; and Blaine F. Fabian, P.M. The architect is Edwin R. Junkin, P.M. of J.F.W. Architects, Harrisburg. R.W. Grand Master Weisser and Every Cole, P.M., are the restoration contractors.

This will be the third important Valley Forge building project in which the Masons of Pennsylvania will have participated. On June 15, 1879, on the 101st anniversary of the evacuation by Gen. Washington and the Continental Army, Washington's Headquarters was dedicated by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. On June 19, 1928, the 150th anniversary of the evacuation, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania laid the cornerstone of the Washington Memorial Chapel in the Valley Forge National Park.
Eight new District Deputy Grand Masters were formally introduced by R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser in three presentation ceremonies across the state during January and February. The open presentations, attended by the families and friends of the new district deputies, were held in Philadelphia, Scranton, and Beaver Falls.


In Beaver Falls, (bottom photo), Past District Deputy Grand Master Leonard Ruckert (left), Rochester Lodge No. 229, presented purple aprons to Richard E. Lawhead (center), Western Star Lodge No. 304, Albion, 25th Masonic District, and William R. Marvin, Parian Lodge No. 602, Beaver Falls, 37th Masonic District.

Sgt. Phil Talks Against Drugs

Sgt. Philip Bueki (right), of the Pike County Sheriff's Office and Chief Instructor of D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officers for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, addressed the brethren during the March Quarterly Communication. He concluded an important message on the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse by thanking the Masons of Pennsylvania for their support of the D.A.R.E. program and presented a banner to R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser (center) and Joseph W. Witte (left), Director of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children. Sgt. Bueki, also known as "Sgt. Phil," a television personality who communicates anti-drug messages, is the Senior Warden of Almon Roller Falls Lodge No. 344. He noted that the Patton Campus at Elizabethtown is the designated D.A.R.E. training center for Pennsylvania and that by the end of 1996 more than 200 law enforcement officers will have been trained there.

WINAMAKER MEDAL AWARDED TO MCKEESPORT EDITOR

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser said, "We should honor those who deserve an honor but do little to make others aware of it," when he presented the John Wanamaker Masonic Humanitarian Medal to Eleanor Kratzer, the Women's Page Editor of The McKeesport Daily News. The honor was bestowed during the 40th Masonic District's 15th annual retiring Worshipful Masters' banquet on January 20. The John Wanamaker Award is presented to a person who is not a Mason, but supports the ideals and philosophy of the Fraternity.

Grand Master Weisser also presented one of his Grand Master's "Charity" medallions to Ms. Kratzer, emphasizing, "Charity isn't just about money ... we are honoring a lady who does things as a charitable person."

During the evening, District Deputy Grand Master Jay J. McEvoy presented the eight retiring Worshipful Masters of the district and recognized them for their service. The Master of Ceremonies was Past District Deputy Grand Master William J. Eberhauser.
AN EXCITING NEW BENEFIT FOR FREEMASONS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Because you are a member of the world's largest fraternity, you can now obtain insurance benefits at affordable rates!

The annual premiums below are based on your age at the time you apply and the amount of coverage you desire.

**Present Age**
- Benefit 18-34: 35-44: 45-54: 55-65
- $10,000: $36: $48: $60: $72
- $20,000: $72: $96: $120: $144
- $30,000: $108: $144: $180: $216
- $40,000: $144: $192: $240: $288
- $50,000: $180: $240: $300: $360

(Premiums guaranteed for one year.)

You can qualify for coverage by answering just four simple questions (on the attached application). No physical exams, no blood tests and no detailed questionnaires are required.

Once issued, your coverage amount is guaranteed until age 66 when it will be reduced by 50%. The coverage will terminate at age 71, when you will be given the option to convert all or part of your protection to an individual policy. The individual policy will be issued without the need for a medical examination.

As a Freemason, you can take advantage of our large group buying power to purchase quality group term life insurance easily and affordably.

### Police Team Confers Degree

A team of uniformed police officers conferred the Master Mason's Degree on Howard T. Silbaugh in Westmoreland County Lodge No. 518, Greensburg, on Tuesday, June 13, 1996. Silbaugh is a Pennsylvania State Police Trooper stationed in Troop "A", Greensburg. The degree team comprised members of the PIN Club of Pittsburgh, which is made up of area police officers. R.W. Deputy Grand Master James L. Ernette, a retired State Police Trooper and charter member of the PIN Club, was present for the conferment of the degree. The PIN Club Degree Team comprised the following brethren (above left to right): Front: Warren Fritzoy; Paul Runk, P.M.; R.W.D.G.M. Ernette; Candidate Sielbaugh; Al Rill, W.M.; Thomas Hanne, P.M.; David R. Alman, W.M.; Rear: Daniel Koniezcka, P.M.; Charles Conroy; Lewis R. Rouhecker, P.M.; Leo McCafferty, J.W.; Gene Hlavac; James Vogel; and Timothy Hanna.

### First Friend to Friend Purple Jackets Awarded

Eight of the thirty brethren to earn the Grand Master's First Friend to Friend purple jackets received their awards from R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser during the Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication in Philadelphia on March 6, 1996. The recipients are (1-r): Front row - John William Doyle, S.M.C.; and Harry K. Ott, W.M., both of Pennsylvania Meridian Sun Lodge No. 2, Philadelphia; Grand Master Weisser; Marvin G. Speichler, R.W. Grand Treasurer; Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf; and Richard Buckett, J.W., Richard Vann-Ivavhove Lodge No. 384, Philadelphia. Back row - Ralph H. Besecker, D.D.G.M., 33rd Masonic District, Kane Lodge No. 566, James F. Young, Grand Steward, Thompson Lodge No. 340, Paoli; A. J. (Bud) Garvey, P.M., Assistant to the Grand Master; and Joseph W. Wiste, Director of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation - D&G, both of Richard Vann-Ivavhove Lodge No. 384, Philadelphia. Brethren can earn the purple jackets and join the Grand Master's Team by being the first-line signer of a petition for a candidate who is initiated while Bro. Weisser is the Grand Master. The jackets are not for sale; they must be earned in the First Friend to Friend effort.
### Instructive Two-Day Workshop Held For District Deputies and Their Ladies

The District Deputies of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and their ladies formed the line of action in every venture to improve and strengthen Freemasonry in Pennsylvania.

After the Grand Master outlined programs for the next two years, the District Deputies formed seven breakout groups to identify recurring problems they face. Collectively, the problems were prioritized for solutions and action.


At the conclusion of the Friday afternoon session, Dean Vaughn, P.M., introduced two new Grand Lodge programs: An instructive two-day workshop to be available to the brethren, and a memory training program available to brethren and their families through the Blue Lodges.

### Aid For Mother in Need

Lodges in District "E" responded to an appeal for help from an Oklahoma mother that started in Ohio, involved a New England lodge and reached Philadelphia through the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Last year, the mother of a nine-year-old son was diagnosed with breast cancer of her upper right leg. The original diagnosis suggested amputation of her leg almost to the hip. However, through a computer network, she was contacted by a doctor at the Fox Chase Cancer Center who told her that she reviewed her records and determined that a femur bone and knee replacement could be accomplished.

While the mother had medical insurance, she needed assistance for travel, lodging, and food. She contacted the Grand Lodge of Ohio to seek and Lodge "E" of the lodge of her deceased father in New England and then became involved and asked the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for help. District Deputy Dale E. Fets turned to the lodges in District "E" who responded with donations totaling $1,075 to be combined with contributions from the New England lodge. The lodges in District "E" are Nos. 51, 67, 81, 246, 296, 384, 385, 400 and 422.

The happy postscript is that the operation was a success and the prognosis is excellent.

### Library and Museum Update

Details of picture-hanging side, the Library has settled into its new quarters along the hallway on the south side of the Masonic Temple. In the place of the library reading room off the Museum is the new gift shop. Bro. Ken Stevens is constantly receiving new items, including regalia accessories, such as gloves and bow ties.

The catalogue will be revised periodically. Call (215) 988-1973 and ask for the Grand Master's Office.

The Museum has remained the same. Shown up on the right is the new reference reading room.

As many of you know, the John Wanamaker department store has changed hands several times. This time, however, the name was changed to Hecht's. Since John Wanamaker was the Chairman of the Committee on Library from 1906 until his death in 1922, the Librarian and Curator asked if the Museum might obtain one of the John Wanamaker department store's signature signs which adorned the flagship store at 13th and Market Streets in Philadelphia. After the usual complication, staff members walked to the store, handtruck in tow, and returned triumphantly with the sign.

Wanamaker are pictured below in a temporary exhibit on the table in the circulating library room.

#### Memory Course Now Available for Freemasons and Their Families

Pennsylvania Freemasons and their families now can participate in a video memory course which is guaranteed to be the fastest, easiest and most effective memory development course available. The program is presented in organization terminology for each session.

The course teaches techniques which can be applied immediately to any occupation or profession. It provides students with learning strategies to remember names, places, facts, or material in the classroom. The techniques and exercises are designed to help individuals remain mentally alert for a lifetime. It is ideal for maintaining mental alertness or for anyone desiring to speak without notes. It develops self-confidence and stress reduction.

Although the course is sold to individuals for $179, the Grand Lodge has arranged with the publishers to make it available to Freemasons and their families for only $18.

The price of the Learning Guide. Participants may view the video scheduled sessions at their Blue Lodge.

Blue Lodges may acquire a site-license which permits them to make the course available to a maximum number of their members and their families. The site license is available to Blue Lodges through the Grand Lodge Library and Museum for only $169 (this site license is sold to companies for $465). The lodge may purchase the Learning Guides in any quantity for resale to each participant.

The Grand Lodge is pleased to make this excellent program available to the Freemasons of Pennsylvania and their families. It is another benefit that can be discussed with non-Masons who are considering petitioning for membership.

#### Lodge Supports Public TV

Ten members of Lancaster Lodge No. 43, led by Worshipful Master Nathaniel Gilchrist, staffed telephones for four hours in January during the public television membership campaign of Channel 33, WITF-TV, Harrisburg.

During the program, Gilchrist discussed the Fraternity and its support in the community.

#### New Exhibit on Fraternalism

A new, permanent display, "Initiating America: Three Centuries of Lodge Life," has been opened at The Scottish Rite Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington, MA. The exhibit traces the evolution from their earliest days in 1733 of the "secret" fraternal and sororal societies that were formed to offer fellowship, aid and self-improvement to their members. Freemasonry, in particular, is examined in depth. The Museum has become a premier American repository of Masonic and fraternal items.
Brother Zacharellis Retires From Committee

William Zacharellis was recognized at the March 22 meeting of the Committee on Masonic Homes for eight years of dedicated service to the Masonic Homes and was presented with an inscribed Hamilton Masonic Watch. Zacharellis is a Past Master of Hyde Park Lodge No. 339 and was the Northeastern Ritualistic Instructor for the Grand Lodge from 1960 to 1982.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser has appointed Guy T. Matthews to the Committee on Masonic Homes. Matthews, who resides in Langhorne, is a member of Tacony Lodge No. 600, Philadelphia, and a Past District Deputy Grand Master of District D.

The Masonic Homes Presents Mission Statement

The Masonic Homes has carried out the mission of love and caring for Pennsylvania Masons and their families since 1910. This conveys the commitment to quality of life and respect for all residents that is in the hearts and minds of the Committee on Masonic Homes, the Masonic Homes' staff, and volunteers.

To provide a caring community where individuals, families, and children have the opportunity to enjoy a full and enriched life through the benevolence of Freemasonry.

Quality of Life:
We are committed to providing for the health and well-being of body, mind, and spirit through a continuum of care for our adults, and to provide each individual with the dignity and compassion necessary for human development.

We are committed to providing a stable, nurturing, home-like environment for our children, in which they can develop life skills and values as they grow into adulthood.

We are committed to extending our services through diversified outreach programs to enhance the quality of life of others.

Respect for the Individual:
We encourage each resident, employee, relative, and visitor to promote and respect the individuality of others within a caring community.

Quality Service:
We are all ambassadors of the Masonic Homes. All that we say and do reflects upon the reputation of our organization and the level of integrity in which we desire to operate. We are committed to providing quality services through a competent and compassionate staff.

Masonic Homes' Outreach Program Continues to Serve

The Masonic Homes' Outreach Program has existed since April 1994 to help Pennsylvania Freemasons and the needy in the Masonic Homes. Efforts have gone beyond the Fraternity. Just as Masons care for suffering children and the needy in our communities, the Outreach Program extends Masonic Homes' reach far beyond Elizabethtown and beyond the Fraternity, to provide information and help people in need—wherever they may be.

For several months, the Outreach Director has been visiting our brethren in lodges across Pennsylvania to inform and educate the Fraternity about these benefits of Freemasonry. The Outreach Program, just as the Masonic Homes and the fellowship of membership, is a benefit of Freemasonry. With this information, many have inquired as to how the Outreach Program might help them, and help we give.

Literature, information, transporta­tion services, insurance, advance directives, and financial assistance are but a few of the services provided by Outreach to people requiring assistance. Vides, pamphlets, brochures, and referrals have been supplied to persons calling the toll-free Outreach line. Remember that your membership in the Fraternity provides you with benefits, of which the Masonic Homes' Outreach Program is one.

Mark Your Calendar

Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes!
Saturday, September 28
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Autumn Day, an open house for Masons, is a great opportunity for all Pennsylvania Masons to invite family and friends to witness first-hand the beauty of the facility and learn about the variety of caring services provided.

The Masonic Homes' Outreach Program has existed since April 1994 to help Pennsylvania Freemasons and their families since 1910. This conveys the commitment to quality of life and respect for all residents that is in the hearts and minds of the Committee on Masonic Homes, the Masonic Homes' staff, and volunteers.

Our "Mission Of Love" Values

Quality of Life:
We are committed to providing for the health and well-being of body, mind, and spirit through a continuum of care for our adults, and to provide each individual with the dignity and compassion necessary for human development.

We are committed to providing a stable, nurturing, home-like environment for our children, in which they can develop life skills and values as they grow into adulthood.

We are committed to extending our services through diversified outreach programs to enhance the quality of life of others.

Respect for the Individual:
We encourage each resident, employee, relative, and visitor to promote and respect the individuality of others within a caring community.

Quality Service:
We are all ambassadors of the Masonic Homes. All that we say and do reflects upon the reputation of our organization and the level of integrity in which we desire to operate. We are committed to providing quality services through a competent and compassionate staff.

The 1995 Annual Report for the Masonic Charities is being sent to you as an integral part of this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason. The 16-page report begins on the following page.

1995 Annual Report
Brethren and Friends:

Charity, the first tenet of Freemasonry, is personified through the help, relief, and vital services provided for others by the various Masonic Charities of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

This annual report is more than words and figures. It is a measure of the efficiency and the effectiveness of dedicated support throughout our charitable endeavors.

The Masonic Homes in 1995 continues to add to its health care facilities and further extends its caring mission of service. The Masonic Homes, as an active retirement community, provides extensive opportunities for residents. The growing Outreach Program offers information, referrals, education, and assistance to Masonic and non-Masonic individuals and families all over the United States. The youth at our Masonic Children's Home are comfortably situated in a new family style environment in home-like cottages on the campus which is supported by Pennsylvania Masons.

Freemasonry continues its strong emphasis on the welfare and development of youth through activities of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation which offers leadership and guidance, scholarships and facilities for Masonically-related youth organizations; and The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children which provides training programs conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for teachers and counselors of school districts throughout Pennsylvania dealing with drug and alcohol prevention and detection programs. This Foundation also provides programs through DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) conducted by the Training Center of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. A prevention program in which trained police officers provide accurate information about alcohol and drugs, teach young students decision making skills, and how to resist peer pressure, and give them alternatives to drug use.

The culture and heritage of the Fraternity and our nation are preserved in The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, world renowned for its outstanding historical art collections and research capabilities. Six branch libraries are planned to be opened across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for use by Masons and their families.

Masons in Pennsylvania reach out community-wide to help people through the Masonic Charities Fund, supporting especially worthy programs for education, research treatment, personal relief, and disaster relief.

Your generous support is appreciated. You can always make a tax-deductible contribution to one of the Masonic Charities through either the annual appeal, your local United Way campaign, or the Combined Federal Program. Simply designate one of the Masonic Charities to receive your gift.

Thank you for caring.

Sincerely and fraternaly,

Edward O. Weisser
R. W. Grand Master

1995 Annual Report

Modernization, expanded care and outreach describe the goals and accomplishments at the Masonic Homes during 1995.

As the year ended, Phase IV of the on-going construction and modernization program was virtually completed for occupancy early in 1996. The new West Wing of the Masonic Health Care Center will provide a Transitional Unit, a therapy pool, a meditation chapel, therapeutic recreation rooms, large assembly room, library and gift shop. All areas are designed to accommodate residents using wheelchairs or other assistive devices.

The new Transitional Unit is an excellent example of the Masonic Homes' vital new services established to meet the health care needs of the changing times. Individuals now are being discharged earlier from hospitals and often require specialized, skilled care before they can return to their most independent living situation possible. The Transitional Unit that became operational in the beginning of 1996 places emphasis on rehabilitation and recovery.

The Brown Building was renovated into 31 apartments that are now home for 46 residents. Renovation of the Charles Eisenlohr Building into apartments nearing completion at year's end.

The Adult Daily Living Center was opened in August to address another important need. This service provides three quality, cost-effective alternatives that enable families to keep adult relatives in need of daily ongoing support services at home. The first is Respite Care, where an elderly family member's needs can be met in the center while the family gains a period of relief from the demands of caring for them. In our General Participation Program, older adults with serious problems, such as those caused by strokes, can be helped to become more active in recreational and social programs. In the Community Reintegration Program, younger adults with serious problems, such as those caused by brain injuries and strokes, can be helped in transition to community-based and vocational-based programs.

The Outreach Program did reach out dramatically in 1995. The program was established the previous summer to offer services to people who are living outside of the Masonic Homes of Elizabethtown. So often, people in need of help or information become confused or don't know who to trust with the myriad of government programs and agency services available to them. The Outreach Program has helped many, whether related to the Masonic Fraternity or not, with advice, assistance and referrals relating to available programs and services. This is another opportunity for Freemasonry to make a difference in communities across Pennsylvania.

The Children's Home at the Masonic Homes served 32 youths in a new home-like cottage environment. While the youth were celebrating Christmas '94 and New Year '95 holidays, their living quarters were moved from the dormitory-style accommodations at the Louis Eisenlohr, Charles Pienloch and two John Smith buildings to the four new cottages on the hill overlooking the Masonic Homes' campus. There are two cottages for girls and two cottages for boys. Through Alumni Association support and other generous contributions, recreational and athletic equipment has been purchased and installed for the respective age groups.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser emphasizes "...the importance of Charity in a person's life, especially in the lives of Freemasons." At the Masonic Homes, Charity is the result of planning with vision, achievement with purpose, operations with responsibility and worthy stewardship of contributions, bequests and philanthropic income.

Lewis T. Williams, a resident of the Independent Living Community, utilizing the Transitional Unit services of the new West Wing in the Masonic Health Care Center.
The operating expenses of the Masonic Homes have historically exceeded our operating revenues. Through the generosity of Freemasons and friends of the Fraternity, contributions and bequests enable us to cover this deficit. The bequests and investments allow us to continue and expand our services to our residents.

The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, through the sponsorship of programs and activities of the International Order of DeMolay for young men, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls and the International Order of Job's Daughters, provides opportunities for personal growth and development that epitomize the character-building mission of Freemasonry.

One of the strongest influences on young people is the example of their peers. In the Masonic youth groups, positive peer pressure helps each member to learn leadership skills, develop habits which support their value system and share their beliefs in the country and their God.

By focusing its efforts to help each youth group to achieve "PLUS ONE" in membership, the Foundation will reward growth. Both DeMolay and Job's Daughters grew in membership in 1995. By providing programs at the Masonic Conference Center for each youth group, the Foundation supports recruitment and activities that are vital to each group's success.

Supporting the family is at the core of the mission of all Masonic youth groups. Parents are encouraged to serve in leadership roles, attend youth ceremonies to see beautiful ritual work, attend social activities and take part in community service programs.

The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation appreciates the generous contributions of time, money and the support extended for the good young people of the Masonic youth groups.
The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children achieved its goals in 1995 for substance abuse awareness, education, prevention and intervention through support and partnerships in education, law enforcement and community service.

The Student Assistance Program training in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Education remains a cornerstone in the Foundation's efforts. As a direct result, approximately 9,600 educators from 1,233 schools across the state have become part of vital Student Assistance Teams.

For the second year, the Foundation cooperated with D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) to make possible similar training for 129 law enforcement personnel from across the state to go into schools and educate 5th and 6th grade youth about the evils of drug and alcohol abuse and teach them how to resist peer pressures.

Seven $1,000 scholarships were awarded in honor of the Foundation's founder, the late Past Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., to young men and women who have overcome substance abuse through the Student Assistance Program.

Typical of the community service programs were the Freedom Walk and Run in Philadelphia that raised $30,000 which was shared by anti-drug organizations, and the Foundation's participation in the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Key Man Conference. Foundation speakers made presentations to FTA's, service clubs, Masonic youth groups and lodges.

Board of Directors

James L. Ernette, President
B. W. Depuy Grand Master
Greensburg

Edward B. McCartney, Chairman

James J. Campauille
Philadelphia

Eugene D. Lucas
Daromore

Walter C. Daniels
Mechanicsburg

Larry R. Emigh
Boalsburg

Stanley A. Kozmetzky
Huntington Valley

Jeffrey S. Greene
Philadelphia

Andrew M. Pecuch
Leightown

The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

The nationally historic Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, a museum unto itself, was fully restored following the damage that occurred during the construction of the adjacent new Philadelphia Justice Center. The Lodge Halls, Museum and Library and its book stack areas are as good as new. The popular Circulating Library Catalog has been revised and reprinted and is available upon request.

What started as a catalog mail order service in mid-1995 became a Museum Gift Shop by the end of the year. A display and sales area was created in the expanded Museum. Highlights from a list of 1995 additions to the Library and Museum collections include: The Papers of Andrew Jackson published by the University of Tennessee and a typed letter signed by Bro. Ruyard Kipling concerning his Masonic associations.

Board of Directors

Edward O. Weisser, Chairman
R. W. Grand Master
Langhorn

Arthur J. Kurtz
R. W. Past Grand Master
Huntingdon

John K. Young
R. W. Past Grand Master
Philadelphia

Joseph F. Acton
New Eagle

Elvin G. Wefel
Chairman

Theodore K. Warner
Newtown Square

John W. Loose
Lancaster

Glennys A. Waldman, Secretary
Harleysville

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation For Leadership and Management, Inc.

By the time The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Leadership and Management, Inc. had completed four years of operations in 1995, more than a thousand lodge leaders from 235 lodges had participated in HIRAM I Leadership seminars and Strategic Planning workshops. To accomplish this, the Foundation developed a facilitator staff that started with seven and grew to forty leaders.

During 1995, the Foundation conducted four two-day HIRAM I seminars for lodge leaders, developed a one-day strategic planning workshop and conducted it three times across the state, and trained facilitators in a two-day conference. The Foundation participated in the national Masonic Renewal Conference, conducted mini-workshops for a Scottish Rite Body and a Knights Templar Section, presented programs in many lodges, and staffed displays at a number of fraternal events. Three new brochures were introduced; one defines the Foundation, the second details HIRAM I's leadership and management skills development, and the third emphasizes strategic planning for lodges. Also, a new folder was distributed to District Deputy Grand Masters explaining the skills needed to serve as a facilitator.

On December 28, the Board of Directors of the Leadership and Management Foundation took action to dissolve the foundation.

Board of Directors

Edward B. McCartney, Chairman
Gettysburg

Lester A. Kern
Huntingdon

Robert S. Swoyer
Allonsown

David Jacobs
Leighton

Masonic Charities Fund

The Masonic Charities Fund is general in its name, but very special in the way it quietly provides help where it is needed, when it is needed. Not only does it epitomize the meaning of "Charity," it also exemplifies in deeds a principal characteristic of the Masonic Fraternity, the Brotherhood of Man and the Fatherhood of God.

The "Masonic Charities Fund" defines a helping hand effort quite different from the general parlance of "Charities" as it is used in a collective reference to all of our well-known philanthropies, such as the Masonic Homes and Children's Home, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children.

Appropriate donations are distributed from the Masonic Charities Fund to those people, organizations and places where there are special needs. Support is offered to worthy organizations which qualify as being charitable and need specific help in addressing vital concerns of caring for mankind. Relief assistance is given as emergency or temporary aid in times of tragedy or disaster. Loans and assistance are granted to further worthy educational efforts or to relieve critical economic needs.

Board of Directors

Edward O. Weisser, President
R. W. Grand Master
Langhorn

James L. Ernette, Vice-President
R. W. Deputy Grand Master
Greensburg

Robert L. Epling, Jr., Treasurer
R. W. Senior Grand Warden
Elysburg

Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., Secretary
R. W. Junior Grand Warden
Collegeville

1995 Annual Report
Masonic Homes Construction Update

Phase 4 of the Masonic Health Care Center Complete!

Residents and staff moved into the new West Wing (above) of the Masonic Health Care Center the first week of February. This new wing contains three resident floors, with a combined total of 138 beds. The second floor makes up the new Transitional Unit, a nursing floor where residents come during their transition from the hospital to the nursing care facility, residential, or independent living setting. The staff works closely with hospitals to provide a smooth transition for residents returning to the Masonic Health Care Center. A well-trained Case Plan Team works with the Transitional Unit Manager, Paula Shedlock, to enhance rehabilitation and recovery. They work together to assess each resident's progress and assist to provide the best possible care, thus optimizing the individual resident's potential for recovery.

Residents returning to the Masonic Homes from hospitals frequently require the special attention, education, and procedures that are best delivered by a specialty team such as the Transitional Unit. With a new emphasis on providing more acute care, the length of stay will also be less than what is typical in a nursing facility. Rehabilitation of the residents is stressed to allow them to return to a less restrictive, more independent setting. This unit will be relocated to the second floor of the Ben Franklin Building later in 1996.

A special note should be made that these services are available in the Transitional Unit to individuals who are in the hospital and want to return to their own homes.

The first floor of the West Wing includes the new main entrance to the Masonic Health Care Center. A volunteer will be in this main lobby and will serve as a receptionist for the entire building. This floor contains a new therapy pool for residents, (photo to left) a convenient beauty/barber shop, a resident library, and a small chapel which may be used for daily meditation. A lovely, glass-enclosed gift shop in the main lobby is open to residents, staff and visitors. Social Services, Activities, Volunteer, and Pastoral Care offices are on this floor.

Masonic Homes Children’s Home Opens New Cottage

In response to a growing need, the Masonic Homes opened the fifth Children’s Home cottage. The Harrison Cottage officially opened on January 5, and is home to eight boys 14 years of age and older. This existing ranch-style home, after some minor renovations, now permits the Masonic Homes to serve a total of 40 youth.

The addition of a spectacular new Assembly Room, (above) complete with a beautiful stained glass window, is also a part of the first floor. Worship service is held there each Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Other large group activities are held there frequently.

Cottage Approval Process Underway

The Masonic Health Care Center is not the only part of the campus that is changing. Plans are progressing with the proposed cottage expansion project. It is continuing through the county approval process with anticipated approval in August. This will allow site work for the first phase of cottages to begin in early Fall.

Independent Living Apts. Progress; Eisenlohr Dining Room Opens

Reconstruction of the Charles Eisenlohr Building, including the Eisenlohr Commons Dining Room, was completed on January 22. This building now provides accommodations for ten independent living apartments and a kitchen and dining room for food service. The Louis Eisenlohr Building, which will provide an additional 15 independent living apartments, is also on schedule. Construction of the two Smith Buildings is anticipated to begin by the end of July.

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS?

Why not consider joining us in Independent Living?

I am interested, send me more information.

Name ____________________________

Address __________________________

Phone ____________________________

Or, call us at our toll free number 1-800-676-6452 to schedule an appointment.
**District Project Helps Communities**

By participating in the District "E" Community Project, lodges in the District have been committed for several years to giving helping hands to their communities. Dale H. Fero, D.D.G.M. of District "E," reported that through the project, $3,700 was contributed in 1995. Together, Concordia Lodge No. 67, Mitchell Lodge No. 290, and Friendship Lodge No. 400, all in Jacksonville, donated $1,750 to the Rockledge Fire Co. to purchase needed equipment; Shekinah Lodge No. 246, Philadelphia, contributed $550 to the Sunshine Foundation; University Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia, contributed $500 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and Hiram Lodge No. 81, Philadelphia, contributed $500 to the Hillside Hospital. Ozzy, the Friend to Friend banner as a backdrop, Chambersburg Salvation Army Capt. Jeffrey Bassett (center) and Robert Gounder of George Washington Lodge.

During this past 143 turkeys for Thanksgiving dinners and the Christmas Castle campaign, Committee, says that this effort proves that Masons care for their community.

Each get-together, one Brother offers an invocation; a bulletin board displays current items of Masonic interest, and a calendar of Masonic events is provided. Each first Tuesday features a sing-along to honor those who have birthdays that month.

Generally, there are some 40, mostly retired Masons, at the meeting; but on one occasion, there were 92. **Friend to Friend** Masons, who attend are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors. While a core of regulars attends nearly every meeting, "...the complexion of the group changes from week to week," according to Brobst. Most come from a 7-mile radius, but members and dignitaries from other states and jurisdictions attend on occasion.

**75 Years A Mason**

The Grand Lodge 75-Year Masonic Recognition Certificate was presented to Thomas C. Franklin of University Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia, by Dale H. Fero (right), D.D.G.M., Masonic District "E" and Dennis M. Beck, W.M., University Lodge.

**Turkey Pins Help Feed The Hungry in Two Counties**

A unique 27th Masonic District service project selling wooden turkey pins raised $3,600 to provide Thanksgiving food for families in Butler and Armstrong Counties. Worshipful Masters of the lodges in Butler and Armstrong Counties presented checks during the week-end before Thanksgiving. Bob Thompson, Director of the Christian Community Food Bank in Butler County, received the $3,000 check from the Worshipful Master who suggested the project, James Evans, Sr., of John E. Mait Lodge No. 729. Participating in the presentation were Robert Bickelshier, William H. Miller Lodge No. 789; Jeffrey Larimore, Argyle Lodge No. 540; Joel Roldob, Robison Lodge No. 684, and John Fleischer, Butler Lodge No. 272. Major Richard Zander of the Salvation Army in Armstrong County received $100 check from Ronald Covone, Armstrong Lodge No. 239; E. Lee Strawcutter, Seneca Lodge No. 806; Chester Boarts, Leechburg Lodge No. 132; Dr. Larry Kittan, Kittanning East Brady Lodge No. 244. District Deputy Grand Master Danny R. McKnight said that the lodge plans to continue the program as an annual service project.

**Information Superhighway “Under Construction” in PA**

In the first phase, high level requirements of the Grand Secretary’s office and those of the Blue Lodge secretaries have been provided by Subject Matter Experts (SME) from three volunteer groups to Grand Lodge’s consulting firm, Grand Thornton, LLP. They documented the requirements in preparation for Phase II, which will determine whether (1) we can buy standard products, (2) buy and enhance standard products in meet our needs, or (3) customized products will be required. That phase, also involves searching the marketplace for equipment and programs.

Phase III will consist of two parts: the final selection, or creation, of software to enable the Blue Lodge secretaries to work more efficiently; and the development and implementation of a state-of-the-art delivery system between the lodge secretaries and the Grand Lodge. Implementation for lodge secretaries begins in Phase IV with installations in area codes 215 and 610 and for selected lodge secretaries from the other area codes (717, 814 and 412) as pilot participants. Evaluation of the first application will set the stage for completing the statewide deployment of AutoMasonry, linking the Masonic Homes, Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and the remaining lodges in area codes 717, 814 and 412.

**Regional Talent Contests in May; State Final in Harrisburg in June**

Talent was held at the Masonic Center in West Reading. A public "Open House for Masonry" will be held at the Masonic Center in West Reading on May 19, 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 22. The Masonic Center will be open for tours. Displays, staffed by members of District Blue Lodges, the Grand Lodge and its Foundations, and allied organizations, will be located throughout the property.

**Public Invited to Seven Regional Talent Contests in May; State Final in Harrisburg in June**

Masonically trained high school seniors from across the state will compete in seven regional competitions for scholarships on May 19, and those winners will perform June 9 in the Harrisburg Coronary for state wide scholarship. Winners in each of the May regional contests will be awarded scholarships of $500 for first, $300 for second, and $200 for third place. Winners from the regional contests in the statewide competition will be awarded $5,000 for first, $3,000 for second, and $2,000 for third place. All of the regional competitions, as well as the state finals, will be at 2 p.m. The locations of the regional semi-finals at 2 p.m. on May 19 are:

- **Region 1 - Northeast Public High School, Carbondale and Algean Ave., Philadelphia.**
- **Region 2 - Scottish Rite Cathedral, 310 S. Seventh Ave., West Reading.**
- **Region 3 - Masonic Temple, Valley Pike and Lincoln Highway, Harrisburg.**
- **Region 4 - The Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh.**
- **Region 5 - The Milton Hershey School, 11 W. Tenth St., Hershey.**
- **Region 6 - Williamsport Consistory, 348 Market St., Williamsport.**
- **Region 7 - East Stroudsburg University, 200 Prospect St., East Stroudsburg.**

The June 9 state final competition will be at 2 p.m. in the Harrisburg Consistory, 2701 N. Third St., Harrisburg.

**Open House at Masonic Center in West Reading**

A public "Open House for Masonry" will be held at the Masonic Center in West Reading on May 19, 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 22. The Masonic Center will be open for tours. Displays, staffed by members of District Blue Lodges, the Grand Lodge and its Foundations, and allied organizations, will be located throughout the property.

**The Salvation Army Thanks George Washington Lodge**

Year-round, for a number years, George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg, in the 3rd Masonic District, has been reaching out, **Friend to Friend**, in the community by supporting the Salvation Army. In the picture at left which was published in an area newspaper with the Friend to Friend banner as a backdrop, Chambersburg Salvation Army Capt. Jeffrey Bassett (right) and Robert Bickelshier, Chairman, say "thank you" to Gary L. Heckman (left), immediate Past Master of George Washington Lodge. During this past year, the Lodge members collected food for the soup kitchen and clothing for the thrift store; provided 143 turkeys for Thanksgiving dinners and the Christmas Castle campaign, and staffed two kettles in the Chambersburg Mall on three Saturdays. Larry N. Shoemaker, Chairman of the Lodge’s Community Awareness Committee, says that this effort proves that Masons care for their community and its residents.

Every Tuesday morning for breakfast, Masons in the Millftinburg area join together strictly for fellowship at the Scarlet D Hotel.

According to Lee R. Brobst, a member of Millftinburg Lodge No. 370, "Breakfast is an excuse to enjoy the brotherly love and affection of Masonry. It is spontaneous. It has no organization, no dues and is totally voluntary."

Each get-together, one Brother offers an invitation; a bulletin board displays current items of Masonic interest, and a calendar of Masonic events is provided. Each first Tuesday features a sing-along to honor those who have birthdays that month.

Generally, there are some 40, mostly retired Masons, at the meeting; but on one occasion, there were 92. **Friend to Friend** Masons, who attend are encouraged to invite friends and neighbors. While a core of regulars attends nearly every meeting, "...the complexion of the group changes from week to week," according to Brobst. Most come from a 7-mile radius, but members and dignitaries from other states and jurisdictions attend on occasion.

**Information Superhighway “Under Construction” in PA**

In the first phase, high level requirements of the Grand Secretary’s office and those of the Blue Lodge secretaries have been provided by Subject Matter Experts (SME) from three volunteer groups to Grand Lodge’s consulting firm, Grand Thornton, LLP. They documented the requirements in preparation for Phase II, which will determine whether (1) we can buy standard products, (2) buy and enhance standard products in meet our needs, or (3) customized products will be required. That phase, also involves searching the marketplace for equipment and programs.

Phase III will consist of two parts: the final selection, or creation, of software to enable the Blue Lodge secretaries to work more efficiently; and the development and implementation of a state-of-the-art delivery system between the lodge secretaries and the Grand Lodge. Implementation for lodge secretaries begins in Phase IV with installations in area codes 215 and 610 and for selected lodge secretaries from the other area codes (717, 814 and 412) as pilot participants. Evaluation of the first application will set the stage for completing the statewide deployment of AutoMasonry, linking the Masonic Homes, Pennsylvania Youth Foundation and the remaining lodges in area codes 717, 814 and 412.
Family Reunion of Masons

It was a Sell family reunion when the Craft was assembled in William H. Miller Lodge No. 769, Butler, to confer the Master Mason’s Degree on two brothers. The degree was conferred on Wayne W. Sell, Jr. and John W. Sell, by their cousin, Brian K. Sell, Worshipful Master of neighboring Victory Lodge No. 604, Butler. The nine family members, shown with Thomas Ensman (front, right), Worshipful Master of the Lodge No. 769, are (left to right): Howard W. Sell, Jr., uncle; Brian; Candidate Wayne, Jr.; Wayne W. Sell, Sr., father; and Candidate John W., (right) Gene Leslie, brother-in-law of Candidate Wayne; James pavilions, cousin of Wayne, Sr.; Mark A. Sell, cousin, and David L. Sell, uncle.

An Exciting New Benefit for Freemasons and Their Families

R. W. Grand Master Edward O. Weiser has announced the availability of group term life insurance benefits for Pennsylvania Freemasons without the need for a medical examination. Because there are over 15,000 members in the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, the coverage is available at remarkably low rates.

The underwriter selected by the Grand Lodge is the Ohio National Life Insurance Company. It has provided quality life and health insurance and annuity products since 1909. Ohio National is highly rated and financially sound. It was selected based on its financial integrity, its rates and its sound operations.

How to Enroll

Enrollment is simple! In fact, you'll know before you send in your first premium whether you qualify or not. All health questionnaires on the application are marked “no”, then you automatically qualify. No exam, physician statements or additional information will be required.

Three Easy Steps!
1) Fill out the application, date, and sign it.
2) Select your benefit amount and premium according to your year of birth from the chart at the left.
3) Please make check payable to Ohio National Life and mail with this application to:
The Ohio National Life Insurance Company
P.O. Box 1487
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-1487

Please fill in all information and be sure to sign and date the application.

APPLICATION FOR GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE

Name: _____________________________
Address: ___________________________
City: _____________________________
State: __________ Zip: __________
Sex: M Male F Female
Date of Birth: __________
Height __________ Weight __________

Please answer the following questions.

1) Have you been diagnosed or treated by a medical professional for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)?
   □ Yes □ No

2) Have you had heart disease, any type of cancer (other than basal skin cancer) or stroke?
   □ Yes □ No

3) Have you been diagnosed or treated by a medical professional for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)?
   □ Yes □ No

4) Within the last 5 years, have you had a disabling injury or illness?
   □ Yes □ No

Proposed Insured: (Print, First-Middle-Last)

If "No" is marked on all questions, a policy will be issued. If "Yes" is marked on any question, please call 1-800-761-7346 for available coverage.

Has the Proposed Insured:

1) been diagnosed or treated by a medical professional for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), or AIDS-Related Complex (ARC)?
   □ Yes □ No

2) within the past 5 years, been medically treated or advised to seek treatment for drug or alcohol dependency?
   □ Yes □ No

3) ever have heart disease, stroke or cancer (other than basal skin cancer)?
   □ Yes □ No

4) within the last 5 years, received disability benefits or compensation, or a disability pension?
   □ Yes □ No

The Ohio National Life Insurance Company
P.O. Box 1487
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-1487

THE OHIO NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Form 6310-P

Group

May 1996 | The Pennsylvania Freemason
Please write the annual premium based on your age and the amount of coverage you desire (from the chart below):

### Present Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>$10,000</th>
<th>$20,000</th>
<th>$30,000</th>
<th>$40,000</th>
<th>$50,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 18-34</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$72</td>
<td>$108</td>
<td>$144</td>
<td>$180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 35-44</td>
<td>$48</td>
<td>$96</td>
<td>$144</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 45-54</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$216</td>
<td>$240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 55-64</td>
<td>$72</td>
<td>$144</td>
<td>$216</td>
<td>$252</td>
<td>$288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Annual premium

1. **Guaranteed Annuity Trust**
2. **Annuity variable Trust Fund**
3. **Value of remainder**
4. **Possible offset to inflation**

### 1996

**Student朋友**
**from James Goodwill**
**shown with**
**Cedars of Cincinnati.**

Some suggested beneficiary options:

- **Primary**
- **Contingent**

### Insurance Fraud Notice

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals the partiality of misleading information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime and subjects such person to criminal and civil penalties.

### Law Enforcement Officers Present

**DeMolay Program**

Three law enforcement officers who are Pennsylvania Masons visited Friendship-Bray Chapter, Order of DeMolay in Jenkintown on February 4. Master Councilor Michael Recineco (front, second from left) had invited the Officers to the Chapter as a salute to the men..."who put their lives on the line daily to make a better and safer world for all people."

Paul Ablaza, (right), Williamson-Corinthian Lodge No. 358, and Chris Losino (left), Solomon’s Lodge No. 3, both of the Philadelphia Police Department, discussed the daily rigors of dealing with violence, narcotics, domestic disputes and routine vehicle stops. Dennis Bostos (second from right), Williamson-Corinthian Lodge No. 358, told the young men what it is like to be a plain clothes detective and shoplifting prevention trainer.

### Some suggestions are appropriate for your will, of course, depend on your personal circumstances.

### WHICH GIFT PLAN IS BEST FOR YOU?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you wish to:</th>
<th>Best Choice</th>
<th>Next Choice</th>
<th>Income Tax Deduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Make Ought Gift</strong></td>
<td><strong>Appreciated Securities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cash</strong></td>
<td><strong>High</strong> (market value of property)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contain your future needs and corpus</strong></td>
<td>Fraction of IRA or Qualified Plan</td>
<td>Bequest in Will</td>
<td>Heirs save income taxes if it’s an IRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Convey property in high-income</strong></td>
<td>Charitable Annuity Trust</td>
<td>Gift</td>
<td>High-present value of remainder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Convey property in high-income</strong></td>
<td>Charitable Remainder</td>
<td>Pooled Income Fund</td>
<td>Medium-present value of remainder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pass on to children</strong></td>
<td>Testamentary Trust</td>
<td>Quality Terminable Remainder Property Trust</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Make gift in trust options</strong></td>
<td>New Life Insurance</td>
<td>Existing Life</td>
<td>Annual deduction for annual premium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Make gift in trust options</strong></td>
<td>Fraction of IRA or Qualified Plan</td>
<td>Bequest in Will</td>
<td>Heirs save income taxes if IRA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STEPS TO BE TAKEN

1. **Determine amount of gift**
2. Decide when gift should be made
3. Choose property for tax-effective gift
4. Minimize impact of gift on self and heirs
5. Consult your attorney before completing the gift

### Thank you!

© Copyright 1996 Multi Media Productions
June in Johnstown on June 5

The Quarterly Communication of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held at the Masonic Temple, Valley Pike and Linton Street (on Rt. 403), Johnstown, 2 p.m., Wednesday, June 5.

R.W. Grand Master Edward C. Weiss will preside over the session in the Blue Lodge Room of the Masonic Temple. To accommodate the large number who will attend, the adjacent York Rite Lodge Room will be connected to the meeting via closed-circuit television.

In the evening, the brethren and their ladies are invited to attend the Grand Master’s banquet to be served in the Temple balcony at 6:30 p.m. Entertainment will follow the banquet.

Reservations and tickets are required for the banquet and entertainment. They are available at $15 per person by returning the coupon in this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason with your check made payable to “Grand Lodge PA,” with coupon to:

The Office of the Grand Master
The Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598

June 5, 1996

R.W. Grand Master Edward C. Weiss will preside over the session in the Blue Lodge Room of the Masonic Temple.

Friends Give Gift to Lodge

Octogenarian Earl Ziegler was surprised when Worshipful Master Dale Krystalski of Harmony Lodge No. 429, Zelienople, closed the meeting so that a wolf could be given to him for his birthday. He was even more surprised when his family was there to present the gift. Because Masonry has been so much a part of his life that he rarely misses a meeting, the family felt the lodge was the right place to celebrate his 80th birthday.

Family of Members of DeMolay

R.W. Past Grand Master Samuel C. Williamson has been appointed Grand Treasurer of the International Order of DeMolay. In this position, he is responsible for supervising the financial operations of the young men’s fraternity.

My Brothers:

I have found myself in recent years reading books, parts of which I wish not confined to any single creed, race, group, people or organization. In Freemasonry, the brethren can and should dwell together in brotherly concord.

“Masonry has proved to be too strong for jealousy, hate, fears and wars. Freemasonry has succeeded in bringing man nearer to man, man nearer to his God.”

My Brothers, I do not expect perfection in a man just because he is a Freemason. If you do, you will be disappointed.

Even if I thought what ideas may be controversial or, in certain respects, open to question, I shall have succeeded in my attempt if these ideas have generated further thoughts on the main substance of Freemasonry, in the search for universal truth and the unity of God.

It is only Masonic Education that will assure us and the brethren shall be more knowledgeable, conscious and concerned with the canons of Freemasonry. To do otherwise is to fail in our mission to filter and purify the brethren with the romance and beauty of Freemasonry.

“Freemasonry is not a secret society but, even if we do, the tenets and principles practiced by the Order are so elevating that none need be ashamed of them.”

Pirates and Phillies To Have Masons’ Night

Whether you’re a Pittsburgh Pirates or a Philadelphia Phillies fan, you can enjoy a Masons’ Night at the ballpark when Freemasons, their families and friends will be seated in designated areas and will be recognized as a group during the game.

Freemasonry’s Universal Constancy In Writings of Authors Worldwide

By Bro. Thomas W. Jackson
R.W. Grand Secretary

Freemasonry assisted in the propagation of messierist materialism, and thus helped lay the foundation of democratic thought.

And when the Great Architect of the Universe shall call my number and I shall stand naked and alone before the Great White Throne, and He shall ask about my nation and my organization, with my head held high, looking straight into His eyes, I would with humility be proud to respond, FILIPINO, Sir, and a FREEMASON.

(Source of the quotations in the above article were taken from: Päid Luz by V. Rajakine, Light after Darkness by Chief Imam Rajamani Ahsal, Reflections and Masonic Values, Malini G. Hernandez, P.I.D.G.M., and Living the Enlightenment by Margaret C. Jach.)