Why do some people who already have a Masonic Homes charitable gift annuity obtain another one... and another? There are at least three reasons:

1. Satisfaction...
Most donors ease into their first gift annuity with Masonic Homes with a degree of concern. After all, this is a new arrangement for them and they wonder how well it will work. Will the payment amount be as promised? Will the checks arrive on time?

It doesn’t take long for any uneasiness to vanish. Donors discover that they are having a positive experience. They learn that they can count on Masonic Homes to follow through. And this satisfaction draws them back for another annuity.

2. Connection...
Having a life-income agreement with Masonic Homes involves an interdependence not experienced with normal annual giving. For one thing, the person is not only giving financial support, but receiving it. This enhanced sense of partnership encourages the seeking that “we are in this together.” Additional annuities deepen this connection even further.

3. Better Rates...
Gift annuity rates are determined by the annuitant’s age. The older you are, the better the rates you receive. For example, our current rate for a single-life gift annuity involving a 70-year-old person is 7.5 percent. The rate increases to 8.2 percent for a 75-year-old. At age 80 it is 9.2 percent and at 85 it is 10.5 percent. A 90-year-old (and older) will receive 12.0 percent. So for many annuitants, it makes sense to obtain additional annuities as they grow older.

Gift annuities offer other advantages in addition to those mentioned above. If you have been thinking of making a planned gift to the Masonic Homes which now include the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown and the Masonic-Eastern Star Homes at Pittsburgh or Warminster, we invite you to contact Bro. Fred D. Rissinger, Director of Development, or Bro. John R. McNamara, Planned Giving Officer. They will be happy to assist you through the gift planning process in complete confidence and at no cost or obligation. You can reach them by using the response form below or telephone them at (860) 599-6454 or (717) 367-1121, ext. 33311. They would be glad to hear from you.

THE GRAND LODGE F.&A.M.
OF PENNSYLVANIA
Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199

Return Service Requested
A short time ago, I sent a personal letter to you - and every Pennsylvania Mason — asking for your help. I asked for your personal commitment to do just one thing: "REPLACE YOURSELF!"

I'd like to think that every Pennsylvania Mason has taken that commitment seriously. I hope you are one of the Masons who already has followed through on your commitment and talked to a worthy friend about Freemasonry, telling them about your good works, charity and brotherhood. You are already has followed through on your commitment and talked to a worthy friend about Freemasonry, telling them about your good works, charity and brotherhood.

The outstanding charitable activities that the lodges are carrying forth in their communities because of the Matching Charity Grants Program suggest that there should be a growing potential of interested men aware of the good works of Masons. I call to your attention the cover story in this issue of the Pennsylvania Freemason reporting the gratifying, extensive charitable services and benefits of the Pennsylvania Masons to their friends and neighbors in communities across Pennsylvania.

In the first five months, more than 200 applications from lodges for matching grants totalling nearly a quarter of a million dollars have been approved for committed local charitable projects. Since these are matching funds, that means that already almost a half-million dollars of good work is helping individuals and service agencies in communities across the Commonwealth - and each local lodge earns the sole recognition as the benefactor.

Most of our lodges called off from labor for the months of July and August, but Masonic enthusiasm has remained alive and well through the summer. Our presence on the Internet offers a new way to keep the light of Freemasonry glowing even while the lodges are dark. Every day, more and more people — Masons and friends, from near and around the world — are clicking on to the home page of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. More than 15,000 had accessed the home page and hundreds have signed in with messages in the guest book. Cyber space communication with your fraternity is as near as your phone line and computer.

These are progressive, exciting, and challenging times as we approach the 21st Century and Masonry in Pennsylvania is on a positive course. I ask you again to take your commitment seriously, REPLACE YOURSELF and we'll continue to travel that same road together toward the new millennium.

Visit Us on the Internet: pagrandlodge.org

The Grand Master's Message
REPLACE YOURSELF and We'll Travel Together Toward the New Millennium.

Brethren:

Sincerely and Fraternally,

James L. Ennet,
R.W. Grand Master

Matching Grants Program a Grand Success and Growing Across State

Masons across the state are reaching out and touching the lives of many people through their generosity and concern for their fellow man. With their participation in the Masonic Matching Charity Grants Program, the lodges are doubling their charitable impact.

In five months of receiving applications in the Matching Charities Program, there were 222 "Perfect Matches" totaling $223,654 approved for 191 lodges statewide. As a result of lodge commitments that had been matched as of July 1, there were at least $467,000 in worthy commitments available to serve communities across the state. In the program, all approved lodge commitments are doubled, but the actual presentation to the recipient charity is made by way of one check from the lodge with no regard for the lodge participation. The local lodge and its members take full credit for the contribution in their home community.

In reporting on the program at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Past Grand Master Samuel C. Williamson, Chairman of the Matching Grants Committee, said: "The program has become more successful more rapidly than anticipated. The interest in the program is statewide. (As of June 30) 100% participation and 12 other districts had at least 50% of their lodges involved in the program."

It is interesting to observe how dramatically the participation grew. The program was announced at the Annual Grand Communication, Dec. 27. No applications were received in January. By the end of February, there were eight. In March, there were 21 more. During April and May there were 237 applications!

Some of the recipients of grants are:

- Individual medical and hardship cases,
- Masonic Homes, visited the home to assess the community's needs. The counselor determined that this young boy nevertheless is still full of hope and life. His home is along a short, unpaved country road. Both parents took time from their employment to take care of their son. Finances and the stress of caring for their son was taking a toll. They had no choice but to look to the community for help and the community responded! An admissions counselor, representing the Masonic Homes, visited the home to assess the family's needs. The counselor determined that this young boy has a hope to make ends meet and enjoy his surroundings. If the driveway were paved he would be able to move around outside, and this was important for his mom and dad, who live with the neighbors' animals, and get some much needed fresh air.

Friends in the community, Masonic lodges, and some celebrities came together to find a way to help. Local contractors donated time, money, and labor to reduce the original cost of the project by 75 percent. Funds were collected by 124 lodges and increased by the Masonic Charity Grants and various private individuals. By May, the driveway was built.

Tyler Heckendorf enjoys being outside now that he can move around on the newly paved driveway leading from his home.

On The Cover:

Serving mankind in their communities are photos clockwise from upper left: Masons of District 17 moved everything from a piano to flying pans for an auction that raised over $7,500 from which they provided funds to the Northern Tier Children’s Home. • Bluetime Lodge No. 318, Great Bend gave a grant to purchase mats and weight-lifting equipment for the Blue Ridge H.S. Wrestling Club. • Stephen Bayard Lodge No. 526, Elizabeth, matched funds raised at a spaghetti dinner to help James Shaffer, a two-times recipient of liver transplants. • Brethren of Chester Lodge No. 566, Costa-Mt. Hope, Arpin Road, equipped the Upper Darby Little League with uniforms and caps. • See story about the Matching Grants Program above.

The Grand Master’s Message
REPLACE YOURSELF and We’ll Travel Together Toward the New Millennium.

Brethren:

Sincerely and Fraternally,

James L. Ennet,
R.W. Grand Master

Matching Grants Program a Grand Success and Growing Across State
DISTRICT 17 MASON'S HONOR VETERANS FLOAT

The Masons Honor Veterans float that has been winning prizes in community parades throughout the 17th Masonic District depicts veterans in various historical scenes, starting with George Washington crossing the Delaware. For World War II, the scene has four or five soldiers in uniform raising the flag at Iwo Jima. Students in uniforms represent the Korean War, Vietnam War, and Desert Storm. At the back of the float is a 12-foot high Square and Compasses replica.

DAV ETOWN LODGE NO. 602

The Second G.M.'s Visit and State Grand Warden Visit.

A distinguished visitor from Australia, R.W. Past Grand Master Jackman (left), of Dillsburg Lodge No. 464, Oklahoma, was welcomed to Pennsylvania by James L. Ernette, R.W. Master, during his visitation to Chandler Lodge No. 227, Reading, May 9, for its 150th Anniversary. Bro. Tall was in the United States for the World Conference of Grand Lodges in New York earlier in the month and planned to handle an upcoming meeting in Oklahoma. He is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Zomba Shrine, and the Tall Cedars of Lebanon all in Harrisburg.

MASON'S HONOR VETERANS FLOAT

The Masons Honor Veterans float that has been winning prizes in community parades throughout the 17th Masonic District. For World War I, the scene has four or five soldiers with the flag at Iwo Jima. Students in uniforms represent the Korean War, Vietnam War, and Desert Storm. At the back of the float is a 12-foot high Square and Compasses replica.

Two G.M.'s Visit and State Police Degree Team Confere in Busy Month at Lodge 648

When Darwin J. Moyer of Dillsburg went to Oklahoma City earlier this year to receive an artificial leg, replacing one amputated because of cancer, he hoped to visit Masonic lodges during his stay. What he received was the helping hand of brotherhood and a red carpet treatment by Oklahoma Masons.

During a stated meeting of W.K.B. Lodge No. 410, Mifflinburg, the Senior Wardens of the Eighth Masonic District conferred the Master Mason Degree on J. Walter Sadowski (third from left), a former Cleveland Browns football player. At six feet and 355 pounds, Bro. Sadowski is the largest mason ever raised in W.K. B. Lodge. Pictured with the new Mason are (l-r): Richard Have., P.M., Guide; Thomas R. Eyman, D.D.G.M.; Bro. Scrofani, Charles P. Mettger; W.M. of W.K. B. Lodge; Jeffrey L. Eicken, S.W.; Davylestown Lodge No. 245, who is the conferring Master; and Clarence Helferaneger, P.M., D.D.G.M.

District 17 Masons Join With Galetun Lodge Float For Region-wide Parades

For the past several years, the members of Galetun Lodge No. 602 have built a "Masons Honor Veterans" float and entered it in the local Fourth of July parade. It took a lot of work, but the brethren enjoyed themselves. It made such a big impression on their community that they decided it would be great for the past several years, the members of Galetun Lodge No. 602 have built a "Masons Honor Veterans" float and entered it in the local Fourth of July parade. It took a lot of work, but the brethren enjoyed themselves. It made such a big impression on their community that they decided it would be great for the brethren to march together during the Summer with a bigger float in community parades throughout the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania. Gary B. Staley, D.D.G.M., agreed.

Galetun Lodge built a bigger float with the same theme on a 40-foot flatbed trailer and invited the lodges in the District to join in parades throughout the region. Each lodge has been asked for volunteer marchers; not just for the parade in its own community, but for all of the seven parades scheduled for this Summer. Edward K. Bailey, P.M., the Galetun Lodge Secretary, explained that with each lodge committing up to ten members, there would be 50 to 100 Masons in regalia to march with the float.

The communities are directly involved with the float. For each parade, there are to be ten to 15 students from the respective high schools posting as historical characters. Their participation not only involves people from the community, but also by not having Masons doing the acting, it makes the float more attractive to the average brethren will be available as marchers.

Two G.M.'s Visit and State Police Degree Team Confere in Busy Month at Lodge 648

It was a most interesting and busy fraternal month of March for H. Stanley Goodwin Lodge No. 648, Bethlehem. The lodge welcomed the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the Grand Master of Prince Hall, officers and 21 members of subordinate lodges from both Grand Lodges, and a State Police Degree Team.

The speaker for the stated meeting on March 18 was the Rev. Thomas A. Jackman, Sr., M.W. Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge. He was accompanied by several Prince Hall Grand Lodge officers and 21 members of subordinate lodges in the area. Grand Master Jackman spoke on the history of Prince Hall Masonry. There were 114 Masons present for the meeting.

A week later, Grand Master James L. Ernette was joined by Grand Master Jackman when a State Police Degree Team conferred the Master Mason Degree on Trooper Michael Thomas Ruhl (center left). The conferring Master was retired State Police Sgr. Ivan J. Jones, P.M., Union Lodge No. 291. Other members of the State Police were present or participating in the conferred were: Sgt. Homer Jones (ret.), Cpls. James J. Shuler, Gary F. Shaver, Richard W. Ambrook, and John P. Madison; and Troopers William R. Quin (ret.), Paul E. Bickelmen (ret.), Robert B. Robbins, Patrick J. Fox, Carl E. Meese, John G. Goodwin, Sean P. Pennington, Harrison F. Balfour, Harold S. McFay, David S. Jones, and John R. Oakley.

The Hand of Brotherhood to Oklahoma City

When Darwin J. Moyer of Dillsburg went to Oklahoma City earlier this year to receive an artificial leg, replacing one amputated because of cancer, he hoped to visit Masonic lodges during his stay. What he received was the helping hand of brotherhood and a red carpet treatment by Oklahoma Masons.

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Former Brotheri Pro Raised in Lodge No. 410

During a stated meeting of W.K.B. Lodge No. 410, Mifflinburg, the Senior Wardens of the Eighth Masonic District conferred the Master Mason Degree on J. Walter Sadowski (third from left), a former Cleveland Browns football player. At six feet and 355 pounds, Bro. Sadowski is the largest mason ever raised in W.K. B. Lodge. Pictured with the new Mason are (l-r): Richard Have., P.M., Guide; Thomas R. Eyman, D.D.G.M.; Bro. Scrofani, Charles P. Mettger; W.M. of W.K. B. Lodge; Jeffrey L. Eicken, S.W.; Davylestown Lodge No. 245, who is the conferring Master; and Clarence Helferaneger, P.M., D.D.G.M.

MASON'S HONOR VETERANS FLOAT

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Acacia Fraternity Initiates Honorary Alumni Members


He was born June 9, 1907, in Rochester, NY, but educated in the Philadelphia public schools. He was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Arts degree and he earned a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He was a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity.

Before retiring from business, he was self-employed, owning the Arthur R. Diamond Co.


He was exalted in Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 175 in 1948 and served as Most Excellent High Priest in 1953. He was greeted in Joppa Council of Royal and Select Master Masons No. 46 in 1948 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1957. From 1953 to 1962, he served as a District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. Bro. Diamond was Worshipful Master of Exscolar Mark Lodge No. 216, Philadelphia, in 1961. In 1967 and 1968, he served as the Most Excellent High Grand Priest of the Grand Chapter.

A member of the Valley of Reading, A.A.S.R., Bro. Diamond was conferred a 33° Mason in 1968 in Atlantic City. He served the Valley as Sovereign Prince of the Council of Princes of Jerusalem in 1969 and 1970, and as Commander-in-Chief of Reading Consistory from 1973 to 1975.

He was a member of LuLu Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees; Erin Council, Knight Masons of the United States; the Philathletes Society; Grand College of Brass Masonic Order of Buth; Ancient Order of Corks; Joshua Association; and the Order of DeMoyal.

On Dec. 27, 1967, Brother Diamond was appointed R.W. Grand Treasurer by R.W. Grand Master John K. Young to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Louis Bacharach, who died in office on Dec. 21, 1967. In December, 1968, Bro. Diamond was elected and installed R.W. Grand Treasurer and continued in that office until his retirement on June 14, 1989, at which time he was presented with the newly created R.W. Past Grand Treasurer's jewel and sword.

In recognition of his work in Freemasonry, Bro. Diamond was awarded the Honorary DeMoyal Legion of Honor in 1961; and in 1985 he received the Benjamin Franklin Medal, the highest honor given by the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Bro. Diamond will long be remembered for his dedication to Freemasonry and his close attention to the conduct of the business of the Grand Lodge which fell within his area of responsibility. He was, however, gifted with a delightful sense of humor, much of which, as his friends point out, "was Elizabeth — or "Liz," as he called his wife of 61 years — was a school teacher in Philadelphia, so he would tell anyone who would listen that it took him "20 years to discover that she was handling him the way she handled her second grade students."

Thank God for the blessings of memory. With it we can recall, at will, our good friend, Arthur, and hear him ask: "Wherefore is this day different from any other? To which we can only respond: "The difference, my good friend, is that we are no longer being able to share it with you."

Thank God also for good friends and brethren like Arthur Richard Diamond.

(The above eulogy to Bro. Arthur R. Diamond was presented by Bro. Joseph E. Triate, R.W. Past Grand Master during the Grand Lodge Communication, June 3, 1998.)
Marker Notes That Rochester Lodge is Older Than its Town

It is rare when a Masonic Lodge can boast of being older than the city or town in which it is located.

Rochester Lodge No. 229 was chartered in 1848 and is the oldest Masonic Lodge in Beaver County, meeting continuously since it was constituted April 11, 1848, a year before Rochester Borough was incorporated.

World Renowned Organist To Play Dedication Recital

Dr. John Weaver, head of the Organ Department of the Curtis Institute of Music in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, will play the Dedication Recital on the new three-manual Rodgers organ recently installed in Corliss Hall in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. The recital is scheduled for April 11, Sunday, Nov. 8. Dr. Weaver also has been Director of Music at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City, since 1970. He has played throughout the United States, Canada, Germany and the United Kingdom.

In addition to the new organ in Corliss Hall, seven new organs were installed in the other lodge rooms and the Grand Banquet Hall during July.

New Blazer, New Ties Available

Pictured are the exclusively designed navy blue Masonic blazer and 100 cent per suit tie. Both are available from the Gift Shop of the Masonic Library and Museum.

The blazer is tailored from the finest worsted wool and has two-toned gold buttons that bear the Masonic Library and Museum insignia. Each coat will have a removable silver button pocket crest of the same insignia. Since the pocket crest is normally attached magnetically, a person with a pacemaker should see this and a special attachment will be provided.

REQUEST FORM

I am ordering ___ Pennsylvania Masonic Blazer(s), $120 each, which includes $40.50 for shipping and handling costs of $5.

I am ordering ___ Masonic Tie(s) for $20.50 each plus $5 S&H.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $ .

SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION SET FOR 1999

The ten Sessional Schools of Instruction in 1998 were a big success thanks to the regional instructors, principals, senior instructors, and instructors of the Masonic Library and Museum. The Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, was prominently wojen into it. It comes boxed for gift purposes and the cost is $26.50, plus shipping and handling costs of $5.

To order the packet, tie or both, complete the request form and send it with a check or money order to The Masonic Library and Museum of PA, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2520. Officers are available for a free card order to the Masonic Temple, attention John H. Platt, Jr., at 215-988-1972. Be sure to include necessary credit card information.

Overture Series Generate Much Enthusiasm

More than 1,000 Masons from 400 Pennsylvania lodges completed the Overture Series seminars held at eight locations throughout the state. The Overture program was developed as a way to help lodges increase membership and reduce the number of losses due to suspensions and resignations. The goal of the Overture Program is to use the potential of the Lodge as a phase of a renewed membership development effort. The seminars were conducted by G. Kent Hackney, Deputy Chief of Staff, and the seminars, assisted by David Meachen, Staff Assistant, and facilitated by Dudley Davis.

After each session, participants were asked to evaluate the seminars based upon their expectations and the effectiveness of the presentations and materials. More than 800 Masons completed the evaluations and the results speak for the quality of the experience. In opening remarks made before the majority of the session, R.W. Grand Master James E. Emette asked each of those attending to keep an open mind to learn from the experience. He also said, "I'd like each of you to think of your members as customers and to see what you need to do to satisfy them by meeting their needs.

Bro. Davis noted that in research conducted among men several years ago, it was evident that "Men bring clearly identified needs to their lodge when they join." The research also indicated that men wanted a role for their families, active community outreach programs and an opportunity to lead.

To Play Dedication Recital

"We believe this will result in a better understanding of Freemasonry and encourage new members to become active and visible," Bro. Fowler said.

The Speakers Bureau Handbook is being reviewed and updated. Any member interested in participating should call the Masonic Education Office at 1-215-988-919. This is an excellent service for lodge officers to use in developing innovative programs. There are speakers in the Bureau who will address groups not related to Masonry to inform them about Freemasonry and its long-standing interest in charitable and community matters.

Chairman Fowler announced the appointment of William F. Hubler, F.M., Union Lodge No. 324, Ellington, on the Masonic Education Committee for Region 3, which includes Districts 19, 20, 34, and 39. The annual Masonic Education Seminar will be Oct. 9 and 10, at the Masonic Conference Center, Patton Campus, Elizabethtown.

Multimedia Center Groundbreaking

Ground was broken and construction is underway for the modern multimedia center adjoining Memorial Hall of the Masonic Conference Center on the campus of Elizabethtown College.

In addition to the will be the multimedia center/conference room, six rooms for breakout sessions, a registration center and a multi-purpose lobby. Dedication has been scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 12.

The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 1998

8
Appreciation Day with an awards banquet on standing achievements in the areas of award presenters.

The Masonic Life Center is the new facility for the residents, provided for the residents, who provided musical entertainment and citizenship.

The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown are now open for business. The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown are now open for business.

The center is supervised by the Freemasons and fitness center advocates. Wellness and fitness center advocates.

Grand Master’s Day is just around the corner! Grand Master’s Day is just around the corner!

From left to right: Heather Cresler, Tracee Evans, R. W. Grand Master James L. Emnette, Jennifer Paquette, David Hunger, Bro. Gilson Cash, Melinda Tkacs, and David Carbonneau participate in the traditional tree planting ceremony.

Bros. Norman A. Fox (at lectern) and his wife, Gertrude, along with Bro. William L. McCarrier and his wife, Irene, present their personal gifts to the graduating seniors on Youth Appreciation Day.

The Masonic Life Center offers Wellness Programs The Masonic Life Center offers Wellness Programs.

Masonic Life Center Offers Wellness Programs The Masonic Life Center offers Wellness Programs.

Respite Cottage a Valued Service From the time it opened in March through the end of May, the Respite Cottage at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown provided services to 13 persons. Due to the demand for the types of quality services provided at the cottage, the staff steadily receives calls from interested persons requesting information and scheduling tours, visits, and stays.

Good News from the East and West Homes Good News from the East and West Homes.

Residential Living is Carefree in the Village Green Area Residential Living is Carefree in the Village Green Area.

For more information, or to schedule on appointment, call 1-800-422-1207. Share the coupon. The Masonic Homes is available immediately.

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The Masonic Eastern Star Homes. Much of this growth is due to the interest shown by Masons, their family members, and Eastern Star members who are now able to be admitted to these facilities.

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A young visitor receives a “really cool” balloon animal from a friendly Zembo Shrine Clown.

Make plans today to come to the Masonic Homes’ annual open house for Pennsylvania Masons and their loved ones!

Make plans today to come to the Masonic Homes’ annual open house for Pennsylvania Masons and their loved ones!

The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown will be held on Sept. 26, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. It's a special day filled with friendly, fun-loving clowns, delicious "Homes"-made food, musical entertainment, amazing jugglers, the popular resident talent show, and guided tours.

Grand Master’s Day is a perfect time to visit family members, reunite with friends, and learn about the new and expanded services offered at the Masonic Homes.

Delicious food will be provided at locations throughout the grounds: "Homes"-made sausage, baked beans, sauerkraut, hot dogs, ice cream, and beverages. Various organizations will set up information booths and displays. Orchard stands will have fresh fruits, vegetables, and other items for sale of great prices. Many residents throughout the campus will open their homes so that you can view first-hand the services, accommodations, and excellent living arrangements available at the Masonic Homes.

If handicapped parking is required, enclosure a stamped, self-addressed envelope with this coupon. A special parking permit will be sent, which you must bring with you.

Complete coupon and return to: Grand Master’s Day Masonic Homes One Masonic Drive Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2109

You’re never going to know how many new friends you’ll make on Grand Master’s Day! You’re never going to know how many new friends you’ll make on Grand Master’s Day!
Pennsylvania Masons Greeted in Florida

Approximately 7,500 Pennsylvania Freemasons living in Florida were invited to attend a Masonic Reunion at one of two locations: the Egypt Shrine Temple in Tampa on Friday, March 27, or at the Amara Shrine Temple in Palm Beach Gardens on Saturday, March 28. Five hundred Pennsylvania Masons, their relatives and friends attended in Tampa, and 250 in Palm Beach Gardens. The four-hour events included a reception, lunch, program, and social hour.

The reunions were hosted by R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette and his wife, Brenda. Also meeting and greeting the brethren and their guests in Florida were: Robert L. Dlugie, Jr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master and his wife, Debbie; Marvin A. Cunningham, R.W. Senior Grand Warden, and his wife, Rosalie; and William Slater II, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, and his wife, Maria; along with twelve other Brothers and their ladies representing Grand Lodge.

Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO of the Masonic Homes, and a team of seven staff accompanied the Grand Master. They shared important information about the continuum of quality care services provided through the Masonic Homes, which includes the facilities at Elizabethtown, Pittsburgh, and Warminster. The staff set up displays of pictures, offered brochures explaining the services provided, and were available to answer any questions.

Special highlights of the reunions included the Grand Master’s presentation of 50-year Emblems of Gold, door prizes, and gifts from the Grand Master and his wife. The Grand Lodge and Masonic Homes plan to return to Florida in 1999 to meet more brethren and friends and to share the benefits of membership.

Model Railroad Club Project Under Way at Masonic Homes

A group of residents who share a common interest of collecting and displaying model railroads have joined together to form the Masonic Homes. Members of the group are collectors of model trains and display them in their homes. The purpose of the club will be to develop, build, and operate model railroads and related scenery. The club's collection will occupy the former cannery building which is located along Freemasons Road and is anticipated to be completed and ready for railroad displays by the end of 1998.

Renovation of this building for use by the club began on May 11, 1998. A group of residents who share a common interest of collecting model trains and displaying model railroads have joined together to form the Masonic Homes. Members of the group are collectors of model trains and display them in their homes. The purpose of the club will be to develop, build, and operate model railroads and related scenery. The club’s collection will occupy the former cannery building which is located along Freemasons Road and is anticipated to be completed and ready for railroad displays by the end of 1998.

The Masonic Homes’ Admissions program has been in place since 1988. These counselors are available in Pennsylvania and some neighboring states, as well as in Florida, to assist applicants and their families who are seeking admission to the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, Pittsburgh or Warmminster. The Counselors assist prospective residents in completing their applications and are available to answer questions about the facilities.

The trip to Florida provided the Masonic Homes the opportunity to provide education to the Counselors so they will be able to provide accurate, up-to-date information to Masonic Homes’ applicants. Since the Masonic Homes has grown to offer more and expanded services and now offers services in three locations (Elizabethtown, Pittsburgh, and Warmminster), there was a lot of information to cover during the visit.

All of the Admissions Counselors provide a tremendous service to the Masonic Homes. Our Counselors in Florida include: Bros. Wayne Adams, Lodge 642; Donald T. Beecher, Lodge 799; Joseph Bolton, Lodge 404; David Boxman, Lodge 580; Bruce Bump, Lodge 302; George H. Burt, Lodge 599; John E. Rush, Lodge 796; Howard DeTemple, Lodge 778; George Gee, Lodge 666; Penton B. Gistler, Lodge 600; Burt Gorback, Lodge 544; Robert Gregore, Lodge 502; Walter W. Grote, Lodge 218; Ronald L. Grino, Lodge 487; Mark J. Heidheger, Lodge 230; John P. Henry, Jr., Lodge 324; J. Wesley Hilt, Lodge 529; Clarence R. Kopp, Lodge 587; James M. Legge, Lodge 287; Dean M. Lennett, Sr., Lodge 300; John D. Lihan, Lodge 265; Edward L. MacAulay, Lodge 126; Louis M. Marshall, Lodge 549; Leland S. McNutt, Lodge 355; Harold L. Meyers, Lodge 456; Donald L. Nock, Lodge 577; Jackson C. Powers, Lodge 237; Joseph M. Reed, Lodge 544; William M. Rees, Jr., Lodge 591; Irwin K. Rennels, Sr., Lodge 202; James Sandeman, Lodge 292; Theodore F. Schell, Lodge 682; Charles E. Schlesier, Lodge 346; Martin G. Seace, Lodge 621; Stanley Sklarow, Lodge 591; Ewing Smith, Lodge 228; Robert E. Spiegel, Lodge 615; Dr. Earl Trensworth, Lodge 497; and Gerald E. Weaver, Lodge 400; and Ms. Otsutake Bickerson.

To these caring and skilled individuals, as well as to those who provide counseling services in other areas: thank you for all that you do for our residents and staff.

Memorial Program Pays Tribute to Veterans

The Masonic Homes paid tribute to veterans who have served our country at a Memorial Program on May 21 at 2 p.m. in the Masonic Health Care Center Roosevelt Building Assembly Room.

Guest speakers included: R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette; Elizabethtown Mayor Bro. Bud Greiner; Joseph E. Murphy, Executive Director/CEO of the Masonic Homes; Dr. Vicki L. Gillmore, Administrator of Health Care Services; and Pastor Charles L. Locuempen, D.D., Director of Pastoral Care.

Grand Master Ernette called the ceremony "a wonderful opportunity to be together and honor the veterans of America." Mayor Greiner, a WWII Army veteran, said, "Our country is meaningless without remembrance." A musical tribute was provided by the Masonic Homes’ Men’s Choir, who sang patriotic songs and hymns.

"Many of our residents have either served our nation in a military capacity or have loved someone who did," said Bro. Murphy. "Programs such as this allow individuals to come together, enjoy camaraderie while celebrating their patriotism, and remembering important times in their lives."


Bro. Stewart Tilus, a member of the Masonic Homes Men’s Choir, presents a memorial narration entitled "The Flag."
Masonic Health Care Center Construction is Complete!

An aerial view of the Masonic Health Care Center in May, after the completion of the Freemasons Building.

As of May, the Masonic Health Care Center construction project, which began in 1990 and cost approximately $35 million, was completed. In the final phase of the project, the Masonic Care Building was reconstructed to accommodate individuals in need of assisted living services, and renamed the Freemasons Building. The building provides an additional 127 living accommodations on the Elizabethtown campus, 103 private rooms and 12 semi-private rooms.

The impact of the building is designed to create a home-like atmosphere. A third floor was added to the existing terrace level, first and second floors. Resident rooms are divided among the four floors. Elegant lounges are conveniently located on each level, providing a place for residents and their families to socialize.

More than 120 residents moved into the Freemasons Building from the residential Village Green Area in mid-May. Staff from the Health Rooms, previously located in Grand Lodge Hall, relocated to new staff office and treatment rooms, which are centrally located on the first floor of the new building.

Cottage Expansion Efforts Continue

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes recently approved the construction of 28 new cottages in Phase 3 of the Independent living expansion effort at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. As with Phase 1 and Phase 2, the new cottages will include a variety of floor plans with every unit featuring a garage, wall-to-wall carpeting, sheers curtains, electric range, refrigerator, washer and dryer, emergency call system, smoke detector, fire safety system, and individually controlled heating and air-conditioning thermostats. While completion is planned for some of these units as early as October, 1998, all cottage construction is scheduled to be finished by February, 1999. When completed, independent living will offer a total of 116 cottages.

Independent living is a lifestyle whereby residents gain access to the security and quality of the Masonic Homes in a more independent, active environment. Independent living and retirement communities continue to grow in popularity. Pennsylvania brethren and their eligible family members are encouraged to consider the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.

The Marketing Office has recently made several presentations throughout Pennsylvania on the benefits of independent living. The presentations provide an opportunity to emphasize the many positive changes that have occurred at Elizabethtown since independent living opened its doors to a new lifestyle in 1990.

One topic that surfaces continually at every presentation is that of independent living. The presentations provide an opportunity to emphasize the many positive changes that have occurred at Elizabethtown since independent living opened its doors to a new lifestyle in 1990.

Three Grand Master's Golf Outings To Benefit The Three Masonic Homes

All of the tournaments will be scramble with 1 p.m. shotgun start. After golf, there will be a reception at 6 p.m. and a buffet dinner at 7 p.m. followed by a program to award prizes. The individual golfer's entry fee will be $125. Reservations are being accepted on a first-come basis until the limit for each course is reached, with an ultimate deadline of Aug. 22. Non-golfers are invited to attend the reception, dinner and program for $30.

Chairing the respective committees organizing and running the tournaments are: East, Dale H. Fera, D.D.G.M., District E; Philadelphia; Central, Fred D. Risinger, Director of Development, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown; and West, Richard J. Stemmler, D.D.G.M., District 30, Latrobe.

For information about the tournament or to request an entry form, call the Development Office at the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown (toll free) 1-800-599-6454.
11 Are Initiated in DeMolay State-wide Rose Croix Class

The state-wide DeMolay initiation sponsored by Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix, A.A.S.R. was held May 8 in the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center.

The 1998 class, which honored Michael J. Schloer, the Most Wise Master, had 11 new members representing DeMolay Chapters from Altoona, Beaver Falls, Butler, Drexelburg, Ingram, Susquehanna, and Uniontown. The Initiation and DeMolay Degrees were expertly conferred by an all-star, all-Pennsylvania team made up of skilled ritualists from DeMolay Chapters across the state, including: Allentown, Elizabethtown, Fidelity, George Washington, McMann, and Somersense. David B. Kline, the current State Flower Talk champion and Master Councillor of Elizabethtown, presented the Flower Talk. Special activities after the conferral of the degrees included a free concert by the Christian Rock Group, "Remnant," a pizza party, and a dance.

28 Get Scholarships Totalling $52,000

The 1998 Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Scholarships have been presented to the winners by District Deputy Grand Masters throughout the state. A total of $52,000 was given in 28 grants, ranging in amounts from $1,000 to $2,500.

The winners are:
- The Grand Master's Scholarships for $2,500 each to Paola J. Biscup, Export; Jennifer Clemen, Berwick; Gregory M. Schaeffer, Elizabethtown; John A. Creek, Shippensburg; Melissa L. Logan, Easton; and Michelle T. Kemp, Josephine. Scholarships for $1,500 each to Kylie L. Hollick, Montoursville, and Natalie R. Krouser, Flushings, NY.
- The Herman Witte Memorial Scholarships for $2,500 each to Megan E. Smith, Elizabeth Stars, Amanda Feigel, Philadelphia; and Christine Marie Hagner, Williams-Barre.
- The Lawrence Dietrich Smith Memorial Scholarship for $2,500 to Amber F. Miller, Raynoldsville. Scholarships for $1,500 each to Annick Scott, Elizabeth Stars; Steven T. Medora, Easton; Jane Martin, Cranberry; Adrienne Gifford, Mars; Julia Garver, Kirkwood; Brian Weinberg, Altoona; and Leah Krynicky, Mt. Pleasant.
- The Foundation is now awarding $20,000 in Memorial Scholarships, including $1,500 each to Alice J. Martin, Cranberry; David Lee Gilbert, Bensalem; and Kelly M. West, Shoretown.
- The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation Educational Endowment Fund Scholarships for $1,000 each to Jessica S. Waywell, Colver; Dustin A. Boved, Phoenixville; Melissa M. Hawrak, Greensboro; Jaime Simpson, New Kensington; and Amy E. Shoemaker, Quakertown.

1999 Program Begins in Fall

The 1999 Scholarship Program will begin in the Fall when applications and the latest edition of the Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide will become available.

Law Enforcement Scholarships

Law Enforcement Scholarships

Four students were announced as recipients of 1998 Grand Master's Law Enforcement Scholarships. Two will receive $2,500 grants per year for their four-year college education; and two who are in college will receive grants of $2,500 per year until their graduation.

The recipients are: for four years, C. David Smith, Jr., son of David Smith, Sr., Cranbrook Lodge No. 572, Orlands, attending Shippensburg University, and Charles P. Gallagher III, son of Charles P. Gallagher II, Victory Lodge No. 694, Butler, attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania; and Jennifer E. Feick, granddaughter of Ray E. Feick, Boyertown Lodge No. 741, beginning her junior year at Pennsylvania State University, and Joshua Selitch, son of Frank Selitch, Azalea Lodge No. 687, Hazleton, who is beginning his senior year at Kings College, Wilkes-Barre.
St. Alban-Swain Lodge Helps Restore Spanish-American War Ship

Abroad on the cruiser Olympic during ceremonies celebrating the Centennial of the Battle of Manila Bay, Robert W. Stouffer (left), W.M. of St. Alban-Swain Lodge No. 529, contributed $4,000 to John S. Carter, President of Independence Seaport Museum of Pen's Landing on Philadelphia's waterfront. In keeping with the Freemasonry's charitable goals of preserving our historical legacy, the contribution will assist in ongoing stabilization and renovations of the historic vessel. The Olympic is the only remaining ship of the Spanish-American War and of the "Navy" which heralded the emergence of the United States as a world power. Under the guidance of the Seaport Museum, it has undergone extensive removal of lead-based paints and was refinished with modern methods.

Law Enforcement Night at Lodge

Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was elected as the first Executive Secretary of the World Conference of Grand Lodges at its third annual meeting held in New York City, May 1-3. The World Conference is composed of grand lodges worldwide and represented by their grand masters and grand secretaries. James L. Emerette, R.W. Grand Master, and Bro. Jackson attended from Pennsylvania.

Elsewhere the National Grand Lodge of France created Bro. Jackson a Past Senior Grand Warden. This is only the sixth time in the history of that Grand Lodge that the honor has been conferred. While attending the Grand Lodge of the Ivory Coast in Abidjan in April, he was elected as the first Executive Secretary of the World Conference of Grand Lodges at its third annual meeting held in New York City, May 1-3. The World Conference is composed of grand lodges worldwide and represented by their grand masters and grand secretaries. James L. Emerette, R.W. Grand Master, and Bro. Jackson attended from Pennsylvania.

The Grand Master's Itinerary

Aug. 4 District Deputy Grand Masters Seminar, Harrisburg Hilton - 9 a.m.
Aug. 6 Definley Key Man Conference, Masonic Convention Center, Pottstown, Pennsylvania
Aug. 8 Mill Creek Post, Pittsburgh
Aug. 10 Western Pennsylvania Masonic Parade, Penn's Landing in Philadelphia - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Aug. 12 150th Anniversary Parade, Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 236, Lebanon - 7 p.m.
Aug. 12 Concert on the Green, Masonic Homes, Elizabethhurst - 4:45 p.m.
Aug. 15 Extra Communication of Grand Lodge, "Masons at Sight," The Seaport Museum, Philadelphia - 4:30 p.m.
Aug. 29 Special Communication of Grand Lodge for Lodge Room Dedication, Cornerstone Laying, William Penn Lodge No. 307, Wissahickon - 10 a.m.
Aug. 31 Grand Master's Golf Tournament, Lulu Country Club, Plymouth Meeting
Sept. 2 Grand Master's County Golf Tournament, Hershey Country Club, Hershey
Sept. 3 Grand Master's Charity Golf Tournament, Latrobe Country Club, Latrobe
Oct. 6 Masonic Fair for Grand Masters of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, Harrisburg Hilton - 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 11 Mid-Atlantic Dinner Connection, Virginia Beach
Oct. 15 150th Anniversary, George Washington Lodge No. 254, Havre de Grace
Oct. 19 Franklin-Masonic Education Tour, Philadelphia, PA
Oct. 23 Reading Day in Philadelphia, Lancaster and Temple Tours, Carpenters Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia
Oct. 24 Keep Memory Alive, Masonic Homes, Elizabethhurst
Oct. 27-29 Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R., Cincinnati, OH
Oct. 30 Royal Order of Scotland, Cincinnati, OH
Oct. 31 150th Anniversary, Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 236, Lebanon
Oct. 9 Masonic Education Conference, Elizabethhurst
Oct. 10 Lexington Days Parade - 11 a.m.
Sept. 75th Anniversary, Joseph Warren Lodge No. 726, Warren - 3 p.m.
Oct. 150th Anniversary, Divine Order and Square, 3°, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia
Oct. 15th Friends of the Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania Dinner, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 16 National Grand Lodge of Masonic Association Banquet, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 17 75th Anniversary, Aurora Lodge No. 573, Jersey City - Dedication, 8 p.m.; Dinner, 6 p.m.
Oct. 20 Presentation of 30-Year Emblem of Gold to John L. McCrae, R.W.M., W.B. Lodge No. 287
Oct. 23 Meetings at Masonic Homes, Elizabethhurst: Soff, 8 a.m.; Sub-Committee, 10 a.m., Committee on Masonic Homes, 4 p.m.; PA Masonic Homes for Children, 4 p.m., PA Youth Foundation Board, 7 p.m.
Oct. 23-24 150th Anniversary, George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chamberburg - 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 24 75th Anniversary, New Town Lodge No. 720, Allentown
Oct. 31 150th Anniversary, Wymott Lodge No. 618, Wyomissing
Nov. 1 75th Anniversary, New Bethlehem Lodge No. 522, Parker City Lodge No. 521, and Canby Lodge No. 520
Nov. 6 Organ Dedication Recital, Corinthian Masonic Temple, Mount Lebanon - 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 11-12 150th Anniversary, George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg - 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 27 75th Anniversary, New Town Lodge No. 720, Allentown
Dec. 31 150th Anniversary, Wymott Lodge No. 618, Wyomissing
Jan. 1 75th Anniversary, New Bethlehem Lodge No. 522, Parker City Lodge No. 521, and Canby Lodge No. 520
Jan. 6 Organ Dedication Recital, Corinthian Masonic Temple, Mount Lebanon - 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 13-14 Valley of Altoona A.A.S.R. W.B.
Nov. 21 150th Anniversary, Charity Lodge No. 190, West Norriton
Nov. 24 Meetings at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia: Consistory, 9:30 a.m.; Administrators of the Pension Plan, 11 a.m.; Finance Committee, 1 p.m.