Life Is Full Of Uncertainty. This Charitable Gift Annuity Is Not.

A Win-Win Situation.

Make a charitable gift annuity to the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and receive:

- Entitlement to an Immediate Income Tax Deduction.
- Great Potential to Increase Your Income.
- Fixed Income for the Rest of Your Life.
- Satisfaction in Providing for Others.

For further information about charitable gift planning, complete and mail the response form below. Or call Masonic Homes Development office at (717)367-1121, ext. 33311 or 1-800-596-6454. There is never any obligation.

HURRY,
TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO JOIN US FOR THE GRAND MASTER’S CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENTS...
See page 18 for details and an application.
This is what a 35-year-old Mason from Pittsburgh wrote:

"First, I want to say that I really enjoy being a Mason. I mean, I love it! I am Senior Warden of my lodge and I have many friends and renewed some old ones through the Craft. This is truly a wonderful thing. I feel that it has changed my life and made me a better person. I want nothing more than to see that our Fraternity and all its good works continue to be a part of the new millennium, and all the way to the [to the millennium] after that. Thank you Grand Master for making this a great time to be a Mason."

Today is a great time to be an active part of this wonderful world of Freemasonry — especially in Pennsylvania. The first five months of 1999 were extremely busy, highly productive, very promising, and most gratifying for me and the Grand Lodge Officers. Every Pennsylvania Mason — and all of us in our Family of Freemasonry — can share in the gratification. It is your dedication, support, and personal effort that propels us "to stop now and then and smell the roses" — to pause and reflect on where we have been recently as a Fraternity. We have reason to feel proud about what we have achieved together — and, that progress should invigorate our spirit.

The Masonic Homes and the Freemasons of Pennsylvania took another vital step toward our goal to extend full quality care services convenient to our brethren, their loved ones and the community statewide. A 128-bed Medicare- and Medicaid-approved nursing home at Sewickley became the Valley Care Masonic Center. The Committee on Masonic Homes has announced a building plan that will add 60 beds of assisted living at Valley Care. Master planning will start immediately and we will be working closely with community leaders there to establish an early construction date in order to plan an opening two years from now, in June 2001 (see story on page 3).

Almost a year and a half ago, I was telling our lodges "the community is the place to be — we should be involved." The Grand Lodge Matching Charities Grants Program provided an inspiration and assistance for each lodge to make a meaningful impact in its own hometown. I can tell you today, a majority of the lodges are involved actively in these communities — and every day more join the team.

Almost two years ago, as of May 20, more than 40 per cent of the lodges had applied for 405 grants with an estimated value well over a quarter of a million dollars, or about $200,000 when matched. At the time of that report, grants had been made to 281 of the applicants with an unmatched value of $158,000, or well over $300,000 when put together with the lodges' commitments. (See "Matching Grants" on pages 6 and 7.)

"Partners for Progress" is in most appropriate designation for the good works of The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children. I'm sure you are aware of the partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Education that has made the Student Assistance Program a reality in the schools across the Commonwealth. And, with the partnership of D.A.R.E. that helps to train law enforcement officers to go into elementary schools where they help fifth and sixth grade students learn how to cope with peer pressures, conflicts, and addiction. There are the scholarships for graduating high school seniors who have successfully completed a Student Assistance Program and scholarships for graduates seeking a career in law enforcement.

Freemasonry is at labor on the road to the 21st Century. I'm in tune with that theme of the e-mail — and I hope you are, too, when he says, "I'm not anything more than to see that our Fraternity and all its good works are perpetuated, ..."

Sincerely and fraternally,

James L. Ernette
R.W. Grand Master
Parade, Ceremonies, Presentation of Pavilion For Veterans is a Stirring, Patriotic Event

On Armed Forces Day, May 15, the Masons of Pennsylvania honored all veterans who served this great country by presenting the new, fully equipped Freemasons Pavilion and monument in a landscaped park area to the veterans Administration's Pittsburgh Health Care Center at Aspinwall. After a parade through the grounds of the VA hospital, R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette and the Grand Lodge officers laid the cornerstone, dedicated the facilities, and presented the gift to benefit the residents there.

In the dedication oration, Grand Master Ernette said, "We cannot, must not, and will not ever forget those whose valor made possible the birth of this nation, and whose dedication and fortitude sustained liberty and justice for us through more than two centuries. Our veterans are special people to whom we will be forever grateful."

Well before the ceremonies, hundreds of people gathered. Seating in the new pavilion was filled to capacity and some people stood outside. Many more veterans, families, friends, and members of veterans organizations lined the curb of the street on a hill overlooking the patio where the ceremonies were held.

A Pennsylvania State Police Mounted Unit, a U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard, the Grand Master, and Grand Lodge officers led the parade of district deputy grand masters. Blue Lodge officers and members through the hospital grounds and passed the pavilion and the audience awaiting the ceremonies. The Syria Shrine Temple Highlanders Pipe and Drum Corps set the musical pace for the parade.

It was a stirring patriotic event from the moment the Marine Color Guard raised the colors and everybody joined in the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag" and "The Star Spangled Banner" during the ceremonies, and at the conclusion when all sang "God Bless America."

With all of the seats occupied in the new Pavilion (with the green roof), veterans, families and friends lined up early on the hill overlooking the patio where the ceremonies were to be held.

The Freemasons Pavilion was built on approximately two acres of hospital grounds. A new entrance provides access from the hospital to the courtyard setting with lighted walkways leading to private, furnished meeting areas and a 3,000-square-foot, covered pavilion with an additional 1,400-square-foot patio. The pavilion contains a full kitchen and facilities wired to the hospital nurses' stations to ensure the comfort and safety of the patients and their families. It will provide a place for residents of the VA hospital and their families to visit, an outdoor place for entertainment, and a focal point for special activities. A beautifully landscaped, fiber optic-lighted, granite fountain pool with seating areas fronts the granite monument with three bronze plaques that pay "Tribute to American Veterans."

Grand Master Ernette declares the cornerstone ready to be placed in the new Freemasons Pavilion.

About two years ago a group of Masons who volunteered their time to visit the veterans told the Grand Master that the veterans at this VA hospital had no place for social activities or outings. They asked if the Masons could do something about it. Grand Master Ernette said, "The more we looked at the need, the better we liked the idea until it became a passion - a destiny for the Masons of Pennsylvania to fulfill."

William M. Kratzenberg, D.D.G.M., 54th Masonic District, was named Project Director and Chairman of a committee to have a pavilion constructed and a monument placed as a tribute to veterans. Grand Master Ernette said, "The Masons of Pennsylvania are highly honored to be able to undertake this project. We are filled with the gratitude and joy of achievement and satisfaction that comes from a job well done. May that facility and the monument that is there with it serve the veterans well and be a long-standing declaration that 'We will never forget the veterans who served throughout the history of this great nation.'"

Bro. Kratzenberg said that the contributions received from lodges and brethren that helped make this possible have been very much appreciated. He noted that contributions continue to be welcome even though the facility is in place. He also noted that the contributions are not eligible for participation in the Matching Charity Grants Program because it is to a program of the Fraternity.

The Monument honoring all veterans of the United States is unveiled by Grand Master Ernette.

The U.S. Marine Color Guard presented and raised the colors, after which all joined in "The Pledge of Allegiance" and sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

Honor guest, Lt. Gen. Robert D. Springer, U.S. A.F. (Ret.) is flanked by Grand Master Ernette (left) and D.D.G.M. Kratzenberg, the Project Director.
The Show Must Go On – And It Did! Because of Masons of Frankford Lodge

The bold four-column headline in the Philadelphia newspaper proclaimed, "Masons Rescue the Lincoln High School." The subhead went on to report, "The members of Frankford Lodge No. 232 donated more than just money. They also lent their expertise to help the students build sets for a musical review." Without the help of the Masons, the students' Spring musical review, featuring the hits from "Philler on the Rock," "South Pacific," "Music Man," and "Wizard of Oz," would not have occurred.

The article explained that the only scenery available to the students was the white wall at the back of the stage and there was little money available to build the framework for legitimate sets. That's where Frankford Lodge, in Masonic District 10, saw there was a need.

Another Past Master, Ted Ewing, who heads the Lodge's Community Project Committee, said,... in excess of $2,000 was spent on nine two-dimensional flats and three-dimensional dollars for stage props. Members of the Lodge produced then.

Before we alert you to the Lodge's contributions to the Frankford Musical Review, let us first consider the Masonic Matching Charities Grant Program.

Masonic Matching Charity Grants Results

In 1998, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania matched approximately $480,000 raised by 322 lodges for 668 charitable causes throughout the Commonwealth. Since January 1, 1999 approximately $300,000 has been matched by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for charitable purposes by 222 lodges. Since the program's beginning in 1998, approximately $1.5 million dollars has been spread throughout Pennsylvania communities where Masons saw there was a need.

"God calls for a man to do a work and where there is no vision the people perish." If you are aware of a charity that needs our help, please contact the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Masonic Matching Charity Grants Philosophy

The Grand Lodge Masonic Matching Charity Grants program is designed to encourage each lodge to extend its charity into the local community. Each lodge is to look into its local community to see the charitable needs of individuals and organizations, which are not being met by any other enforcement agency.

Wilkinton Report

When the lodge members vote to choose a recipient of their charitable donations and efforts, they should work hand-in-hand in unison to successfully support this effort.

To protect the fraternity from public criticism, the Matching Charity Grants Committee must review each recipient and any fundraising program, prior to public announcement or presentation, to assure that lodges only support programs which are not controversial, and which are consistent with the goals of Freemasonry.

Masonic Lodges are known as a group of caring community members who practice the principles of Freemasonry in their daily lives.

Infinity Lodge No. 546 Helps Neighbors, Students of Forbes Elementary School

The Masons of Infinity Lodge No. 546, Penn Hills, have formed a partnership with their next door neighbor, Forbes Elementary School, to help children in need.

Worshipful Master Charles W. "Buzz" Doeger, Jr., said that after the lodge learned that the school's principal, Sari McNamara had students with needs and no means to help, "We decided to help out by developing an ongoing project. The project is open ended, meaning whatever supplies or personal items the pupils need, the Masons will try to get them. It is an open relationship with the school, so as different programs come up, the school and the lodge can work together to help." A most recent contribution was a $500 check that Principal McNamara can use at her discretion to help pupils.... In an article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, the Principal was quoted, "It was like a windfall. We had no prior connections, but it is wonderful." Masonic Matching Charity Grants Results

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Progress: Slow, but Sure!

Lodge Leaders Prove They Have the Right Stuff

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
Overture
Membership Development through Conference to Leadership

It has been more than a year since the first OVERTURE Seminar and more than 1,400 Masons in Pennsylvania have heard the same story ever and over.

Better get your skills together as the leader of your lodge or the results will be more of the same.

Now, that doesn't mean a great start to a Saturday, either as the participant or the facilitator; but, for Masons in Pennsylvania, it's been a way of life during the year of OVERTURE.

Only a few years ago, one could look across an audience of a hundred or more Masons and see a generation of resistance from almost all. Not today! Thanks to a reawakening of the importance of some right things, and the recent influx of young men eager to make a difference, some lodges are making real progress toward the future.

To view it from afar, it doesn't seem dramatic. A lodge partners with a local non-profit group to provide community services; another lodge uses a ladies' night as an occasion to host a really special event. A lodge in the western part of the state decides to make a difference with youth sports and gets a lot of parents asking, "Who are these guys?" And, in eastern Pennsylvania, Isaac Hester Lodge No. 660, Reading, adds Jacksonwald Elementary School and makes news that attracts two dozen men to submit petitions for membership.

It's not that Masons hated the idea of renewing their lodges. It was more that the change process was simply too painful. Remember, those who are currently the leaders in many lodges simply like the things the way they have been, or they would have done things differently a long time ago.

Along comes Who Moved My Cheese by Dr. Spencer Johnson, co-author of the popular one-minute manager. That latest book, according to the Masons who have read it — an overwhelming number of OVERTURE participants have read it more than once — says that the latest book "was written for us and about us and we need to take a lesson about the joys of finding new cheese."

The leader of a lodge in Pennsylvania, may find the job of turning his lodge toward the millennium too daunting a task to do alone. That's why every participating OVERTURE lodge is asked to appoint a membership chairman, form a team, and turn the team loose on the issues of member attraction, enrollment, and satisfaction. The chairman will need the leader's support — but what a different one man and a really good team can make.

Lodge membership chairmen seeking help with programs can turn to their respective District Membership Chairmen and to 75+ Ways to Attract and Retain Members. The manual is like the Boy Scout Handbook: read only what you need at the time and save the rest for later.

O.K. So, the Summer is supposed to be for vacations, time off, and relaxing with a good book. For the person looking at the prospects of four or more months in the East or an officer wondering about his plans for the future, the time can be put to really good use.

"It's a perfect time for planning," said R.W. Grand Master James L. Emette. "Because many lodges do not meet in the Summer, we can get a lot of planning and good thinking done. With a Fall filled with activity, we encourage every Master to meet with his team and try to develop a plan and budget for the lodge. I do that with my business; we do that at Grand Lodge; and I don't see how a lodge can get away with anything less."

Lodges looking for help in planning can turn to their local library or they can use one of the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America's books, including the popular A Masonic Leaders Planning Guide — a seven step approach to planning and budgeting.

The Grand Lodge Overture Planning Team, consisting of Grand Master Emette; G. Kent Hackney, Deputy Chief of Staff; David O. Meachen, Administrator; and Dudley Davis, Consultant, are using the summer to plan the Fall Conductor Series. Some of the topics being developed are: A report on the hard facts about becoming a Mason in Pennsylvania; the future of the Worshipful Master and his team in new member enrollment and retention; effective communication and opportunities for the lodge.

Masons, and others reading this, will realize that we are halfway through the last year in this millennium and on the verge of a new century. What an opportunity to pause and think about what the future may hold in your life, with your family, and in your lodge. What a perfect opportunity to get control of events that shape how we spend time and concentrate on making a difference. The time will never be better. Why not ask yourself the millennium-shift question: "What is there about my old life at the end of this century that I can must afford to do without? and what new behaviors must I embrace to thrive in the future — beginning today?"

You'll be surprised at the things you will think about.

Early Reservations Recommended

Next Grand Master's Banquet and Show Will Be A Dynamic Warm-Up For The 21st Century

Plan now to join the next Grand Master and his lady on Dec. 27 to enjoy the glamour, fun, and excitement of Pennsylvania's last big Masonic social event of this century and be part of an early welcome for the Twenty-First Century.

The Grand Master's Banquet and Gala will be held in the new ballrooms of the Great American Hall of the Hershey Convention Center. The banquet will be followed by a spectacular show, "It Takes Two," starring Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr. The found ing headliners of the Original Fifth Dimension will perform songs from the 60s, 70s, and 80s. "It Takes Two" is a celebration of love — theirs and the love the public has for their music.

Make your reservations early. The Great American Hall can seat 2,200 for dinner, but, reservations will go fast. The cost is $30 per person for the banquet and the show. Seating will be at tables of ten, so you might want to get your group together for a great evening of food, fun and fellowship. Use the attached coupon and forward it with your check payable to "The Grand Lodge of PA" to: Office of the Grand Master, Masonic Temple, One North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

For hotel accommodations for the Annual Meeting, contact the hershey Lodge and Convention Center directly. Phone: 1-717-533-3311, or write to P.O. Box 446, Hershey, PA 17033-0446.

To: Office of the Grand Master
Enclosed is my check for $ .
For 4 ___________________________ reservations at $30 each for the Grand Master's Banquet and Gala at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center on Dec. 27, 1999.

From:

Name:
Address:
Phone No.:

Mail your check along with a self addressed stamped envelope to:

Office of the Grand Master
Masonic Temple
One North Broad Philadelphia, PA 19507-2598

GERMANY

July 21st - August 1st, 2000

"Passion Play"

The quaint village of Oberammergau is set amidst a mountain top back drop and is the perfect setting for this show of pageantry that has been held throughout the centuries. Oberammergau will delight you with its beauty, breathtaking scenery and crisp mountain air. "Passion Play," an outstanding cultural event and a testimonial of religious faith, will enthral you.

The Grand Lodge and R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Robert L. Dlugie, Jr. and his wife Debra, invite you along with your family and friends to a once in a lifetime deluxe vacation to Germany with an option to attend the "Passion Play," an event that only happens every ten years.

Includes: Round trip air from Philadelphia to Germany on an exclusive charter jet. Eleven night deluxe hotel accommodations including taxes. Round trip airport transfers in Germany. Breakfast daily and two dinners. Full time professional escort(s) "Passion Play" tickets (for those attending) Special events with our brothers who live in Germany.

Price: (Based only on double occupancy) $3,900 per person attending play $3,700 per person not attending play

Payment Requirements:
1st Deposit - $1,000 per person is due within ten days of confirming reservation.
2nd Deposit - $1,000 per person is due prior to November 30, 1999.
Final Payment - Due March 30, 2000.

For information and reservations call Staci, King Coastal Travel, Rt. 61, P.O. Box 446, Mount Carmel, PA 17851, (800) 332-8556 or (570) 373-1525.

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The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 1999
A Tribute to R.W.P.G.M. John K. Young

A special tribute was paid to John K. Young, R.W. Past Grand Master, May 18 by R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette and Anthony J. Garvey, the Commander-in-Chief of the Scottish Rite Valley of Philadelphia. A luncheon was held in the Wanamaker Room of the Masonic Temple to commemorate receiving the 50-year membership award in the Scottish Rite. Past Grand Master Young received his Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Philadelphia in 1948 and served the Valley as Most Wise Master of Active Member of the Ernette and Anthony J. Garvey, the Rite Valley of Philadelphia. A luncheon served as Grand Master in 1968-69.

State Police Team Confers Degree


It was Really a Family Night!

It was Family Night at Factoryville Lodge No. 941 and almost all of the chairs were filled with family members when the Master Mason's Degree was conferred on Kenneth Alan Geary. His father, Kenneth Alan Geary, P.M., conferred the degree and his grandfather, William J. Geary, Sr., P.M., was the Guide. The wardens chairs were filled by his uncles, William Geary, Jr., P.M., and Richard Geary, P.M. One cousin, George Stephen, Jr., P.M., served as Junior Deacon, and another cousin, Alan McLaughlin, served as Senior Master of Ceremonies.

"Trooper for a Day"

An Altoona Youth was selected to be an "Honorary Police Officer" as the Freedom Township Police adopt an Tony Sabatino (second from left) as a "Trooper for a Day."

Great Day at the Ballparks in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh

It was Mason's Day at the ballgame in Eastern Pennsylvania at Veteran's Stadium on June 22 and in Western Pennsylvania at Three River's Stadium on June 30. There was a lot of fun for all as the Grand Master "warmed up" with the Philie Phanatic and the Pittsburgh Parrot before tossing out the first ball at each game. The Grand Master and his aides distributed special baseball caps to the crowds of Masons, kids from the Masonic Children's Home and Shrine Hospitals, and friends.

Masons of Note

Walter R. West (left), of Melitta Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia, was presented his 50-Year Emblem of Gold by R.W. Past Grand Master John K. Young, the same man who conferred the Master Mason's degree in 1949, Bro. West said, "It is truly an honor to have Bro. Young, who raised me, present me with this pin."

Bro. Richard Masters, the second longest serving member of Harford Lodge No. 445, Hop Bottom, 15th Masonic District, and his wife of 67 years, Ethel, were highly honored by the Greater Susquehanna Area Chamber of Commerce on April 30. They were named the "1999 Citizens of the Year" in recognition of their strengths of family, leadership in church, community, and business, and as President Bill Clinton wrote in a letter of congratulations, "helping to shape a brighter tomorrow for generations to come." Nearly 200 people attended a dinner in their honor, including many Masons. A special surprise guest was a former Rotary Exchange student from Holland, who was one of many whom the Masters had hosted through the years.

Three awards for service were presented at the June stated meeting of Carbondale Lodge No. 240, Garfield Thomas, Sr. (left), received a 50-Year Certificate of Service and his son, Garfield Thomas, Jr. (second from right), received a 50-Year Emblem of Gold. Also receiving a 50-Year Emblem of Gold was Al Willis (right). Making the presentations were Richard T. Griffths, W.M. (second from left), and Randall A. Thorn, Sr., F.D.D.G.M. (Center).

Rev. and Bro. Charles H. Lacquement, D.D., Director of Pastoral Care, will retire on Sept. 1, 1996. Although he has many plates for his free time, Bro. Lacquement is not looking forward to leaving after his 20 years of service. But, he says, he has to do it sometime.

"I have truly enjoyed the privilege of serving the residents of the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania," Bro. Lacquement said. "My work as Director of Pastoral Care has been a satisfying and rewarding ministry." When Bro. Lacquement came to the Masonic Homes on June 15, 1973, he won the Home's first full-time pastor. Prior to that, the Masonic Homes had visiting pastors deliver the worship services.

But pastoral care was only one aspect of Bro. Lacquement's responsibilities at the beginning. At one time, Bro. Lacquement said his peers joked that he had the longest title at the Masonic Homes. For 14 years, he served as the Director of Spiritual Services, Social Services, Therapeutic Recreation, Volunteers, and Resident Services—which included the Beauty/Barber Shop and transportation services. At the same time, he was performing the weekly worship services and up to three funerals a week. As the facility grew, many of the disciplines under his direction became their own departments, and Pastoral Care evolved into a department of four employees dedicated solely to spiritual services.

Upon his retirement, Bro. Lacquement plans to stay active as a Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Grand Prior of the Council of Delegation, and Chaplain of the Local High (2 Club). He and his wife, Connie Jo, also look forward to traveling to see their son in Greensboro, NC, who is a pilot for US Airways. The Lacquements also have three daughters in the Harrisburg area, and stay busy with their ten grandchildren.

One of the most rewarding aspects of Bro. Lacquement's career has been his preaching. As director of the ordained minister, Bro. Lacquement says he feels like he's been a preacher all of his life. "I find real joy and fulfillment in preaching, from its spiritual and social benefits," he said. He would like to keep his preaching skills sharp by becoming active in a small church.

Bro. Lacquement is also an old car enthusiast. He keeps his "babies" so clean that you can see your reflection in them.

Bro. Lacquement said it will be extremely difficult to say "goodbye." In fact, he does not plan to give farewell sermon, but has asked Pastor A. Preston Van Deursen, Associate Pastor, to do it for him.

"There is no relationship on earth that is closer than a pastor and his congregation," Bro. Lacquement said. "As a pastor, people see you as a representative of God, and are at ease to love their very soul. This rests heavily on a pastor to know that individuals hold you in such high esteem." Bro. Lacquement says that the key to being a successful pastor is one's ability to identify with people...to touch them emotionally and spiritually with words, but also physically, with compassion. "I've never offered a prayer without laying my hand on a person's shoulders," Bro. Lacquement said. "I think it would be hard for me to pray without the ministry of touch; otherwise, you're showing the compassion of an iceberg."

Masonic Homes' Expands Services at Respite and Residential Cottage

For a year and a half, the Masonic Homes' Respite Cottage has provided quality respite services for care givers, providing a temporary home for adults with mild to moderate mental retardation and similar developmental disabilities. The cottage staff provides caregivers peace of mind with the assurance that their loved ones will enjoy a vacation of their own at the cottage, while they themselves enjoy personal time from their care giving responsibilities. Within the safe, nurturing environment of the Masonic Homes, the cottage offers 24-hour personalized care in a comfortable, beautiful home-away-from-home.

This program has been so successful, having already served many repeat customers, that the Masonic Homes has expanded upon its respite services to include residential accommodations. By mid-summer, the cottage had four full-time residents. The four remaining beds at the cottage continue to be made available for those receiving short-term respite services.

Anyone interested in adding his or her name to the waiting list for residential services, or interested in respite care, can contact Brian Luzier, Program Specialist: (717) 367-1221, ext. 33751.
With Cottage Construction Complete, It’s Independent Living at Its Best
The Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown completed its Independent Living cottage construction project last February.

The project began in August 1996 as part of the Masonic Homes’ continuing care retirement community, now comprises 100 cottages designed for persons ages 65 and older.

The project was accomplished in three phases. The first phase, which included 36 cottages with varied floor plans, began in August 1996 and was completed in October 1997. The second phase, also consisting of 36 cottages, began in May 1997 and was completed in May 1998. The third phase, consisting of 28 cottages, began in May 1997 and was completed in February 1999.

The Masonic Homes now has a total of 450 Independent Living units, including apartments and cottages offering varying styles and payment plans: 116 cottages and 220 apartments are offered under an entrance fee plan, and 114 apartments are offered under a rental option. With the entrance fee plan, residents pay an entrance fee, which provides them lifetime use of their apartment or cottage, plus a monthly service fee for a full array of services, such as housekeeping, maintenance, etc.

Residents who choose an apartment under the rental option pay a monthly rental and service fee. All residents have access to health care services on the Masonic Homes’ campus on a fee-for-service basis, including outpatient, clinical, subacute, or rehabilitation services.

The Masonic Homes began offering Independent Living accommodations in October 1990, with the completion of the Independent Living Community, which includes the first 220 apartments and 36 cottages built on campus. There is also a clubhouse within this area, which includes administrative offices, formal dining room, coffee shop, general store, hair care center, craft room, meeting room, bank, and outdoor courtyard.

In 1993, the Masonic Homes began offering Independent Living apartments under a rental payment plan. Five granite buildings and one brick building on campus were renovated to offer a total of 114 apartments.

The expansion project allowed residents choosing an Independent Living cottage not only the opportunity to choose their preferred cottage site, but also the chance to customize their unit. The cottages range in size from 1,100 square feet to 1,800 square feet, at the cost of $110,000 to $153,000, depending on the options chosen.

Masonic Eastern Star Home-East Appoints New Administrator and Director of Nursing
Annie M. Maher has been appointed Administrator for the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East in Warminster. She is responsible for ensuring the provision of quality care services to the residents and for the overall management of the facility. Prior to assuming this role, she worked as Administrator of the Presbyterian Home, 5th Street, Philadelphia. She holds a B.S. degree in Sociology from Temple University and is a licensed Nursing Home Administrator (NHA).

Bonnie Y. Stuezt, R.N., has been appointed Director of Nursing for the facility. She is responsible for the planning, organization, utilization, and evaluation of all nursing services provided in the facility. Prior to joining the staff at the Masonic Eastern Star Home-East, Stuezt worked as an Assistant Director of Nursing for the Lynd Park Medical Center. Stuezt holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Nursing from Gwynedd-Mercy College. She is a certified laboratory assistant and is a member of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. Stuezt is also a member of Sigma Theta Tau, the national nursing honor society.

An Independent Living cottage at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown
The Masonic Homes offers almost limitless versatility. Residents can choose from a variety of floor plans and can customize their cottages. If people choose to have work done on their own, they have that option as well.

“Our commitment to creating a customer-focused community really allows residents the flexibility to add upgrades and options for their preference and interests,” said Bro. Raymond E. Tierney, Administrator of Independent Living.

One of the most innovative and flexible services in the dining program. Residents can choose either to participate in the standard meal plan, or they may walk into one of the Home’s two dining rooms or the coffee house and pay for their meals.

Independent Living residents enjoy the Boardwalk theme buffet
Meet Masonic Homes’ Men’s Chorus
The Masonic Homes’ Men’s Chorus began in 1992, with about a dozen men who enjoyed singing and would gather for a monthly hymn sing. They decided to begin a men’s chorus and practice in a resident’s apartment. This small group sang at hymn-sings and in Sell Chapel. Bro. Harry Miller came on board as their director in 1994.

Now, in addition to the hymn sings and Sell Chapel, the group sings at various churches in the community and for senior citizen groups. Their numbers have swelled to 34 members with an average age above 80 years young!

The Choir, pictured left to right, are:

First row: Harry Miller, Director, Columbia Lodge No. 286; Norma Keilhe, Piasmist; William Godshall, Union Lodge No. 324, Mifflintown; Tom Glidden, Narrar; Abraham C. Treichert Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown; Robert Lindeman, Leonard Forman Lodge No. 783, Philadelphia; Howard Wittke, Manheim Lodge No. 587; Stewart Titus, St. John’s Lodge No. 233, Jenkintown; John Shrodes, Thomas R. Patton Lodge No. 659, Philadelphia; Ralph Taylor, Warren Lodge No. 659, Montrose; and Fred Fcenter, Richmond Lodge No. 230, Philadelphia.

Second row: Walter Balaue, Shiloh Lodge No. 558, Lansdale; Richard Sutton, Acacia Lodge No. 305, Blaineville; William Pedrick, Covenant-Excelsior Lodge No. 456, Philadelphia; Donald Gregg, Grove City Lodge No. 603, Matthew Gallagher, Concordia Lodge No. 67, Jenkintown.

Back row (left to right): Rev. Charles H. Lacquemont, D.D., Abraham C. Treichert Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown; William Treager, Westminster Lodge No. 518, Greensboro; Luther Uegether, Eureka Lodge No. 335, Montoursville; Ralph Barci, Canby Lodge No. 520, St. Petersburg; Fred Elliott, York Lodge No. 266; Bob Stock, Spring Creek Lodge No. 802, Hershey; Bruce Kinkead, Perry Lodge No. 408, Marysville; Alice Shank, Cumberland Star Lodge No. 197, Carlisle; Robert Hutchik, North Hills Lodge No. 716, McCandless; Wiley McElwain, Strabane Lodge No. 423; Pastor Van Deuren, Associate Pastor.

Not pictured: Richard Enny, Charity Lodge No. 190, Jefferiendon; Everett Landen, Solomon’s Lodge No. 5, Philadelphia; Robert Johnson, Perry Lodge No. 992, Erie; William Long, Community Lodge No. 744, Bironall; Charles Metcalfe, Elk Lodge No. 379, Ridgway; John Van Horn, St. James Lodge No. 487, Beaver; John Walzke, Washington Lodge No. 265, Bloomsburg; Jim Zarosa, Abraham C. Treichert Lodge No. 682,Elizabethtown.

Nursing Positions Available At Masonic Homes Statewide
The media reports that health care organizations nationwide are experiencing a shortage of nursing personnel. This dilemma particularly affects long-term care facilities.

The Masonic Homes are working hard to continue the provision of quality care by ensuring the maintenance of a higher ratio of staff to resident care than required by governmental standards. The Nursing Department has hired a full-time Nurse Recruiter to ensure that staff levels are maintained and that the most caring, professional, and ethical personnel are employed by the Masonic Homes.

If you have family members or friends residing near one of the Masonic Homes – in Elizabethtown, Warminster, Pittsburgh, or Sewickley – who are interested in the health care field, please encourage them to experience our “Mission of Love.” Provide them with the following telephone number for our Human Resources Office: (717) 361-4282.

Assisted Living Services Available at Masonic Eastern Star Home-West
The Masonic Eastern Star Home-West offers professional assisted living services within a beautifully landscaped setting. The home is committed to providing a secure environment, where residents can live to their full potential with the assurance that assistance will be provided when needed. The home’s staff provide companionship, and quality care services to enhance the quality of life of each of its residents.

Persons who are basically independent, but who require assistance for some of their daily activities such as bathing and dressing, can benefit from assisted living services within this secure, comfortable living environment.

For more information, contact: Masonic Eastern Star Home-West 226 Belleve Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15229 (412) 931-6300
They Moved to Independent Living for the Freedom!

In the spring of 1998, Forrest Batz, Chandler Lodge No. 227, Reading, and his wife, June, moved to Independent Living at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown. They declare it's the best move they ever made!

Ironically, they spent a lot of time away from the campsite traveling in their 31-foot motor home.

Camping has always been a part of their lives and they enjoy traveling approximately 10,000 miles a year in their recreational vehicle.

They are members of two Masonic camping groups, including the National Camping Travelers and the Caravans, a camping group associated with the Shrine in Reading. They've traveled up and down the east coast enjoying the fellowship within these groups.

So why retirement living at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown? Forrest and June love the freedom which gives them to travel without worrying about property maintenance. Knowing they have a secure parking lot in which to park their vehicle on the Masonic Homes' campus and that their cottage is being looked after when they are away, also gives them a great sense of security.

Bro. and Mrs. Batz love the freedom of life at the Masonic Homes... and in their motor home!

Star, Chapter No. 251, and various other Masonic organizations. The Batz's have two sons and a daughter, and have proudly passed the tradition on to their children, all of whom are active within the Family of Freemasonry.

For more information on how you can enjoy a retirement filled with freedom at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, call 1-800-676-6452.

Another Great Grand Master's Day Set For Sept. 25

Make plans today to come to the Masonic Homes' annual open house for Pennsylvania Masons, their families and friends!

Grand Master's Day at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown will be held on Sept. 25, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It's a special day filled with family fun, live music, delicious "Home-made" food, musical entertainment, amazing jugglers, the popular resident talent show, and exciting 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.

Renovations and additions to the campus include: the completion of the Independent Living cottage construction project; renovations to the Independent Living Clubhouse, including a new café, library, residents' lounge, and the enlarged Keystone Room; the Masonic Homes and Elizabethtown Model Railroad Club; the Blossman's Pool on Freemasons Drive; the Respite and Residential Cottage; expansion and renovations to the Sell Chapel; and the Masonic Conference Center.

Fresh fruits, vegetables, and other items for sale at great prices. Many residents throughout the campus will open their homes so you can view firsthand the services, accommodations, and excellent arrangements available at the Masonic Homes.

And if you and your family are planning to attend Grand Master's Day, complete and mail the coupon. The Masonic Homes is unable to provide wheelchairers, 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 Grand Master's Day.

Don't miss this great day of fun, excitement, and fellowship!

Youth Appreciation Day Celebrated at the Masonic Homes

The Masonic Children's Home celebrated its 70th annual Youth Appreciation Day with an awards banquet in the Assembly Room at the Masonic Health Care Center on May 28. All 36 youth were recognized for their many varied activities and accomplishments throughout the year, and several were given special recognition for outstanding achievements in the areas of creativity, scholarship, vocation, athletics, and citizenship.

Special focus was on three high school graduates: Tellia Mercado, who is going on to Central Penn Business School to study Office Administration; Kristina Lewis, who will continue her employment as a Resident Care Assistant at the Masonic Health Care Center; and Megan Davey, who will begin her job at the Center for Industrial Training in Mechanicsburg.

Along with their graduation certificates, the three seniors were presented with Bibles from Rev. A. Preston Van Deuren, associate pastor and a graduate of the Masonic Children's Home, and with gifts from the Masonic Homes - Patton School Alumni Association representative, Judy Wooten.

Much of the program was presented by the children, sharing duties as ushers, encores, award presenters, and providing musical entertainment.

Attending were parents, relatives, and friends; Dr. Allan Thrush, Dr. Donald Denley, Gerald Leisen, and Miss Carol Myers of the Elizabethtown Area School District; Masonic Children's Home staff and children; and members of the Committee on Masonic Homes. R.W. Grand Master James L. Ernette congratulated the seniors on behalf of the Committee on Masonic Homes for an excellent job during the year, and wished them good luck and much success in their future years.

*You may be leaving this program, but you will remain an important part of our lives,* Grand Master Ernette said.

Tellia Mercado shared some thoughts on behalf of the seniors. "The Masonic Homes has always been on our side, and never let us fall behind," she said. "Thank you, Masonic Homes, for helping not only me, but all of the kids find our way to happiness.*

The graduating seniors continued the tradition of planting a tree on the grounds of the Masonic Children's Home to commemorate the occasion and to leave a living symbol of their ties to the Masonic Homes.

Thirty-six smiling faces - the residents of the Masonic Children's Home

Megan Davey, Grand Master James L. Ernette, Kristina Lewis, Tellia Mercado, and Bro. Gilson (Buza) G. Cash, Director of the Masonic Children's Home, got ready to perform the ceremonial tree planting on the grounds of the Masonic Children's Home.

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1999 FLORIDA MASONIC REUNIONS

More than 1,000 Pennsylvania Freemasons, their spouses, widows, and family members living in Florida attended a Masonic Reunion at one of three locations: the Arabia Shrine Temple in Fort Myers on March 25; the Egypt Shrine Temple in Tampa on March 26; or the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Winter Park on March 27. Approximately 7,500 Pennsylvania Freemasons reside in the “Sunshine State.” The four-hour events included a reception, lunch, program, and social hour. Special highlights of the reunions included the Grand Master’s presentation of 50-year Emblems of Gold, door prizes, and mementos from the Grand Master and his wife.

The reunions were hosted by R.W. Grand Master James L. Enrette and his wife, Brenda, Grand Lodge officers and their wives, as well as Masonic Officers’ staff, who greeted the brethren and their guests. The Masonic Homes’ staff shared important information about the continuum of quality care services provided through the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Final 1999 Organ Recital at Masonic Temple November 18

The last organ recital in the 1999 Music Series at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia sponsored by The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held Nov. 7 at 4:30 p.m. in Colonial Hall. There will be tours of the Temple at 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. preceding the Recital.

There are two Rodgers organs in this hall, and our two recitalists will present a truly interesting program. Of Montreal, Canada, who is a professor at the McGill University in Montreal, will be joined by Donald H. McFarland, Director of Music for Richardson Park United Methodist Church, Wilmington, DE and representative for the Rodgers Organ Company for the Philadelphia area, will perform in this dual organ recital.

Masonic Library and Museum Introduces New Gift Shop Idea Book

Included with this issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason you will find a copy of the new Masonic Library and Museum Gift Shop Idea Book. This edition has been updated and many new items have been included. We are happy to announce that we have secured a new toll free number (1-800-336-7317) for the convenience of those desiring to purchase gifts from the Shop.

Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, 111 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

Immediate Availability in the Village Green Area

The Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown has immediate availability for Residential Living in the beautiful Village Green Area. Residential Living is an independent option for those looking for a carefree lifestyle.

For additional information about the Village Green Area, or to schedule a tour, please call the Admissions Office at 1-800-422-1207.

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Masonic Education... Preparing Tomorrow's Ambassadors

The Grand Lodge Masonic Education Committee recently completed seven regional seminars on Masonic Education throughout the Jurisdiction during the Spring. The highlight of the seminars was the introduction of the new Masonic Education Handbook for Candidate Instruction. The handbook has been designed to answer many of the questions the candidates have relative to Freemasonry in general, and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in particular. The dissemination of the information contained in the handbook will empower our brethren to become effective ambassadors for Freemasonry.

Preparations are underway for the 14th Annual Masonic Education Seminar in Elizabethtown. All District Deputy Grand Masters, Regional and District Chairmen on Masonic Education should mark their calendars for Oct. 8 and 9. The Seminar will take place at the Masonic Conference Center on the campus of the Masonic Homes. The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education plans to present to the three videos on candidate instruction to be used in conjunction with the Masonic Education Handbook in the WilliamJo Multimedia Center. The videos will be based on the three sections of the handbook and will be used to foster an interactive dialogue between the candidates and the Lodge Chairmen of Masonic Education.

For answers to any questions regarding the upcoming seminar or the Masonic Education Handbook, please contact Masonic Education Office at 215-988-1919.

Rainbow Girls Visit 33rd Masonic District

On March 26, the Grand Officers of the International Order of Rainbow visited the 33rd Masonic District as part of the Grand Officers Tour throughout the Commonwealth. The event was held in Elk Lodge No. 379, Ridgway. Currently, there is no Rainbow Assembly in the 33rd Masonic District.

The Grand Officers’ Tour is to showcase the young ladies’ youth organization to Masons and their wives and spark an interest in starting an assembly. Mrs. Beryl L. Diehl, Grand Supreme Inspector for the International Order of Rainbow for Girls in Pennsylvania, gave an impressive presentation about the Order and how to start an Assembly in the District. The state officers also exemplified some of the floor work of the Order (see picture).

The eight lodges of the 33rd Masonic District presented the Grand Officers with a donation of $250. The donation will be used towards promoting the Order of Rainbow for Girls throughout the Commonwealth.
The Grand Master’s Itinerary

AUGUST THROUGH NOVEMBER

Aug. 1 Organ Recital, Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 4:30 p.m.

Aug. 6 Western Pennsylvania Masonic Picnic, Kennywood Park, Pittsburgh.

Aug. 7 Unity Banquet - Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Mission Perry, Camp Hill - Social Hour, 5 p.m.; dinner, 6 p.m.

Aug. 9 Syria Golf Outing, Latrobe Country Club.

Aug. 13 DelMoy Key Man Conference, Masonic Conference Center, Pittsburg, Sullivan - 8 p.m.


Aug. 16 Grand Master’s Charity Golf Outing, Quicksilver Country Club, Pittsburgh.

Aug. 21 Concert on the Green, Masonic Homes, Elizabeth.

Aug. 23 Grand Master’s Charity Golf Outing, Felicita Resort, Harrisburg.

Aug. 24 PIN Club Picnic, Shenkley Park, Pittsburgh.


Aug. 31 Meetings at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia: M&R Presentation, 9 a.m.; Consolidated Fund, 9:30 a.m.; Administrators of the Pension Plan, 11 a.m.; Committee on Finance, 1 p.m.

Sept. 1 Meetings at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia: Committee on Committee on District Deputies’ Meeting, 1 p.m.; Rehearsal for Grand Lodge Elect and Appointed Officers, 3 p.m.; Dinner, 5:30 p.m.; Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge and Election of Officers, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 2 Garfield Lodge No. 559, DuBois, Rehearsal for Grand Lodge Elect and Appointed Officers, 7:30 p.m.; Dinner, 9 p.m.

Sept. 22 Stephen Bayard Lodge No. 526, Elizabeth, conferral of Master Mason’s Degree upon Troopers Tool Velie - 7 p.m.

Sept. 23 Dedication of George Washington State Water, Waterford, Erie Co., 24th Masonic District, 1 p.m.

Sept. 25 LeBello Lodge No. 232, Jersey Shore, Special Communication of Grand Lodge for Lodge Room Dedication, 9 a.m.

Sept. 27 Lower Manor Lodge No. 781, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania State Police Degree Team, Master Mason’s Degree for Capt. Coleman M. McDouglas - 7 p.m.

Oct. 7 Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, N.M.J., Atlantic City.

Oct. 27 75th Anniversary, Duquesne Lodge No. 731, McKeesport, 49th Masonic District.

Oct. 15 Royal Order of Scotland, Washington, DC.

Oct. 16 50th Anniversary, Blue Lodge No. 761, Pittsburgh, 57th Masonic District.

Oct. 16 OVERTURE Series (South-Region 4), Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Temple, 7:30 p.m.


Oct. 21 Staff Meeting with Grand Lodge Officers, Harrisburg - 7 p.m.

Oct. 22 Meetings at Masonic Homes, Elizabeth: Buildings and Grounds Sub-Committee, 9:45 a.m.; Financial Sub-Committee, 10:15-11:45 a.m.; Committee on Masonic Homes, 1 p.m.; Board of Directors of The Pennsylvania Masonic Homes, 2 p.m.; Committee on Finance, 3:30 p.m.

Oct. 23 175th Anniversary, Lafayette Lodge No. 194, Sellersville, 46th Masonic District.

Oct. 24 Chapel of the Four Chaplains, Philadelphia, Legion of Honor Award.


Oct. 29 D.A.R. Graduation Ceremonies, Masonic Conference Center, Olanchana, Elizabeth - 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 30 50th Anniversary, Andrew Hershley Lodge No. 764, Lancaster, 1st Masonic District.


Nov. 4 OVERTURE Series, Woodlands Inn, Wilkes-Barre.

Nov. 6 Organ Recital, Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 4:30 p.m.


Nov. 16 Meetings at Masonic Temple, Philadelphia: M&R Presentation, 9 a.m.; Consolidated Fund, 9:30 a.m.; Administrators of the Pension Plan, 11 a.m.; Committee on Finance, 1 p.m.


Nov. 20 OVERTURE Series, Woodlands Inn, Wilkes-Barre.

Nov. 27 30th Masonic District Appreciation Dinner - 9 a.m.

Dec. 1 Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge and Election of Officers, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia - 10 a.m.

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Universal Brotherhood: That is Freemasonry! By Joe Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Grand Secretary

Brothers:

You will recall a quotation from our ritual stating that "Freemasonry has endured the moral test of ages." This is a great credit to our Craft which few organizations can claim. It should do more—much, much more — than having endured during those ages. One thing it has done is spread around the world. Almost everywhere that freedom exists and even in some areas where it does not, Freemasonry may be found.

In a world of changing values, in a world wracked with tensions, wars and threats of war, in a world where spiritual values and ethics are declining, there has been for several hundred years a bright and shining constant—Freemasonry.

Oh, maybe our membership figures are not as bright as they once did; but our philosophy is... our purpose is... our goal is... our very reason for existing is still shining and has not diminished one iota. The basic precepts of the Grand Lodge today are as they were in 1717 when we had only four members.

Perhaps it would behoove us to examine more fully those precepts which have led to our longevity and our worldwide distribution. Why do we continue to survive when so many organizations have failed?

It is in my feeling that the primary factor affecting our success is inherent in the very nature of our administration process. That single requirement of a belief of God and not in any specific theology has been primary. This character provides a means of promoting a form of brotherhood that no single philosophy could ever hope to promote. It is because of the universality of our Philosophy. There are those who have a problem with this philosophical precept and condemn us for it, but it is a universal foundation stone of our Craft.

There is no doubt that differences exist in Freemasonry around the world, and these differences even exist in Freemasonry even within the country; but it is the similarities, not the differences, which make Freemasonry what it is. The universal feeling of brotherhood from grand lodges around the world is impressive.

I had the great privilege of visiting recently in a subordinate lodge in Africa, who, but Pentecost of the members present were of the Muslim faith and where a Tsurun was being made a Mason. The feeling of total brotherhood which permeated that hall was as universal as it was felt anywhere else in the world. This, my Brothers, is Freemasonry.

Our Craft seems to have retained this character of brotherhood in some areas more than in others, but perhaps is greater there. The principles upon which it was founded did not fail, however. They are as old as civilization, itself unchanged and unchanging.

We are part of the fortunate few, the relatively small percentage, who have had the opportunity of privilege to be Freemasons. I, Norm Vincent Peale expressed his membership this way: "Outside of my relationship to the church of Almighty God, this is the most valued fellowship of my entire experience."

My Brothers, I continue to encourage you to become more cognizant of this great privilege of the influence and significance of the Craft and more than that privilege that this is a blessing that has been afforded you. Then, and only then, will you truly appreciate it.

VISIT US ON THE INTERNET: paggrandlodge.org

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Pennsylvania Franklin Medal Presented to Blaine Fabian

At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, held in the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on June 2, R.W. Grand Master L. Ernest Ketner presented the Pennsylvania Franklin Medal and a Grand Master's Medalion to Blaine F. Fabian, P.M., totally The Pennsylvania Freemason.

The Franklin Medal, the most distinguished honor awarded by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, is presented to those who have rendered outstanding service to the Craft. It is named for Bro. Benjamin Franklin, the first and last Supreme Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1734 and 1749.

Bro. Fabian was made a Mason in Euphrata Lodge No. 665 in 1956 and served as its Worshipful Master in 1966. Through the years, he served the Grand Lodge on the former Masonic Culture and Masonic Education Committees, and various publications..."