Your Will Won't Work Well When...

It's Out-of-Date
How old is your will? Have you reviewed it in the last three years? If not, chances are it could use some attention. A number of personal factors can affect your will: things like changes in income, employment, family size or marital status. External factors such as new federal or state laws can also require the revision of your will. Have any of the following things occurred in the last few years?

- Major change in finances
- Moved to another state
- New business venture
- Children now less dependent
- Death in family
- Serious illness in family
- Marriage or divorce
- Birth of child
- Move to another state
- New out of state property
- Purchase new home
- Trustee can’t serve
- Executor won’t serve
- Trustee can’t serve
- Change to change guardian
- More grandchildren
- Change in living arrangements
- Job promotion
- Change in giving interests
- New life insurance
- More property in joint names
- New out of state property
- More property in joint names
- Change in living arrangements

It's Legally Invalid
Your will can contain all the information you think you want, and not be worth the paper it's written on. This is more likely to be true if your will is old, or if you tried to cut corners by using generic forms from a stationery store. A will can be invalid if it is unsigned or witnessed improperly.

There's just no substitute for having a competent attorney involved. In the short run, it may cost you a bit more, but it will certainly provide greater peace of mind and possibly save your survivors from a nightmare.

It Conflicts With Other Plans.
Your will should be coordinated with your other estate transfer documents. For example, insurance proceeds and brokerage accounts pass outside the will to the named beneficiaries. Pension funds are also distributed outside the will. A will that truly works well will take all of these other assets into consideration.

It Fails to Fulfill Your Desires
Your will should accomplish exactly what you want. Do you want your children to receive their inheritance all at once, or at various intervals? Do you want your charitable gifts to be used for unrestricted purposes, or do you want to earmark the funds to meet specific needs? Do you want to give Masonic Homes a percentage of your estate, or a set amount?

Perhaps you didn't know all the options when you signed your will. Later, you discovered other ways to make your bequests. You may be dissatisfied with your will. It may work as a legal document, but fail to work well as the expression of your true desires.

Is it time to redo your will? If so, we urge you to make an appointment with your attorney as soon as possible. You should be satisfied and confident about your estate plan.

The Director of Development, Bro. Fred D. Rissinger and the Planned Giving Officers, Bro. John R. McFadden are available to visit with you about any of this. They can review bequest options with you and tell you about other giving possibilities. Please complete the coupon to let them know of your interest. Or you can call them at 1-800-599-6454. Their services are complimentary.

(continued from page 19)
Brethren:

Freemasonry has always been respected as one of the oldest and most venerated fraternities in the world. This is certainly due in part to the positive image the fraternity has generated because of our numerous charitable works and requirements for good men. However, it is disappointing when we learn of individuals who have never heard of Masonry or who have only heard about Masons of years ago. We have no concept of what Masons are doing, and sadly many of our members are too busy to learn about our activities.

On occasions during my travels throughout the Commonwealth I have stepped to ask for directions to a lodge, usually at a convenience store. It is all too common that the young persons employed at these locations have not informed me that there is a lodge in the area. They seem to not knowing much about Masonry, but are interested in learning. Brethren, we have lost a generation of men because their fathers did not tell them about the Fraternity.

I have received many fine messages from our Brethren letting me know they appreciate the Grand Master's Team Members Who Have Earned Purple Jackets.

Dr. Edward O. Weisser, our Grand Master, records a new message at the end of each week. As he tells many steps which I believe improve the opinions concerning our Grand Master. I have received many fine compliments from our Brethren letting me know they appreciate the programs designed to help them. Public awareness of our activities has become better and the news media are interested in learning about Freemasonry and our activities. We have begun to improve our image.

Activities which promote confidence and optimism in the Grand Lodge are ongoing. The Blue Lodge ritual was returned to its original locations of the state so that those members who are unable to come to Philadelphia might have the opportunity to experience a Grand Lodge Communication. I am confident that these special endeavors by the Grand Lodge have helped the perception of Grand Lodge in the eyes of the members.

To the interest in the public in Freemasonry 300 billboards depicting the Memorial Arch were placed in many communities across the state. An advertisement program in the magazine of the U.S. Air Force had fine results. Recently we have had the date and location at the New Shermers Hospital become better. The media are interested in learning about Masonic activities will be laying the capstone at the Memorial Arch at Valley Forge. These activities further public awareness of accomplishments and stewardship of the Fraternity. I know you are proud to be a part of this wonderful group of men and proud of your Masonic affiliation.

Individuals associated with businesses and in industry know how important it is to project a positive image and millions of dollars are spent each day to improve that image. We, too, as Freemasons, must not only continue our charity work, but we must try to let the light of Freemasonry shine through our important works. Let your family, community, and associates be aware of this special part of your life. Please do all you can to improve the image of your lodge and Freemasonry.
Three Lodge Rooms Dedicated In Historic Pittsburgh Event

It was a historic day, Saturday, May 3, when a Special Communication of the R.W. Grand Lodge was held in Pittsburgh to dedicate the three lodge rooms of the new Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center.

Masonic dignitaries from the “Family of Freemasonry” throughout Pennsylvania, with many brothers present, were part of the proceedings. As far as has been determined, it was the first time in Grand Lodge history that the Dedication Ceremony had been conducted in three adjoining lodge rooms on the same day.

The three lodge rooms were dedicated in historic events by R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser and the R.W. Grand Lodge Officers in the names of Millinor Lodge, No. 45, and Franklin-S. John’s-Trinity Lodge. It was a unique event.

The three lodge rooms were linked by a common sound system with each room set up the same, incorporating an organ in each. Grand Lodge was opened in the Minor Lodge room, then each room was dedicated in a separate ceremony, with the concluding ceremony and closing of Grand Lodge in the Minor Lodge room.

While the lodge rooms were being dedicated, the ladies were entertained in the Scottish Rite Auditorium, which was opened to the public.

At a Dedication Banquet in the evening, Grand Master Weisser presented his recommendations to Kenneth T. Fout, President of the Masonic Fund Society of Allegheny County. He, in turn, presented the Grand Master with a commemorative cachet envelope that had been prepared for the occasion by the Masonic Fund Society and cancelled by the U.S. Postal Service with a special stamp to commemorate the event.

Each of the Worshipful Masters of the three lodges in whose names the rooms were dedicated — Richard G. Johnson of Lodge No. 45, Steven J. Habrobick, Jr. of Franklin-S. John’s-Trinity Lodge No. 221, and Gary J. Crandall of Millinor Lodge No. 287 — received the dedication floor covering that was in place during the ceremony. The unique design of the carpet with Masonic symbols was created by the Grand Master and his wife, Barbara.


Washington Memorial Auditorium Named to Honor PA

The main auditorium of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, has been named the “John Scopolo Blue Slate Auditorium” in recognition of the outstanding, strong support rendered to the Memorial by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masons of the jurisdiction.

R.W. Past Grand Master W. Scott Stoner, who is the Third Vice President of the Memorial Association, told the brethren present at the Ceremony of the Communication of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Reading in June, that the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Memorial Association unanimously approved the honor.

When the Masons in the 49th Masonic District learned about the plight of flood victims in the Ohio River Valley, they acted swiftly to help, man to man, brother to brother, and Friend To Friend!

It started when Barry Minnicks, W.M. of Duquesne Lodge No. 731, McKeesport, conceived the idea of collecting good, usable clothing, household goods, and creating and building supplies and sending them to the flood-stricken area.

Via the Internet, Bro. John Muzika contacted Gary Franklin, Worshipful Master of Bultitt Lodge No. 155, Kentucky, and learned of their needs. That really got “the ball rolling.” K&A Auto Sales donated a $3-foot trailer and a shopping center offered a place to park it. Bro. Tom Moneyman, Worshipful Master of Big Spring Lodge No. 361, Newville, arranged for a special sound system, with each room set up the same. The trailer was filled with clothing, building supplies, furniture, canned goods, appliances, toys, pots, pans, dishes, and much more. On Friday, April 4, 1997, the supplies and several brethren left for Shepherdsville, KY, already, as the group left the lot, other Masons were busy loading a second trailer.

The sign on the trailer says it all: “FRIEND TO FRIEND: FLOOD THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY.” Masons of the 49th Masonic District responded with gusto what they learned about the needs of the flood-affected victims in the Ohio River Valley.
**Tribute to Regions 6 & 7 Honors Past D.D.G.M.s**

The 13th Masonic District School of Instruction hosted a Past District Deputy Grand Masters’ Tribute involving Regions 6 and 7, which raised more than $300 toward a scholarship sponsored by the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children.

The principal speaker for the event, attended by more than 200 Masons with their families and friends, was Robert L. Diuge, Jr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, supported by remarks by R.W. Past Grand Master George H. Hohenshildt.

**Visitng Vets in Pittsburgh V.A. Hospital**

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser and the Grand Lodge Officers, with Masonic Services Association (MSA) Area Hospital Representatives, visited brethren in the Veterans Administration Hospital on Highland Drive in Pittsburgh on April 10. Grand Master Weisser (front, center) is with William Vaupel, Chairman of the MSA Representatives. Representing Grand Lodge are (front, 1-r): James T. Young, P.D.D.G.M., Aide to the Grand Master; Marvin A. Cunningham, Jr.; R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Robert L. Diuge, Jr.; R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Grand Master Weisser; Bro. Vaupel; James L. Emette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; and G.D. Richard McLucas, Grand Tyler. In the rear are the MSA Area Hospital Representatives with Teresa Cunningham (far right), Chief of Volunteer Services for the Pittsburgh Area V.A. Hospitals.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser and the Grand Lodge Officers, with Masonic Services Association (MSA) Area Hospital Representatives, visited brethren in the Veterans Administration Hospital on Highland Drive in Pittsburgh on April 10. Grand Master Weisser (front, center) is with William Vaupel, Chairman of the MSA Representatives. Representing Grand Lodge are (front, 1-r): James T. Young, P.D.D.G.M., Aide to the Grand Master; Marvin A. Cunningham, Jr.; R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Robert L. Diuge, Jr.; R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Grand Master Weisser; Bro. Vaupel; James L. Emette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; and G.D. Richard McLucas, Grand Tyler. In the rear are the MSA Area Hospital Representatives with Teresa Cunningham (far right), Chief of Volunteer Services for the Pittsburgh Area V.A. Hospitals.

**50th District Sponsors Little League Team, Shows “Masons Care For Kids”**

Showing that Pennsylvania Masons care about kids, the seven lodges of the 50th Masonic District have teamed up to sponsor a team of little leaguers, ages ten to twelve, in the Pocono Mountain Little League. At mid-season, the team was undefeated and in first place in the league.

**Masons at Robert Burns Hear Unique Organ Donor Messages**

The principal speaker for the event, attended by more than 200 Masons with their families and friends, was Robert L. Diuge, Jr., R.W. Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, supported by remarks by R.W. Past Grand Master George H. Hohenshildt.

**County Officials Raise The Judge**

When the Master Mason’s Degree was conferred May 15 on Judge George Hancher in Harmony Lodge No. 429, Zelienople, all of the Degree Team comprised elected officials or employees of Butler County. County Commissioner William L. McCorrison, P.M., conferred the degree.

**Award for Grand Treasurer’s Dad**

After R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser presented Earl J. Speicher with his 50-Year Emblem of Gold, his wife, Myrle Speicher, pinned it on him. Joining in the presentation ceremony during the Grand Masters’ Banquet after the Quarterly Communication in the Reading area were, in addition to R.W. Grand Treasurer Marvin G. Speicher, and his wife, Shirley.

**“Friend to Friend” in Stained Glass**

When Cedar Lodge No. 378, Mt. Carmel, needed to replace a window in the lobby room, V. Thomas Gibbons, the Junior Warden, suggested that a picture of the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial Monument at Gottiysburg be installed. He opened a stained glass company and donated the six-foot diameter stained glass window that has been installed in the East and is now the focal point of the lodge room. **Visiting Vets in Pittsburgh V.A. Hospital**

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser and the Grand Lodge Officers, with Masonic Services Association (MSA) Area Hospital Representatives, visited brethren in the Veterans Administration Hospital on Highland Drive in Pittsburgh on April 10. Grand Master Weisser (front, center) is with William Vaupel, Chairman of the MSA Representatives. Representing Grand Lodge are (front, 1-r): James T. Young, P.D.D.G.M., Aide to the Grand Master; Marvin A. Cunningham, Jr.; R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Robert L. Diuge, Jr.; R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Grand Master Weisser; Bro. Vaupel; James L. Emette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; and G.D. Richard McLucas, Grand Tyler. In the rear are the MSA Area Hospital Representatives with Teresa Cunningham (far right), Chief of Volunteer Services for the Pittsburgh Area V.A. Hospitals.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser and the Grand Lodge Officers, with Masonic Services Association (MSA) Area Hospital Representatives, visited brethren in the Veterans Administration Hospital on Highland Drive in Pittsburgh on April 10. Grand Master Weisser (front, center) is with William Vaupel, Chairman of the MSA Representatives. Representing Grand Lodge are (front, 1-r): James T. Young, P.D.D.G.M., Aide to the Grand Master; Marvin A. Cunningham, Jr.; R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Robert L. Diuge, Jr.; R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Grand Master Weisser; Bro. Vaupel; James L. Emette, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary; and G.D. Richard McLucas, Grand Tyler. In the rear are the MSA Area Hospital Representatives with Teresa Cunningham (far right), Chief of Volunteer Services for the Pittsburgh Area V.A. Hospitals.

**“Friend to Friend” in Stained Glass**

When Cedar Lodge No. 378, Mt. Carmel, needed to replace a window in the lobby room, V. Thomas Gibbons, the Junior Warden, suggested that a picture of the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial Monument at Gottiysburg be installed. He opened a stained glass company and donated the six-foot diameter stained glass window that has been installed in the East and is now the focal point of the lodge room. **Award for Grand Treasurer’s Dad**

After R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser presented Earl J. Speicher with his 50-Year Emblem of Gold, his wife, Myrle Speicher, pinned it on him. Joining in the presentation ceremony during the Grand Masters’ Banquet after the Quarterly Communication in the Reading area were, in addition to R.W. Grand Treasurer Marvin G. Speicher, and his wife, Shirley.
G.M., D.D.G.M. Team Up to Serve

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser (left) and Hugh A. Jones, D.D.G.M., 58th Masonic District team up to serve hot dogs and sauerkraut at the Masonic family picnic at Knoebel's Park, Elysburg, on Saturday, June 14. The Grand Master also visited the Masonic family picnic at Dorney Park, Allentown, the same day. A similar picnic was held the previous Sunday, June 8, at Edgewood Park in western Pennsylvania. Two others will be held in western Pennsylvania on Friday, Aug. 1, at Kennywood Park, and Saturday, Aug. 2, at Sandcastle.

Schultz Sniffs Out The Drugs

While approximately 70 youth and a number of adults watched, a dog named Sniffs sniffed out bags of marijuana that had been hidden at various locations within Meridian Lodge No. 411, Enola Valley. It was an impressive demonstration during a drug and alcohol awareness program sponsored in the Lodge building on April 11, by Drug and Alcohol Awareness Committee of the 26th Masonic District and Meridian Lodge.

Beaver County Deputy Sheriff Rich Yonak Billy concluded an informative presentation about canine training by directing Sniffs to find the drugs that had been hidden earlier by a cohort, Sgt. Joseph J. David. The youngsters did much of the detective work done by the dog, and Schultz enjoyed all of the petting he got from them after the program. It wasn't reported whether Schultz also enjoyed the pizza and soft drinks that were served.

Blood and Organ Donor Club Sets 2nd Annual Youth Poster Contest

The Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Club of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has announced the second annual poster contest designed to involve youth in the promotion of the Important humanitarian blood and organ donation program. It is open to any member of the four Masonically-related youth organizations — Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughters, Order of DeMolay, and Knights of Pythias.

Entrants are to prepare an 18" by 24" poster in any appropriate medium — tempera paint, water color, crayon, marker, cut paper. The subject of the poster is to relate to either the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Club, the Masonic Blood Club, or the Masonic Organ Donor Club. The posters will be judged on artistic merit, creativity, originality, comprehension with the selected medium, clarity of the message, and quality of the lettering.

The first place winner will receive a $300 prize and have his or her poster reproduced and sent to all lodges and youth groups. Second place winner will receive $200 and third place, $100.

Deadline for entering the contest is October 1. Entries are to be submitted to Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Club, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

114% Attendance Increase

Hazle Lodge No. 327, Hazleton, was the winner of the R.W. Grand Master's 1999 attendance award for a lodge of its size in Region 7. The increase was 114 percent. Raymond D. Jones, W.M. (left), accepts the award from William J. Ray, Sr., D.D.G.M., 45th Masonic District.

Mason-Knights Aid Easter Seals

In a ceremony April 27 at Ferris Hills Lodge No. 776, the "Mason-Knights," who are brethren from five lodges in the 8th Masonic District and Knights of St. Joseph The Worker Council, Knights of Columbus, presented a check for $4,000 to six-year-old Bobby Kennedy, an Easter Seal child representative.

Grant For D&A Abuse Prevention

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children has awarded a $32,290 grant to St. Vincent College to expand its "Difficult Topics," in the Westmoreland County region as well as statewide in Allegheny, Erie, Lackawanna, Wyoming, Clinton, and Lancaster Counties. The program is a multi-dimensional model of primary, tobacco, and other drug prevention for high-risk children of ages three through six. R.W. Deputy Grand Master James L. Emerle (right), President of the Masonic Foundation, presents the first $8,000 installment for the grant to Rev. Martin K. Bartel, O.S.B. (left), President of St. Vincent College, and Barbara Hills, Executive Director of the College Prevention Projects.

Musical Talent Contest Winners

Statewide winners of the 1997 Grand Lodge Musical Talent Contest were announced by R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser after the competition at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, on Saturday, June 21. They are: r.f.: Edward Jakubowski, a trumpeter, from Avoca, Region 7; Jennifer E. Loekker, a pianist, from Shippensburg, Region 3; Karen M. Jeffries, a vocalist, from Springfield, Region 5, who won second place; Grand Master Weisser; Melissa Epphimer, a pianist from Reading, Region 2; J. Paul Pepper, a pianist from Belle Vernon, Region 4, who won first place; and Jennifer Tia, a pianist from Perkasie, Region 1, who won third place. Michael D. Costello, a pianist and vocalist from Stote College, who led the Region 6 competition, was unable to participate in person due to graduation, but videotaped a performance for the statewide contest.

Raising Is A Family Tradition

When Raymond E. Montag, P.M., of Victory Lodge No. 694, Butler, conferred the Master Mason's Degree on his grandson, Dale (front, center) in May, he extended a Masonic family tradition. He has raised three sons, two grandsons, and a son-in-law.

Pictured (1-r): Front - Past Master Montag; Dan Bouch, father-in-law of the newly raised Mason Dale, the grandson who was raised; Jack, a son and Worshipful Master of Victory Lodge; and Rich, a son and Past Master. Rear - Michael, a grandson and Secretary of the 27th Masonic District School of Instruction; Bill Gregory, son-in-law and Senter Warder; and Charles, a son and Lodge Secretary.

Ritual + Fish Fry = Good Attendance

Excellent degree work and a sumptuous fish fry are two good reasons why there were 180 brethren in Victory Lodge No. 694, Butler, for an extra meeting, Friday, March 21. It was designed as a Ritual Rejuvenation Night and the Master Mason's Degree was conferred on Frank Matthew Wise by Danly B. McNally, D.D.G.M., 37th Masonic District. It also was the Lodge's annual fish fry (cooked up by the ambitious kitchen crew shown). To improve members' attendance, four years ago, the fish fry was switched to an extra meeting right with one degree being exemplified.

Family Full of W.M.'s Earns Watches

It was the dream of Lavere L. Stomer, P.M., (right), who was Worshipful Master of Helenon Lodge No. 465, New Oxford, in 1962 to see his son and three grandsons serve as Worshipful Master of the lodge. He promised that if they all did, he would present each of them with a historic Die1ly Masonic watch. His dream has come true and he made the presentations to (1-r): Son, William L., W.M. in 1966-67; and grandsons, Jeffrey A., W.M. in 1995; Brian L., W.M. in 1997; and Gregory S., W.M. in 1999. 

The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 1997
Masonic Homes’ Village Green Area...  
What a Wonderful Place to Enjoy Retirement...  
Some Immediate Openings Are Available, So Don’t Delay!

Imagine spending your retirement years amidst the beauty of nature's splendor—colorful flowers, large shade trees, and bubbling fountains...

New... put all of your cares aside, because here we take care of the mundane tasks such as cleaning and mowing the grass so you can enjoy your retirement years. All of the conveniences of a small town are offered within walking distance... a post office, library, gift shop, chapel, ice cream parlor, recreation area, auditorium, dining room, ballroom, museum, and an active Masonic Lodge, where an Eastern Star Chapter, a DeMolay Chapter, and a Daughters of the Holy Congregate for meetings and activities! Transportation to shopping malls and other activities is provided for your convenience.

Stop daydreaming... all of this can be very real, if you choose to live in the Masonic Homes’ Village Green area! Now is the time to start planning your future in the beautiful Masonic Homes. Because of the desire expressed by the Fraternity for more residents, the Masonic Homes has been working to provide more of the same type of service to the Village Green area for residents who are looking to live independently. Currently there are some double bedroom accommodations available. In Spring 1998, there will be additional single and double rooms open for residents who desire to join the Masonic Homes' family. The Village Green area services include: three meals daily in the beautiful Grand Lodge Hall Dining Room, fifty-one housekeeping services, personal laundry service, all utilities (except telephone), regularly scheduled transportation, activities and social events, and a mail call nurse call response 24 hours daily.

Residents also have access to independent and health care services in the Star Of The Sea Health Care Center on a Medicare, Medicaid or private pay basis. If residents develop a need for some support on a short-term basis, such as may occur when recovering from a hospital stay or illness, assistance is available through sub-acute transitional care services, personal care services or private pay. The needs and preferences of each resident will determine where assistance will be obtained.

In the Village Green area, beautiful stone buildings surrounded by lush green grass, flowers, and trees create a peaceful atmosphere for the residents. Transportation is provided for residents to various outings, activities, and shopping areas.

Delma Vincent also has lived in the Village Green area for 20 years. What she likes best about living at the Masonic Homes is “having no responsibilities” for life’s chores, allowing her time to enjoy her favorite activities which include dancing, quilting, and artwork.

Florenci Ebert is another 20-year resident in the Village Green. She enjoys life at the Masonic Homes because “you’re with people your own age and you can make your own decisions.”

“I thank God daily for having the Masonic Homes,” says Theda Mason, a ten-year resident and volunteer in the Village Green area. “Once we’re there, there are no worries,” she will tell you.

Over the past 22 years, Anna Andrews has experienced “friendship and fellowship with everyone” at the Masonic Homes. “Everyday has been a good memory for me. The one special memory was my 100th birthday party. Even after reaching her status as a centenarian, Mrs. Andrews still enjoys walking for exercise. To a future neighbor, she would offer the following advice: ‘You can plan to enjoy the rest of your life here.’

What Catherine Hutchinson likes best about living at the Masonic Homes is “peace, no matter where you look you have it! It’s been wonderful.”

For more information on availability, or for an application to the Masonic Homes’ Village Green area, please write to: Admissions Office, Masonic Homes, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Or, call the Admissions Office toll-free at 1-800-676-4632 Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. If you call after hours, please leave a message on voice mail and your call will be returned promptly.

Cottage Expansion Progress Report

Some of the residents at the Masonic Homes already are enjoying their new homes, while others are anxiously waiting to move in during the next several months. Phase 2 of our cottage construction project is well underway and will be completed over the winter and early spring months. There are still some cottages available for your selection. Call the Marketing Office at 1-800-676-6452 for an appointment to take a tour of these beautiful cottages.

Independent Living Apartment Availability

If you are ready to move to the beautiful Masonic Homes, the perfect apartment is there for you. There is immediate availability in the independent living area under the entrance fee plan. You can put your home on the market now and be settled in your new apartment before the winter months set in.

These lovely two-bedroom apartments feature a large living room with a bay window, dining area, kitchen complete with a refrigerator and stove, master bedroom with full bath and your own washer and dryer, second bedroom, and another full bath. Don’t need that second bedroom? It makes a wonderful den where you can entertain your guests or just curl up and read a good book.

You can make one of these independent living apartments into your new home by calling the Marketing Office at 1-800-676-6452. Call now for an appointment to see one of these lovely apartments. Wouldn’t it be great to enjoy the holidays at the Masonic Homes this year?

A sample decor inside an independent living apartment at the Masonic Homes.

Outreach Extends Educational Resources

The Masonic Homes’ Outreach Program provides an information and referral service to Pennsylvanians, their families and friends. For more than three years, the Outreach Program has delivered vital information and direction to Masonic families and community friends across the United States. In an effort to make every Pennsylvania Mason aware of the benefits available through the program, the Outreach Program Director has spoken during lodge meetings, attended anniversaries, participated in community events, and celebrated Freemasonry with the brethren in every Masonic region of the Commonwealth. The visits educate and inform; just another of the benefits available from Outreach.

In keeping with this mission of education, the Outreach Program Director recently made a visit to Bloomsburg. To Bloomingers, Wilma J. Fugate, M.W., of Washington Lodge No. 265, asked for a lodge program hoping to provide information about the Outreach Program and the Masonic Homes. But, he also wanted to provide some health education to the men and women of the lodge. He was enthusiastic about a presentation that would inform Brethren about prostate cancer, health and treatment, as well as educating women about breast cancer detection, prevention, and treatment. After some research, the Outreach Program tapped some of the previous contacts in the community and located educators at the Central Pennsylvania Oncology Group at Penn State’s Hershey Medical Center. Several educators were willing to go to Bloomsburg to provide a program to address these important topics.

While the men were in lodge, female educators taught the ladies attending how to administer self breast examinations. Kits and literature were provided and videos were shown describing the perils of cancer, the choices for treatment, and benefits of preventative action. The “Prostate Puzzle” video was shown to the women after lodge closed.

All of the above services were provided at no cost to the Lodge, or to the attendees at the lodge. The money was distributed among breast and prostate cancer, additional literature was provided by Outreach; senior citizen handbooks; catalogs describing Medicare, Social Security, and reverse mortgages; booklets advising on advanced directives; and personal help notes. To schedule a similar event for your lodge, or within your community, call John Suchaneck, Outreach Director, at 1-800-462-7664.

Eastern Star Votes for Mege of Homes

On June 25, as The Pennsylvania Freemason was going to press, the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown was advised that at the annual session of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania Order of Eastern Star, the members voted to accept the agreement from the Masonic Homes of the Right Worshipful and United Masons of Pennsylvania to merge their homes with the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.

The result of this merger would include the Eastern Star Homes in Williamsport and Lock Haven to be located in Allegheny County, as part of the Masonic continuum of quality care services.

During the session, many members of the Eastern Star spoke of the appropriateness of their homes merging with the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. The merger took place by January 1, 1998. Admission eligibility for all three homes would then extend to Masons and their family members and Eastern Star members.

The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 1997
Hundreds of Volunteers...Thousands of Hours...

Millions of Touches Add to the Masonic Homes’ Success

National Volunteer Recognition Week, April 13 - 19, was a week of celebration and appreciation at the Masonic Homes. Recognition was given to the hundreds of volunteers, both from the community as well as its own residents, who added their special touches during 1996, totaling more than 78,000 combined hours of volunteer work.

More than 150 residents in Independent Living volunteered 6,000 hours in their area, assisting at the Information Desk, in the post office, with the craft group or the woodworking group, with the blood pressure clinic, as drivers to medical appointments, in the Country Store, in the library, and as board members on various committees.

In the Village Green area, 150 residents provided 50,000 hours of volunteer services in 1996; some residents committing to serving every day, working in areas to provide direct benefits to their neighbors. Residents volunteered in the post office, as tour guides, at the information desk, delivering meals to residents, in the gift shop, with activities, in the general store, as clerical support in offices, in the library and the museum, in the Hope Chapel, as welcome table hosts, and as pastoral care assistants.

Clyde Whitman (right), volunteer, instructs Bro. Anton Bittensen, resident, in playing a computer game.

In the Masonic Health Care Center, hundreds of community volunteers provided 20,000 hours during 1996, directly touching residents in kind and compassionate ways. Reflecting their values and an intrinsic philosophy of helping others to enjoy life, several residents volunteer assistants programs and outings, tend the gift shop, shelve books in the library, socialize, reminisce, and encourage residents to participate in sports such as aquatic exercise, and hugging (hugging is a contact sport, isn’t it?)

“Volunteers deserve meaningful expressions of gratitude on a regular basis; yet it is equally important that we show our community, through thank-you parties and get-togethers, how much the volunteers’ contributions and special touches are appreciated,” said Bro. Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director of the Masonic Homes.

Youth Appreciation Day 1997

The Children’s Home celebrated its 74th Annual Youth Appreciation Day with an awards banquet in the Masonic Health Care Center, Roosevelt Building, Assembly Room on May 23. Thirty-five youth were recognized for their many varied activities throughout the year and several were given special recognition for outstanding achievements in the areas of creativity, scholarship, leadership and appreciation at the Masonic Homes.

Much of the program was presented by the youth, themselves. Six served as ushers, five girls provided musical entertainment, and nine shared the duties of emcees and award presenters.

Special focus was on the three high school graduates: Lynnette Burrell, who will attend West Chester University; Anita Serrano, who will attend Pennsylvania College of Technology to study Human Services; and David Paul, who will attend Lebanon Campus of Harrisburg Area Community College to study computer science.

Along with their graduation certificates, the three seniors were presented with Bibles from the Pastoral Care Department, and with gifts from the Masonic Homes’ Paton School Alumni Association representative, Richard Singer, Bro. and Mrs. William L. McCarren presented a personal gift of $500 to each of the seniors for their continuing education.

Also attending were parents, relatives, friends, representatives from the Elizabethtown Area School District, Children’s Home staff and children, and members of the Committee on Masonic Homes.

R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser shared some personal thoughts and inspiring words with the children. He directed some advice to the seniors, likening them to the tree they would be planting on the Children’s Home grounds.

D.A.R.E. Officers Visit Masonic Children’s Home

Approximately 50 Blue Knights officers, most of whom participate in the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, visited the Children’s Home on Sunday, June 8.

The event was coordinated by Al Sanchez, a law enforcement officer with the Greater Philadelphia Police Department, and Bro. Gilson “Buzz” Cash, Director of the Masonic Children’s Home.

The event featured a D.A.R.E. training program to introduce the students to the program and provide them with information about drugs and the effects they have on the body.

The Masonic Children’s Home is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for children in need of care and support. Through programs like D.A.R.E., the Home prepares young people for a successful future and empowers them to make positive choices in their lives.
Autumn Day 1997

Mark your calendar now to attend Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes on Saturday, September 27. Experience first-hand the beauty of the facility—learn about the variety of caring services provided—visit family members... and reunite with old friends. Share in the spirit of Freemasonry at our annual open house for Pennsylvania Masons, family members and friends.

The fun and festivities will begin at 10 a.m., and continue until 4 p.m. The following is a preview of Autumn Day highlights:

Delicious food will be provided free at several locations on the grounds until 4 p.m. Taste the homemade sausage and baked beans, plus sauerkraut, hot dogs, ice cream, and beverages!

Visit the many stands where you can find answers to questions regarding various Masonic organizations. Browse the gift displays and Masonic Homes' orchard stands.

Many residents of the independent living and Village Green areas will open their apartments, cottages, and rooms so you can visit and view first-hand services, accommodations, and excellent living arrangements available at the Masonic Homes.

Tours also will be available at the Masonic Health Care Center including the Adult Daily Living Center on the ground floor of the Ben Franklin Building; the state-of-the-art Lafayette Special Care Unit, designed specifically to provide for the needs of residents living their lives with dementia; and the Renaissance Unit, which provides subacute care to any Pennsylvania Mason and eligible family members in need of transitional or rehabilitative care after an extended illness, hospital stay, or surgery.

Bands will perform throughout the day and there will be a wide variety of activities for children. The Friends to Friends Program will also be a big event during the day. Don't miss the Resident Talent Show, featuring the Musical Merrymakers and visits from mimes, jugglers, and clowns!

If you and your family are planning to attend Autumn Day, complete the coupon, and send it to the Masonic Homes. The Masonic Homes is unable to provide wheelchairs, so please bring your own if needed. Handicapped parking will be available; however, you must advise the Masonic Homes on your coupon if handicapped parking is required so special tickets can be forwarded to you prior to Autumn Day.

Autumn Day, September 27, 1997
Registration Coupon

Name

Lodge No. No. of adults No. of children

Address

City Street

Transportation: () Driving Own Car () Passenger () Quarter Bus () Require Handicapped Parking () Attending by Tour

If you would like to attend Autumn Day, complete the coupon, and send it to the Masonic Homes. The Masonic Homes is unable to provide wheelchairs, so please bring your own if needed. Handicapped parking will be available; however, you must advise the Masonic Homes on your coupon if handicapped parking is required so special tickets can be forwarded to you prior to Autumn Day.


The Masonic Homes is recognized for its assistance with church services and funeral services, and for its volunteer hours in the post office and gift shop.

Bro. Richard Spieth, Masonic Homes' resident, was recognized for his volunteer hours serving residents in the Masonic Health Care Center, his supervision and participation in programs with the children in the Masonic Children's Home, and for his work as Santa Claus in the Elizabethtown Community.

Bro. Franklin Hagist, Masonic Homes' resident, was recognized for his assistance during Sunday church services and for transporting residents to local hospitals so they may visit their loved ones and friends.

Bro. and Rev. George Jackson, J.D., was recognized for dedicating his time to serving the spiritual needs of the residents at the Masonic Homes.

At The Quarterly Communication


The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Awards 26 Scholarships for '97

Pennsylvania Masons, or members of Pennsylvania Rainbow for Girls, Order of DeMolay, or Job's Daughters, support 39 youth charity programs with the Youth Foundation. The Educational Endowment Fund Committee of the Youth Foundation reviewed 215 applications this year, a new record. The awards were determined on the basis of a competitive review of academic achievement. The awards were:

$2,500 Grand Master's Scholarships:
Mandy Jo Montgomery, Sandy Lake, granddaughter of Bro. William E. McLean, Lake Lodge No. 454, Sandy Lake, University of Pittsburgh.

$1,000 Herman Witte Memorial Scholarship:

$2,500 Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Scholarships:
Jonathan R. Bucher, Pittsburgh, Shavnee Rainbow Assembly No. 163, University of Notre Dame.

$1,000 Grand Master's Scholarships:
Jennifer Ratcliffe, Pittsburgh, Shavnee Rainbow Assembly No. 163, University of Notre Dame.

$1,000 Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Scholarship:
Leah Rice, Danville, Sanbury Rainbow Assembly No. 80 and the granddaughter of Bro. Melvin Love, Mahoning Lodge No. 516, Danville, Pennsylvania State University.
William R. Stecker, drums, son of Bro. Dennis C. Stecker, Hazel Lodge No. 327, Hazleton, University of Scranton or Pennsylvania State University.

$1,000 Lawrence Dietrich Smith Memorial Scholarship:
Heather Alisa Lewis, Butler, daughter of Bro. David E. Lewis, Butler Lodge No. 272, Slippery Rock University.

$1,000 Harry Witte Memorial Scholarship:
Carol Ferraro, Erie Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and daughter of Bro. H. David Reiner, Minersville Lodge No. 295, Pennsylvania State University.

$2,500 Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Scholarship:
Daeum B. Chacona, Susquehanna, Mountain Laurel Chapter, Order of DeMolay, Lycoming College.
Matthew Elling, Connellsville, Fayette County, Order of DeMolay and son of Bro. Charles Elling, King Solomon's Lodge No. 346, Grove City College.

$3,000 Lawrence Dietrich Smith Memorial Scholarship:
Karl Melissa Lacy, Renovo, Renovo Rainbow Assembly No. 76, Lebanon Valley College.
Mellyssa G. Reiner, Pottsville, Pottsville Rainbow Assembly No. 75 and daughter of Bro. H. David Reiner, Mineville Lodge No. 222, Albemarle College.

Masons interested in camping with tents, travel trailers, or motor homes are invited to join the National Camping Travelers. NCT is a Masonic family camping club that is active throughout United States and Canada. For information, contact the Pennsylvania State Director, Bro. Harry Britton, Jr., RR 2, Box 20, Fairville, PA 18419, (717) 945-5688, or the Master of Travel for East Penn Central Lodge No. 12, Box 55, Lord, Box 23, Dauphin, PA 19517, (610) 926-3794.

Of Masonic Interest...
Do You Play Chess? Master Masons of recognized lodges are eligible to join the Masonic Postal Chess Club. Members play chess by mail with Masons in all states. The club includes both beginners and experienced players who play as often and with as many opponents as desired. For information, write to the club secretary, Dennis Pymette, 17 Grinnel Dr., Camp Hill, PA 17016-7716.

MASON'S OF NOTE

At the General Assembly for the York Rite Sovereign College of North America held in Roanoke, R. W. Grand Master Edward O. Neas (center) received the York Rite's highest honor, the Order of the Purple Cross. John J. Hunt (left), Senior Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and Thomas W. Jackson (right), R. W. Grand Secretary, congratulated the Grand Master after presenting him with his Purple Cross. The honor is conferred for service to Freemasonry for beyond the norm, or for outstanding service rendered on behalf of the nation or humanity.

At the 1998 Masonic Convention of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, held in York, PA, the Grand Master, W. R. Grand Master James E. Woosley, Sr. (second from right), presented the certificate that accompanied the Jesse Green Medal of Honor to a Mason, David E. Lewis, Butler Lodge No. 272, Slippery Rock University.

Seamus P. McCaffrey, of Richard Youth Yacht Lodge No. 284, the first Philadelphia police officer ever to be elected a municipal court judge, addressed the 34 graduates attended in the 1997 Spring class of D.A.R.E. at Patton Campus.

At the convention, the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children presented Bro. McCaffrey (center) with a plaque to recognize his work as an outstanding civil servant and Mason. It was presented by Anthony J. Correy (left), the Foundation's Managing Director, and Joseph W. White, Director.

There was a special note of recognition when James R. Miller, P.M., Allequippa Lodge No. 379, McKeesport, was presented his second Past Master's Plaque by Joy E. McElroy, D.D.G.M., 49th Masonic District. When Bro. Miller agreed to serve his lodge as W. M. for the second time and was installed in April 1996, he was faced with a list of 34 members to be suspended for non-payment of dues. Before the year was finished, these 34 were restored to good Masonic standing, restored four others who had been suspended as long as eight years, and saw four brethren initiated. He was the first line signer on two of those petitions and second-line signer on another one.

380 Years of Masonry — Ashlar Lodge No. 570, Lyons, honored six members whose combined Masonic service exceeds 380 years of membership. Five of the brethren recognized were shown their Masonic Brethren Hall of Achievement certificate. R. W. Grand Master James E. Woosley, Jr. (far right), V. W. Grand Master John A. Brashear (second from right), Past Grand Master James E. Woosley, Sr. (second from left), and Past R. W. Grand Master John H. R. Moyer (far left) were honored for their years of service. Missing from the photo is Edgar A. Kopp, 92, a Mason for 69 years, who was present.

For information on Masonic Interest, contact Dennis Pymette, 17 Grinnel Dr., Camp Hill, PA 17016-7716.
Pine Grove Area High School student Everett Peachey (second from left) receives a grant from Brian G. Lengel, Worshipful Master of Pine Grove Lodge No. 409, that enabled him to participate in a one-week session of "Presidential Classroom" in Washington, DC. There, he and other student leaders had unprecedented access to Washington's halls of power, observed Congress in action, attended briefings at federal agencies, and were able to meet and question some of the country's most influential people. Looking on at the presentations are Past Masters Harry Gessner (left) and Robert G. Harris (right). On May 5, Peachey and other Pine Grove Area "Presidential Classroom" scholars presented a slide program depicting their extraordinary week in Washington.

The Annual Grand Communication And Grand Master's Banquet Set For December 27 in Pittsburgh

The Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is scheduled to be held at Masonic Temple Pittsburgh Masonic Center on Saturday, December 27, 1997, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The Communication will mark the end of the administration of Edward O. Weisser as the R.W. Grand Master and the beginning of the expected term of James L. Ertette.

The Grand Master's Banquet is scheduled for the evening of the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Medallion Award

Acting for R.W. Grand Master Edward O. Weisser, 47th Masonic D.D.G.M. David S. Kielman (left) presented a Grand Lodge Throst Medallion to Richard E. Lewis, Jr. (front center) on June 3 in Avalon Lodge No. 657, Bellevue. Frederick D. Schneider, W.M. (right), holds the Square and Compasses trophy that accompanied the award. In the rear are (l-r): Joseph A. Schrock, Jr., S.W.; Francis D. Schneider, P.M., and a previous medallion recipient; and William Hynes, Jr., acting J.W. The award is earned by being the first line signer of petitions for twelve masons.

The Grand Master's Banquet was held on December 27, 1997.

At the May stated meeting of Abraham C. Teichler Lodge No. 682, a check for $7,500 was presented by Robert R. George, W.M. (left) and Lekroy Eberly (right), Chairman of the Lodge Charities Committee, to Kim Hassinger (front center) and her parents, Joan and Barry Hassinger (rear), of Elizabethtown. The contribution represents the proceeds from the Lodge's 1997 pancake breakfast in April. Kim was stricken in 1993 with a near-fatal heart attack. Complications made specialized vision therapy necessary, which is not covered by insurance. This eighth annual benefit pancake breakfast was supported by more than 1,200 persons, and there were numerous monetary donations from the community.

Arch Tee-Shirts Available

Tee-shirts with a drawing and a message on the back that the wearer helped preserve the National Memorial Arch are available from the Gift Shop in the Masonic Temple for $8 for adult sizes and $5 for children's sizes. They can be purchased in person or by mail. See the picture and listing in the Gift Shop booklet with this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason.

$7,500 from Pancakes Helps Kim

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

A Lasting Tribute

To commemorate the summer unveiling of the restored National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge National Historical Park, the park presents the exhibition, A Lasting Tribute. The exhibit explores the 80-year history of the National Memorial Arch through its creating legislation, architecture, and current efforts to bring the Arch back to its earlier grandeur.

A Lasting Tribute, which will be on display in the Visitor Center from June 27 to October 31, pictures the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania signing the agreement to preserve the Arch.

Dedication of Preserved Arch and Parade

Parking at Valley Forge

Buses transporting spectators should use the main entrance to Valley Forge National Park at U.S. 422 and PA 23 to Outer Line Dr. Drivers will be directed for parking.

Buses transporting participants for the parade should enter Valley Forge National Park by the North Gulph Rd. entrance, which is PA 23 east of PA 252. Drivers will be directed for dispatching passengers and parking.

Please plan to arrive early to allow for the heavy traffic flow in the Valley Forge area.

Arch Tee-Shirts

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.

Arch tee-shirts with drawings are available for the Grand Master's Banquet and entertainment in the Pittsburgh Hilton. Tickets are available for $25.00 per person and will be sold by the Grand Master's office, District Deputy Grand Masters, or lodges on a first-request basis.