Do you know that there are ways that a gift to Masonic Homes can help fund your children's or grandchildren's college education? It's true! Let's take a look at how Brother Brown and his wife, Elaine used one of these methods, the deferred payment gift annuity, to accomplish this objective.

The Browns are the proud grandparents of Jeffrey. In another month, just a few days after Christmas, Jeffrey will celebrate his first birthday. In honor of this occasion they decided to present him with a special Christmas present by funding a Masonic Homes' deferred payment gift annuity naming him as the income beneficiary. They fund the annuity with appreciated stock valued at $50,000 which they purchased years ago for $20,000. Under the terms they stipulate, annuity payments are not to begin until Jeffrey is seventeen years of age.

Under the college annuity option, when Jeffrey becomes seventeen, the annuity will provide him in excess of $26,000 a year for four years. At the end of the four-year period, whatever is left in the annuity will be available for use by Masonic Homes.

To learn more about deferred payment gift annuities, and other forms of tax wise charitable giving, contact Fred D. Rissinger, Director of Development or John R. McFadden, Planned Giving Officer at the Masonic Homes. You can reach them by calling 800-599-6454.
The Grand Master's Message

[Following are excerpts from the message delivered by Brother James L. Ernette following his installation as R.W. Grand Master, December 27.]

Brethren:

It is a master of great pride, tempered with humility, to have begun my Masonic life humility — as all brethren do in our Fraternity; to grow through the years with the support of the brethren, to have elected Grand Master of the largest, most prestigious, most progressive Grand Lodge in North America. I am truly grateful. With the honor of office comes a level of responsibility. I realize the seriousness of my obligation, and take the changes seriously. I accept the challenges, and I promise my dedicated service.

It remains most important in our great fraternity, founded on the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, that we uphold our utmost in film and proceed in our labors with faith and confidence. ... It is my vision that, with a common resolve, the more than 150,000 Masons in our 485 lodges across the Commonwealth, would be strong, vital, and actively, the vitality of Freemasonry among the brethren in their lodges, throughout the fraternity, with their families, and in their communities. Every Grand Master comes into office with programs unique unto his administration. I am confident that you will find the programs on our Troubled World, vital, exciting, and progressive. Some are new and some are old.

As we approach the new millennium, ... There are changes in Freemasonry among the brethren in their lodges, throughout the fraternity, with their families, and in their communities. It remains most important in our great fraternity, founded on the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, that we uphold our utmost in film and proceed in our labors with faith and confidence. ... It is my vision that, with a common resolve, the more than 150,000 Masons in our 485 lodges across the Commonwealth, would be strong, vital, and actively, the vitality of Freemasonry among the brethren in their lodges, throughout the fraternity, with their families, and in their communities. Every Grand Master comes into office with programs unique unto his administration. I am confident that you will find the programs on our Troubled World, vital, exciting, and progressive. Some are new and some are old.

When you look at the 1998 Grand Master's Medallion, you'll see the vision of my mission in four words: FAITH, MATURITY, VITALITY, EXCITEMENT. I don't have to recount the many changes in the world as we approach the new millennium. ... There are changes in Freemasonry among the brethren in their lodges, throughout the fraternity, with their families, and in their communities. Every Grand Master comes into office with programs unique unto his administration. I am confident that you will find the programs on our Troubled World, vital, exciting, and progressive. Some are new and some are old.

My membership goal is realistic; It is NET ZERO for 1998. Immediately we will launch a renewed effort for membership development called “The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania’s OVERTURE Program for Membership Development and Membership Retention Through Excellence in Leadership.” ... We’ll refer to it “the short way” and simply call it “our OVERTURE Program.” (Please see “OVERTURE” article on Page 4).

With the help of our District Deputy Grand Masters, we have enlisted 56 energetic professionally talented Masons (with significant experience in business and service to customers) to be District Chairmen for Membership Development. They will assist lodges with member development and retention programs, and help implement the “Overture” Program. I firmly believe that these-brethren have made things happen in their own businesses, they can make it happen for Freemasonry.

Rather than ask a few to do a lot, I am asking a lot to do a little. One thing: REPLACE YOURSELF. I mean that each of you be the recommender of at least one worthy man to join your lodge in lodge. If you do that, we will surpass my goal of NET ZERO.

When you get home, you should have a new, Masonic calendar in the mail. With it is a personal letter from the Grand Master asking for your — your active support. And, with it is a copy of a petition. Simply, I am asking each Pennsylvania Mason to accept one personal assignment from your Grand Master: Tell one worthy friend about Freemasonry, and when you ask, present him with the petition, then lead him along the winding travels of Freemasonry. You’ll both be glad you did.

We will continue to award a purple Grand Master’s Team jacket to a brother who is a first-line signer of a petition for a new Mason. This applies to all the first-time, first-line signers since the beginning of Past Grand Master George Hulshizer’s term.

Brenda and I will host a Pennsylvania Freemasons’ trip to Hawaii in February, 1999. Any brother who is the first-line recommender on 25 petitions during 1998 will be awarded one free ticket for that trip. Further, I am extending the offer made by Past Grand Master John F. Miller to provide a free ticket for one person to Hawaii to any brethren who has been a first-line signer on 50 petitions since January 1, 1998, to December 31, 1998.

Pennsylvania Masons want their lodges to be “all that they can be” — in the lodge and in the community. It is up to each lodge to make the lodge hall efficient, comfortable, attractive, and visible in the community. The job is yours to do; but, Masons always want someone, so don’t have it to do alone. Grand Lodge is ready to help a leading hand.

Any Low-Interest Loan Program for any short-term construction is being made available for those Blue Lodges struggling to find funds to refurbish or improve their facilities. There will be interest-free loans for the purchase of computers.

James L. and Brenda Ernette

The new Grand Master, S2, in a retired Pennsylvania State Police officer, a successful businessman, a community leader, and a busy Mason.

He is the Owner and President of Unity Printing Co., Latrobe. He was a Pennsylvania State Police Trooper from 1967 to 1984. He is a graduate of Jeannette Senior High School; Point Park College, Pittsburgh; and the Pennsylvania State Police Academy.

He and his wife, Brenda (Smith), have a daughter, Lisa, the wife of Bro. G. Joseph Frederick, and a granddaughter, Ashley Frederick. The Ernettes are members of the Charter Oak United Methodist Church, Greensburg.


In York Rite Masonry, he is a member of Valley Royal Arch Chapter No. 289; Exsorctor Mark Lodge No. 216; Oliver Commandery No. 13, Militia York (the oldest and Senior Commandery No. 18, Knights Templar. He is a member of a Constable, Retired County Officer, Johnstown, and York Rite College, Golden Triangle No. 32, Pittsburgh.

He is a member of the Scottish Rite bodies in the Valley of Pittsburgh, including the Gougues Lodge of Perfection, Pennsylvania Council of Princes of Jerusalem, Pittsburgh Chapter, HAMX; Crocees, and Pennsylvania Consistory. He is curate of St. Paul’s Masonic Temple in Pittsburgh. Bro. Ernette is a Shriner in Syria Temple, Pittsburgh, a member of Carwyns Right, A.O.O.N.M.S.; and the Royal Order of Jesters, Pittsburgh Court No. 2. He is a member of the PIN Club, Pittsburgh, and Loyalhanna Lodge, Latrobe. In 1987, he was the Grand Tiler of Western Pennsylvania Forest No. 77, and is a member of Islam Grand Chapter, A.P.M.R., Pittsburgh.

He is a member of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, and was awarded the Honorary Legion of Honor. He is a member of a National Sejmour No. 130, Carlisle; Allied Masonic Degrees, Grand Masters Council “A”; and the Royal Order of Scotland, Provincial Grand Lodge of the U.S.

He is active in professional and community services. He is a Board member of the Latrobe Area Chamber of Commerce; on the Board of Directors of the Western Pennsylvania Community Development Corp.; the Central Westmoreland Chamber of Commerce, the Latrobe Area Chamber of Commerce and the East Suburban Chamber of Commerce.

Grand Master Ernette chats with “The Man” Arnold Palmer, outside the golfer’s offices across the road from Latrobe Country Club, where both are members. Brother Palmer is a member of Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275, Latrobe.

R.W. Grand Master Ernette

A Leader in Business, Community and Masonry

JAY ERNETTE, owner and President of Unity Printing, is an active, successful business man in the Latrobe area.

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A Leader in Business, Community and Masonry

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Elected Officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania

J.L. Ernette Installed 112th R.W. Grand Master

James L. Ernette, P.M., a member of Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, Greensburg, and a Past District Deputy Grand Master of the 30th Masonic District, was installed as the 112th Right Worshipful Grand Master of Freemasons in Pennsylvania during the Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on December 27.

Also installed to serve with the Grand Master as elected officers of the Grand Lodge are:

- **R.W. Deputy Grand Master**
  - Robert L. Biege, Jr., Hyde Park Lodge No. 414, Hyde Park

- **J.R. Senior Grand Warden**
  - Marv A. Cangliclough, S., Waynes Lodge No. 310, Galloway

- **R.W. Grand Treasurer**
  - Morris G. Sprouse, Williamson Lodge No. 307, Woodland

- **R.W. Grand Secretary**
  - Thomas W. Jackson, Cumberland Valley Lodge No. 315, Slippery Rock

The new Grand Master named the following Grand Lodge appointed officers:

- **Senior Grand Deacon**
  - Jan A. Fair, Parker City Lodge No. 521, Parker

- **Junior Grand Deacon**
  - Gregory B. Bandur, Ligoniore Lodge No. 331, Etna

- **Grand Steward**
  - Donald L. Drost, Honorable Lodge No. 718, Beaverdale

- **Grand Stewards**
  - Robert Ariston, Jr., Eagan Lodge No. 309, Eagan City

- **Grand Marshall**
  - Donald L. Elliott, Succo Lodge No.989, Harrisburg

- **Grand Squire**
  - Edward L. Hunger, Layholtz Lodge No.275, Latrobe

- **Grand Perserverent**
  - Randy L. Bukovich, Stiffe Lodge No.601, Irwin

- **Grand Scribe**
  - Robert M. Maceus, Shrubert Lodge No. 243, Lower Burrell

**William Slater II, Jr. Grand Warden**

William Slater II, R.W., Lodge No. 45, Pittsburgh, was installed December 27 as the R.W. Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The 33-year-old Pittsburgh native and lifelong resident of Allegheny County is the Owner and President of Slater & Sons, Inc. and operates a series of mortuaries in the Pittsburgh area. He was graduated from Valley Forge Military Academy in 1976; Thiel College in 1980; and the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science in 1981.

He served as Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 45 in 1987 and was the Representative to the Grand Lodge from 1987 to 1990. In 1992 and 1993, he served as Sword Bearer for R.W. Grand Master Edward H. Fowler, Jr., in York Rite. Bros. Slater is a member of Royal Arch Chapter No. 208, Liberty Valley Council No. 50, Royal and Select Master Masons, and American Commandery No. 72, Knights Templar. He is serving the Valley of Pittsburgh, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, as 2nd Lt. Commander. Also, he is a member of Syria Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; the Royal Order of Jesters, Pittsburgh Court No. 2; Islam Cootie; and President of the Clooise Club.

He is involved in various professional and community activities, including: the National and Pennsylvania Funeral Directors Associations; Mount Washington Chamber of Commerce and Community Development Corp.; the Pennsylvania Association of Notaries; and the Green Tree Rotary Club where he is a Paul Harris Award recipient.

Bro. Slater is married to the former Maria D. Slatter, and they have a daughter, Sydney. He is a member of Unity Printing, Inc., the largest printer in Allegheny County. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, where he is a Deacon and former member of the Christian Education Committee.

Family

The importance and vitality of the family is highlighted on the Grand Master's Medallion. (1) Jay and Brenda Ernette. (2) Daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Joseph Frederick, with their daughter, Ashley. Joseph, a member of Layholtz Lodge No. 275, Latrobe, will serve as Grand Sword Bearer. (3) Ashley enjoys a day at a parade with her grandfa­thers. (4) Daughter Lisa works with her father at Unity Printing.

**Community**


Fraternity


The Medallion is a bronze token designed at the direction of the Grand Master to identify his administration on one side and reflect his philosophy for the fraternity in the jurisdiction on the obverse. The Grand Master traditionally presents or awards medallions at special ceremonies, visitations, recognitions, and to visiting dignitaries.

Grand Master Ernette defines the message on the obverse as: "Faith" - A Mason believes and places his trust in a Supreme Being and maintains an abiding relationship in the brotherhood of man.

"Family" - A Mason's own family always comes first and should be a part of the fraternity's social activities. Likewise, there is a familial tie that binds among all members of orders and organizations that make up the "Family of Freemasonry."

"Fraternity" - Every Mason needs to set the proud personal example at all times: act and live by the principles of our fraternity, strive to make good men better, exude honesty in business and civic relationships, and practice moderation in recreation.

"Community" - The Masonic Lodge should be a visible force in its community, visible and active in community services and programs.

On the reverse of the medallion is the identification of "James L. Ernette, R.W. Grand Master of Masons, Pennsylvania" surrounding the seal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.
OVERTURE: A Two-Initiative Leadership And Development Program For All Lodges

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette has set a membership development and retention goal of Net Zero beginning in 1998 and announced a two-initiative program to make it happen. The Grand Master said that he is determined to take a giant step for Freemasonry toward solving what is undoubtedly the most perplexing problem faced by every lodge in Pennsylvania and all of Freemasonry. The Grand Master has instigated the OVERTURE Program, a leadership development and action program that he believes is destined to make the difference.

For more than four decades, membership in Masonic lodges has been declining at a rate equal to about 3.5 per cent a year. Since the post-World War II hey day of the Craft, when there were more than four million Masons nationwide, the decline has been gradual, but steady. Changes in lifestyle, the economy, and the nature of work and family have accounted for much of the decline. In recent years in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, there have been efforts to attract new members and turn the situation around, generally with mixed results. Further, in too many cases, new members appear interested in what Masonry has to offer, but are unable to join, only to lose interest in their lodges, or allow their membership to lapse.

The Grand Master commented: "We’ve acted too much like a fraternity with a guaranteed future and not enough like a business organization whose very existence is threatened. Whenever I’ve seen a business or an organization get into trouble, I can trace the problem to two sources — either their products last, are outdated, or don’t work, or they’ve lost touch with the customer and failed to treat new customers for what they are, the livelihood of the organization. I’m committed to the concept of concern for the customer in my business life, and I’m committed to that concept as being crucial to the future of Masonry. While I am Grand Master, and I hope beyond that, we want to think of all our members as customers and treat them first in our lodges and first in our thinking about the future." Though it will be more comfortably referred to as "the OVERTURE Program," its official designation, "The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania’s OVERTURE Program for Membership Development and Membership Retention Through Excellence in Leadership," clearly defines its purpose and target. It is made up of two initiatives: the Overture Series and the Conductor’s Series.

The Overture Series will comprise six workshops to be offered around the state this spring. They are designed to train the leadership of the lodges in their roles and responsibilities for leadership development and retention. The Conductor’s Series, beginning in the fall, will also include six workshops. They are designed to help lodge officers with effective lodge management and administrative details, with a special focus on membership management.

There will be eight Overture and eight Conductor’s one-day workshops scheduled for Saturdays in 1998 and 1999 at convenient locations around the state, each beginning early in the morning and concluding by 4:30 p.m.

Invitations will go to all lodges very soon, encouraging each to send the Senior Warden, Junior Warden and one member who is specifically designated for membership development. Grand Master Ernette said, "We believe that by paying attention to the future leadership of the lodge, we can develop both momentum and continuity for this effort. We encourage each participant to attend both the Overture and Conductor’s Series so that they can become a force for change in the lodge."

To emphasize the importance of the leadership of the lodges, the Grand Lodge will reward each lodge with $500 if at least two of their participants attend both the Overture and the Conductor’s series.

With the help of the District Deputy Grand Master, a District Membership Development and Retention Chairman has been identified for each of the 58 Masonic Districts to help facilitate the goals of the program. Grand Master Ernette said that these individuals were selected for their backgrounds in business, customer service and commitment to serve.

Both initiatives will be coordinated by Past District Deputy Grand Master G. Kent Hackney, who will serve on an Overture Lodge staff and be responsible for their successful launching and implementation.

Bro. Dudley Davis, who has been involved with leadership development programs in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, is developing and will facilitate the Overture Series.

Bro. Hackney will develop and facilitate the Conductor’s Series.

Exciting, Matching Charity Grants Program

A new program of Masonic Matching Charity Grants designed to help lodges become more active in supporting causes in their local communities has been announced by R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette. He presented the innovative action program to the brethren in his annual address to the Fraternity. Earlier, he had outlined the program to District Deputy Grand Masters and to Senior Wardens of the lodges to facilitate planning for their prospective year as Worshipful Master.

The need for charity in our society has never been greater. With reductions of federal and state grants for the relief of those in need, there will be a greater reliance on the private sector of support for worthy charitable causes. Clearly, it is our Masonic duty to be charitable, and by reaching out into our local communities, we can make this vital aspect of Freemasonry a well-known and esteemed quality.

With the Matching Charity Program, each lodge will have the opportunity to contribute up to $5,000 from the lodge to community charitable causes, which will be matched, up to a total of an additional $5,000 by Grand Lodge.

The matching fund process is designed to be simple and easy to implement. Here’s how a lodge will put the Masonic Matching Charity Grants Program into action in its community:

1. Identify a community need.
2. Apply to Grand Lodge for approval to make the public contribution from its lodge funds.
3. Raise funds, or vote to allocate money to meet the need.
4. Apply to the Masonic Matching Charity Grant Committee of Grand Lodge for a grant.

As these generous principles are to extend even further. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. So that we enjoy it upon you, good do good unto all, while we recommend it more especially to those who are of the heart of the faithful.

RWPGM Fowler Leads Royal Order of Scotland

R.W. Past Grand Master Edward H. Fowler, Jr. (left), was installed Provincial Grand Master of the Royal Order of Scotland during ceremonies in Washington, DC on October 8. He succeeds Marvin H. Fowler (right), who is not a relative despite the same surname. Right Honorable The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, KT, CD, JP, MA, LLD (center) was present for the ceremony and the principal speaker at the annual banquet in the evening.

It’s a New Name - The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation For Children

The name will change on January 1, but the mission will be the same. The shorter name, The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children, will replace The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children. At the same time, the Foundation has introduced a modified logo (shown here) changing the artwork from realistic representations of a Mason with two children to stylized figures. The mission will remain the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse by children through education, intervention and counseling. In addition, the less restrictive name will allow the Foundation to expand its assistance into other issues, such as tobacco and gambling abuses among children.

The new name is fashioned after the National Masonic Foundation for Children, which is dedicated to promoting the Masonic Model of Drug & Alcohol Assistance throughout the country. Like the Pennsylvania Foundation, the national organization was founded by the late R.W.P.G.M. Carl W. Steiberg, Jr. It originally was known as The National Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children, but several years ago its name was streamlined.
Westmoreland Lodge No. 518: 1872-1997

By Charles H. Johnston, Jr., P.M.

Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, Free and Accepted Masons, has been active in its community for 125 years. With a membership today of 377, the Lodge is thankful for its members and friends — past and present — for their achievements and anticipation of the future, most recently providing a fine meeting place. Masonry is growing, and will continue to grow in the Greensburg area.

Westmoreland Lodge No. 518 had its beginnings on November 11, 1872, at a stated meeting of Philanthropic Lodge No. 225, Greensburg, when a petition was presented and unanimously adopted stating that: "...twelve regular Master Masons, formerly members of the Lodges mentioned against our respective names, and at this time not members of any Lodge, pray for a Warrant of Constitution, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at Greensburg, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, to be called Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, and there to discharge the duties of Masonry in a constitutional manner according to the forms of the order and the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge." There were twelve Warrant Members as follows: Jacob Tuney, Worshipful Master, late of Lodge No. 225; George F. Huff, Senior Warden, late of Lodge No. 225; William W. Logan, Junior Warden, late of Lodge No. 225; Zachariah P. Bearer, John Lattu, Alex Klages, C.S. Overholt, Martin S. Overholt, A. B. Overholt, Samuel Rock, and Robert G. Ford, all late of Lodge No. 225; and Daniel F. Stack, late of Lodge No. 231.

On December 3, 1872, District Deputy Grand Master Richard Coupler approved the application for a charter for a new lodge and the charter was issued and dated on the following day, registering the new lodge as "Westmoreland Lodge No. 518 to be held in the Greensburg, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania."

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was held in the Masonic Temple, Greensburg, at 12 o'clock noon, December 27, 1872, for the purpose of opening and constituting a new Lodge by the name of Westmoreland Lodge No. 518. Later in the day, by virtue of a dispensation granted by R.W. Grand Master Samuel C. Perkins, District Deputy Grand Master Richard Coupler was directed to open and constitute Westmoreland Lodge No. 518.

A Special Meeting of the Lodge was then held at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of adopting bylaws, establishing the third Tuesday of each month as the stated meeting night, and designating the Masonic Temple on Main Street, Greensburg, as the place of meeting. Jacob Tuney served as Master.

During a Special Meeting of Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, on its 125th Anniversary, December 27, Past Master James L. Ernette was formally received and honored in his home lodge as the new R.W. Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania. Worshipful Master Gerald A. Sutherland is shown with Grand Master Ernette.

Past Master John S. Sall above) was R.W. Grand Master in 1920 and 1921. Grand Master James L. Ernette is the second Westmoreland Lodge member to serve as R.W. Grand Master.

New Home for Lodge

A new one-story "Greensburg Masonic Center" was constructed on two and one-third acres at the intersection of George's Station and Danneau Roads in Hempfield Township, one mile east of Greensburg. The Lodge moved into the new Masonic Center in 1991. The building is Y-shaped so that the bases of the "Y" serve as an entrance and reception area; the left wing is a social area and kitchen; and the right wing is the lodge room and storage area. A Cornerstone Laying Ceremony was held October 26, 1991, by R.W. Grand Master W. Scott Stoner and the Lodge Officers. The presiding officers of Westmoreland Lodge were: Charles H. King, W.M.; Jacky W. Kester, S.W.; and Harry L. Ziegler, P.M., J.W.

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette is pictured as he served as Worshipful Master of Westmoreland Lodge in 1980.

Commemorative Coin Issued

At the same time that James L. Ernette was being installed R.W. Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania at noon, December 27, this Lodge was 125 years old. For the occasion, a special coin has been struck to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the lodge and the installation of Bro. Ernette as the R.W. Grand Master, both occurring on the same day. The obverse of the coin notes the 125th Anniversary, December 27, 1872 - December 27, 1997, encircled by "Westmoreland Lodge No. 518, Greensburg, PA." The reverse is a reproduction of Grand Master James L. Ernette’s seal for 1998.

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette is at the entrance to the Greensburg Masonic Center, occupied in 1991.
Join Grand Master and Mrs. Ernette in HAWAII for the Masonic Travel Event of the Century...

Choose from three fun-filled Hawaiian vacations, all of which allow you to be in Waikiki/Honolulu, where you'll enjoy the opportunity to mingle with the Grand Master, Grand Lodge officers, your brethren and friends... as you discover America's very own enchanted paradise.

Choose the **10-NIGHT PROGRAM**, and you'll enjoy four nights in tropical Waikiki, once a favorite retreat of Hawaiian royalty, and now one of the world's most famous beaches. Here you can swim and snorkel in seductively warm water, and stretch out on soft, golden sand. And the excitement of Honolulu is just a stone's throw away. Not-to-be-missed attractions include historic Pearl Harbor, Diamond Head and the Arizona Memorial. Next, sample three additional tropical isles for six more nights. Flying between islands, you'll enjoy two nights each on the "Big Island" of Hawaii, with its Volcanoes National Park; the "Garden Isle" of Kauai, with its romantic Fern Grotto; and Maui, where humpback whales winter offshore. You'll stay in first-class *hotels and enjoy a panoramic tour on each island.

If you prefer, choose the **13-NIGHT PROGRAM** which also features the above three-island discovery tour, after a 7-night stay in Waikiki/Honolulu.

Or, simply choose **7-NIGHTS** in Waikiki/Honolulu.

**Become a Part of The Most Exciting Masonic Travel Event of the Century!**

### 10 NIGHTS...........from **$1,599**–$1,799*

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<td>Plus 6-Night Hawaiian Islands Discovery Tour</td>
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### 13 NIGHTS..................from **$1,899**–$2,149*

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<td>Plus 6-Night Hawaiian Islands Discovery Tour</td>
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### 7 NIGHTS..................from **$999**–$1,249

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All programs include first-class accommodations*, flower lei greeting, Honolulu city tour, all transfers & baggage handling. The 10- and 13-night programs also include panoramic tours of the "Big Island" of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, with inter-island flights.

*Deluxe hotel upgrades available. Call for prices.

Round-trip airfare via American Airlines or United Airlines from Philadelphia, Pittsburgh or Harrisburg: from $879 plus taxes, per person.

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Masonic Homes' Admission Policy Expanding

On September 26, the Committee on Masonic Homes expanded the Admissions Policy to serve more individuals who are interested in residing at the Masonic Homes.

Traditionally, the Masonic Homes served Pennsylvania Master Masons, their wives, widows, mothers, daughters, and sisters. With the expanded policy, daughters of Pennsylvania Master Masons will be eligible for admission regardless of their marital status, and widows of Pennsylvania Master Masons will be eligible through their Masonic husbands' memberships, even if they remarried. Beginning January 1, 1998, the Committee on Masonic Homes will offer admission to Pennsylvania Master Masons and their spouses, who must be Masons from jurisdictions recognized by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO of the Masonic Homes, explained that the Committee expanded the Admissions Policy to accommodate the needs and requests for services by Masonic families. Due to the recent construction and renovations on the Masonic Homes' campus, there currently is, or soon will be, availability in all areas and for every level of care, from short-term subacute care, skilled care, nursing and personal care, to assisted living, residential living and independent living options.

"We are pleased to be able to respond to the many requests from the Fraternity by offering a variety of new and expanded services to enhance the quality of life for all whom we serve. All of these improvements are due to the continued support from brethren and loved ones," Murphy said. "This Admissions Policy allows us to share our 'Mission of Love' with more individuals who desire to become part of our Masonic Homes' family."

Grand Master, Masonic Homes Leaders To Meet With PA Masons In Florida

Pennsylvania Masons and their wives residing in Florida will be invited to meet with R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette, others from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and the Executive Director/CEO of the Masonic Homes accompanied by the Admissions, Development, Outreach and Marketing departments.

Invitations will be sent during January to Pennsylvania Masons residing in Florida for either the Friday, March 27, session in Egypt Shrine Temple, Temple, or the March 28, session in Amara Shrine Temple, Palm Beach Gardens. Each get-together will begin with a reception at 11 a.m., lunch at noon, program at 1 p.m., and social hour from 2 to 3 p.m. If you are a Pennsylvania Mason residing in Florida and have not received an invitation by January 30 and would like to attend one of the gatherings, please call the Masonic Homes toll-free at 1-800-662-7664.

In addition to the fraternal opportunity that the gatherings in Florida will afford, the purpose of the two sessions is to share important information on the full continuum of new services and benefits provided to and by the Masonic Homes.

Our Masonic Homes Are Known Internationally As The Outstanding Example of Masonic Charity

Located on 1,400 acres of picturesque Lancaster County farm­land, the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown is one of the largest Masonic homes in the nation, known internationally as an outstanding example of Masonic Charity. Established in 1910 by the R.W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, the Masonic Homes is a continuing care retirement community and children's home committed to providing for the physical, social, mental and spiritual needs of each of its residents and customers. This is a "Mission of Love" which is provided through the support of all Masons as an extension of the fundamental teachings of Masonic Charity. Admissions to the Masonic Homes are governed by the Committee on Masonic Homes, which approves or disapproves applications for admission primarily on the basis of need. All services are offered without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, age or handicap of the applicant.

The Masonic Homes currently serves more than 1,300 adult residents in various levels and types of services, from independent living to residential and personal care services, including varying levels of health care service.

The Masonic Children's Home currently provides services to 40 school-age children from around the Commonwealth. By providing a modern, attractive and home-like environment for the care of these young people, Freemasons are preparing them to be productive citizens of the future. The goal of the Masonic Children's Home is to give each child a chance to receive friendship, care and guidance. The children attend area public schools and are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities to enhance their personal development. On-campus recreational activities include indoor and outdoor pools, basketball courts and tennis courts. A Masonic affiliation is not required for admission to the Masonic Children's Home, but each child must be sponsored by a Masonic Lodge.
The Holy Bible, upon which George Washington took his Constitutional Oath at his inauguration in New York on April 30, 1789, is on display at the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania. It was used by him during his installation as President. The Bible is preserved with great care and is displayed in the Grand Lodge's library. It is an important artifact in the history of the United States and serves as a reminder of the founding fathers' commitment to freedom and democracy.

The Masonic Apron, used during the installation of the President of the United States, is displayed in the Grand Lodge. It is a symbol of the fraternity and the values it upholds. The apron is made of fine velvet and is embroidered with the Masonic symbol of the compass and square, representing the principles of truth and justice.

The Masonic Lodge No. 5, D.C., founded in 1805, is one of the oldest Masonic Lodges in the United States. It has been a center of activity for the Masonic community in the District of Columbia. The Lodge has a strong tradition of service and has been involved in many charitable and philanthropic activities.

The Masonic Library and Museum of the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania is a treasure trove of Masonic history and artifacts. It contains a collection of rare and valuable books, documents, and other materials that provide insight into the history of Masonic lodges throughout the state. The library is open to the public and is a popular destination for visitors interested in the history of Freemasonry.

The Masonic Apron is a symbol of the Masonic order, representing the principles of brotherhood, charity, and truth. It is worn by Masons during their installation as President and is an important symbol of the fraternity's commitment to these values.
Ten New District Deputy Grand Masters Are Named

Masonic District 8
John R. Miller
of Wilkes, a member of
University Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia

Masonic District 15
R.W. Grand Master; R.W. R. Klingaman,
of Tamaqua, a member of Tamaqua Lodge No. 238,
of Shinglehouse, a member of

Masonic District 17
Gary R. Staley,
of Lyons, a member of
Lunenburg Lodge No. 550, Lyons

Masonic District 18
Richard Johnson,
of Jersey Shore, a member of
Juniata Lodge No. 282, Jersey Shore

Masonic District 21
Ronald A. Aungst, Sr.,
of Lewisville, a member of
College Lodge No. 556,
of Saukville, a member of

Masonic District 22
James L. Ernette
of Riverside, NJ, a member of

University Lodge No. 16

Chaplains Named

Grand Master James L. Ernette named two new Chaplains: "Faith, Family, Fraternity, and Community." Memorials Hall, which originally was the educational center for the former Patton Masonic School, will have a new structure added to the front of the building. Included in the addition will be the new multi-purpose/conference room, six break-out rooms, a registration center and a multi-purpose lobby. Work is scheduled to continue throughout 1998. Occupancy is anticipated by December.

When the Patton Masonic School was renovated in 1983 to create the Masonic Conference Center, it was designed to take a school for boys and develop a youth center for adults. Although it was anticipated that some adults would use the facility, it was not visualized that the number of adults attending the camp would grow to exceed the use by youth. Today, with the many drug and alcohol prevention programs offered to train teachers in the Student Assistance Program, and law enforcement officers in the D.A.R.E. program, the Masonic Conference Center currently hosts more than 7,000 guests each year.

Recognizing the changing trend, R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette envisioned a training center that would meet the growing educational and conference needs of the fraternity and the charitable causes it benefits. Memorial Hall, which originally was the educational center for the former Patton Masonic School, will have a new structure added to the front of the building. Included in the addition will be the new multi-purpose/conference room, six break-out rooms, a registration center and a multi-purpose lobby. Work is scheduled to continue throughout 1998. Occupancy is anticipated by December.

The Masonic youth groups provide a proper introduction to the concept of "Fraternity." They learn the virtues of brotherhood and sisterhood, for apart from the image of college pranks and partying so often mis-associated with the word. They are taught that community responsibility is essential; that service to local charities is an important component of their active schedules. Masonic youth don't just talk about it — they are actively helping others, whether visiting the elderly, raising funds for worthy causes, or assisting in dozens of civic projects.

The Foundation is dedicated to promoting the Masonic organizations among the badges, establishing new local youth groups, improving membership recruitment, sponsoring and conducting youth activities at the Masonic Conference Center in Elizabethtown, recruiting adult leadership to work with youth, and promoting scholarships which benefit Masonic youth.

Lodges are encouraged to continue scheduling youth programs, and supporting the work of local Rainbow Assemblies, Daughters Chapters and Job's Daughters Bells. For information or assistance, call toll-free, 1-800-256-8454 (in PA), or (717) 367-1536; or write to the Foundation at 1244 Bainbridge Rd., Elizabethtown, PA 17022-9423.

Young Life Foundation Continues to Advance Mason's Commitment to Support Youth

For the sixteenth year, the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation will carry forward the commitment of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to support vital youth programs. The emphasis and programs for Masonically-related youth organizations exemplify the philosophy and vision that R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette expressed for the fraternity: "Faith, Family, Fraternity, and Community.”

"The Masonic youth groups provide a proper introduction to the concept of "Fraternity." They learn the virtues of brotherhood and sisterhood, for apart from the image of college pranks and partying so often mis-associated with the word. They are taught that community responsibility is essential; that service to local charities is an important component of their active schedules. Masonic youth don't just talk about it — they are actively helping others, whether visiting the elderly, raising funds for worthy causes, or assisting in dozens of civic projects.

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2 New Grand Chaplains Named

R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette named two new Grand Lodge Chaplains. They are:

THOMAS H. JERWIN, JR.
of Allentown, a member of
St. James Lodge No. 282, Allentown

WAYNE D. MEYER,
of Pittsburgh, a member of
Dallas Lodge No. 508, Pittsburgh

Grand Masters to Meet in Philadelphia in Feb.

The Grand Lodge of Delaware will host the 1998 Conference of Grand Masters in Philadelphia February 22 through 24. The conference headquarters and center for activities will be the Marriott Hotel, but the Grand Masters will visit the Masonic Temple. Grand Lodge Secretaries also will meet in Philadelphia at the same time.

In addition, the dormitory rooms, which were installed during the 1983 renovation, will be upgraded to include private bathroom to supplement the dormitory-style shower and lavatory facilities on each floor. Air conditioning will be added to all living quarters to make the facilities more comfortable for conference participants. A complete decorative make-over of the original building will be included in the project.

The new lobby area will be constructed at the front-center of the current building, with the meeting rooms to the north and the amphitheater to the south. It will be a grand space with a high ceiling capped with full room-length skylights, which will be defined by the peaks of the original roof (see concept above and photograph at left). The facade of the original entrance will be preserved inside this space to display some of the heritage of the Patton School. It will serve as a central gathering area for conference participants, and for other activities which meet programming needs.

While this renovation and addition is a result of the growing adult use of the Campus, it should not be inferred that the use by our Masonic youth has been reduced or declined over the years. The Masonic Conference Center-Patton Campus has become known as a facility which is ideally situated for a retreat or educational seminar for participants of all ages. Unlike any other Masonic facility in the world, it will soon combine a youthful atmosphere with a high-tech comfortable adult learning center.