Silver Hair, Silver Lining

Getting older has its rewards. For example, consider the way gift annuity rates increase with age. A 70-year-old person who donates $10,000 to Masonic Homes for a charitable gift annuity can receive $720 every year from the annuity for the rest of his or her life. However, if that same person were to obtain a gift annuity at age 85, the payment rates would jump to 10.4 percent and she or he would get $1,040 each year. So, you see, aging has a silver lining.

The chart below shows the various Masonic Homes' gift annuity payout rates currently in effect for selected ages. The figures relate to a single-life gift annuity. As you might expect, rates are somewhat lower when two persons receive income from an annuity.

Sample Gift Annuity Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90+</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many of our older donors also appreciate the stability of gift annuity payments. Once established, the rates are "locked in" and annuitants can count on receiving the same amount every year. Payments may be received annually, semi-annually, quarterly or even monthly.

Another benefit of a charitable gift annuity relates to taxes. Not only does one receive an income tax charitable deduction when funding a gift annuity, there is also the possibility of income that is partially tax free for a period of time.

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of a Masonic Homes' gift annuity is the ability to give without endangering retirement income. In fact, just the opposite is often true. Depending on their circumstances, sometimes our donors actually increase their retirement income by obtaining a gift annuity with low-yielding assets, such as certain stocks or even cash.

To learn more about Masonic Homes' gift annuity program, at no cost or obligation, use the handy coupon to request information or call Bro. Alvin Blitz, Chief Director of Gift Planning, or Bro. John McFadden, Director of Gift Planning - East Region at 1-800-599-6454.
Plan to Be There on Aug. 18
Date Site Ceremony, Scoreboard and Statue Unveiling at 2001 Little League World Series

R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Diugo, Jr., and many, many Masons across Pennsylvania are looking forward to the Little League World Series games on Aug. 18 in South Williamsport and plan to be on hand for the date stone and dedication ceremonies beginning at 11 a.m. Later, the Grand Master will throw out the first pitch to begin the Little League World Series game at 1 p.m.

This is destined to be a great, fun-filled day for the Family of Freemasonry. Dress will be appropriately casual for the activities, except for the Grand Lodge brethren who will wear full regalia while participating in the ceremonies.

The Grand Master and the Grand Lodge officers will perform a date stone ceremony for the new stadium for the Little League, unveil a new scoreboard presented by the Freemasons of Pennsylvania, and then unveil a statue of the late Bro. Carl E. Stotz, founder of Little League Baseball.

Three days after he became Grand Master, Bro. Diugo presented a contribution of $500,000 on behalf of the Fraternity to provide the big league-style scoreboard for the new stadium. It is embossed, "In Memory of Carl E. Stotz - Presented by Pennsylvania Freemasons," and displays the square and compasses on the upper left and right.

The memorial statue of Bro. Stotz will be unveiled at the entrance to the stadium complex. It was created by John Novosel of Rock of Ages in Barre, VT. Bro. Stotz, who was a member of John Lueum Lodge No. 707, Williamsport, laid the foundation for what Little League means to youth of the world today. He conceived the idea of the organized baseball for young boys that resulted in founding the first program in 1939 with only three teams that today has grown to become the world's largest organized youth sports program.

In the evening, the Grand Master will host a family barbeque and concert. Details are reserved until the information was sent in a special mailing to the brethren.

The new, big league-style scoreboard in memory of the late Bro. Carl E. Stotz featuring the square and compasses will be unveiled prior to the date stone ceremony.


Visiting the Veterans

R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Diugo, Jr. (left) and R.W. Grand Treasurer Marvin G. Speicher (right) visited the veterans Administrative Hospital in Lebanon and presented a grill gas for use in the veterans' pavilion. While touring the hospital and the grounds, Bro. Speicher was able to visit with a member of the hospital's John Smith (center). Both are members of Williamsport Lodge No. 507, Wmsel Mansion.

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A Mighty Gift From St. Alban-Swain

The members of St. Alban-Swain Lodge No. 529, Philadelphia, have been regular and strong supporters of youth-related programs that work towards instilling good moral values in the community. One such group is the Macedonia Boys and Girls Club of America, Swainville, who have been the beneficiary of such support when William M. Roosevelt, W.M., also an Assistant Scout Master, presented Troop 37 with a donation of $1,000 to Henry Dawson, Committee Chair, Troop 37. The gift will be used towards the refurbishment of the Troop 37 Scout Cabin, Swainville, donated by the Westminster Corporation in 1958 to enable Scouting in attending programs that they may not be able to afford. On hand to accept the donation were the scout leaders of Troop’s Eagle Scout (6th) Frank - Front, Frank Kaneski, Scout Master; Bro. William M. Roosevelt, W.M., and Henry Dawson, Committee Chair, Center - Lynn Maxwell, Scout Leader and Bros. William Weisel, J.W., and Eldow Maxwell, S.W.

Law Enforcement Tea Centers M.M. Degree

For the third consecutive month, the month of March, a law enforcement degree conference was attended by a Master Mason’s degree recipient. The meeting took place at Harmony Lodge No. 429, Zelenyiak, this year, by virtue of a special dispensation, W.B.L. of Philadelphia’s historic district, received a dispensation to support from the Pennsylvania Masonic Grand Lodge, 12th Floor, 637 S. Broad St., Philadelphia. With the dispensation, the conference was conducted on two members who are a same degree of students, namely, Harry. Lodge, Bro. James J. Knight (front, center) attended with his brothers, Michael McKeown (front, second from left), Chaplain, F.B.I., Pittsburgh, and Ronald F. Zeller, (front, second from right), Telecommunications Manager, F.B.I., Pittsburgh. At right front is Robert, Robert Masonic District, and at front left is Robert E. Black, W.M. In the background are members of the Masonic law enforcement degree team who participated in the conferential of the degree. The conferencing officer, Bro. Knight, also of the F.B.I., received his M.M. degree in March 1999.

Life & Work of the Philadelphia Zoo

The Philadelphia Zoo, America’s first zoo, is now one of the zoos in the country to have an automated external defibrillator (AED) on site. Thanks to the members of the former Olive-Grant Lodge No. 385, Philadelphia, now Concordia Lodge No. 67, Jenkintown, the Philadelphia Zoo is a safer environment for human guests and their employees.

The presentation took place in front of the animals with the biggest hearts in the Zoo, the elephants (each heart weighing in at about 50 lbs.). Four local television news stations covered the presentation of the small life saving device as Dave H. Fier, D.D.G.M., Masonic District E (right), and Bro. Robert H. Pile, Jr. (center), Olive-Grant Lodge No. 385, handed over the AED to Ray Visintin (left), Director of Safety, Philadelphia Zoo.

Edison's Lodge Officers Workshop Oct. 13; Committee Updates Packets for Candidates

The Masonic Education Committee will conduct a second workshop in 2001, for lodge officers on Saturday, Oct. 13, in the Ballroom Ballroom of the Freemasons Cultural Center of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. This session, structured the same as the one for Junior and Senior Wardens that was attended by 136 participants on March 17, will discuss the skills and knowledge necessary to become a good lodge officer. A letter of invitation, along with a response card, will be sent to all Junior and Senior Wardens who did not attend the first workshop. Responses must be returned no later than Sept. 1. The Education Committee encourages lodges to plan a program in November to honor Masons who are veterans. A program, "We Honor Our Heroes in Recognition of Veterans," was developed last October and a copy of it was forwarded to the Worshipful Master of each lodge. If an additional copy is desired, contact the Masonic Education office by calling (215) 988-1919, or (215) 988-1906. Another project in progress by the Masonic Education Committee is the updating of the four candidate packets. On the "Threshold," "The Entered Apprentice," "The Fellow Craft," and "The Master Mason." These new booklets are being secured and a number of the existing booklets currently included in the packet are being updated. The new booklets will be available from the Masonic Education office by Sept. 1. By the time of the conference advances to the degree of a Master Mason, he should have significant materials on Freemasonry to enhance his understanding of the Fraternity and what it stands for.

Visitor of the Month

Campus Founder and Chairman Irwin J. Rosensweig (center) proudly accepts a check from Robert Masonic District (center-left) and Donald L. Albert, W.G.O.S. with wife Katie and daughter Radhane (center-left).

Philadelphia Zoological Society

The Philadelphia Zoological Society, dedicated to cultivating democracy, promoting tolerance, and advocating for the preservation of our planet, has been involved since 1998 in the renovation of the Philadelphia Zoo's historic district, received a donation of support from the Pennsylvania Masonic Grand Lodge. The Executive Director, Bro. Raymond G. Brown, and W.W. Grand Secretary Donald L. Albert, presented an honored ceremonial check for $5,000 to the National Liberty Museum representing a second contribution towards a $700,000 pledge to support the Freedom Tours program. At the gathering for the celebration were 10 elementary students from Holy Spirit School and St. Catherine of Siena School, including the Children's Secretary, Barbaras, and Lois.

Stichter Lodge Donates Six Defibrillators

On April 24, the elected officers of Stichter Lodge No. 640, Philadelphia, presented six Medronics Physio-Control LIFEPAK 500 automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to four area police departments. Joining in the presentation was W.E. Richard Dill, D.D.G.M., 8th Masonic District. Pictured during the presentation were (left) Earl B. Mardley, S.W., D.D.G.M. Dill; Chief Charles Madema, Upper Potts Township Police Chief; Chief Michael Ferraro, Norrwood Township Chief Earl Swartz, West Pottsgrove Township Chief Raymond Bocht, Lower Pottsgrove Township; and Michael B. Pierce, W.M., and Andrew E. Wetzeljowski, J.W. Lebanon Lodges Raise Funds for A.E.D.s

Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 228 and Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 934, in cooperation with the American Heart Association, conducted a fund-raiser called "Operation Jump Start" at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center on April 28. The goal was to raise funds to purchase defibrillator devices to be placed in the area. Clubs, sky divers, boats, and many other events and attractions occurred during the day. A feature of the event was a display booth of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children staffed by Bro. Daniel Martin who distributed educational information and resources designed to combat drug and alcohol abuse among children. In the evening, Joseph W. Dowd, D.D.G.M., 6th Masonic District, joined the officers and members of the lodges in hosting a fund-raising banquet.


Grand Lodge Officers

Robert S. Sharp, J.W., Grand Master
Martha Hall, W.O. Grand Matron
William Sharf, W.O. Grand Secretary
Betty A. Moser, W.M., Grand Delegate
Maucie A. Shriver, J.W., Grand Treasurer
Donald L. Albert, A.W.O.S. Grand Secretary

The Pennsylvania Freemason’s Physical Health Program Committee

Matthew F. Egan, Chairman
Delbert W. Cooper, Director

The Pennsylvania Freemason’s Education Committee

Matthew F. Egan, Chairman
Lon Burd, Director

The Pennsylvania Freemason’s Community Service Committee

Matthew F. Egan, Chairman
Lon Burd, Director

The Pennsylvania Freemason’s Rituals and Education Committee

Matthew F. Egan, Chairman
Lon Burd, Director

The Pennsylvania Freemason’s Public Relations Committee

Matthew F. Egan, Chairman
Lon Burd, Director
Two Made Masons-at-Sight

In the presence of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Robert L. Dugle, Jr., (center), Larry Chief Marshal (left) and Walter Dunkle (right) were made Masons-at-Sight at a meeting of Grand Lodge held in conjunction with the Quarterly Communication in State College on June 13. Mr. Chief Marshal, a Senior Vice President of Phoenix Investments Partners in West Conshohocken, is well known as an outstanding pitcher on the Philadelphia championship Philadelphia Phillies. Bro. Dunkle, of Jersey Shore, is a retired Westinghouse executive.

The degree was conferred by Thomas W. Jackson, R.W. Past Grand Secretary.

What Do You Give a 104-Year Old On His 75th Masonic Birthday?

At the April 4 stated meeting of Howell Lodge No. 496, Honey Brook, Wayne E. Gabel (center), who is 104 years of age, was presented a 75-year certificate of recognition from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania by Marion A. Cunningham, Sr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master (front, left). The Masonic birthday ceremony was conducted by Harry E. Hackman, Jr., D.O.G.M., 5th Masonic District (rear, center), and Phillip B. DeStefano, P.M., and W.M. (front, right), assisted by Barron W. Baker and James Y. Young, P.F.D.O.G.M. (rear, left and right).

A birthday celebration took place in the social hall with Bro. Gabel's family and friends of the lodge present. In addition to the Grand Lodge recognition, the brethren wanted to give a gift to the lodge to Bro. Gabel, who still is able to attend a stated meeting. But, what do you give a 104-year old lodge member on his 75th Masonic birthday? The answer to that required some investigation and observation. Bro. Gabel insists on wearing a baseball cap with a Masonic emblem as he wins annual Tri-Valle Athletic Community where he resides, so the brethren decided he would enjoy a new cap. The gift he received is custom-made with a square and compasses emblem. He is delighted and wears it with great pride.

Seven Granted Stenberg Scholarships

Seven students received checks for $1,000 each from the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children as the first installment on as many as four years of the Carl W. Steenberg, Jr., Scholarship. They were selected from among 20 finalists of more than 100 applicants. These scholarships are awarded annually to young persons who have turned their lives around through the Student Assistance Program (SAP).

The recipients are Kelly Kaslaway, Wyoming Area Secondary Center, Exeter; Christopher Sewinski, Highlands High School, Natrona Heights; Gillian Pelley, Allentown S.D., Bethlehem; Erica Blair, Money High School, Murry; Daphne Phillips, Phoenixville Area High School, Phoe'veville; Matthew Glamling, Downingtown High School, Exton; and Nicole Marin, Wilson Area High School, Exton.

Each recipient is eligible for up to $1,000 a year for up to four years of post high school education providing he or she remains drug and alcohol-free and maintains at least a 2.5 grade average while in college. Each recipient exhibits qualities that include moral character, work ethic, and good attendance.

Edgar S. Swartz, R.W. Past Grand Master, of W. Jenks Lodge No. 534, Pottsville, is co-chairman of the Student Assistance Program, and was instrumental in establishing the scholarship. In recognition of his efforts, the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children is dedicated to the memory of Carl W. Steenberg, Jr., a Mason and educator who passed away in 1989.

Masons of Note

Fifty years ago, William Henry Cook (center) served as Worshipful Master of Salem Lodge No. 150, Hamilton. This year, D. Carl Peet (left), 14th Masonic District, and Charles C. Dott (right), Worshipful Master of Salem Lodge, honored him and presented him with a plaque of recognition. Interestingly, when this Past Master was installed, he was one of five members on the E.A. Degree. The brothers, William Emert, Harold, and James Cook, all were initiated on Nov. 3, 1947.

When two brethren, Robert M. Frey (front, second from left) and Frederick R. Dews (front, right), received their 50-Year Emblems of Glory in Cumberland Star Lodge No. 157, Carlisle, the honors, which were presented on May 19, 1995, are only right was present for the ceremony. The same evening, Laven L. Stephon (front, second from right) received a 75-Year membership recognition certificate. Making the presentation were John L. Stain, D.O.G.M., 3rd Masonic District (front, right), and Kim W. Waite, W.M. (rear, left).

Edgar S. Swartz, R.W. Past Grand Master, of W. Jenks Lodge No. 534, Pottsville, is co-chairman of the Student Assistance Program receiving a Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania 75-Year Service Certificate presented by Harvey F. Fiesel (right), D.O.G.M., 39th Masonic District.

When The Square, an independent quarterly magazine for Masons in England, conducted a competition of interesting lodge histories, Robert L. Engel, P.M., submitted the book he had produced on the history of Armagh Grand Lodge No. 259, Prospero, PA, constituted in 1849. He captured the runner-up award. In addition to the usual historical notes, such as the lodge having "paid $15 rent" to the Odd Fellows for the use of the building, there were numerous anecdotes detailing the operations of the lodge, such as one the publication chose to recount: "a bill for $45...for the supply of spirit bottles..."...when The Square interpreted, "No there's a lodge tradition we had not come across!"
Two Receive Law Enforcement Scholarships

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children announced two recipients of the 2001 Grand Master’s Law Enforcement Scholarship. The award is for four years, $2,500 a year for three years while students are interested in a career in criminal justice. The recipients are: Sean C. McCafferty of Philadelphia, who will attend Temple University, and Joshua Emerick of Williamsport, who will attend Lycoming College. During the recognition ceremony for the Sinners Hospital in Philadelphia, Robert L. Bihtle, Jr., R.W.G.M., accompanied by Bro. Raymond A. Brown, Director of the Foundation, presented the one scholarship check to Judge and Bro. Seanus McCafferty, who accepted it for his son. Ronald A. Angst, Sr., R.W.G.M., presented the scholarship check to Emerick at his high school’s graduation ceremony.

R.W. Grand Master Robert L. Bihtle, Jr. (left) and R.W. Deputy Grand Master Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr. (right) present on a crossed-choplast representing the Law Enforcement Scholarship award to Bro. and Judge Seanus McCafferty (center), who accepted it for his son. Seanus. Joining in the presentation ceremony are: at left, Donald L. Albert, R.W.G.M., and Marvin G. Spickler, R.W.G.T., and at right, Ronald A. Angst, Sr., R.W.G.M.

Two Districts Staff Display at Mall

For the second year, officers and members of lodges in the 11th Masonic District (Jeffrey S. Hount, D.D.G.M.) and the 6th Masonic District (Joseph W. Dows, D.D.G.M.) joined together to support an information display booth in Strawberry Mall, Harrisburg, for the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children that attracted more than 7,500 visitors. Educational information and souvenirs designed to combat drug and alcohol abuse among children were distributed; but again this year the attraction was the popcorn machine loaned and operated by Locusta Chubb, stoker to D.D.G.M. Dows. Both groceries and ladies who staffed the display were from Williamson Lodge No. 307, Waco; Jean Moyer, from Pine Grove Lodge No. 409; David Gradert, from Ashlar Lodge No. 510; Lykens, Paul Walker and Donald Schwallme; from Freemasons Lodge No. 595, Hershey; Alfred Kapit and Karl Schill, from Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 882, Elizabethtown; Dayton Holmes, from Mount Olive Lodge No. 704, Lebanon; Donald Ryland and Frank August; and from Sprig Creek Lodge No. 882, Hershey, Gene Langenrock.

Family Affair With a Dispensation

It was a family affair when degrees were conferred on John Stephen Gardner (second from left) in Foster Lodge No. 254, North Catasauqua. His father, Stephen Gardner (left), P.D.D.G.M., was the conferring Master for the Entered Apprentice and Master Mason's degrees, his uncle, Robert J., in the 18th Masonic District, Masonic Lodge No. 767, Springfield, conferred the Fellow Craft degree; and his cousin, Robert J. Bihtle, Jr., (second from right) was the Guide for all three degrees. Center-left is Daniel L. Jamison, IV W.M., and center-right is Robert W. "Skip" Stotler, D.D.G.M., 10th Masonic District. It is also noteworthy that Bro. John Stephen Gardner was entered in March and, by virtue of a dispensation, was passed and raised in April.

In New, consider the relationships in this family affair. One readily can recognize that John Stephen is Stephen's son. Also, it was noted that Paul Master Bihtle is Stephen's cousin and therefore, John Stephen's uncle and the younger Bihtle is his cousin. In addition, Past Master Bihtle is also a brother-in-law to the father, Stephen Gardner, because they married sisters. Got it?

WASHINGTON LODGE AIDS TROOPER-BROTHER

On April 2, Washington Lodge No. 184 presented a check for $1,850 to Trooper and Bro. Jeffrey Jones, a member of Stepney Brothers, Elizabethtown, who was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident on June 19, 2000. Bro. Jones, of the Pennsylvania State Police station at Uniontown, was on his way to work when he hit an individual driving under the influence who struck him in a side impact when his head struck the wheel of the vehicle. He spent several weeks at Harrisville Rehabilitation Center and thereafter has continued to recover at home. Bro. John South of the western Pennsylvania interregnum attended the Washington Lodge presentation. Some of those brethren are pictured (left): George Burgh, Cecil Twp. Police Dept.; David L. Richards, P.M., Stroudsburg Twp. Police Dept.; Thomas E. Jones, D.D.G.M., 29th Masonic District; James L. Errett, R.W.P.G.M., a retired Trooper, Troop A, Greensburg; Trooper Jones; Trooper Howard Silbaugh, Troop A, Greensburg; Timothy Warco, W.M., Washington Lodge; and Trooper Scott Herman, Troop B, Washington.

Web Site Reaches Out to the World

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania web site is a useful tool for members and non-members alike for information on their Masonic knowledge and experience.

We are doing something right because in 2001 we are averaging more than 1,500 visitors per day or more than 500,000 visitors per year! But another way, we are serving more than 4,500 pages per day, or 1.7 million pages of data, photos, and information per year. Is there a better way to reach our members and the general public?

What’s New on the Web Site?

An extensive web site with a wide range of materials, topics, and features can make the Masonic experience not only enjoyable, but exciting, as well. Masonic Internet sites have become a popular and accepted way for Masons to stay in touch with each other and reach out to others. Not only can Masons communicate, but they can also support other Masonic traditions, promote Masonic values, and engage in Masonic traditions in a way that was not possible before.

For the Masons of the World Style: Masons in the United States, and Masons around the world are becoming more and more involved in the Masonic experience. This has led to the creation of a number of Masonic websites that are designed to provide Masons in the United States, and Masons around the world with a place to meet, communicate, and learn about Masonic traditions.

Hellmann V. Johnson

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has held that the statute of limitations on a claim alleging sexual harassment is six years from the occurrence of the alleged sexual harassment. The court held that the statute of limitations should be measured from the date of the alleged sexual harassment and not the date of the plaintiff's knowledge of the alleged sexual harassment.

Wise v. North Penn Gas Company

The Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court has held that an employee who is terminated for failing to comply with a company policy is entitled to workers' compensation benefits. The court held that the employee's termination was not due to a violation of company policy, but rather, due to the employee's failure to follow the policy.

43 More D.A.R.E. Officers Graduated: Total Now 730

Thirty-four more D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officers were graduated from training at the Masonic Conference Center on the Patton Campus at Elizabethtown. That brings the total number of law enforcement officers trained courtesy of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for Children to 730. Two more classes are planned for 2001, as well as middle school teacher mentorship to expand the program to benefit upper grades.

The addition of the Samuel M. Schechter Multi-Media Center to Memorial Hall, along with the upgrading of the facilities at the Patton Campus provides law enforcement personnel in Pennsylvania, as well as other entities, with additional training for D.A.R.E. and G.R.B.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training) in the country.

MUSIC AT THE MASONIC TEMPLE PRESENTS FRESHERG, TRAVELER, HECTOR OLIVAR

One of the most sought-after器官 is in the world today. Hector Olivara, will present a recital in the magnificent Corinthian Hall of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 3 p.m. Baroque Aries, Argentina, Hector Olivara began his musical study

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Bro. William Freeman, North Hills Lodge No. 746, Richmond, and his wife, Margaret, review floor plans for the two-bedroom apartment that they reserved at the Masonic Village at Sewickley.

and as much time with the grandchildren as possible. And they do plan to slow down any time soon. Several years ago they down
stored their living accommodations to allevi-
ate the hassles of maintaining a larger home. While a condominium community in the North Hills of Pittsburgh better suits their current needs, the Freemasons have just taken a bigger step toward securing living arrangements. They reserved a spacious two-bedroom retirement apartment to be built at the Masonic Village at Sewickley.

Savory consumers like the Freemasons understand the country's anticipated shortag
of nursing homes and professional nursing staff who serve long-term care facilities and want to ensure that their needs will be met should they require medical services in the future. Lower state and federal reimbursements and staffing shortages mean that many facilities are facing increasing difficulties, especially if they operate inde
pendent of a larger, diversified organization. Facilities serving a retirement community typically offer a more stabilized work environment.

These reasons commonly influence the decision to look for a retirement com-

1. The assurance that quality care is available should it be needed.
2. The desire to eliminate the burden of maintaining a home.
3. The convenience of living within a community of caring peers.

While these factors motivate the search, studies by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) show that the desire to maintain family ties is still the most important factor that determines the selection of a particular community.

More than 40 future residents already have reserved their apartment or villa home at the Masonic Village at Sewickley. Four of our one-bedroom designs and four differ-
ent twobedroom designs offer a variety of apartment selection. However, first choice of a particular floor plan on a floor may become harder to come by.

Ralph K. Ellis, Starlight Lodge No. 385, Philadelphia, which recently merged with Connoquessa Lodge No. 67, contrib-
uted $2,000 to the Cradle of Liberty Council, Boy Scouts of America, for its Challenging Dormitory Personal Experience (C.O.P.E.) pro-
gram at the Council's camps.

At the meeting held at the Freemasons Cultural Center, the attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvres prior to dinner in the atrium of the Freemasons Cultural Center.

Lodge No. 385 Helps C.O.P.E. Program

For the first time, at least to anyone's recollection, a lodge meeting was held at the Masonic Home of Lafayette Hill. Harun Lodge No. 87, Chestnut Hill, met in a room of the Home that was converted into a lodge room where a fellow Craft Mason's Degree was exemplified. There were 38 brethren present, including Dale H. Ford, D.C., Chester County, District E. Participating in the exemplification of the degree were Earl Staller, W.M., John Staller, III, W.M., Fred Staller, Guide; and Andy Orr, P.M., Tyler.

Lancaster Lodge No. 43 Installs Library, Learning Center

Lancaster Lodge No. 43, with the aid of a grant from the estate of the late Albert L. Eiselof, FM, and stimulated by the objectives of the Academy of Masonic Knowledge, has installed a comprehensive library in the Masonic Masonic Center in the Ist Masonic District. Already, it contains an extensive list of books and Masonic litera

The Library Committee, comprising Past Masters Nat Gilchrist and Jack W. Lowe and Trustee Richard Mason, has accumulated more than 180 Masonic publications. In addition, numerous copies of Masonic encyclopedias and handbooks have been cata
logued. This initiative has included both acquiring new publications and tracking down out-of-print literature. Book donations from members also have provided some very rare editions of Masonic tomes. The library also boasts a wide

Identification Corrected

Our apologies to Eugene S. Hlavac, Worshipful Master of Valley Lodge No. 613, Turfcreek. He is the W.M. pic


Attendance enjoyed hors d'oeuvres prior to dinner in the atrium of the Freemasons Cultural Center.

Father Confers M.M. for Twin Sons

Twin brothers, Darrell A. and David A. Hahn (left) were raised to the degree of a Master Mason on Feb. 24 by their father, Samuel G. Hahn, Jr. (seated from right), in Huguenot Lodge No. 377, Kutztown. Congratulations the father and new Master Masons in Randol J. Dohler, W.M. of Huguenot Lodge.

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THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA

R.W. GRAND MASTER

COMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS
(R.W. Past Grand Masters and Progressive Line Officers)

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS
Representatives of the Grand Master
Operations of Lodges
District Representative

RITUAL
(Director of Ritualistic Work)
Regional Instructors
Grand Lodge Ritual
Schools of Instruction
Blue Lodge Ritual
Ceremonies and Special Events

FISCAL COMMITTEES
(Respective Committee Chairmen)
Administrators of the Pension Plan
Finance
Preservation of Monuments

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEES
(Respective Committee Chairmen)
Appeals
Bylaws
District Deputy Resource
Fraternal Recognition
Guest and Security
Higher Education
Gifts & Loans
Internet Services
Masonic Culture
Matching Charity Grants
Masonic Blood Bank and Organ Donor
Masonic Temples, Halls & Lodge Rooms
Membership Retention & Development
Organists
The Pennsylvania Freemason
Publications

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER
Administration of Grand Lodge Operations,
D.D.G.M. Liaison,
Fraternal Coordination,
Events, Special Projects,
Travel & Accommodations

R.W. GRAND TREASURER
Financial & Fiscal Matters,
Controller, Budget,
Budget Control, Human Resources

R.W. GRAND SECRETARY
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Lodges' Secretaries Liaison,
Grand Lodge Correspondence,
Grand Lodge Records & Files, Policies,
Procedures Maintenance, Inter-Jurisdictional Contacts,
"a fulfilling life of brotherhood, fellowship, and service to others."

Ralph Hamel
Harmony Lodge No. 82
Philadelphia, PA

What is the true meaning of Masonry? Without a doubt, Masonry is a challenge for a new beginning for a good man to become an even better one. We’ve heard that said so often, but I know it’s right because that’s my heartfelt belief based on my own experiences.

If someone were to ask me why he should become a Mason, I would tell him simply what being a Mason has given to me. When I became part of the Fraternity — or maybe I should say when Freemasonry became an important part of my life — I learned more about standards of living that are God-blessed and even more about faith, trust, honesty, respect, and deepening concern for others before self. I have come to think of the "Masonic way of life" that I appreciate today as being exemplified by "Three C's: Concern to Care with Compassion."

As we Masons journey along in the Fraternity together, we gain friendships — lifelong friendships — through heart-warming camaraderie in the lodge, at dinners, joining in fraternal and community activities and programs, at family functions, and more. And we’re all better for it.

	

"others before self."

Western PA Masonic Charity Golf Tournament
Sept. 10 to Benefit Masonic Village at Sewickley

A Western Pennsylvania Masonic Charity Golf Tournament to benefit the Masonic Village at Sewickley will be held Monday, Sept. 10 at Ligonier Country Club, Ligonier. The entry fee is $100 per golfer and deadline for reservations is Aug. 30, unless 120 golfers are entered before then.

The tournament will be a shotgun start at 12:15 p.m. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. and lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to noon. After the round of golf there will be a cash reception followed by a buffet dinner. The awards program will be scheduled for 6:30 p.m. (Cost to attend the dinner and awards program is only $35.) To enter, complete the registration form at right and mail your entry to the following: Randy Robaugh, 20 Rosewood Circle, Irwin, PA 15612; Richard Stimmer, 1115 Trent Drive, Latrobe, PA 15650; or William Hartfield, 2090 North View Dr., North Huntingdon, PA 15642.

New Location for Retirement Living Marketing Office

Eden View Road provided an ideal location. Retirement living in Elizabethtown continues to be an excellent choice for those seeking to gain access to the security and quality of the Masonic Homes within a dynamic environment. Located on 1.400 acres of picturesque Lancaster County farmland, there are 450 apartments and cottages featuring a variety of living accommodations. The marketing staff continues to accept applications for the priority list for all residents, living units. If you are considering a move to a quality community, it is important to place your name on the waiting list so that your future needs can be met.

For more information, including brochures and video, complete and return the attached coupon. To obtain an appointment for a tour with a Marketing Counselor, call toll-free 1-800-636-9452. The Marketing Office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday by appointment to discuss your specific situation and needs.

Send me more information about Retirement Living at the Masonic Homes!

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City: ____________________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Send me ride to _______ Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown: __________

Complete coupon and return to: Marketing Office Masonic Homes
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 15037

The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 2001
Charity in Elizabethtown

President Bush's plan to provide religious groups with greater access to federal funds to help the needy has concerned public attention on how Americans care for the less fortunate. Many liberals believe the government should take care of the poor. Bush's conservative plan would allow religious groups to provide food to help public hospitals to care for the poor. Meanwhile, banks have no competing banks, but we are encouraging you or speak to the marketing manager.

How do I find out how long the waiting list is for? To receive financial information, the Admissions & Resident Services Department should be contacted. The staff can assist you with the application for the senior living area that best meets those needs.

Lodge and Eastern Star chapter secretaries have been provided with up-to-date information regarding cost and eligibility and can be contacted by the Masonic member, family members, or friends of the applicant. You can call the Admissions & Resident Services Department at the Masonic Homes (1) 800-423-1207 to request that a brochure be mailed to you on your request to speak with a marketing counselor.

How do I find out about the Masonic Homes? 

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Masonic Lodge for kids, too

E-town campus home to needy children for nearly 90 years

By Sandra Gottlieb, 

New Era Staff Writer

The Masonic Homes, which began about 88 years ago, was established to help the children and grandchildren of Freemasons, a charitable, international fraternity. The original residents probably were orphans, says Gilson Cash, the program's director. Initially, all were related to Freemasons. But by law changes, eventually opened the program to any child living in the state.

Cash says the children at the home come from families unable to cope with the complexities of child-rearing. The children are chosen based on need and personal interviews, he says. The need can be financial, emotional or environmental. Children in such situations may come with a lot of emotional baggage, Cash concedes. Some adjust to the program and others do not. Those who cannot are referred to programs more appropriate for them, he explains.

The Elizabethtown program is the only one like it in the state. Similar Masonic programs exist in California, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, and Nebraska. On the East Coast, children of the Pennsylvania children are sponsored by Masonic lodges across the Commonwealth.

The Masonic Lodge for children was founded in 1823 by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, no public monies are used to operate it. He says families incur no cost when their children are admitted.
AUTUMN DAY!

2001

AUTUMN DAY at the MASONIC HOMES: Sept. 15

September 15 at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown

Lodge/Chapter No.: 
No. of Adults: 
No. of Children: 

City: 

From last year's Autumn Day picture: Come on the fun-filled day filled with free food, games, entertainment, prizes, and more! Join us for a day of fun and relaxation.

**Blood Bank Will be at Autumn Day: Make an Appointment to Donate**

The Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank will be at Autumn Day in Elizabethtown, Sept. 15, to conduct a blood drive for the benefit of the residents at the Masonic Homes. Contributions of blood will be taken at the blood bank from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Anyone 17 years of age and older who is in good health and weighs 110 pounds or more is eligible to donate blood. The Blood Bank asks that donors be sure to eat within five hours prior to donating blood. Also, it is requested that persons desiring to donate blood make an appointment by calling 1(800) 771-9099 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and ask for Kathleen.

Saying that the greatest gift a person can give is the “gift of life,” the Blood Bank reminds everyone that every three seconds someone is in need of blood. It could be a member of your family, a friend, or a co-worker. While you are at Autumn Day, why not join the ranks of the “Quiet Heroes.”

**CALL THE BLOOD BANK IN ADVANCE AT 1(800) 771-9099. (Please do not call the Masonic Homes for these appointments).**

Elizabethtown and Warnerminster Homes Seek Accreditation Through the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission

The Masonic Homes search constantly for opportunities that enhance the facilities and the centers of excellence in care and services. In November 1998 the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) approved Warnerminster Homes accreditation status. In reviewing the benefits of JCAHO accreditation to the residents, staff, and organization, it has been decided to pursue a more comprehensive accreditation through the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission (CCAC) program sponsored by the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA), and not pursue JCAHO re-accreditation.

The Masonic Homes will continue to maintain the highest standards of quality and quality improvement initiatives, which everyone worked so diligently in seeking the JCAHO accreditation within the Masonic Homes’ Quality Improvement Program, which maintains care services in the Masonic Health Care Center. The Quality Improvement program is evaluated on a yearly basis and will continue to be based on the standards espoused by the Masonic Homes and JCAHO. The reason for the transition from JCAHO to CCAC is that CCAC accreditation includes broader security and quality requirements within the continuum of care that is provided beyond a purely health care focus.

CCAC accreditation will be sought for the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown and the Masonic Eastern Star Home - East at Warnerminster. Accreditation also will be sought for the Masonic Warnerminster Home following the opening of the Star Points Building and the development of retirement living services.

Renowned Attorney, Professor, Lecturer, Author to Lecture at the Masonic Conference Center

The informative and entertaining Conrad Tobelli, Esq., will be the featured lecturer on Friday, Oct. 25, at a continuing education unit (C.E.U.) seminar hosted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for attorneys, OPAs, and financial planners. The seminar will be held at the Masonic Conference Center, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown. Applications for C.E.U.s for the legal, accounting, and financial planning fields have been made for this lecture.

Entitled "Charitable Contribution Tax Strategies," the lecture topics will include tax-wise philanthropy, outright gifts, and life income gifts. A 300-page outline will be provided. Following the lecture, a "Cherries in Action" presentation by Vicki L. Gilmore, Administrator of Health Care Services for the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, will include a tour of the Masonic Health Care Center.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Reservations for the morning session are required by Friday, Sept. 28. For more information, contact the office of your principal at the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania or the office of the Office of Gift Planning toll free at 1(800) 599-6454. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendance will receive a certificate of attendance and directions prior to the seminar.

**Register Today for Masonic Homes’ Financial Planning Seminars - 2001**

The Masonic Homes will conduct four of its popular Financial Planning Seminars in six convenient locations across Pennsylvania this fall. A number of timely topics will be discussed including estate planning, wills, trusts, and the role of philanthropy in achieving important personal and charitable objectives. As in previous years, each seminar will begin at approximately 9:00 a.m. and run until 12:00 noon. Light refreshments will be available prior to the seminar beginning at 9:30 a.m. A complimentary luncheon will be provided immediately following the seminar.

**Seminar dates and locations include the following:**

- Oct. 17: Belleville, Erie
- Oct. 18: Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, Pittsburgh
- Oct. 23: Holiday Inn, Allentown
- Oct. 24: Holiday Inn, King of Prussia
- Nov. 8: Masonic Conference Center, Elizabethtown
- Nov. 9: Caldwell Costco, Bloomsburg

**Seminar discussions in Allentown, King of Prussia, Elizabethtown, and Bloomsburg will be led by Bros. Thomas Tassoni, Esq., and William Kingsbury.**

**Attendees of each seminar are limited to 50 persons. There is no charge to attend. You are encouraged to make your reservation today by returning the registration form below or by telephoning the Office of Gift Planning toll free at 1(800) 599-6454. Directions and a schedule will be forwarded to all participants.**

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2001 Masonic Homes’ Financial Planning Seminar Registration Form

Please register me/us for the following seminar:

- Oct. 17 - Erie
- Oct. 24 - King of Prussia
- Oct. 18 - Pittsburgh
- Nov. 8 - Elizabethtown
- Oct. 23 - Allentown
- Nov. 9 - Bloomsburg

**Name:**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Phone:**

**e-mail:**

Return Complete Registration Form To:

[Contact Information]

The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 2001

2001 Masonic Homes’ Financial Planning Seminar Registration Form
Opening of the Freemasons Cultural Center

The new Freemasons Cultural Center at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown opened in March. The new center was named "because of the significance of the educational, recreational, cultural, and fraternal activities scheduled in this area."

The Freemasons Cultural Center comprises the new Visitation Center, Three Leaves Café, Masonic Homes Museum, Auditorium, staff offices, the Broxovan Ballroom, named in honor of Bro. Jay G. Braxton, as well as the newly renovated George A. Deke Auditorium and Howard V. White Ballroom.

Interesting Facts about the Freemasons Cultural Center:

- In the center of the atrium is an Ascension tree, which grows appropriately one-to-two feet per year. Ascension trees have been recognized as a symbol of immortality.
- At the base and top of the grand staircase are gargoyles, which were borrowed from the Grant Lodge Hall stairways.
- The entrance to the Masonic Homes Museum was originally the exit door where the Freemasons Cultural Center now attaches to Grand Lodge Philadelphia.
- Outside the elevator doors on the second floor of the Freemasons Cultural Center, gargoyles that were originally used in the former bowling alley in the ground floor of Grant Lodge Philadelphia.

Masonic Lodge for kids, too

continued from page 19

acknowledges. Regular psychological assistance is available for the young residents.

Additionally, the program has been moved out of the massive, stone dormitory buildings where he lived into today's modern cottages. The program also urges the children to continue their education in college or trade school.

"When I left here, I was just like you," Volunteer Richard Miller said. "That was the toughest thing. I didn't have anybody. I just had a few hundred dollars from what I learned working at the (Y)MCA Camp Shand.

"Now, they work with you to support you in every way they can (with continuing education)."

Today, the children attend classes in the Elizabethtown Area School District or in the county's vocational-technical school. Since 40 children get involved in a lot of activities, a fleet of drivers makes daily runs to transport them to sports teams, music lessons, friends' family-volunteer work and part-time employment. Many of the volunteers are from Elizabethtown College.

"There are great kids here," Miller says with affection and pride. Despite the unusual circumstances, he says, life at the Children's Home is pretty much like life anywhere.

Todd Cook, who lives in the older boys' cottage, is a very outgoing teen. He exemplifies what Miller describes. He arrived from Pittsburgh at age 10. Now 16, he is active on the Masonic campus and in school and is enthusiastic about exploring a career in business or maybe politics.

Perhaps, he adds quickly, he will become a pharmaceutical salesman. Life obviously holds a lot of choices for him. But things were not always this positive. As Todd says, "I was crying" he admits, "It freaked me out. But I moved around a lot when I was younger, and there are a lot better educational opportunities here."

Todd sees his mother about twice a month and speaks to her and his older sister throughout the week. He finds life at the Children's Home to be quite decent. "I don't have a family here. I don't have a pretty good family."

He adds, "I've been lost for a long time, but I'm getting along pretty well," he says. "We don't dwell on the past. We just go out and play basketball.

Todd says he feels he has "really benefited" by living at the home.

Many children, Miller says, retain their ties with the home long after they leave. Some, like Dan Douglas, even return there to work. As with any large family, McBride knows some offspring stay close by, while others strike out for more distant territory. But, as well as many families, a link remains.

"I stay in touch with them," says. "The kids come back. They bring their own children. They like to say, 'This is where I grew up.'"
R.W. Grand Secretary
Donald L. Albert

Excellent Progress in Info Services;
You Can Help to Keep It Moving

Brethren:

It is important that you are informed of the progress of the information services provided by the Grand Lodge. We hope you will continue to help the Lodge through your donations in the Future.

THE SPIRIT OF THE DANCE COMPANY

Spiral of the Dance stars the Irish International Dance Company, one of the most dynamic dance troupes in the world. Irish in origin, electrifying in effect, and bursting with power, the breathtaking production features a spectacular blend of traditional culture and theatrical energy with pristine forces of classical ballet, flamenco, red hot salsa, and jazz. It is a thrilling, foot-stomping production that leaves the audience gasping for breath.

Spiral of the Dance is the Grand Master's Banquet on Thursday, Dec. 27, in the main ballroom of the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel.

The festivities will begin with a social reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by the dinner at 6:00 p.m., and concluding with the Spirits of the Dance performance, one of the most successful shows ever to come out of Ireland. The cost for the dinner and the show is $25. Tickets are available by completing the coupon and sending it with your check to the Office of the Grand Master.

For reservations and ticket information:

Reservations and Ticket Order Form

Grand Master's Banquet and Spirit of the Dance Show

Enclosed is a check for $____ for reservations at $25 per person for the banquet and show at the Philadelphia Marriott on Dec. 27. The dinner will be at 6:00 p.m., followed by the show. A social hour will precede the banquet.

(Reservations will be accepted on a "first-come" basis. Deadline for reservations by mail is Dec. 15.)

Name:

Address:

City:

State:  ZIP Code:

Phone:

Lodge No.:

Please make check payable to "Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania" and mail to: The Office of the Grand Master
Masonic Temple
One North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2305

Dublin Worldwide Productions

Spirits of the Dance

The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 2001

The Pennsylvania Freemason / August 2001