Five Tips for Year-End Giving

Most people do their major giving toward the end of the year because closing of the tax season encourages itemizers to obtain income tax deductions; a barrage of earnest appeals by nonprofit organizations increases awareness of financial need, and many people are predisposed to end the year by making a charitable gift.

Calculate
Get a handle on your tax liability for the year. Did your income increase? Did you sell any appreciated assets? Will you owe more taxes? That may motivate you to increase giving before December 31. You may even want to move some of your giving from next year to create a larger income tax deduction this year. Non-itemizers may find the “grouping of gifts” useful to take advantage of an itemized tax return every other year.

By the time you fill out your income tax return, it will be too late to make charitable gifts for the previous year. Do some planning while you still have the opportunity to make a year-end gift.

Review
Look at the stocks you have held for more than a year. Which ones have appreciated the most? It may be prudent to make your year-end gift using one or more of these. If you sell the stock, you incur capital gains tax on the appreciation. However, if you give the stock to the Masonic Homes to sell it, no one pays tax. And you get a charitable income tax deduction for the full amount of the stock, just as you would if your gift were cash. If you can’t use all of the charitable income tax deduction resulting from the gift, you can carry it forward for up to an additional five years. Such gifts are deductible up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income.

Consider a Life-Income Gift
Masonic Homes offers a variety of life-income plans. You can make a gift now, obtain tax benefits and receive income for the rest of your life. The Development Office has personalized illustrations and printed materials to assist you and your advisors.

Tips for Year-End Giving

Do Your Giving Early
This is especially true to make a gift of noncash assets (stock, real estate, etc.). It also applies to life-income gifts (gift annuities, pooled income fund contributions, trust arrangements, etc.). Your professional advisors and the Development staff at the Masonic Homes are busy as the year winds down. The sooner you can get your gift activity going, the better it will be for everyone concerned.

Talk To Your Advisor
Before making any significant gift to Masonic Homes, or to any other nonprofit organization, have your CPA, attorney or other advisor help you to understand the impact of your gift on your income tax return or estate. The Masonic Homes want your giving to be not only generous and joyful, but also with maximum benefit to you.

For more information about the year-end giving opportunities at the Masonic Homes, contact the Development Office at (717) 367-1121 ext. 33311 or 1-800-359-6454. Or complete and mail the coupon below. We are here to help you in any way we can.

(Please complete and return this coupon)

☐ Please send me information about year-end giving
☐ Gifts of Appreciated Property: A Way to Reduce Taxes
☐ Use Your Will Power
☐ Charitable Remainder Trusts—Income Reducing Gifts
☐ How you Benefit by Giving Life Insurance
☐ How you Benefit from a Pooled Income Fund
☐ Increase Your Income With a Unitrust
☐ Financial and Estate Planning for Women
☐ Charitable Lead Trust:
☐ Pass Assets to Pecuniary Trust
☐ I have provided for Masonic Homes in my will or other estate-planning document.

This is a wonderful way to use some of your assets to help not only yourself, but also to provide needed resources for the Masonic Homes in the years ahead.

Name: ___________________________  Address: ___________________________
City: ___________________________  State: ___________________________  Zip: ___________
Phone: ___________________________

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
Fred D. Rissinger, Director of Development
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199
ON THE COVER

As R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser observes, "Pennsylvania Masons Care." The cover of this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason reflects the family of Freemasonry sharing services, friendship, and brotherly love.

Grand Master Hugs a Veteran


Non-Payment of Dues Suspension is Cause For Fraternal Concern

"Zero suspensions" is a lofty goal, but most of our lodges could attain it if every member considered it a personal reason and an obligation to become involved when he hears that a friend is about to become suspended for non-payment of dues.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser has no objection to the suspension of a member considered a personal reason and an obligation to become involved when he hears that a friend is about to become suspended for non-payment of dues.

Grand Master Edward O. Weisser

The Pennsylvania Freemason November 1996

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Wanamaker Wreath-Laying

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania participated in the annual wreath-laying ceremony at the statue of the late Bro. John Wanamaker on the east side of Philadelphia’s City Hall to commemorate his birthday on July 11. Wanamaker (1838-1922) was the Chairman of the Committee on Library from 1906 to 1922. Known at the statue are the Rev. Dr. William A. Zuckers, author of John Wanamaker, King of Merchants, and R.W. Grand Secretary Thomas W. Jackson.

North To Alaska Preview Group Program Available

A preview program including video and slides of the Grand Lodge “North to Alaska” trip with R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser is available upon request by lodges, appendix bodies, square clubs, etc., and friends of the Fraternity. For information or to schedule a presentation, contact Thomas C. Librandi, 1805 N. Union St., Middletown, PA 17057, Phone 717-944-0121 (work) or 717-944-9616 (home). To make arrangements for the trip to Alaska, call toll-free to Vantage Deluxe World Travel at 1-800-833-0899.

3 Rowlands Brothers Raised

The Master Mason’s Degrees were conferred June 26 upon three brothers — David, Douglas, and Jeffrey Rowlands — in Newtown Lodge No. 427, Woodside. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser conferred the degree on his son-in-law, Jeffrey; P.D.D.G.M. Guy T. Matthews conferred the degree on David; and George Miller, Principal of the Taxonomy School of Instruction, conferred the degree on Douglas. Thomas Rowlands, father of the newly raised Masons served as Guide, and Dr. Elwin G. Warfel, a first-line signer, as Chaplain.


Lafayette and Washington Together in Fayette County

The Marquis de Lafayette was met at the wharf in Brownsville at 9 a.m. and went directly to the Masonic Lodge where he was greeted by the Worshipful Master. Two hours later, the Marquis was greeted on the steps of the Courthouse in Uniontown by General George Washington wearing the “Lafayette Apron."

Throughout the day, Lafayette and Washington appeared in several different places, usually in the company of a Mason and a Freemason for whom the county is named. At Brownsville Lodge No. 63, Worshipful Master Joseph Bode, P.M., received Lafayette, portrayed by Bro. Gerard Meyer, Chairman of the Fayette County Tourism Advisory Board. Visiting the lodge room, the modern-day Lafayette sat in the same chair in which the Marquis sat during his visit in 1782.

On the courthouse steps in Unkhstown, Bro. Joseph B. W. Bergs, Jr., portrayed Washington, clad in a replica of the Masonic Apron Madame de Lafayette had hand-embroidered as a gift for the General. He presented Lafayette with the Key of the Bastille, which usually hangs in The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. It was loaned to the Uniontown Library by the Grand Lodge.

There are three lodges in Pennsylvania named in honor of Bro. Lafayette Lodge No. 194, Selinsgrove, No. 562, Carnegie, Randall Varner, the Worshipful Master of Lafayette Lodge No. 194, Selinsgrove, attended the celebration.

CELEBRATING RENOVO’S 125TH

Masons from north-central Pennsylvania joined in celebrating the 125th anniversary of Renovo Lodge No. 495 on Saturday, July 13, with an afternoon parade and evening banquet and program. Accompanying W.M. Chester Pierce (center) on the Renovo Lodge float are the 33rd Masonic D.D.G.M. Ralph H. Reeseker (left) and S.W. Phil Marks. J.W. John Pentz was on the other side of the sign on the float. Elk Lodge No. 379, Ridgeway, and George E. Wagner Lodge No. 639, St. Mary’s, also participated in the parade. The anniversary banquet at a restaurant was followed by dessert in the Masonic Hall, concluding with awards and a nostalgic program.

30th District Shows “Masons Care”

Brethren from the 30th Masonic District demonstrated that “Masons Care” by distributing bumper stickers and alcohol addiction prevention information from the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children during the annual popular Fourth of July celebration that attracted thousands to downtown Luthersville. Friend to Friend brochures also were available to persons interested in knowing more about Freemasonry. Dr. Amel H. Langford (right), the District Drug and Alcohol Chairman, organized the effort. Volunteers distributing the materials are (l-r): Richard J. Steinweis, D.D.G.M.; P. Arthur Shutt, W.M.; Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275; James L. Ernette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Jack Maple, Loyalhanna Lodge; and Dr. Langford.

Participants in the parade and the stations or places they served are (l-r): Frosty Thomas Klabonowski, Perry Lodge No. 392, Erie, Junior Deacon; James Phillips, F.M.; Meadville Lodge No. 408, Junior Master of Ceremonies; Candidate Youngs; Lawrence Zaiser, P.M.; Tyrian Lodge No. 362, Erie; Chaplain; James Laid, Lawrence Lodge No. 708, Erie, Pursuivant; and Andrew Pierce, P.M., Commonwealth Lodge No. 695, Erie, Senior Deacon. Buck—Arthur Molynun, F.M., Tyrian Lodge, Guide; Donald Adams, P.M., Tyrian Lodge, Junior Warden; Larry Shelhamer, J.W., Oasis Lodge No. 416, Edinboro, Worshipful Master; Paul Masters, J.W., Perry Lodge, Senior Warden; Richard Hanks, Perry Lodge, Senior Master of Ceremonies; and Jack Gilbert, P.M., Perry Lodge, alternate.

Widows May Join Blood Donor Club Free, Without Usual Blood Donation

Widows of Pennsylvania Masons are invited to become members of the Masonic Blood Donor Club. The Board of Directors passed an amendment to the bylaws permitting the widows to join the club without the usual donation of a pint of blood. Membership is free.

Widows who now receive The Pennsylvania Freemason will become members automatically and membership cards will be mailed to them in 1997. Others should each send her name, address, phone number, and late husband’s name and his lodge number to the Club Secretary, William E. Riley, 2615 Franklin Ave., Broomall, PA 19008 (Phone 610-356-1866). Henceforth, lodge secretaries should send the name, address, and phone number of a deceased member’s widow soon after his death to the Club Secretary.

Norman A. Fox, Club President, said, “This will allow widows to protect themselves in times of need and offer some peace of mind for those whom Masons need to look after.”

Deceased Past Grand Masters Portraits Move

To provide space for future recognition, the portraits of the deceased Past Grand Masters have been moved upstairs along the rear staircase, chronologically from the third floor down in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. As the portraits were moved, they were refurbished and rehung, except the portraits which could not be moved in Ionic Hall and along the second floor hallway. The portraits of living Past Grand Masters will continue to hang in the Benjamin Franklin Room.

Barger Cyclists Entertain Youth

Arriving on their Harley-Davidson motorcycles, members of Barger Lodge No. 325, Stroudsburg, entertained the youth (shown in the group picture) at the Children’s Home or the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. The cycle-riding Masons did face-pointing, shared an extensive Civil War memorabilia display, and provided Harley rides for the children and the staff. The group also presented a contribution from Barger Lodge for the Children’s Home to use to attend the annual soccer match at R.F.K. Stadium in Washington.
The Ahiman Rezon Addresses Information on the Internet

Surfing the Internet is a technological golden time toward the twenty-first century. Today, it is the place where one can learn more about almost anything. There are Grand Lodges that have home pages and have placed information about the fraternity on the "Web." There are also lodges and individual Masons placing and exchanging information about the fraternity; but those who do so in Pennsylvania need to abide by recognized rules and regulations.

In Article 17.5 of the Ahiman Rezon it is stated:

"No Lodge or Brother is permitted to print or publish or cause to be printed or published, the whole or any part of the proceedings of any Lodge or the Grand Lodge, nor shall any Brother publish any work, or discourse, relative to Freemasonry, without previously obtaining the consent of the Grand Master."

The Grand Master recognizes that there are many fine pieces of information being developed for use on the Internet. He said, "We should take advantage of the modern medium, but we must remember there are those who publish incorrect information and we do not want that to happen. I also must remind the brethren that any thing that is to be published, whether in print or electronically, requires the approval of the Grand Master. If rules and regulations are not followed, the officer is subject to the laws of the Grand Lodge."

Grand Master Weisser has discussed the interest of Grand Lodge in facilitating Freemasons’ ability to communicate and be informed through the benefits of modern technology. He indicated that Grand Lodge is considering the formation of a square club for those Freemasons interested in using a web site.

Three Students Receive Stenberg Scholarships

Three Pennsylvania students were selected this year to receive R.W.Poat Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., Scholarships. Each recipient is eligible to receive up to $1,000 per year for as many as four years of post-high school education.

Receiving these scholarships are: Suzanne Durler of New Florence; Jennifer Doyle of Beaver Springs; and Jennifer Lalli of Erie. The recipients were selected from among 17 finalists out of 47 applications. Each applicant for a Stenberg scholarship must have completed a Student Assistance Program and have been recommended by his or her school’s S.A.P. team. Since the fund was established in 1993, 14 scholarships have been awarded. One of the scholarships is being funded by the 13th Masonic District School of Instruction.

The 30th Masonic D.D.G.M. Richard J. Steimer presents the R.W.Poat Carl W. Stenberg scholarship check to Suzanne Durler of New Florence who will be attending the Academy of Culinary Arts of Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Pulaski No. 216 Raises 5 on a Saturday

The last Saturday in June was a banner day for Pulaski Lodge No. 216, Pottsville. Five brethren were made Master Masons, three of whom are a father and two sons. Furthermore, there were five sets of fathers and sons among the brethren conferring the degrees.

Two degrees were conferred in the morning for Michael A. Weres (front, center) and Russell T. Dalton, Jr. (rear, left). Following a luncheon, three degrees—conferring for the father and his two sons: Earle C. Kull, Sr. (front, second from right), Earle Charles Kull, Jr. (rear, right), and David A. Kull, front, second from left. Shown with the new Masons are W.M. Evan H. Davis (front, left) and 17th Masonic D.D.G.M. Henry L. Leisher (front, right).

The fathers and sons who participated in conferring the degrees were: Charles L. McBreen, P.M.; James E. McBreen, P.M.; Harold J. Strauss and Lee A. Strauss, P.M.; Robert E. Davis, W.M.; Gurney R. Miller, Sr., P.M., and Gurney R. Miller, Jr., Patron Saint, and Forrest E. Ack, Treasurer, and David Ack.

The Worshippful Master began planning to raise five brethren in one day as soon as the ballots were favorable on six petitions presented last February. The sixth petition was that of his brother, Rodney Davis, whose degrees were conferred by their father, Robert E. Davis, P.M.

PA Masons Care

Empire Lodge No. 382 awarded its annual scholarship to Mary Theresa Garlock. The award is provided to a graduating student from Cameron County School District in attaining advanced education. Ms. Garlock will attend the Pennsylvania State University.

Scholarships amounting to $6,000 from the William H. B. and Mary Stewart Reid Fund of St. Albans Swan Lodge No. 529, Philadelphia, were awarded at the time of the lodge’s June stated meeting.

Furtick Lodge No. 608, Harrisburg, organized and conducted "Learn to Swim" classes for children and grandchildren of members, their families and friends. There were six successively Sunday afternoon lessons at the Patton Campus of the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, conducted by a certified American Red Cross instructor. These sessions were structured so that members could take part in training, or just join in the picnic lunch that followed each class.

Masons of St. John’s Lodge No. 435, West Reading, and the Rajah Shrine Computer Club gave back to a stricken former DeMoy member the ability to communicate. At 17, Jason High of Birdsboro had been an athlete, but then he suffered symptoms of MS. In a wheelchair and legally blind, Jason was loaned a computer and special keyboard by the strides “Project Live.” On his twenty-first birthday, he had the project reinstalled and the computer had to be returned. Neither Jason’s mother nor his therapist were able to give the young man another computer — until one of them talked to the Masons. The brethren played a role in having a computer contributed by Carpenter Technology Corp. (CarTech) and then they installed it in his home. The Computer Club purchased a special $400 keyboard with large letters for him.

Cumberland Valley Lodge No. 315, Shippensburg, conducted a successful community blood donor drive on August 10. There were 71 potential donors who contributed 57 units of blood. Of the 57 donors, 23 were Masons, 20 of whom signed up as new Blood Donor Club members.

Two active speakers for The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children kept a “Drug Free Track and Field Day” for North Clarion elementary students. The full day of activities relating to being drug-free began with an assembly program headlined by the Penn for Drug and Alcohol Prevention at Clarion University. John W. Fastwalt, Chaplain of Hobah Lodge No. 276, Brookville, and State Trooper Jamie LeVeir, Junior Master of Ceremonies of New Berlin Lodge No. 522. Also on the program was the former professional football player, Gino Verplank. Postlewaite also is Chairman of the 52nd Masonic District Commission on Education, and LeVeir is Chairman of Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse for the District.

It was on Wednesday, July 10, when D.D.G.M. Harold R. Snyder learned that a Mason and his family were in dire financial need because of the illness that had befallen him. Two days later, after confirming the seriousness of the need, the lodges in the 12th Masonic District had contributed more than $650 for his relief.
Thousands Enjoy Autumn Day
Food and Fun at Masonic Homes

An estimated 6,000 to 8,000 Masons, their families and friends thronged to the Masonic Homes campus for the Grand Lodge Autumn Day 1996 despite overcast skies and some scattered light rain on Saturday, Sept. 28. Vast quantities of food were served and a myriad of special events were presented. The only loss to the dubious weather was the cancellation of the sky-diving performance that had been scheduled for noon.

Musical groups and entertainers performed at several locations throughout the day. Children’s activities included spin art, a farm display and a wide variety of games. Children (of all ages) enjoyed the antics of magicians, jugglers, and clowns. More than 300 Masonic Homes’ employees volunteered to serve the thousands of sausage sandwiches, hot dogs, Texas soup, suerkerkraut, drinks and ice cream items.

The visitors toured the Congregate and the Independent Living areas to see the caring services and accommodations provided at the Masonic Homes. There were tours of the Masonic Health Care Center, featuring the new facilities that include the assembly room, meditation room, gift shop, library, therapy pool, beauty and barber shops, therapeutic recreation rooms, and three floors of nursing services.

The Masonic Homes’ Outreach Program provides information to Pennsylvania Freemasons, families, and friends. More than 200 calls are received each month, some from as far away as Alaska. Many people call with questions about personal care homes, long-term care insurance, low-income housing, and financial assistance. Many others are interested in acquiring general information about safety issues, Alzheimer’s disease, nutrition, caregiving and fitness.

If you’re interested in learning more about any of these topics, you can rely on the Outreach Program as a valuable resource. Besides pamphlets and booklets that Outreach distributes at no cost, the Program can provide informational videos to help one make educated decisions. These video tapes may be borrowed from Outreach.

Examples: “The Quiet Touch”, a course in “caring” for caregivers; “The Prostate Puzzle”, a video produced for men, their families, and the community; “Prime Fitness II”, a very light workout tape; “Eat Up! What’s Up!? Hang Up!”, how to respond to telemarketing fraud; “Fraid and Other Con Games”, help in avoiding common fraud and swindle schemes; and “Promise & Other”, motivation for talented and gifted young persons.

Audiovisual Programs from Outreach

Caring For Each Other

Masonic Homes’ resident Sarah Harris (left) and her niece, Anna Davis, greet a child from the day care center during an Intergenerational Program.

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Masonic Homes Residents Enjoy Special Summertime Activities

More than 300 residents at the Masonic Health Care Center enjoyed fun-filled summertime activities, celebrating “Country Cookout Days,” August 5 through 7, and the annual buffet theme night on August 20.

For the Country Cookout (photo at right), the residents were given cowboy hats to ease them into the “country groove” as they entered the West Wing Assembly Room for a sumptuous lunch hot off the grill. Many enjoyed dancing to the country music of a disk jockey.

“Under the Boardwalk” (photo at left) was the theme for the third annual buffet. The residents enjoyed such things as a balloon boat, beach volleyball, miniature golf, and dunk tank, and stands serving soft pretzels, ice cream, and fresh fruits. The “Paper Moon Band” played beach songs and favorite old tunes.

Ground Breaking for Independent Living Cottages

The Masonic Homes held a ground breaking ceremony on the site of the future independent living cottages on Friday July 26. More than 60 future residents attended the event, as well as members of the Committee on Masonic Homes and Masonic Homes’ staff.

The residents enjoyed a buffet lunch provided by the Masonic Homes’ Food Services Department and music by the Dixieland Express band. The event gave the individuals an opportunity to share in the ground breaking ceremony, meet other people in their community, and have their pictures taken with Right Worshipful Grand Master Edward O. Weisser.

The first phase of construction for the independent living cottages, which will include 30 units with varied floor plans, began in August for completion in the spring and summer of 1997. The entire project could consist of up to 100 cottages; it depends on the financial resources and the number of eligible families.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about our independent living cottages, contact the Marketing Office at 1-800-676-6452 or send in the coupon.

Masonic Homes, Independent Living
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

YES! Send me more information on the independent living cottages at the Masonic Homes!

Yours truly,

R.W. Grand Master
Edward H. Wolter

R.W. Deputy Grand Master
James L. Evans

Committee members participating in the ground breaking ceremony for the construction of the Masonic Homes’ Independent Living cottages: (1-r): Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director of the Masonic Homes; D. William Noberry; Robert L. Engle; William J. McCann; Dean E. Vaugrin; Norman C. Speicher; R.W.G.T. Thomas W. Jackson; R.W.G.S.; Carl R. Ricks, Chairman of Building and Grounds Subcommittee; James L. Evrette; R.W.G.M.; Eudene O. Weisser; R.W.G.M.; Robert L. Druley, Jr.; R.W.G.W.; Mary O. Cunningham; Sr.; R.W.G.W.; Norman A. Foer, Gay T. Matthews, and Raymond E. Tierney, Administrator, Independent Living for the Masonic Homes.
New Ben Franklin Facilities To Open in November.

A new Adult Living Center, Dementia Unit, and Transitional Unit in the Ben Franklin Building that has been under construction at the Masonic Health Care Center of the Masonic Homes' at Elizabethtown are to be placed into service during November.

As part of the Masonic Homes' preparing for health care in the future, the completed construction will assure the Masonic Homes' shelter to continuous living services, unique programs and contemporary facilities for the well-being of the residents and the community.

The ground floor of the building will house the Adult Living Center (adult day care). As health care moves toward providing services which allow people to live at home, the Adult Living Center will continue to provide a needed service for the residents and the community.

The Center opened in August, 1995, and has been providing services in the Temple Dining Room. The new Center will provide for 41 clients with more services in a more convenient setting so the participants can live in an independent environment for a longer period. It will provide assistance during the day to working families who desire to keep loved ones out of a nursing facility and in their own homes. It will have three handicapped-accessible bathrooms, a first aid room, an activity area, and dining space. This is all within the same complex where participants can have direct access to all of the medical ancillary clinics.

The first floor will provide two nursing units to house residents with dementia. Ben Franklin 1 East will have 34 beds; Ben Franklin 1 West, 35 beds. All services will be for residents who have progressed beyond the initial stages of dementia, but not bed-bound.

Ben Franklin 1 East, for higher functioning residents, will include a room for those who have enhancement capabilities. In addition, both units will have different, beautifully designed courtyards where the residents may go outdoors freely, yet remain in a safe and secure environment. Both courtyards are designed to enhance therapeutic recreation and nostalgic memories. In addition to regular food services, there will be a pantry in each unit to provide a kitchen setting where residents may experience cooking, baking and revisit happy memories. Each room will have a "nostalgia cabinet" outside the door where residents and their families can place items to remind each resident of something from his or her past. This floor will enable the Masonic Homes to provide care for 21 additional residents.

Ben Franklin 2 will be the new location for the Masonic Homes Transitional Unit. As health care moves toward the lowest cost provider services with the best quality outcomes, the new Transitional Unit will be moving in the same direction. Residents who previously needed hospital care are being evaluated to see if that same care could be delivered at the Masonic Homes. The new unit will provide 51 beds, with each having piped in gases, oxygen, air, and suction.

The Transitional Program was started last February and currently provides enhanced services with infusion therapy, tracheotomy care, dialysis care, pall management, and specialized rehabilitation. Overall, the floor will be capable of delivering more acute services than nursing facilities have in the past, with a homelike atmosphere.

The Outreach Program has helped countious people over the past two and one-half years. Families in Pennsylvania, retirees in Florida and Arizona, widows and widowers in California, children in New Jersey and Ohio, and many other friends of the Fraternity all across the nation have benefited from the support and concern offered by the Masonic Homes' Outreach Program.

How can a retired couple requiring different levels of personal care and wanting to open a new Masonic Homes' Congregate Living area, move to Elizabethtown togerth er?

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, [fictional names] a Florida couple in this situation, recently called the Outreach Program for assistance. Mrs. Smith became ill and needed nursing care. Her husband, continuing in reasonably good health, did not need or desire to move into a nursing facility.

He wanted to remain independent and still be near his wife. Unfortunately, Mr. Smith's name was far down on the Congregate Living area waiting list.

The Outreach Program resolved the problem by locating an affordable, comfortable, and safe apartment for Mr. Smith in Elizabethtown, only one mile from his wife, who was receiving care at the Masonic Health Care Center. To further simplify their transition, Outreach arranged additional services including transportation, physicians, senior centers, activities, and utilities.

Job's Daughters Learn, Share in Child Caring

Rose Snyder, Director of the Masonic Homes' Child Care Center, spoke to a group of Job's Daughters during their Summer program in July. The program, called "The Early Years Are Learning Years," showed the participants that "for children, play is a way of learning...a way of life!"

She demonstrated the impact that young men and women can have on the lives of children and how their knowledge of quality care can shape the future for children. Mrs. Snyder addressed the "dos" and "don'ts" of teenage baby-sitting.

The early childhood educator also offered the young women some insight into the child care profession, including the high cost of quality child care faced by parents, communities and businesses. She shared with the "Jobies" that the commitment the Masonic Homes has made in providing quality care for its employees' children.

DeMolay and Knights Hold 13th Brotherhood Weekend

For the 13th consecutive year, members of the Order of DeMolay and the Knights of Pythagonas gathered for a Brotherhood Retreat on August 23-25 at the Masonic Conference Center—Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. The Knights of Pythagonas is a youth organization for boys sponsored by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

This year's retreat was organized by Charles L. Saltzgaber, a member of Jerusalem Lodge No. 506 and Pennsylvania DeMolay's Director of Brotherhood, and Edward W. Fertile, Worshipful State Director of Youth for the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. The weekend included brotherhood exercises, interactive group activities, athletic competitions, and ritualistic presentations.

The keynote speaker for the weekend program was Dr. Bernard S. Proctor, who served as the 90th Division Administrative Officer of the " Tuskegee Airmen" in World War II. They served with distinction in the European Theater. Dr. Proctor was accompanied by John Grant, a Tuskegee graduate and pioneer in the helicopter industry.

DeMolay State Master Councilor Robert R. Nye, Jr., spoke of the importance of the retreat by noting that "the impact of this weekend will be felt by each of us in the future. We laid aside our problems at home to work, play and unite in a brotherhood which most young men our age will never do." Grand Junior Knight Shawn Jones added that "the lessons taught here are priceless and cannot be measured. This weekend has once again proven how good it is to be able to come together as one and dwell as brethren."

Recognizing a Rainbow

At the Grand Assembly session of Rainbow for Girls in Altoona, R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser presented a Grand Lodge plaque of recognition to Michelle A. Lake for her dedicated service as the Grand Worthy Advisor.

Scholarship Guide Available

The ninth edition of the Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide, produced by the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, is now available. It includes a summary of more than 50 scholarship or grant programs provided by various Masonic bodies for Masons, their families, and members of the Masonic-related youth groups, and in some cases, to the general public. An application for the 1996 P.Y.F. Scholarship is included in each guide. To request a copy, phone 1-800-266-8424.
R.W.G.M. Visit Climax To 100th Anniversary of Valley Lodge

A visitation by the R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser and a banquet on October 26 was scheduled to climax ten months of celebration of the 100th anniversary of Valley Lodge No. 613, Turtle Creek.

The 54th Masonic D.D.G.M. William M. Kastenberg, reported that the lodge started the year with a very successful kick-off dinner. In May, members and their ladies enjoyed a bus trip to visit the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown and the Grand Lodge Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. In June, 100 Masons—one for each year of the lodge—joined the fire department in a parade in Turtle Creek.

$2,000 Raised for Scholarship Fund

The second annual sports banquet on June 20 in Honey Brook raised more than $2,000 for the John Gay Memorial Scholarship Fund to provide a yearly scholarship for a student at the Children's Home of the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. The fund is in memory of the late Past Master of Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville. Ed Stumm, P.M., Williamson Lodge No. 309, Downingtown, President of the dinner-sponsoring Chester County Club of the Scottish Rite Valley of Reading, presented the gift to the Director of the Children's Home, Gilsen "Buz" Cash. Of the money raised this year, C. Richard McLear, P.M., presented $1,150 that were contributions by Skerrett Lodge members. Art Mahaffey, a former pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, was the guest speaker at the event.

Open House a Success

Several hundred persons attended an Open House at the Masonic Center in West Reading on Saturday, June 22. The family of Freemasonry was represented with displays staffed by members of the Blue Lodges, York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shriner, DeMolay, Rainbow Girls, the Masonic Homes and Outreach Program, the Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, and the Drug and Alcohol Foundation. Brethren welcomed visitors to the lodge rooms and the nationally acclaimed Rahall Temple Chanters entertained in the Red Room. Lodges that met there are: Lodge No. 62; Chandler Lodge No. 227; Teutonia Lodge No. 367; St. John's Lodge No. 435; Reading Lodge No. 549; Isaac Meister Lodge No. 600; and Puritan Lodge No. 740.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP
(Act of Oct. 23, 1962; Section 4369
Title 39, United States Code)
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PLAY BALL!

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser (left) is ready to throw out the first pitch before the Pittsburgh Pirates—Philadelphia Phillies game attended by more than 1,200 Masons and their families in Pittsburgh on July 25th. Kit Carson, a Past Master of Solomon Lodge No. 231 and a member of the Pittsburgh Pirates' staff, escorted the Grand Master to the field. The Pirates won the game and Grand Master Weisser said, "Wait till next year!"

Ten Regional Ritualistic Meetings Set for '97

Ten Regional Meetings of the Schools of Instruction are scheduled for 1997:

February 22 ............Uniontown
March 8 ..........New Castle
March 15 ...........Pittsburgh
March 22 ............Johnstown
April 5 ............Harrisburg
April 12 ............Erie
May 3 ............Allentown
April 19 ..........Pittsburgh
April 26 ..........Philadelphia

50-Year Emblems of Gold

- Twin brothers, John and James Means, of Punxsutawney, Union County, were given a 50-Year Emblem of Gold presented by 39th D.D.G.M. Frederick J. Weisser.
- During a Past Master's dinner of Northern Star Lodge No. 555, Duke Center, 22nd Masonic D.D.G.M. Paul G. Mohr presented a 50-Year Emblem of Gold to 92-year-old Gerald Rose. The open ceremony was attended by the recipient's wife, son, and grandson, who is a P.M. of Union Lodge No. 334, Bradford.

Rainbow Provides Plush Partners

The Rainbow Girls of New Castle Assembly No. 1 recently gave 70 stuffed toy animals to the local police department to help young children caught in the midst of a domestic dispute. The toys are being distributed from the New Castle Police Department cruisers. The officers will give them to children whenever they are present or involved in family incidents where the police are called to intervene. Police Chief Charles Abraham endorsed the idea and gratefully accepted the donation.

Rosanne Scala, Worshipful Advisor of the Assembly, chose this civic service project to help alleviate the fears of young children in difficult situations. It will also help the children realize that the police are there to help, and that they care about the children. Scala attends Allegheny College in Meadville, and holds the office of Grand Religion for the Pennsylvania Grand Assembly.

DeMolay "Pilot" School

Members of Beaver Valley Chapter, Beaver Falls [above], visited the USAir Flight Simulator in Pittsburgh. In the program organized by Michael Murgenerovich, 37th Masonic District Youth Chairman, the young men were allowed to take off and land a 737-300 jet plane to and from the destination of their choice. Chief Pilot Ray Zindell volunteered his time to make the day possible. He reported that there were no accidents, and that two excellent landings were made by the young men. At the conclusion of the visit, each DeMolay was given a USAir souvenir cap and decal.

Give a Gift of Life, Be an Organ Donor

Masons Care! Masons are realizing that there remains a vital way to show their love for one another by giving the greatest gift of all—the gift of life.

It is important that Masons, their families, and friends consider their ability to help. More than 43,000 men, women, and children in the U.S. are awaiting life-saving organ transplants. Almost anyone can be eligible to donate organs and possibly tissues. No age limit is specified for organs; through it is 60 for tissues. Organs that can be donated are heart, kidneys, pancreas, lungs, liver, intestines, and at times, stomach. Tissues include corneas, skin, bone and ligaments. Heart valves and tendons also may be donated. There will be no cost to the donor or his family.

If you would like more information, contact either the Grand Lodge Blood and Organ Donor Club, the Center for Organ Recovery and Education (CORE) at 1-800-DONORS-7, or the Delaware Valley Transplant Program at 1-800-KIDNEY-1.

You can sign up easily using the forms below. Clip and complete both portions. Sign and carry the middle portion and send the bottom portion to the Blood and Organ Donor Club, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, 19107-2598. Be sure to share with your family the information about donating organs and your decision to be a donor.

UNIFORM DONOR CARD

The following people have witnessed that I have chosen to pledge the gift of life:

Witness

Witness

Witness

Witness

Place this portion in your wallet

UNIFORM DONOR CARD

The following people have witnessed that I have chosen to pledge the gift of life:

Witness

Witness

Witness

Witness

Detach and return this bottom portion to The Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.
MASON'S OF NOTE

Philip A. Campanella, a native of Baltimore who has been a resident of Japan for 51 years, returned as a distinguished guest of Sinnedeha Lodge No. 742, Johnstown. He is a Past Master of Rising Sun Lodge No. 1401 (English Constitution) of Koto, Japan. He is also an Honorary Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Japan.

They're of Mars and Jupiter . . . .

Pittsburgh, an nationally known astronomer. Brashear is a mainstay of the Carnegie Technical Schools (subsequently Carnegie Institute of Technology and Carnegie-Mellon University) and stands refurbished in the observatory at the University of Pittsburgh.

Lodge and Asteroid Named "Bra"shere"

There's Lodge No. 743 in Dornsify, Pittsburgh, and an asteroid between Mars and Jupiter named Bra'sheer. They're both named for a Pittsburgh Mason, the late Dr. John Alfred Brashear (1840-1920), an internationally known optical craftsman, builder of telescopes and an amateur astronomer.

Dr. Truman Kohman, professor emeritus at Carnegie Mellon University and a member of the Amonister Astronomical Association of Pittsburgh, who proposed the name, explained in an informational release:

"Minter Planet 55029 Brashear is a main belt asteroid, whose orbit lies between those of Mars and Jupiter... its diameter is perhaps 10 to 20 kilometers. Asteroid Brashear was discovered on March 1, 1984, by Edward Bowell, an astronomer at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona. Brashear designed and constructed a telescope which was used in the Lowell Observatory's first search for a planet beyond Neptune.

An 11-inch refracting telescope made by the John Brashear Company between 1908 and 1910 at the request of Andrew Carnegie for the Carnegie Technical Schools (subsequently Carnegie Institute of Technology and Carnegie-Mellon University) stands refurbished in the Association's Nicholas E. Wogman Observatory.

John A. Brashear Lodge No. 743, Pittsburgh, was constituted December 15, 1925.

Satellite Libraries Started

A satellite library is being started in a strategic location in each of the Masonic regions. A small collection of books donated in every Masonic library was given to each of the seven regional libraries. The content of this core collection was determined by the Board of The Masonic Library and Museum. The subjects of these books range from an introduction to Freemasonry through suggestions for talk to a biography.

From time to time more books will be sent to the libraries by The Masonic Library and Museum in Philadelphia. You can contribute to their growth. If you have or know of books that need a new home, you are encouraged to donate them directly to the nearest regional library. The staff in Philadelphia has provided cataloguing for the core collection and will be happy to assist with cataloguing of items acquired by satellites, as well as any library questions. If brethren wish to request books by mail, they should continue to do so through the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. Please call (215) 988-1933 to obtain a catalogue.

All of the new regional libraries are slated to be ready to serve the brethren in the near future. There are: The Masonic Library and Museum at the Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia 19107-2520 (Region 1); The Masonic Names Library, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown 17022-2199 (Region 2); The Masonic Temple, Valley Pike and Linwood Street, Johnstown 15905 (Region 3); The Pittsburgh Masonic Center, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh 15237 (Region 4); The Masonic Temple, 8th Street, Erie 16501-1350 (Region 5); Williamsport Consistory, 340 Market Street, Williamsport 17701 (Region 6); and Caldwell Consistory, 150 Market Street, Bloomsburg 17815 (Region 7).

CORRECTIONS

"In the Mason's of Note" column in the August issue, it was noted that Elmer W. Herman entered his grandson whose name is Robert D. Herman, Jr. He was identified as "James." Also, Past Master James D. Quigley raised his son, Dean Quigley. He was identified as Past Master Quigley's brother.

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The Masonic Legion of Honor Banquet was to be held in the Grand Dining Room of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Oct. 27. William E. Baquet, Jr., the 56th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master and the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign of the United Grand Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the U.S.A., Mexico and the Philippines, was to be awarded the Legion of Honor's Bronze Medallion.

National Memorial Arch is Tent ed for Winter

The National Masonic Arch at Valley Forge has been tented for the winter while restoration work continues. In addition to the tenting shroud, there is a large sheet (18 feet x 30 feet) with Square and Compasses painted on it which will be displayed from time to time. R.W. Grand Master Edward W. Osier (retired) and Dean E. Vaughn, P.M., the Arch Project Representative, are pictured in front of the tented arch.

Arch restoration work has been proceeding on schedule for completion mid-summer. Dedication ceremonies and a parade at the restored arch are being planned for Sunday, August 24.

You can be a part of this historic project. For a donation of $5 or more, you can have the following information placed in a time capsule at the Arch: donor's name, "In Honor/Memory of" (if applicable) and lodge number or organization. (Please use the application form available from your lodge or the one included in the last issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason.) All contributions of whatever amount, are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to "Grand Lodge Chapter 787/National Memorial Arch," and mail to the Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2508.

Milnor Lodge 287 Roars Along In Pittsbrugh Mini Grand Prix

Milnor Lodge No. 287, Pittsburgh, raised a blue mini-car with the Square and Compasses on the hood through the city's Station Square and Compasses painted on it which can be displayed in the Mini Grand Prix of Auto Racing on August 24. They didn't take the checked red flag, but added $2,000 to the funds raised for the Ahrchitecure and Living Foundation, as did the 35 other teams in the race.

The Friend to Friend banner and information on Freemasonry clearly identified the Milnor Lodge "pit stop" area. The Mini Mason Racing Team (t-numbered) - Seated - Joan Bergfeld, Ted Bergfeld, and Jane Bergfeld; Standing - Don Wertheim, Babbie Worthing, Julie Puhl, Mike Puhl, Brian Meanor, Sue Meanor, and Matthew Bergfeld. Missing from the picture are Rod Watson and Melissa Bergfeld.

CORRECTIONS

* The winner of the 1995 Masonic Education Media Contest was Bryan C. Wineberg of John W. Jenks Lodge No. 534. On Page 6 of the August issue he was identified as "William."
Election, Amendments, Banquet Set for December Quarterly

Grand Lodge Officers and the Committee on Masonic Homes will be elected and will act upon several amendments to the Ahiman Rezon at the Quarterly Communication in Philadelphia on Wednesday, December 4. The Communication will open at 10 a.m., Luncheon will be served, and the banquet for Masons and their ladies will be held at the Marriott Hotel in the evening. Reservations for the banquet at $70 per person are required (use coupon in this issue of Pennsylvania Freemason). (To reserve, send with coupon to: Office of the Grand Secretary, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA 19107. (215) 238-4000)

Amendments to be acted upon are:

(1) to increase the initiation fee to Grand Lodge by $25. The increase is needed to fund the operations of Grand Lodge which have been heavily impacted by steadily rising inflation, along with membership decline. Grand Lodge operations are not tax-exempt (501[c])3 activities and as such receive no contributions.

(2) to dissolve the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Leadership and Management, Inc. On December 28, 1995, the board of Directors of the Foundation voted to dissolve the Foundation.

(3) to stipulate that a Mason cannot be suspended for non-payment of dues while Masonic charges are pending against him.

(4) to approve the creation of Spanish-speaking lodges. R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser noted the opportunities in this era of cultural development to establish Spanish-speaking lodges. Pennsylvania has had German-speaking lodges since the beginning of the 19th century.

December Quarterly Communication Banquet
Philadelphia Marriott Ballroom
1101 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

The Members of the Grand Lodge are requested to attend:

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Wednesday, December 4, 1996 at 10:00 a.m., at which the Grand Officers and Committee on Masonic Homes will be elected.

Action will be had upon the following proposed Amendments to the Ahiman Rezon. (To reserve, send with coupon to: Office of the Grand Secretary, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA 19107. (215) 238-4000)

Amendment No. 1

Increase in Grand Lodge Fees

Item 1 under Article 10.01 shall be amended so that as amended the same shall read:

"The Initiation Fee to the Grand Lodge is $2.00.

Amendment No. 2

Leadership and Management Foundation

Whereas, The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Leadership and Management, Inc. was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with the Department of State as of January 4, 1993; and

Whereas, at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Foundation held December 28, 1995, it was unanimously agreed to dissolve the abovementioned Foundation;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Section 13.44 of the Ahiman Rezon shall be amended therewith.

Amendment No. 3

No Suspensions for Non-Payment of Masonic Charges Pending

Be it hereby resolved that Article 19.06 of the Ahiman Rezon shall be amended so that as amended the same shall read as follows:

"19.06. A Member of a Lodge ceases to be such by expulsion, suspension or resignation. But no Member shall be permitted to resign and withdraw from membership, until his dues have been paid or rectified by his Lodge, unless he is resigning upon appeal, and a Member of a Lodge shall not be suspended for non-payment of dues while subject to Masonic charges."

Amendment No. 4

Spanish Language Lodge

Be it hereby resolved that the first paragraph of Article 21.01 of the Ahiman Rezon shall be amended so that as amended the same shall read as follows:

"21.01. The requirements for initiation for membership in a Lodge are that the petitioner shall be a man, freeborn, of mature age, of good moral character, able to earn a livelihood for himself and family, well and within the Masonic language to speak in English which is spoken in the English language, or the Spanish language, where the petitioner must be able to read and write in the German language or the Spanish language. Such a person who is not of good moral character, unable to speak such languages, or who is not able to write in such languages, will not be permitted to become a member of a Lodge."

Amendment No. 5

Why you joined Freemasonry...

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

No one joins any organization without some reason for doing so, be it a church, a social club, a civic organization, a union, or any other. A reason was there. Have you ever given time to think about why you joined Freemasonry?

In some cases it might have been a passive reason, i.e., affiliation with the same religion and church in which you were raised. In others, an active stimulus might have been the factor, as in a political affiliation, but the cause was there. Now, my Brothers, why did you become members of our Craft?

Some years ago, an old man was being honored for having been a Freemason for 70 years. When asked to respond to that night, he said that when he was a boy growing up near a small village he observed a group of men in the community who were leaders with standing regulations. He learned that these men were Freemasons, and because of them he reasoned that Masonry must be good and set his sights on becoming a Freemason.

I just finished reading the new book, Revolutionary Brotherhood by Steven C. Bullock, which emphasized reasons for joining Freemasonry during more than 100 years of American history. He was somewhat amazed to learn the changes Freemasonry went through during those years, not only in its structural composition and operation but also in its emphasis on different aspects of its operation. I knew that the Craft was not static; but I did not know enough of its evolution, in turn, produced different stimuli for affiliation.

One constant denominator that did not vary, however, through all its evolution was the emphasis on the quality of its membership, which in turn, probably has been the primary reason for most affiliations.

Today we are greatly concerned with the decline in our membership. Yet with the simple practice of Freemasonry, we would aid in the reduction of declining membership.

If we became a Freemason with no mercenary or other improper motive, as we said we did; and, if we truly have made an effort to understand our obligation then we would all know we owe to the past, and comprehend our obligation to the future.

Our late Brother Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe, the great German author and philosopher, many years ago wrote, "That which has been bequeathed to us must be earned anew if we would possess it." It would be well to remember that.

I wonder how many small boys are watching us and reasoning that Masonry is the Craft we truly have made an effort to understand our obligation then we would all know we owe to the past, and comprehend our obligation to the future.

Correction from my last article the name "Lajos Kossuth" should have been "Lajos Kossuth".

Every Pennsylvania Mason Is On The Friend to Friend Team

There's a team of more than 150,000 Friend to Friend ambassadors across the state. If you are a Pennsylvania Mason residing in the Jurisdiction was mailed his personal copy of the enlightening video about Freemasonry, The World's Most Respected Men's Organization. You're on the team, so enjoy the video yourself, but then, be sure your good friends get to see it, too.

The videotape makes it easy for every Mason to speak about to Friend to Friend. As R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser said, "You'll find this to be a wonderful way to do a friend a favor. It's the best tool you can use to let your friends know what Freemasonry is all about." Just tell a friend that you have a video that you think he would like to see. Loan it to him and ask that it be returned to you. Then, when it is returned, you'll have the natural opportunity to answer your friend's questions.

This Friend Should Be A Mason!

By Dennis W. Dendler, Worshipful Master - 1996 Reading Lodge No. 549

I have known this Man for many years, And I thought I knew him well, I thought I knew him well enough, I thought, To trust him with my life, And to trust him with my life, And I thought I could, And trust him well, I do.

But let him know of Brotherhood, I thought I never could, And prayed to God That He would lead him soon To that light of Brotherhood.

Now, Friend to Friend has set me free To show my friend the way; To show my friend the way; To show my friend the way, To show my friend the way, To show my friend the way.

And prayed to God That He would lead him soon To that light of Brotherhood.

Lajos Kossuth.