Inside this Issue...

3 Grand Lodge
• Grand Master’s Message • Help for Our Heroes • Masonic Temple Preservation • June Quarterly Communication • Lodge of Research • Gettysburg: Be a Part of Masonic History

8 Lodge and District
• Random Acts of Kindness & Community Service • Lodge & District Happenings • Congratulations to ... • Online Masonic Education • All in the Family

16 Freemason
• Masonic Book Review • Speakers Directory • The Sum of Our Parts • Meet Bro. P.J. Roup • The Light of His Life

21 PA Masonic Youth Foundation
• Youth Groups Attend Presidential Inauguration • 2013 HODEGOS Honorees Selected • Grand Master Honors Masonic Youth & Adult Leaders • Job’s Daughters Hold State-Wide Initiation • DeMolays Raise Funds to Benefit a Brother • DeMolay Grew in Members & Chapters • Growing PA Rainbow ...

25 Masonic Villages
• Opening New Doors • Meet Bro. Thomas F. Toscani • PA Masons Reunite in Florida • 2013 Wish List Items

Subscribe to the online edition!
www.pagrandlodge.org

If you would prefer to receive an electronic version of the magazine for your convenience and/or to save the fraternity printing and mailing costs, please make your request by emailing pafreemason@masonicvillages.org. An electronic version of the magazine is also available online at www.pagrandlodge.org.

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON®
VOL. LX, MAY 2013, NO. 2
©2013 The R.W. Grand Lodge F.&A. M. of PA

EDITORIAL BOARD
Chairman
Jay W. Smith, R.W.G.M.
Robert J. Bateman, R.W.D.G.M.
Raymond T. Dietz, R.W.S.G.W.
S. Eugene Herritt, R.W.J.G.W.
Jeffrey W. Coy, R.W.G.T.
Mark A. Haines, R.W.G.S.

EDITORIAL STAFF
Tina L. Raybold - Production Coordinator
Rich Johnson - Graphic Designer
Thomas R. Labagh - Executive Director, PMYF, Consultant
Masonic Library & Museum of PA Staff

(Publication No. USPS 426-140) May 2013 Issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason® Published quarterly by the Masonic Villages, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Articles and photographs to be considered for publication should be sent with local Masonic authority to the address above, to the attention of The Pennsylvania Freemason® or emailed to pafreemason@masonicvillages.org. Except by special arrangement, all articles, photographs and artwork become the property of the Grand Lodge.

Published by the Masonic Villages, owned and operated by the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania, as a means of soliciting the physical and financial support of the members, their families and the public in general. Periodical postage is paid at Elizabethtown, Pa., and additional mailing offices.

We appreciate the many submissions we receive for consideration. We apologize, but due to space constraints we are not able to publish every submission we receive.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Jay W. Smith, Editor

Mailing address changes
If your address on the back cover of this magazine is not exactly as you have provided it to us, please be aware that addresses are modified through the various mailing process requirements required by the U.S. Postal Service. If you have any questions or would like to inform us of a change in address, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at 800-599-6454 or giving@masonicvillages.org.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: The Pennsylvania Freemason®, c/o Masonic Village, One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2199.
Dear Brethren:

Spring has finally arrived! I hope each of you have survived the winter and are eager to work toward moving this fraternity forward. It is important that we support our lodges by being involved in our lodge activities and paying our lodge dues. Each and every one of you is very important to the entire fraternity (to paraphrase Bro. Paul Roup’s message on p. 17, “We are the Sum of Our Parts”). Your Grand Lodge, and I, personally, encourage you not only to continue being a member of this great fraternity, but to be an active member. Every lodge officer is looking for programs and suggestions on how to make your lodge a showcase for the community. Your input is invaluable.

This past year, 13 out of 424 lodges earned the Grand Master’s Award:

- Youghiogheny Lodge No. 583, McKeensport
- Valley Lodge No. 613, Turtle Creek
- Arbutus Lodge No. 611, Freeland
- Lehighton Lodge No. 621
- Valley Lodge No. 499, West Pittston
- Moscow Lodge No. 504
- Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown
- Columbia Lodge No. 286, Wrightsville
- Ashara-Casiphia Lodge No. 551, Mount Joy
- George Washington Lodge No. 143, Chambersburg
- Eureka-West Shore Lodge No. 302, Mechanicsburg
- Acacia Lodge No. 586, Waynesboro
- Emmaus Lodge No. 792
- Fayette Lodge No. 228, Uniontown

While I am extremely proud of those 13 lodges’ achievements, I can’t help but feel disheartened that more have not qualified to receive it. If you are wondering why your lodge is not one of those 13, I encourage you to review the award qualifications at http://www.pagrandlodge.org/gmaster/GrandMastersAwards2013.pdf, and help your lodge brothers lead the way!

Also, only four of our 2,722 newly made Masons received the Masters Builder Award. I congratulate these brethren:

- Bro. Charles D. Davis, Youghiogheny Lodge No. 583, McKeensport
- Bro. Stephen Yaskewich, Arbutus Lodge No. 611, Freeland
- Bro. Rodney L. Horton, William S. Snyder Lodge No. 756, Harrisburg
- Bro. John C. Hill, Dallas Lodge No. 231, Pittsburgh

This shows me that our lodges need to be more dedicated to mentoring and educating our new members. If we expect our new members to become involved in our lodges, we must be willing to invest in them, first. I say to our new members: If your lodge has not informed you of this program or if you have not been mentored on Freemasonry, ask your officers to do so, so that you may earn the Masters Builders Award. Remember, when you became a Master Mason, you became entitled to all the rights and privileges of the lodge; and therefore, you are entitled to Masonic education. The Online Education Program is another excellent, growing resource for all of our members.

As we approach the summer months, each of our lodges should be preparing for its Open House and promoting it to welcome our communities. I encourage you to make sure your lodge building is a source of pride. Could it use some painting, landscaping or signage? What better way to impress a perspective member while also presenting your lodge as a centerpiece of your community? Think outside the box when putting your programs together for your Open House. Make it interesting, enticing, welcoming and successful. And don’t forget to promote it!

Again this year, I have asked every district to hold a One Day Masonic Journey for perspective members who wish to participate in a one day class format or who cannot travel the traditional way. Think ahead; what worked well at last year’s event? What could be improved upon? Ask your newest members for advice, and be willing to work together to make this year’s journey exceptional.

I began my visits with the Masonic youth groups this year. I recently had the pleasure of presenting approximately 40 youth and 26 advisors at Butler, Pa., with their medallions, as shown on the cover of this issue (see p. 22 for the article). I look forward to continuing my travels across the state to recognize these worthy men, women and youth for their dedication.

In closing, I would like to invite each of you to participate in the rededication of the Friend to Friend Memorial and parade in Gettysburg on May 27, 2013 (see page 6 for details on how you can get involved). Let’s continue to be “Master Builders - Building for Our Future.”

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Jay W. Smith
Right Worshipful Grand Master
On Jan. 26, Pennsylvania Masons and the March of Dimes surprised 17 expectant military moms and dads with a baby shower at Fort Indiantown Gap, which serves the Pennsylvania National Guard. On March 21, we treated 20 military families (one expecting twins) to a shower at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey.

The moms-to-be received gift boxes filled with baby supplies and much more, thanks to your generous donations to Help for Our Heroes. Moms-to-be also received the latest pregnancy and newborn health information from the March of Dimes Mission: Healthy Baby® program. “Help for Our Heroes,” which began in 2008 as “Change for Our Troops,” has to date raised more than $600,000 to support our deployed troops and their families. Since June 2011, the program has funded seven showers for close to 150 expectant mothers.

“This is our way of showing appreciation to all of the new military moms for the sacrifices and contributions they and their families make to safeguard our country and our freedoms each and every day,” said R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith. He encourages brethren to continue to give from their hearts to support our military heroes.

On Jan. 26, Pennsylvania Masons and the March of Dimes surprised 17 expectant military moms and dads with a baby shower at Fort Indiantown Gap, which serves the Pennsylvania National Guard. On March 21, we treated 20 military families (one expecting twins) to a shower at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey.

The moms-to-be received gift boxes filled with baby supplies and much more, thanks to your generous donations to Help for Our Heroes. Moms-to-be also received the latest pregnancy and newborn health information from the March of Dimes Mission: Healthy Baby® program. “Help for Our Heroes,” which began in 2008 as “Change for Our Troops,” has to date raised more than $600,000 to support our deployed troops and their families. Since June 2011, the program has funded seven showers for close to 150 expectant mothers.

“This is our way of showing appreciation to all of the new military moms for the sacrifices and contributions they and their families make to safeguard our country and our freedoms each and every day,” said R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith. He encourages brethren to continue to give from their hearts to support our military heroes.
Masonic Temple Preservation Remains a Priority

by Bro. Daniel J. Hinds, Building Superintendent and Aide to the Grand Master

Summertime will be exciting at the Masonic Temple! In a few months, while the lodges are called off from labor for the summer, the Temple will buzz with much-needed repair work. R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith and all the Grand Lodge officers are committed to maintaining the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia in the pristine condition for which it is world renowned. Funding for the renovations will come from the Masonic Temple Preservation Fund created by R.W. Past Grand Master Thomas K. Sturgeon, along with lodge donations and member donations earmarked for Temple Preservation.

The 2013 capital expenditures will comprise of a variety of necessary repairs. They will include phase two of the placement of drain pans with shut down sensors in all of the air handler units. The sensors will detect any condensation accumulated in the pan to prevent water leaks from causing expensive plaster damage in the lodge rooms. The sub-basement ventilation system will be upgraded to improve ventilation to the main electrical transformers. The Grand Master’s private office, reception room and the rest of the first floor complex will receive plaster repairs and fresh paint. The benches in both the Egyptian and Ionic halls will be taken to Summerdale Mills and Fabric Decorating Center for refurbishment while Capri Painters will repair plaster and add a fresh coat of paint in both rooms. Minor repairs will be made to the rugs in Egyptian and Corinthian halls.

Look for before and after photos of the work in the next edition of “The Pennsylvania Freemason” to see how your donated funds and the commitment of our Grand Lodge will preserve our Masonic Temple in pristine condition for all to admire and enjoy.

Tour the Temple!

Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. & Noon
Additional tours may be added, as needed, especially during the tourist season. Due to private events, tours may not always be given. Please call (215) 988-1917 or (215) 988-1924 prior to your planned visit to confirm tour availability.
PA Masons (with dues card), active military and children (under 5) tour for FREE!

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Announces the
JUNE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

To be held at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, Pittsburgh, Pa., on
SATURDAY, JUNE 8, AT 10 A.M.
Open to all Master Masons.
Lunch will be provided immediately following the meeting. Masonic dress is required.

The Pennsylvania Lodge of Research will meet on Saturday, June 29, at 10 a.m., at Lehigh Lodge No. 126, 2120 Route 100, Macungie. Bro. Charles L. Merris will give a presentation entitled, “Templar Myth and Freemasonry.” Worshipful Master Jerry J. Hamilton is also serving as Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Pennsylvania this year. The lodge will close at noon and a luncheon will be provided. R.S.V.P. before June 22 to jhamilton806@comcast.net. All Master Masons are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting at no charge.

Lodge of Research
This Memorial Day, May 27, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will rededicate the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. The opening ceremony will begin at 11 a.m., and Masons and guests are invited to participate in the parade which will begin at 2 p.m. Those interested in participating should contact Bro. G. Scott Fair, District Deputy Grand Master for District 42, at ddgm42@pagrandlodge.org. Brethren should wear Masonic attire.

Commissioned and placed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the Gettysburg National Cemetery Annex adjacent to the National Cemetery as a tribute to Freemasons who fought in all of the wars and conflicts of the country, the monument was originally dedicated Aug. 21, 1993. It was the first time that a private organization had been permitted to erect a monument in a national historic park.

Two larger-than-life bronze figures atop a granite base inscribed with the words “Friend to Friend, A Brotherhood Undivided” depict the Civil War battlefield scene during Pickett’s Charge on Cemetery Ridge on July 3, 1863. The sculpture shows Union Captain Bro. Henry Bingham, a Pennsylvania Mason and aide to Union Major General Bro. Winfield S. Hancock, coming to the aid of his Masonic brother, fatally wounded Confederate Brigadier General Lewis A. Armistead of Virginia. It portrays vividly the eternal bonds of friendship and brotherhood that transcend political differences, even amidst the tragedies of war.

When the Civil War began, there were an estimated 500,000 Freemasons, and many famous American military leaders of that era belonged to local lodges throughout the United States. Approximately 18,000 Freemasons fought on both sides of the Battle of Gettysburg. Brothers Armistead and Hancock had been friends and fellow officers who chose to fight on opposing sides when the war broke out in 1861. During Pickett’s Charge, both officers were wounded within a few hundred yards of each other. Bro. Armistead’s cries for help were heard by several brothers in the Union ranks who offered to assist the Confederate officer. As he was being carried to medical aid, Bro. Armistead, by chance, encountered Bro. Bingham. Learning of his relationship to Bro. Hancock, Bro. Armistead asked Bro. Bingham to relay a message of regret to his old friend and entrusted his personal effects to the captain. He died two days later. Bro. Hancock survived the war and died in 1886. Bro. Bingham attained the rank of General and later served 32 years in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The statue was originally unveiled 20 years ago by R.W. Past Grand Master Edward H. Fowler, Jr., the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior and renowned sculptor Ron Tunison. The extensive project
also included beautification and improvements to the entire Gettysburg National Cemetery Annex. The Grand Lodge also provided a $25,000 endowment fund for the general maintenance of the memorial.

The dedication and capstone ceremony for the memorial began with a 2 ½ hour Masonic procession of 3,500 Grand Lodge and Blue Lodge officers and members; Grand Masters from jurisdictions across the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico; District Deputy Grand Masters and guest dignitaries; various bands and color guards; and many units from Shrine, Tall Cedars, York Rite, Scottish Rite, Order of the Eastern Star, Amaranth, Grotto, DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls, Job’s Daughters and Knights of Pythagoras; and Civil War re-enactors. The parade was attended by more than 35,000 people.

R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith has commissioned two limited edition collector items to commemorate this unique Masonic historical event. Both items, shown below, will be available for purchase at the rededication on Memorial Day and thereafter through The Masonic Library and Museum of PA until they are gone. The proceeds from the sale of these keepsakes will support the Masonic Charities.

Gettysburg Rededication Medallion
Bronze medallion is custom made by J. Jenkins Sons Co. of Baltimore, Md. Measuring 3” across, it comes with a wooden holder in a dated, imprinted keepsake box. Limited edition of 1,000 medallions.

$50

Friend to Friend Sculpture
Pewter sculpture is 5” tall x 4 ½” wide at largest dimensions. Walnut base is 6” x 4” x ½” in depth. Made in USA. Limited edition of 300 pieces.

$125

To place an order with the Museum Shop using your credit card, call 215-988-1973, Tuesdays through Saturdays. Or, online orders may be placed anytime using the website: www.masonicmuseumgifts.com. To mail a check, please see total amount listed below. Make check payable to: The Masonic Library & Museum of PA; Care of The Masonic Temple; One North Broad Street; Philadelphia, PA 19107. UPS Insured will be used for shipments. For out-of-state orders, eliminate the tax.

For sculpture alone - Pennsylvania: $125 plus $7.50 PA 6% tax, plus $12 UPS = $144.50
For sculpture alone - Philadelphia: $125 plus $10 Phila. 8% tax, plus $12 UPS = $147
For medallion alone - Pennsylvania: $50 plus $3 PA tax, plus $9 UPS = $62
For medallion alone - Philadelphia: $50 plus $4 Phila. tax, plus $9 UPS = $63
For both items - Pennsylvania: $175 plus $10.50 PA tax, plus $14 UPS = $209.50
For both items - Philadelphia: $175 plus $14 Phila. tax, plus $14 UPS = $203
Random Acts of Kindness & Community Service

Sometimes help is needed on a small scale, and Masons are ready to give a few hours of their time and energy to improving the life of another. Other times, tragedy strikes an entire community or region of a state, and the hands and hearts of many are needed. In either case, whenever and wherever people are struggling, Masons step with up with kind hearts ready to help. Share your random acts of kindness and lodge community service efforts on the registry at www.pagrandlodge.org/rak/index.html.

Random Acts of Kindness

Neighbors and Brothers Helping Neighbors

On Dec. 23, Elizabeth Carter, a member of the Radiant Chapter No. 96, O.E.S., heard about a mother with four young children who found themselves in a shelter due to domestic violence. Elizabeth is the wife of Bro. Peter Carter, J.W., Southampton Radiant Star Lodge No. 806, Warminster (also a member of Radiant Chapter No. 96). The mother contacted Toys for Tots and two other organizations for Christmas presents for her children, but was told she could not receive toys unless she was willing to have her family photographed and potentially used for advertisements. She was trying to remain hidden from her ex-husband and protect her children, so she could not agree. The Carters and another couple in their neighborhood went out and purchased presents for her and her four children.

They also learned she was moving into assisted living and had no household supplies. Bro. Carter contacted Bro. Mark A. Kirsch, W.M., and he agreed this was a perfect way for the lodge to support the community. With the lodge’s help, Bro. Carter also purchased some home essentials to get the family started, and a third couple in his neighborhood invited the family to have Christmas dinner with them instead of in the shelter.

“What started out as a simple act of kindness blossomed into a very nice larger act of kindness,” Bro. Carter said. “When the mother asked why we would want to help them since we didn’t even know them, I simply stated, ‘That’s what Masons and ladies from Eastern Star do.’”

Date Night

On Dec. 14, Bros. Emil Rarick and Donald Schneck, Pine Grove Lodge No. 409, invited Bro. Joseph Ryan, Swatara Lodge No. 267, Tremont, and his wife, Kimberly, to the Shriner Christmas party in Orwigsburg, Pa. This was an especially nice gesture because Bro. Ryan and his wife had not been out on a date like this in 17 years.

The Ryans’ son has special needs and is on the Asperger’s spectrum. The only time they would leave was for a quick trip to the store and back. Even though their son is high functioning, in the past, they were afraid to leave him with anyone, especially because he would have meltdowns and others wouldn’t know how to respond. Their son is 17 years old now and hardly ever has meltdowns any more.

“It was great to have some time out for ourselves without getting a call to come home for a child’s meltdown,” Kimberly said. “The dinner was great, and the Shrine members and their spouses were very friendly and inviting. Joe has wanted to become a Shriner, and the invitation to the Shiner’s Christmas party was a wonderful opportunity for him to learn more about this super group of fellows. Before we left for the evening, he completed an application to be a Shriner. He was so excited, and it would be nice to see the members and their spouses again.”

Hurricane Sandy Aid

Starting to Rebuild

Bro. Raymond Fox, Lodge No. 298, made it through Hurricane Sandy with little damage. As a Mason, he felt he should take part in assisting those who were less fortunate during the storm. He spent 20 years serving in the Armed Forces and is a Vietnam War veteran, and has participated in various disaster relief operations in the past. The devastation in the Highlands (near Sandy Hook) in northern New Jersey was some of the worst he had witnessed.

He volunteered to spend two weekends in the Highlands working in four flooded homes. The furniture, drywall, carpet and appliances were piled six to eight feet high in the street, and two cars could not pass. The entire first floor of each home required gutting to stud walls and the application of a mold inhibitor. There are many homes which need work and still don’t have utilities (gas/electric) running.

“The homeowners were very grateful, and many had no family locally or at all to assist or were unable to physically do the work themselves,” Bro. Fox said. “It was a
very uplifting experience for me seeing the number of volunteers. There were groups that came from all over the southern states and the Midwest. It is the assistance of organizations and individuals like the Masons and church groups that provide the hands-on assistance people in these situations require.”

Helping his Hometown

Bro. Doug Dennis, Honesdale Lodge No. 218, grew up in Staten Island, N.Y., and he was heartbroken to see his hometown devastated by Hurricane Sandy. A tree fell on his childhood house, the house where his wife grew up was destroyed and many of their friends and family were affected. He approached the brothers of his lodge and Bro. Charles Grimm, District Deputy Grand Master for District 14, about collecting clothes, blankets, toiletries and cleaning supplies for the storm victims.

Through a district-wide effort, crates of clothes and water were collected. Milford Lodge No. 344 donated items, as well as funds to cover fuel costs. Bro. Dennis connected with Bro. Robert Welch, P.M., Great Kills Lodge No. 912, which meets in the Tottenville Masonic Temple in New York, and coordinated the delivery of supplies.

“The outpouring of support was amazing. There was so much gratitude for something as simple as a bottle of water,” Bro. Dennis said. “A lot of people are still homeless.”

Lodge Community Service Initiatives

Serving the Community

On Jan. 22, 10 members of Union Lodge No. 479, Birdsboro, served approximately 100 people at a Community Table dinner in conjunction with the Birdsboro Food Pantry, which serves needy people in the local area. This is the second year the lodge helped with the dinner, and they’ve already agreed to participate next year.

“We have a very committed core group of members who are convinced that participating on a grassroots level in our community is the only practical solution to society’s ills,” Bro. Richard Wolf, W.M., said. “We feel that Freemasonry is more relevant today than it has ever been as a positive force in our community, and we are constantly seeking out ways to demonstrate that Freemasons, as a group, are productive contributors and exemplary citizens within the community.”

The lodge has a committee dedicated to identifying worthy community-related activities and regularly partners with other community organizations to maximize its impact and share resources. Alongside a local church, members ran a chicken pot pie dinner at their lodge in March to benefit the Greater Berks Food Bank.

Assisting Aunt Hope

In late September, Bro. Leigh Davidson, P.M., Lodge No. 226, Clermont, Fla, contacted Christiana Lodge No. 417. Bro. Davidson, who now lives in Erie, called upon brethren of Lodge No. 417 to assist his aunt who lives in nearby Gap, Pa. Bros. Charles R. Eavenson, P.M., and William Brown, Secretary, visited her to find out what the lodge could do to help around her home.

On Nov. 10, members of the lodge and the family members of one brother went to the home of “Aunt Hope,” as she likes to be called, to clean up all the leaves around her mobile home. They waited until after Hurricane Sandy came through and took down all the leaves remaining on the trees. After three hard hours of work, all the leaves were raked and things were cleaned up.

“Aunt Hope’ was very happy as she is unable to do much due to health reasons,” Bro. Brown said. “Several members will be checking on ‘Aunt Hope’ during the winter once snow arrives to help keep her walkways clear of snow.”

Riding for Good Causes

In December, Masonic Motorcycle Club International Chapter 51 representatives Bros. Mike Rotz and Roy Spidle presented a donation of $150 to Susan Cubbage, executive director of the Fulton County Food Basket, McConnellsburg. Chapter 51 members raised the funds through their monthly motorcycle rides for members and guests.

Ms. Cubbage indicated that contributions are especially needed in December because of the demands of the holiday season and severe government funding cuts. The Food Basket is a nonprofit human service agency providing
food on an emergency basis to those in need in Fulton County who have been referred by other human service agencies and local clergy.

Other Chapter 51 members also presented donations of $150 each to the Huntingdon Area Food Pantry, the Mount Union Area Food Pantry and the Southern Huntingdon County Food Pantry. Donations totaled $600 to benefit struggling families in Fulton and Huntingdon counties.

Masonic Motorcycle Club International is a motorcycle club comprised of Masons throughout the United States. Chapter 51 is based in Pennsylvania’s 34th Masonic District and is comprised of members of Masonic lodges in Huntingdon and Fulton counties and the surrounding area.

Shriners and Masons Give the Ultimate Gift

Two-year old Mikaela Starr Collins was born in April 2010 without a left hand. Her grandmother and guardian Shiela Burson attempted to obtain social security disability assistance for her, it was denied because Mikaela was not considered “disabled.”


Bro. Grudowski immediately contacted the Shriners Hospitals for Children Ambulatory Surgery Center and Outpatient Specialty Care Center in Erie and arranged for Ms. Burson to begin the admission process. The Shriners Hospitals first evaluated Mikaela in March 2012. She returned twice to be fitted for a prosthesis. In October, Mikaela received her new left hand, a slip-on prosthesis with a moveable thumb, which she has since nicknamed “lefty.”

Bro. Slosser had nothing but praise for the physicians, nurses and staff at the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Mikaela’s family incurred no financial obligation for the care and services she received.

Shriners Hospitals for Children even arranged for Mikaela to receive therapy near her home so her family could avoid the expense of traveling to Erie. When Mikaela was being fitted for “lefty,” she and Bro. Burson had to spend three nights at a hotel in Erie. Meridian Lodge No. 411 paid for their stay, which was discounted because Mikaela was a patient at Shriners Hospitals for Children.

“Thanks to the cooperative efforts of Pennsylvania Freemasons, Shriners of Syria Temple in Cheswick and Shriners Hospitals for Children, a 2-year-old girl and her family have received the assistance others had denied them,” Bro. Wayne D. Frankenstein, District Deputy Grand Master for the 26th Masonic District, said.

Polar Plunge

On Feb. 9, brethren from Masonic District 2 participated in the Polar Bear Plunge in support of the Special Olympics. The team raised $3,600 for the cause, and although it was twice as cold as last year, it was a good day of fellowship. Afterward, the team had lunch together to thaw out.

Each brother raised money through sponsorships from brethren and friends. The goal was at least $50 per team member.

“The district has always looked for and participated in community events whenever they can,” Bro. Scott Matincheck, District Deputy Grand Master for District 2, said. “We first chose this event last year as a good way to help a good cause. The Special Olympics is a charity of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons.”

Participants of the Polar Bear Plunge are only allowed in the water for one to three minutes, and River Rescue is present to make sure everyone is okay and doesn’t stay in too long.

“The water is only about 20 some degrees, and most people just run in and run back out. As far as motivation, not everyone plunges, but those who do mostly give in to some friendly ‘peer pressure,’” Bro. Matincheck said.
Lebanon Temple is a Combined Masonic Success

R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith presided over the cornerstone laying and the dedication of the Lebanon Masonic Temple on May 5, 2012. Officers and members of both Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 226 and Mount Olivet Lodge No. 704 participated in the event since the building was a combined effort of both lodges which meet there. In addition, three York Rite groups and an Eastern Star group meet at the temple.

On Jan. 12, 2013, David L. Winters, Eminent Commander of Hermit Commandery No. 24 and a member of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf; Boyertown Lodge No. 741; and Lodge No. 15, Haddonfield-Cherry Hill, N.J., presented a check for $50,000 from Hermit Commandery to Bro. Leslie T. Keller, President of the Masonic Temple Association. As one of the Masonic groups that meets in the new temple, Hermit Commandery members felt it was appropriate to donate money raised through the sale of Hermit Commandery stock to help pay off the building’s mortgage.

Brethren March in Hatboro Holiday Parade

On a beautiful, sunny fall day, high school marching bands played, Scout troops marched, classic cars rolled along and “Chuckles the Clown,” otherwise known as Bro. Chuck Lord, P.M., Lodge No. 126, Philadelphia, made balloon figures to hand out to attendees of Hatboro’s 52nd Holiday Parade. More than 50 members of W.K. Bray Lodge No. 410, Hatboro, and other members of District 8, along with several Grand Lodge officers, “wowed” spectators amidst colorful Grand Lodge floats on Nov. 18, 2012.

Also participating were R.W. Past Grand Master Stephen Gardner; Supreme Tall Cedar Harvey “Bud” Willard; Supreme Treasurer Larry Donnis; District Deputy Grand Master Carl Swope; Aide to the Grand Master Danny Hinds; Assistant Grand Marshal Russell Baker, P.D.D.G.M.; and ladies of Morning Light Chapter No. 312, O.E.S.

Freemasonry in England Presented

On Feb. 18, Bro. Robert E. Engleback, P.M., wearing an English Past Master’s apron and collar, presented on Freemasonry in England at Hyndman Lodge No. 589’s stated meeting. Bro. Bob is a Past Master of Queen City Lodge No. 131 in Cumberland, Md., and he is also a member of West Middlesex Lodge and Putney Lodge, both operating under The United Grand Lodge of England. He is also a member of Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865 in Virginia.

Left-right: Bros. Bruce Whitaker, J.D., Queen City Lodge No. 131, Cumberland, Md.; Robert E. Engleback, P.M., Queen City Lodge; and Donald R. Shaffer, P.M., W.M., Hyndman Lodge No. 589.
Congratulations to…

Recipients of the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award

The Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award is an honor presented to members of a Masonic lodge who act as role models and provide dedicated service to the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients are presented a neck medallion, purple and gold square knot patch and a certificate endorsed by the Grand Master. Honorees must be nominated for the award.

Bro. Edward W. Stenger, P.M., Mount Zion Lodge No. 774, McConnellsburg, was presented the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award on Feb. 11. He serves as Trustee, on the Committee on Grievances and the Committee on Instruction. He is also the Principal of the 34th Masonic District School of Instruction.

He has been an active Boy Scout volunteer since the 1970s and is the Vice Chairman of Great Cove District, Mason-Dixon Council, BSA. He is active in the Order of the Arrow Guneukitschik Lodge, where he was recognized as a recipient of the Vigil Honor in 1985 and the Lodge’s Distinguished Vigil award in 1990 for his continued service to Scouting’s National Honor Society.

Left-right: Brothers Bradley Seville, W.M., Mount Zion Lodge No. 774; Adam Kovalchick, Acacia Lodge No. 586 and District Executive of Mason-Dixon Council, BSA; Edward Stenger, P.M., Award Recipient, Mount Zion Lodge No. 774; and Robert C. Snyder II, D.D.G.M.-District 34.

Bro. Gary L. Bergstresser, Doylestown Lodge No. 245, received the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award on Feb. 8, (the Boy Scout birthday), in recognition of his exemplary service to Freemasonry and the scouts of Troop 175-Danboro in the Bucks County Council of Boy Scouts of America.

Magne Gunderson, Council Executive Director, assisted Worshipful Master Richard H. Bradbury, Sr. in the presentation. Also present were members of Doylestown Lodge and former Boy Scouts, as well as Bro. Bergstresser’s two sons, Bros. Gary L. Bergstresser, Jr.; and Andrew B. Bergstresser, shown to the left with their father.

More Masonic Education Website Courses

In February, two new courses were added to the Masonic Education website: Job’s Daughters of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation – Its History and Programs. We’re pleased to announce three more courses are now available: Concordant and Appendant Masonic Bodies, Pennsylvania DeMolay and Pennsylvania Rainbow for Girls. These courses will continue the theme of teaching about the various options for continuing your Masonic journey, whether by supplementing your Blue Lodge membership with membership in additional Masonic organizations, finding opportunities to volunteer or participate in Masonic youth programs or by introducing members of your family to the Masonic opportunities available to them. Keep an eye out for more updates, including Scottish Rite and Royal Order of Scotland!

16th Annual Meeting in the Hills
Friday, June 28, 2013
Held Outdoors at Christner’s Grove near Dawson, Pa.
Casual Dress – No Shorts, Blue Jeans or Collarless Shirts
Light Jacket Recommended

All Master Masons are welcome. A 12 oz. New York strip steak dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Afterward, a lodge meeting hosted by James Cochran Lodge No. 614 will be held. The program will be the Lincoln Degree, presented by a degree team from the Valley of Pittsburgh.

Tickets are $25 and may be ordered from Bro. Richard E. Bigley at 107 Ashton Drive, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666. Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with payment. Checks should be made payable to: CDS Building Corp. All ticket orders must be received by Monday, June 24. Phone: 724-547-2367 or email: bigs@zoominternet.net
Crossing the Pond
When Bro. John H. Elliott was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in Ephrata Lodge No. 665 on Jan. 25, his father, Bro. Francis John Elliott, Past Provincial Junior Deacon-Province of West Wales, P.M., Cambrian Lodge No. 464, “crossed the pond” to witness it. It was Bro. Frank’s first visit to a lodge in the “States,” and he was very pleased to see that “all the bits are there, just moved around and presented a little differently than home.”

Lizzi Brothers Fill the Chairs
For the first time in Thomas R. Patton Lodge No. 659, Philadelphia, siblings occupy all three officer stations in the lodge: Brothers Michael J. Lizzi, W.M.; David Lizzi, Jr., S.W.; and Paul D. Lizzi, J.W.

Bro. Dominick Lizzi, P.M., (1963) entered Patton Lodge in October 1955 and became very good friends with Bro. John J. Saudarg, raised in September 1960. Bro. Dominick had two children, David and Lois, while Bro. John had four children: Alda, John Jr., Gail and Linda. Bro. David Lizzi Sr., P.M. (1979) and Alda married and had four children: David Jr., Michael, Paul and Alda Jr. The three brothers became interested in Masonry through their grandparents and father, later joining Patton Lodge a few years apart. The three officers of Patton Lodge have an extensive Masonic heritage listed below:

Jesse Neiswender, entered 9/1964 – Great-grandfather
Dominick Lizzi, P.M. (1963) entered 10/1955 – Grandfather
John J. Saudarg, Chaplain, entered 9/1960 – Grandfather
Mario E. Lizzi, entered 4/1963 – Great Uncle
Tom Mannino, entered 3/1964 – Great Uncle
Roy Saudarg, entered 5/1961 – Great Uncle
David Lizzi Sr., P.M., entered 9/1975 – Father
John J. Saudarg, Jr., entered 5/2008 – Uncle
Anthony Barbara, entered 10/2009 – Mike’s brother-in-law

Bro. Michael is holding the same station exactly 50 years after his grandfather stood in the East. Bro. John remarked that the late Bro. Dominick, who passed in 2001, would have been extremely proud of his grandchildren, as he surely is.

Union Lodge Installs A Family of Masons
At its December 2012 stated meeting, Union Lodge No. 259, New Brighton, installed the following members of the Mason family, as shown in the photograph, left-right: Brothers George D. Mason, W.M.; Cory W. Mason, S.W.; and Donald W. Mason, P.M., J.W. George and Donald are brothers and Cory is Donald’s son. George’s son, Michael, (not pictured) is also a member of Union Lodge.

Father and Son
Brothers Adam C. Faupel and Wayne C. Faupel, P.M., were elected and installed as Worshipful Master and Senior Warden, respectively, at the Stated Meeting of Everett Lodge No. 524 on Dec. 21, 2012. Bro. Wayne installed his son, Bro. Adam, as Worshipful Master, followed by Bro. Adam installing Bro. Wayne as Senior Warden.

Bro. Wayne is also the Most Excellent Grand King of The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania. Bro. Wayne Faupel presents his son, Bro. Adam, with gifts of a personalized gavel and top hat to be used during his year in the East.
Past Grand Master
Carl W. Stenberg, Jr.
Honored

Left-right: Joel W. Miller, P.M.; John H. Foley, P.M.; D. Michael Tanner, P.M., Secretary; Philip J. Lahr, P.M.; Donald W. Fox, P.M.; William E. Ranegar, P.M.; Joseph F. Doer, P.M.; and Larry D. French, Sr., Acting W.M.

On Oct. 8, 2012, the officers and members of Dormont-Whitehall Lodge No. 684, Pittsburgh, honored R.W. Past Grand Master Carl W. Stenberg, Jr., with a formal dedication of a glass shadow box containing his apron, collar and jewel on the 25th Anniversary of his service as Grand Master (1986-87). Bro. Stenberg was entered into Whitehall Lodge in 1948 and was the only member in the history of the lodge to become Grand Master. A recipient of the PA Franklin Medal, and active in various other organizations, he was well known as “Dad” Stenberg to many members of the Order of DeMolay. Bro. Stenberg went to be with the Grand Architect of the Universe in August 1994.

Bros. Philip J. Lahr, P.M., Whitehall Lodge 794, and Donald W. Fox, P.M., Dormont Lodge No. 684, were the principal organizers of this dedication to further the unity of the two lodges into one in 2009. With the permission of R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith, this shadow box was mounted on the Southeast wall of the lodge room.

His Final Wish Came True

Bro. Thomas C. George battled brain cancer throughout 2012 as he served as Worshipful Master of Mt. Pickering lodge No. 446, Upper Uwchland, but through sheer determination, he managed to serve his lodge duly and sufficiently. Although he was subjected to many doses of chemo, he made every meeting, table lodge and visitation he could. At the December meeting for the election of officers, although he had to sit throughout the meeting as Master, he told District Deputy Grand Master for District 40, Tim Fletcher, that his only wish was to make it to Dec. 27, 2012, so he could be recognized as a Past Master. He accomplished that, and 26 brethren, officers of District 40 and members of Mt. Pickering Lodge, came to his home to present him with his Past Master’s jewel on Jan. 13.

Bro. Tom passed away Feb. 3. His Masonic funeral was held at a Baptist church on Feb. 7, with 35 Masons in attendance, and the minister remarked how impressive it was. He had only been a Mason since 2008, but accomplished all the work to serve the lodge and the fraternity. He was always thinking above and beyond himself to the duties of his lodge. This was most touching for everyone involved and personified true Masonic brotherly love and loyalty to the fraternity.

Lodge in the Woods

Wednesday, Sept. 18 at the J. Edward Mack Scout Reservation
2 Scout Lane, Newmanstown, PA 17073 (Hwy 501 about 2 ½ miles north of US 322)

Dinner anytime from 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Lodge Meeting from 7 p.m. until closing
Rain or shine; under roof in case of rain
Dress is business casual or Scout uniform. Due to space limitations, registration is limited to the first 300 brethren. Brethren must bring their dues cards and a ticket. Cost is $25 per person to benefit the Masonic Children’s Home.

To purchase your ticket, send a self-addressed stamped envelope with a check made payable to “Ephrata Lodge No. 665” to District Deputy Grand Master for District 1, Larry A. Derr, 715 Terrace Avenue, Mount Joy, PA 17552. For more information, contact Bro. Derr at 717-653-1246 or luke715@comcast.net.
Butler Freemasons Host Two Grand Masters

On March 7, Butler Lodge No. 272 had the unique experience of hosting two Grand Masters: Jay W. Smith, R.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and George A. Ingles, Jr., M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Grand Master Ingles once resided in Butler and entered Freemasonry at Butler Lodge No. 272; thus, it is his “home” lodge.

Grand Master Smith presented 25-year and 50-year Masonic Service Awards to several members of the lodge. Bro. Curt Rauschenberger, adult advisor to the three Masonic youth groups, Job’s Daughters, Rainbow Girls and Pennsylvania DeMolay, was honored by Grand Master Smith for his long service to Butler-area youth. Grand Master Smith also honored Bro. Ray Laurent of Butler who was Master of the lodge 50 years ago. Laurent received a specially embroidered Masonic apron to mark the occasion.

This visitation was hosted by Bros. Gerald H. Wetzel, W.M., Butler Lodge No. 272, and Wayne D. Frankenstein, District Deputy Grand Master for District 26.

District 1 Shows Support

In February, R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith accompanied District Deputy Grand Master Larry A. Derr to three of his official visits to lodges within their home district, District 1, and assisted in the presentation of Masonic Service Awards to deserving brethren. At each lodge, Grand Master Smith presented the Worshipful Master with his medallion and special tie, and in turn, received a check for the 100th Anniversary celebration of the Masonic Children’s Home.

On Feb. 12, they visited Ephrata Lodge No. 665; on Feb. 13, they visited Charles M. Howell Lodge No. 496, Millersville; and on Feb. 26, they visited their home lodge, Ashara-Casiphia Lodge No. 551, Mt. Joy.


Annual Eastern Pennsylvania Masonic Family Picnic at

Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom

Rain or Shine

Dorney Park 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Wildwater Kingdom 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

“All You Can Eat” menu served noon to 5 p.m.
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Soda, Ice Cream, Conditments and more!
All Tickets $35
Children ages 2 years and under are admitted free of charge.

ADMISSION PRICE PAYS FOR BOTH PARKS
Covered pavilion for meals

Mail your ticket requests to: Linda Matthews,
139 W. Richardson Ave., Langhorne, PA 19047-2827
Make Checks Payable to “Masonic Picnic”

No. Tickets at $35................................. $ __________
Total Amount Enclosed $ _____________________________
Check# _________________________________________
Name ___________________________________________
Address _________________________________________
Phone ___________________________________________
Lodge __________District ____________________________

Absolute Deadline for Ticket Reservations - May 31, 2013
“The English Masonic Union of 1813: a tale Antient and Modern” by John Belton

Reviewed by Cathy Giaimo, Assistant Librarian, The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania

Freemasonry in 18th century England was divided into two factions: the “Moderns,” who maintained the current practices of the day, and the “Ancients,” who believed their rituals were more authentic to an earlier time. These two groups made their way to the British colonies and continued their rivalry, forming two Grand Lodges in Pennsylvania: the Moderns in 1730 and the Ancients in 1761. By the end of the Revolutionary War, the Modern Grand Lodge had died out and essentially ceased to exist with the death of Bro. Benjamin Franklin in 1790. The Ancients continued on; hence, there was no need for any reconciliation between the two groups here in Pennsylvania. It was an entirely different story in England, as author Bro. John Belton relates events in “The English Masonic Union of 1813: a tale Antient and Modern.”

“It's complicated” may best describe the situations leading up to the Union of 1813. Wars, politics and social upheavals are in the background, as Bro. Belton seeks to explain that this was not just an English issue, but also a Scots and Irish one, as well. The Royal Arch and Knights Templar orders also made for complications. Add the personalities and motives of the Freemasons involved, and one has the makings of quite a story.

Bro. Belton refers to the Grand Lodge of England of 1717 as the “Moderns” and the Grand Lodge of 1751 as the “Antients.” There was no clear reason for the formation of two Grand Lodges, as Bro. Belton found, but their differences were real. In the beginning, the Moderns took little notice of the Antients, but as time went on, it became apparent the Antients were more adept at attracting members with claims of being more “original” (author's quote), recognizing the Royal Arch rituals and the correspondence between the Antient Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland.

In the late 1780s, there was much social and political upheaval in France and the rest of Europe, and England was fearful of a similar fate. Only then did it become apparent to the Antient and Modern Grand Lodges that they needed each other in order to survive the attempt by Parliament to enact the law known in Britain today as “The Unlawful Societies Act of 1799.” After they had successfully worked together to exempt Freemasonry from this law, it is Bro. Belton’s thought that perhaps this was the impetus to begin uniting English Freemasons.

After more than 50 years of differing ceremonies and rituals, it would take some doing to meld these two organizations together. Reconciliation began in the early 1800s with the help of such prominent members as the Duke of Kent and the Duke of Sussex, among others. On St. John’s Day, Dec. 27, 1813, the official union of the Antients and Moderns was marked in proper Masonic fashion. Even proper Masonic ceremony could not undo those traditions overnight, and it took a few more years of compromise to satisfy everyone.

This book and others concerning the history of English Freemasonry are available in the library. If you are interested in any of these, please contact the library at 800-462-0430, ext. 1933, or visit The Masonic Library & Museum online catalog at www.pagrandlodge.org.

Speakers Directory

Lodges are always on the lookout for high-quality Masonic speakers to present on a variety of interesting topics at their meetings. In order to update the Online Speakers Directory on our website, www.pagrandlodge.org, we are seeking new, informative and exciting speakers to add to this database.

If you would like to be included in the directory, please complete the on-line form to share information about yourself and the program(s) you would present. With your District Deputy Grand Master’s approval, you will be included in the online directory. This may not happen immediately, so please be patient.

If you are seeking to schedule a speaker, allow plenty of time for your selection to be processed; it is appropriate to make arrangements as far as two years in advance, but not less than 90 days prior to your scheduled meeting date.

Most of the included speakers are Masons; however, some are not. Some of the Masonic speakers listed are also willing to address appendant and concordant bodies on Masonic topics. Acceptance of any topic or scheduled engagement is entirely at the discretion of the individual speaker.

Should you request a speaker through the Online Speakers Directory, but receive no response within 30 days of submission, contact speakers@pagrandlodge.org for assistance.
The Sum of Our Parts

By Bro. P.J. Roup, District Deputy Grand Master for the 54th Masonic District

Reprinted with permission from “The Point Within a Circle” blog on www.padistrict54.org

I can’t tell you how many times I’ve been approached after a lodge meeting by a brother who tells me how different things were in the old days; how he would have to attend three or four extra meetings each month to accommodate all the new Masons who were entering the fraternity. A quick check of your lodge minute books from the 1960s would be all you need to confirm it for yourself. The lament continues, “Nowadays, you see a man here three times and that’s it. He never comes back.”

There may be myriad reasons for why this is so, but tonight I want to focus on just one of them – the sum of our parts. Masonry is built entirely of Masons. Masons, when they leave here, have problems, appointments, stresses, joys, burdens, conflicts, families, jobs, bills and countless other demands on their time, talents and treasure. How we present ourselves as Masons, and by extension, how we present Masonry, has a lot to do with whether a new brother returns to lodge.

As an illustration, I would like to share my own experience. My first exposure to Freemasonry was at my grandfather, Bro. John L. House, Jr.’s funeral where Bro. Bob Geiger, P.M., presented the service. Its message of consolation and hope attracted me immediately. My first exposure to Masonry, has a lot to do with whether a new Mason decides to return to lodge.

Fortunately, the Worshipful Master and officers knew their duties and Bro. Bauer taught me that anything worth doing was worth doing correctly. The insistence by each of these brothers (and you all know brothers just like them) on exemplary work made the lodge they called “home” a place where I wanted to spend my time.

In short, better Masons make better Masonry.

But how do we become better Masons? Learning ritual, attending meetings and practices – these things take time. And with work, soccer practice and dinner with our friends, we’re all just tapped out.

Thankfully, Masonry addresses this. We have a way to balance our services to God and our fellow man, our profession and our entertainment. We call it the twenty-four inch gauge.

What if we could actually spend an entire week living as that working tool teaches us? Fifty-six hours for work – some work more, some work less, but that is a good average. Fifty-six hours for refreshment and sleep – that should suffice for most. We would then be left with that same amount for service. Now, can you imagine how great a world we would have if we each spent a full 56 hours weekly in service to God through our lodge, place of worship, favorite charity or volunteer organization?

What kind of man could you be if you actually lived that way? You would be a man whom anyone would be proud to count as a friend. You would be a role model for others, a man to be emulated. You would be an exemplar in your lodge, family and community.

Do you know what else would happen if you really lived by the gauge? Petty disagreements, personality conflicts and the other minor issues that sometimes creep into lodge workings would disappear. Why? Because grumbling when the Worshipful Master calls a practice doesn’t have a place on the gauge. Complaining about who is chairing the Pancake Breakfast Committee, or the choice of venue for the Past Masters’ Dinner is neither a service to God, your usual vocation, nor is it refreshment or sleep, so it isn’t worthy of your time.

So, making use of the gauge will make us better Masons. Pride in who we are and how we work will help attract and keep men in our lodges. Perhaps, then, will we return to those days when we have so many candidates that we need three or four extra meetings each month to accommodate them.

Let us go forward vowing that we will do nothing save that we do it to the best of our ability; to take so much pride in our work that we inspire our new Masons to return. Most of all, let us ask the Great Architect of the Universe to help us order our hours and our days that we might serve Him and all of humanity, thereby living up to the strong legacy that is Freemasonry.

Blog = a blend of the words “web” and “log,” a place on the Internet where people can write articles and share pictures, videos, etc.

We all appreciate people who “walk the talk” … who follow through on the values they espouse. But in the case of tech-savvy fitness guru Bro. P.J. Roup, it may be more appropriate to say that he “jogs his blog.”

Masonic Background

Bro. Paul J. Roup “P.J.” joined Plum Creek-Monroeville Lodge No. 799 in November 1997. He served as Worshipful Master in 2002, during which one of his highlights was conferring all three degrees upon his father, Bro. Paul Roup. “I was choked up when he asked to petition the lodge. It was really a thrill for me because I wasn’t sure it would be his cup of tea,” Bro. P.J. recalls. “It turned out that he knew a lot of guys there who were friends from high school, so it became an opportunity for him to do something with his son and a group of old friends, as well.”

In 2007, Bro. P.J. was appointed District Deputy Grand Master (D.D.G.M.) for District 54 by R.W. Past Grand Master Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., who charged him with jump-starting a Traditional Observance Lodge in Pittsburgh. In less than two months, Bro. P.J. accomplished that goal, and Lodge Ad Lucem No. 812 became only the second Traditional Observance Lodge to be constituted in Pennsylvania in more than 30 years on Sept. 25, 2007 (after Kite & Key Lodge No. 811, Allentown, was constituted on Feb. 28 of that year).

Bro. P.J. also serves as Junior Warden of the Gourgas Lodge of Perfection in the Valley of Pittsburgh and is a member of the Syria Shrine in Cheswick, Pa.

Professional Background

In addition to his generous commitment of time to Freemasonry, Bro. P.J. is truly a man of many talents. He has been the owner of The Roup Insurance Agency since July 2004 and the owner, producer, creative director and principal videographer for Dreamscape Video Productions since January 2006. Headquartered in Pittsburgh, Dreamscape provides the region with high-quality video production, editing and duplicating services. It also offers services at a branch office in Cape Coral, Fla., and will accommodate destination weddings.

When Bro. P.J. was studying statistics at Penn State University in the late 1980s, his father owned Network Video, a production company that focused primarily on wedding videography. Business was so good that Bro. Paul had to turn brides down because he didn’t want to hire people he couldn’t trust to accommodate their requests. The solution? He bought his son his first camera in exchange for Bro. P.J.’s commitment to drive home from college on Friday nights to work on Saturday weddings. “I’d return to campus Sunday night with more money than my friends made all week at minimum wage,” Bro. P.J. recalls.

Bro. P.J. graduated in 1990, and took a job with an insurance agency that he had done statistical consulting for while in college. He worked there until 2004, when he decided the time was right to go out on his own. Upon his father’s relocation to Florida, Bro. P.J. assumed operation of the video company and renamed it Dreamscape Video Productions. Bro. Paul now operates the Florida branch and services destinations from Tampa to the Keys.

While his two businesses are vastly different, Bro. P.J. is able to juggle both because most of his videography work can be done in evenings and on weekends, and his commercial insurance work is generally done during the weekdays. Somehow in between both ventures, he finds time to serve his beloved fraternity.

Communication is Vital

Bro. P.J. maintains District 54’s website, www.padistrict54.org, with help from Bro. Robert Lovic, P.M., Secretary of Valley Lodge No. 613, Turtle Creek. You can find Bro. P.J.’s blog, “The Point Within a Circle,” (a sample of which is reprinted on p. 17), which he dubs “Masonic Light for the Quarries of the 54th District” on the website and on the District 54 Facebook page.

He uses these tools to keep brethren informed of district happenings, help them to meet old friends and make new ones, and learn more about Freemasonry. A few months ago, he created a mobile app for the district, as well, so members can get updates on their
smartphones. He realizes that some use social media more than others.

“I decided to start a district Facebook page because I enjoyed it as a networking tool and way to keep in contact with college friends for years before it became popular,” Bro. P.J. said. (Facebook was founded in 2004.) “I started using it to communicate with a friend (and Mason) who went away to Croatia, and I watched it grow.” So when he was considering effective ways to engage brethren and keep them excited and involved in Masonry between lodge meetings, he figured it would be an easy way to share updates and photos from visitations. The page currently has about 160 followers, not necessarily all from the district.

He started the blog after his first year as D.D.G.M. “I did OK during my extemporaneous talks, but afterwards I would often think, ‘I wish I had said this …’ or ‘I could have said that better,’ so I decided there’s no shame in writing my thoughts down to better communicate them,” he said. His second year, after a general address, he focused on targeting his words to a lodge’s specific issues or concerns. After his first few discourses, attending brethren began asking him for a copy of his speech. That’s when he started putting his addresses out on the website with a link to the district Facebook page so brethren and others could read them. “I’m not selfish about it,” he said. “I tell others they can use it and share it as they see fit, and I hope it makes each of us a better man or Mason from reflecting upon it.”

While he would often focus part of his talk on a lodge’s own needs, he recognized the necessity of having the brethren think on a larger scale. “It’s important to recognize that each lodge has its own morale and personality, but at the same time, membership has shrunk over the years, and the number of active members is small compared to size of the lodges,” he explained. “That’s why I encourage lodges within the district to support each other. Communication tools facilitate their ability to function cohesively as a much larger ‘band of brothers.’ Worshipful Masters email each other and support each other with events like pancake breakfasts and blood drives. We have a lot of brothers who now view themselves as members of the 54th Masonic District, not just of their lodge. Facebook, Twitter and other social media have really helped make the district into a more cohesive unit.”

His goal this year is for every lodge to have at least a basic, current website so that if someone searches for it, he can find it and learn where it is and when its meetings are held.

And that’s Not All …

In addition to his work and Masonic involvement, Bro. P.J. is a fitness enthusiast. He enjoys mountain and road biking. An avid runner, he entered the Pittsburgh Marathon in 2011 with the goal of raising money for Masonic youth. Bro. Stephen Baksis, P.M., Bethel Lodge No. 789, Lower Burrell, designed a logo for his shirt promoting Masonic Youth groups. Bro. P.J. solicited funds from lodges and friends and through the district website, and overwhelmed by the generosity of his supporters, raised approximately $11,000. The funds were split between the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation and district Masonic youth groups. Even the promotional efforts worked; as he crossed the finish line, the announcer called his name and said, “It looks like he’s a Freemason too …”

“It was neat because as much fun as the marathon was, when it started to get tough at about 22 miles in, I was motivated by the knowledge that I was earning all this money for the kids,” Bro. Roup recalls. “Some of them work their butts off so they can afford to attend a Lifeskills event or a convention; I can do the same thing.”

And if that weren’t enough, he even sings. Prior to becoming D.D.G.M., Bro. P.J. sang for Robert Page as a tenor in the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, the official choir of the Pittsburgh Symphony. He performed in Carnegie Hall as well as in the presence of famous conductors including Andrew Lloyd Webber, Stephen Sondheim, Howard Shore and singer/actress Shirley Jones. He still sings for the choir at Buelah Presbyterian Church, where he has also served as Moderator of the Board of Deacons. While he misses exercising his musical talent with the Mendelssohn Choir, he simply cannot commit to the time requirements right now.

That’s because currently, his focus is on making District 54 as strong and active as possible. And he’s willing to “jog his blog” to prove it can be done.
A stained glass window is a beautiful collection of colors and shapes. With the right amount of light, the work of art shines and inspires beholders.

Located in the Assembly Room at the Masonic Village at Sewickley is a stained glass window featuring a cross, sun, white dove, trees and a rainbow of colors. At the bottom, it reads: “In memory of Freda V. Holliday by her husband Bob 1917-2011.”

Robert and Freda’s life together is a collection of moments and memories, of highs and lows, family and friends, and of love and laughter.

Bro. Robert Holliday, Victory Lodge No. 694, is originally from Butler, Pa. After high school, he received his commercial pilot license. When World War II started, pilots were in demand, so he joined the Army Air Force. He signed up, took all the physicals and tests and was accepted before his 26th birthday, which was the age limit at the time.

By 1944, he was flying overseas and completed 65 missions in Europe. He was discharged in August 1945.

“I think flying was his passion,” his daughter, JoAnne Beckwith, said. “He has kept in touch with his 391st bomber group.”

While he was training, he married his wife, Freda, on Aug. 21, 1943. They had a daughter and a son. He also found time to join the Masonic fraternity in 1942. His uncle was a Mason, and Bro. Holliday became interested through his association.

After returning home from Europe, Bro. Holliday joined the Pennsylvania Air National Guard where he was named lieutenant colonel and served until 1970. In 1952, he started the R.L. Holliday Company, which represented manufacturers and supplied non-destructive testing equipment. He remained with the business for 61 years, retiring only after he injured himself in a fall. His son, Richard, runs the company.

Bro. Holliday and Freda loved to golf, bowl and play bridge. They also traveled. The two have four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all whom Bro. Holliday sees often. They moved to Masonic Village at Sewickley in 2004.

“I enjoy the general composition,” he said of life at Masonic Village.

“Both my mother and dad enjoyed the friends they met at the Masonic Village and getting together with them for bowling and bridge,” JoAnne said. “They also enjoyed having friends come over to their villa to watch the fireworks from the backyard.”

Bro. Holliday believes in the general principles of the Masonic fraternity and the mission of Masonic Villages, so he named the Masonic Village at Sewickley in his Will and chose to support the expansion of the Assembly Room in the Clubhouse.

He specifically decided to name the new stained glass window in memory of Freda, who passed away on April 26, 2011.

To the many residents who enjoy events in the Assembly Room for years to come, the stained glass window will provide inspiration for their lives, thanks to Bro. Holliday and the light of his life, Freda.
The HODEGOS Award is given by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to adult volunteers who have worked with the Masonic youth groups for at least seven years. Administered by the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation, the HODEGOS Award recognizes truly outstanding adult leaders of the youth programs and creates further awareness of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania's extensive support of our Masonic youth.

On Jan. 21, nearly 90 DeMolays, Job’s Daughters, Rainbow Girls and their advisors made the trip to see public festivities surrounding the public oath of office taken by the President. Some went to the mall to see the ceremony while others found a location along the parade route to see the President and Vice President on their brief parade up Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House.

As has been the case since that first trip in 1993, the buses traveled from Elizabethtown, Pa., to the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Va. This is an excellent location to park the buses and make use of the metro station at the base of Shooter’s Hill, where the Memorial is located. To show Pennsylvania DeMolay’s appreciation, the elected State Officers of Pennsylvania DeMolay presented a donation to Bro. George Seghers, Executive Director of the Memorial.

The emblem of the honor is a solid gold lapel pin or necklace for the ladies, cast with the Greek word HODEGOS, which translates to mean mentor and teacher. These individuals will be presented with their awards at the annual meetings of each of the youth groups.
On Jan. 4, as part of Volleyball Weekend and the Official visit by the Supreme Guardian, a statewide initiation was held at Patton Campus for three new members of Pennsylvania Job’s Daughters. The ceremony was performed by the officers of the Grand Bethel of Pennsylvania. Viewing the initiation were R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith, Past Supreme Tall Cedar Harvey “Bud” Willard, Supreme Guardian Rose Marie Short, Supreme Deputy for Rainbow Helen Snedden and Executive Officer of DeMolay Thomas Labagh. It was an honor to have Emily Dyer, Miss International Job’s Daughter, and Genesis Jones, Supreme Bethel Honored Queen, also participate in the ceremony. A special guest was the grandmother of two of the candidates who is a resident of the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown.

The initiation work of Job’s Daughters is told in three Epochs (not degrees), each lead by an officer depicting one of Job’s three Daughters – Jemimah (Dove), Keziah (Cassia, used in incense) and Keren-Happuch (Horn of Plenty). Each Epoch tells part of the story of Job, as written in the Bible. The candidates begin their journey by taking an obligation that is shared by all members of the Order. Then, on the edge of an Arabian desert, the story of Job begins, taking the Pilgrims (candidates) on a three-part journey through his trials and tribulations – ending with Job’s reward for being steadfast to God. “And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job, and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren.” - Job 42:15.

**Grand Master Begins Program to Honor Masonic Youth and Adult Leaders**

On March 6, R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith met with members and adult leaders of the three Masonic youth groups: Jobs Daughters, Rainbow Girls and DeMolay from Butler, New Castle and Erie at the Butler Masonic Temple. The event was the first of a series of 10 events to be held between now and December throughout the Commonwealth.

The informal program included introductions and remarks and a fun exercise for the youth. Grand Master Smith personally greeted each youth and adult; he presented each youth with his Masonic youth coin and each adult leader with a medallion suspended from a two-toned ribbon. The medallion bears the image of a directional compass without the typical geographical direction indicators because it is a moral compass, directed by Masonic principles. Surrounding the compass are the words “Mentor, Advisor, Friend, Exemplar.”

**Job’s Daughters Hold Statewide Initiation**

On Jan. 4, as part of Volleyball Weekend and the Official visit by the Supreme Guardian, a statewide initiation was held at Patton Campus for three new members of Pennsylvania Job’s Daughters. The ceremony was performed by the officers of the Grand Bethel of Pennsylvania. Viewing the initiation were R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith, Past Supreme Tall Cedar Harvey “Bud” Willard, Supreme Guardian Rose Marie Short, Supreme Deputy for Rainbow Helen Snedden and Executive Officer of DeMolay Thomas Labagh. It was an honor to have Emily Dyer, Miss International Job’s Daughter, and Genesis Jones, Supreme Bethel Honored Queen, also participate in the ceremony. A special guest was the grandmother of two of the candidates who is a resident of the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown.

The initiation work of Job’s Daughters is told in three Epochs (not degrees), each lead by an officer depicting one of Job’s three Daughters – Jemimah (Dove), Keziah (Cassia, used in incense) and Keren-Happuch (Horn of Plenty). Each Epoch tells part of the story of Job, as written in the Bible. The candidates begin their journey by taking an obligation that is shared by all members of the Order. Then, on the edge of an Arabian desert, the story of Job begins, taking the Pilgrims (candidates) on a three-part journey through his trials and tribulations – ending with Job’s reward for being steadfast to God. “And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job, and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren.” - Job 42:15.

Statewide Initiation Team: Donata Conover (center), Honored Queen; Tiffany Bragunier, (left), Senior Princess; Brooke Spence (right), Junior Princess; Hope Carmak, Marshal; and Jenny Chappell, Guide.
DeMolays Raise Funds to Benefit a Brother

Parker Harley, of Ephrata, Pa., is a member of Lancaster-Phoenix Chapter, Order of DeMolay. Last year, it was discovered that Parker has a degenerative disease and will need a liver transplant in the next five years.

His DeMolay brothers in Pennsylvania have rallied to the cause, and thus far have raised more than $34,600 on his behalf through a single appeal letter to recipients of DeMolay honors ($5,675) and DeMolay Chapters ($8,745), with additional support coming from individual DeMolay members ($290), the Order of the Amaranth ($1,075) and the greater Masonic family ($18,899), which includes a $10,000 contribution from Sovereign Grand Commander John William McNaughton and the Hospitaler’s Fund of the Scottish Rite, N.M.J. Parker and his father, Bro. Jack Harley, P.M., Ephrata Lodge No. 665, attended a statewide DeMolay event in December to say thank you for the support.

The “Masons Night Out” eating club had been collecting donations throughout 2012, and when they heard of Bro. Parker Harley’s situation, they chose to donate all that they had raised, $1,121, to him.

Top left: Bro. Timothy L. Shumar, District Deputy Grand Master for District 30 (left), presents a big check to DeMolay State Officers to deliver to Bro. Parker. Top center: Parker Harley received a check for $325 from Kevin Stierhoff, Pilgrim Chapter, Harrisburg, representing proceeds from the Chapter’s peanut brittle sale. Top right: Parker Harley received a check from Supreme Tall Cedar Harvey “Bud” Willard to assist with his medical costs while awaiting a liver transplant while his father, Bro. Jack Harley, P.M., Ephrata Lodge No. 665, looks on.

DeMolay Grew in Members & Chapters in 2012!

The numbers are in – and Pennsylvania DeMolay showed positive growth for 2012, ending the year with a total of 748 members on the books. This marks the fourth consecutive year without a loss of membership. It also means that over the last six years, PA DeMolay has grown by 21 members. This is an amazing accomplishment when you consider that all young men age out of DeMolay at the age 21, at which time they are dropped from the membership rolls.

Also, in 2012, PA DeMolay officially constituted two new Chapters, al-Aksa Chapter, which was instituted in Altoona on March 25, and Carlisle Chapter, which was instituted in Carlisle on Dec. 2. The Carlisle Masonic Center was packed as the first corps of officers, headed by Master Councilor Mikel Baer, was installed by a team made up of PA DeMolay State Officers. State Master Councilor Alexander C. Rauschenberger and Executive Officer Thomas R. Labagh presented Mikel and his officers with their Letters Temporary, under which the Chapter will operate until it is granted a permanent charter from DeMolay International next year.

Carlisle Chapter is sponsored by Cumberland Star Lodge No. 197 and St. John’s Lodge No. 260. The Chapter brought in 11 of the 122 new members initiated into Pennsylvania DeMolay Chapters in 2012.

Above: The full group of Carlisle DeMolay Officers celebrate the presentation of the Chapter’s Letters Temporary.
The good news is, PA Rainbow has maintained its membership through 2012. The total number of Rainbow Girls in PA as of Dec. 31, 2011, was 325. When all the 2012 annual reports were in and the membership numbers totaled, we initiated as many girls as reached their majority. We are excited about our future as we continue to grow.

The better news is, we have been growing our Assemblies from the Pledge groups. One example of this is Kittanning Assembly No. 39. The Assembly had one Rainbow Girl left on the books. There were no meetings, activities or events. I was approached by some Eastern Star members at Grand Chapter who asked, “What can we do to keep Rainbow in Kittanning?” and “How do we start all over to have an Assembly?”

An organizational meeting of interested Masons and Eastern Star members was scheduled, and a plan was outlined and put into place. Under the direction of then-D.D.G.M. Roger Johnson, Kittanning East Brady Lodge No. 244 and Seneca Lodge No. 805 added their support and became additional sponsors along with the Kittanning Eastern Star Chapter No. 271.

At Grand Assembly 2011, two daughters of a Kittanning Rainbow Majority Member proudly joined their mother’s Assembly. However, living more than two hours away, they are not able to be very active members. The other member is currently going to college in Florida.

The new Advisory Board put most of their efforts into establishing the Little Sunbeam Pledge Group. There are eight girls who regularly attend. They are able to hold their meeting on the second floor of the Masonic Lodge building where a dedicated Rainbow room has been established.

The best news is, the first Little Sunbeam has turned 11 and was extremely excited to become a “real” Rainbow Girl. On Feb. 25, she was initiated into Kittanning Assembly. The Grand Worthy Advisor, Nikki Schafer, and 10 other Rainbow Girls from Irwin Assembly No. 42 and Vandergrift Assembly No. 105 conferred the work flawlessly. The Initiation was witnessed by District Deputy Grand Master for District 27 Emilio V. Sforza and two visiting Worshipful Masters plus 25 visitors representing several lodges in the district. It was a beautiful night. Kittanning Assembly is another shining example of how an inactive Assembly can regroup and start again.

With your help...we are Growing PA Rainbow...Together.

The Assembly is sponsored by O.E.S. Chapter No. 271, Lodge No. 244 and Lodge No. 805. All the presiding officers of these bodies were there.

Row 1, left-right: Sara Wiles; Christine Phelps; Lauren Bono, W.A. of Vandergrift 105; Ashleigh Claypoole, new Kittanning sister; Nikki Schafer, G.W.A.; Katie Lasswell; and Steffanie Barth

Row 2, left-right: Helen Snedden; Ali Dunlay; Camynn Grudowski; Sydney Kirk; Kayla Grudowski; Ms. Betsy Dempster, M.A. of Kittanning; Mrs. Susan Burk, Worthy Matron, Chapter No. 271, O.E.S.

Row 3, left-right: Bros. Chad Mechling, J.W., Lodge No. 244; Rodney Baerts, S.W., Lodge No. 244; Rick Kirsch, W.M., Lodge No. 244; Emilio Sforza, D.D.G.M.-27; Roger Johnson, P.D.D.G.M.; William Olinger, W.M., Lodge No. 805; Jerry Longwell, Worthy Patron, Chapter No. 271
Opening New Doors at the Masonic Villages

Walt Disney, a past member of Mother Chapter of DeMolay, Kansas City, Mo., once said, “We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we’re curious, and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.”

We see this in the lives of Masonic Village residents every day. Retirement is a new journey – one filled with many doors – if only we have the curiosity and courage to find out what’s on the other side.

Lafayette Hill & Elizabethtown

Bro. James and Claire Davis have never met Bro. Dennis and Janice Schmuck. They’re from different areas of the state with different backgrounds, but more than the Masonic fraternity unite them – they’re both waiting for their brand new homes to be built at the Masonic Villages.

Bro. James Davis, Doylestown Lodge No. 245, joined the fraternity after a combined 28½ years of service in the U.S. Air Force and New Jersey Air National Guard coupled with 37 years as a research and development engineer for Fischer and Porter Company, where he earned 14 U.S. patents. “I flew Uncle Sam’s air crafts. It was an amazing dual career. I wouldn’t have traded it for anything,” he said.

Although Freemasonry has impacted his life for generations – his father was a 33° Mason – Bro. James credits a friend from church, the late Bro. Bill Wallis, Doylestown Lodge No. 245, for not only helping him join the fraternity, but for leading him to the Masonic Villages. “After I joined the lodge, he indicated to me that he was going to go out to Elizabethtown to look at the retirement options, so we went along. My wife and I were incredibly impressed by what was available to us. We almost immediately put a deposit down.”

When Bro. Bill and his wife decided to move to Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill, the Davises realized that the Philadelphia community could better meet their needs by providing the opportunity to live closer to family. In fact, Claire’s brother-in-law and sister, Bro. Charles and Norma Leis, also moved to Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill, where Bro. Charles joined Fritz Lodge No. 308, Conshohocken.

Bro. James and Claire transferred their deposit to Lafayette Hill. They currently reside in a 55+ community in Hatfield, Pa., while they await the construction of their apartment in the brand new 60,000+ square foot apartment building planned for Lafayette Hill. The building will offer 45 apartments, including one-bedroom, 1½-bath floor plans and two-bedroom, two-bath floor plans. As part of the construction, the current façade is also scheduled to be updated.

The Davises are looking forward to living in an environment full of “true brotherly friendship that is genuine. It is just a wonderful feeling to know that it’s a fraternity that cares about each other,” Bro. James said. “One of the things that struck me is the fact that I know, that should I predecease my wife, she will be cared for, no matter what, for the rest of her life on earth. That is an incredibly comfortable and wonderful feeling to have.”

The Schmucks have a long-standing dedication to Freemasonry. Bro. Dennis joined Friendship Lodge No. 663, Fawn Grove, 27
years ago, and Janice belongs to Rainbow Chapter No. 517, O.E.S., Red Lion.

When the Schmucks were in their 40s, Friendship Lodge No. 663 held a special meeting at Masonic Village at Elizabethtown. During a tour, they liked what they saw so much that they wanted to live there. When Masonic Village began the priority waiting list in 2002, they signed up and made a deposit, despite being a few years shy of meeting the age requirement to move to Masonic Villages. (Currently, the minimum age is at least 60 or in the case of a couple, one has to be at least age 60 and the other age 55).

In the meantime, Dennis’ mother lived in the Washington 4 neighborhood in the Masonic Health Care Center for 15 months. “She had absolutely spectacular care,” Janice said.

“We wanted to retire somewhere where we knew, when the time came, we would be able to move through the levels of care and have our needs met,” she added.

They not only found that at Masonic Village, but they were able to choose the exact location they wanted for their new cottage on Garfield Drive. When their home is constructed this year, the backyard will provide a beautiful vista of the Veterans Grove — a peaceful sight for the couple, who has spent the past 42 years at their 10 ¾ acre farmette in York.

“I think rather than picking up new hobbies, we are going to continue what we already do when we move to Elizabethtown,” Janice said. Walking, hiking and cooking should keep them more than busy. Janice enjoys making classic Teddy Bears with matching quilts to benefit charity. Each year, the Schmucks bake about 2,200 holiday cookies to mail to their friends and family all over the U.S. and even to Australia. “You never turn down anything from this man’s kitchen!” Janice said.

Bro. Dennis is a three-time Past Master. “When I took my oath and obligation, it gave me a sense of responsibility. It really influenced where I worked and the pride I took in what I did. … When I served as Master, it gave me the confidence to speak in public,” Bro. Dennis said. During his last two terms as Master, about 20 men joined the lodge.

**Sewickley**

Martha McNutt and Sheila Leydig both moved to the Masonic Village at Sewickley during the summer of 2012. Since then, they’ve embraced new opportunities and met new friends.

Martha lived in a Washington, Pa., 55+ community for 13 years before moving to Masonic Village. “I moved to Masonic Village because it’s a Lifecare community, and I didn’t want family to have to be totally responsible for me in the future. I wanted to be set for the rest of my life,” Martha explained.

“The move-in process was a bit of a shock because when I gave Babs [Leaver, sales associate] my priority list application, I didn’t have a time frame listed. She said, ‘I think I may have an apartment you would like right now.’ The day I went home from Masonic Village, I called my real estate agent. And the next day, my house was on the market.”

Martha now lives in a beautiful apartment, but the highlight is her view from the patio — on a nice day, she can see the Pittsburgh skyline, which sparkles at night.

As a 50-year member of Order of the Eastern Star, Martha already knew some of her Masonic Village neighbors because of events she has attended at Masonic Village. Her primary membership is in Evening Star Chapter No. 187, Claysville, and since moving to Masonic Village, she became a plural member of Sewickley Chapter No. 439. Almost immediately, she joined some of her neighbors on the New Year’s Eve party and Spring Fling committees, where she met even more people.

“Like I tell everyone, retirement living cannot possibly be any better than this. It’s pretty much a total change in lifestyle, but I’m adjusting to the fact that it’s better for me,” Martha said.

Sheila couldn’t agree more: “You don’t feel like Masonic Village is a retirement community. When you think ‘retirement,’ you often think of settling down. It is very active here. They have so many activities. It’s a very happy place.”

Sheila belongs to Daughters of the Nile, and her late husband, Dr. and Bro. Richard Leydig, Bethel Lodge No. 789, Lower Burrell, was Past Potentate of Syria Shrine. “Masonic Village seemed like the natural place to move to. I know a lot of people here, and I attended a lot of banquets here because of my husband’s involvement with the Shrine. The people are so helpful, and since I was familiar with the area and so many people, it was just like moving from one friendly home into another.”

Sheila moved to Masonic Village from New Kensington. She also had a home in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and since 1970, she has gone on many cruises all over the world. Her favorites include the Caribbean and Rhine River.

“Masonic Village is just like a beautiful hotel,” she said. A spacious apartment, excellent food, clean environment and 24-hour security add to her comfort.

“It’s easy to meet new friends because everyone comes in as singles or couples with the idea that you want to be friends. You can’t be anything other than friendly in this place. The staff are unbelievable. … Babs knows everyone, and once you get to know her, you just want to continue to be around her.”

**Dallas**

Bro. Allen Henninger, P.M., P.D.D.G.M., La Belle Vallee Lodge No. 232, Jersey Shore, is the type of visionary who sees a door, pauses to imagine the possibilities and revolutionizes the door on his way through. During 34 years as an industrial arts and technology education teacher, Bro. Henninger taught hundreds of young people how to use their minds, hands, tools and computers to manipulate materials to solve problems and make useful and innovative items.

In 1976, he also entered into a construction and remodeling partnership with Bro. Ronald A. Aungst, Sr., R.W.P.G.M. Together, they have built and remodeled many homes and have built and managed rental properties.

Bro. Allen built his own home in 1973, but the stairs on the multi-level home were becoming a burden. Bro. Allen’s wife, Helen, suggested that they attend an open house at Masonic Village at Dallas. A professional decorator had enhanced the interior of one of the villas. “My wife just fell in love with it,” Bro. Allen said.

“Because of my experience with the fraternity and all of the great members that I’ve met throughout the years and across states, I knew that when we wanted to move to a retirement community, it had to have a Masonic connection,” Bro. Allen said. “I knew the quality and character of the individuals [in the fraternity], and that made a big impact on our decision to select the Masonic Village at Dallas.”

He and Helen continued working with the decorator to discuss additional changes and presented their ideas to the Masonic Village administration. “I told them, when I retire, I want something different, something special, because I’m planning to live there a long time.”
... I was pleased that the Villages were open to the idea of doing the changes I proposed," Bro. Allen said.

Some of those changes included enhanced finishes to the bathrooms, upgrades in the kitchen, upgraded flooring and a beautiful stone fireplace.

Currently, Masonic Village at Dallas offers a villa incentive plan, and the Henningers received a credit for some of the changes they made to their home. In addition, villas at select locations are available for an additional discount.

Bro. Allen spends several hours a week commuting to fulfill Masonic responsibilities in the Williamsport area. He is a member and Trustee of the Valley of Williamsport Consistory and a member of Irem Shrine and multiple York Rite bodies.

“I'm looking forward to spending more time getting involved here, including golfing and relaxing. I am even reading some books,” Bro. Allen said. “And the fact that the exterior and maintenance are taken care of for us by the Villages gives us the flexibility we were hoping for to plan some travel time. We are really enjoying living in the Masonic Village at Dallas.”

Join the Journey
Fulfill your curiosity today by learning more about the Masonic Villages. You may find an unexpected path that leads you on the journey of a lifetime. Marketing and sales staff are happy to provide a personal tour if you call ahead, or save the dates for these events:

Masonic Village at Dallas
866-851-4243
Healthier Selves in 2013 Walking Tours: May 16
Lunch & Learn: June 27
Open House: August 7

Masonic Village at Elizabethtown
800-676-6452
Annual Open House: June 5

Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill
610-828-5760
Elvis Tribute Artist: May 23
Backyard Barbecue: June 13
Lunch & Learn: July 31
Open House: August 14

Masonic Village at Sewickley
412-749-6862
Lunch & Learn: May 30
Lunch & Learn: June 26
Hidden Treasures of Pittsburgh: July 25
Retirement Planning Seminar: August 25

Masonic Villages’ Admissions Policy
Admissions to the Masonic Villages are governed by the board of directors, members of which are elected by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The board of directors approves or disapproves applications for admission primarily on the basis of need. Decisions concerning admission, the provision of services and referrals of residents are not based upon the applicant’s race, color, religion, disability, ancestry, national origin, familial status, age, sex, limited English proficiency (LEP) or any other protected status.

Regardless of your financial situation, you can afford to move to a Masonic Village! When you choose to live at the Masonic Villages, you are not required to turn over your assets; you maintain complete control of them. Fraternal support enables the Masonic Villages to serve all eligible individuals as part of our Mission of Love.

Please contact the Admissions or Marketing Office at the Masonic Village of your preference for information on the living area desired. For more information, visit www.masonicvillages.org.

Where Caring is a Tradition
The Masonic Village at Warminster’s Masonic Eastern Star Home provides residents with comfort, companionship and a life of dignity and security. The staff is dedicated to providing each resident a gratifying lifestyle while accommodating individual needs.

Offering quality nursing care and personal care services, the mission of the Masonic Village at Warminster includes serving individuals in Philadelphia County who are day-one Medicaid recipients.

For a tour or for more information, call 215-672-2500, or email MVWadmissions@masonicvillages.org.
850 Norristown Road • Warminster, PA 18974
Meet Bro. Thomas F. Toscani: Attorney, Philanthropist, Volunteer, Advocate, Family Man, Coach & Hot Dog Chef

Bro. Thomas F. Toscani, Melita Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia, has been a member of the Masonic Villages’ board of directors since December 2007. He brings extensive professional experience to the board room table, enabling him to provide valuable input on many facets of the organization’s plans, policies and operations. He also devotes tremendous personal time to meeting with residents, attending social functions and celebrating accomplishments at our various communities.

In addition, Bro. Tom serves on multiple subcommittees, including the Admissions, Home Assistance and Resident Services Subcommittee; Financial and Gift Planning Subcommittee; and Human Resources Subcommittee. He also serves as Trustee of the Consolidated Fund.

In these capacities alone, he has committed to attending between four and six board meetings per year, each of which often take place over a two-day period, and are often held in various locations across the state, requiring extensive travel time. Prior to each board meeting, members are sent a large binder of information to familiarize themselves with, in order to prepare to discuss the issues at hand. Telephone calls, conference calls and emails are often exchanged in between meetings, as well. Board members also are requested to attend various special events throughout the year, such as donor dinners, recognition ceremonies, holiday resident celebrations, ground breakings and grand openings. As an attorney, Bro. Tom is able to bring a unique perspective to the board room table. “I sometimes see legal issues a businessman might not, and identify things to consider,” he said.

He also serves as a liaison for the Health Care Services, Village Green Area and Retirement Living Residents’ Councils at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown, as well as the Residents Councils for the Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill and the Masonic Village at Warminster. He attends approximately 16 resident association meetings at the various campuses per year. He listens to the residents’ thoughts and brings their perspectives and concerns to the board of directors to consider during the decision-making processes. He also explains decisions made by the board of directors to residents and staff who may have questions.

The former resident liaison, the late Bro. Jim Standish, recommended that Bro. Tom assume his responsibilities upon the end of his term. “I find our residents so interesting; I’m a history buff, so I learn much from them. Most people are very happy at all locations. I try to be as responsive as possible to questions from residents,” Bro. Tom said.

And, as if that weren’t enough, he is the board of directors’ liaison for the Masonic Children’s Home. He meets periodically with Ms. Virginia Migrala, Director of Children’s Services, to discuss what is going on at the children’s home. “He asks questions, and I keep him up to date. He then reports back to the board,” Ms. Migrala said. “He is a great guy and very interested in the program and is a champion for the children. He is a wonderful advocate for us.”

“I love to see the kids grow up,” Bro. Tom said. He enjoys hearing how they’ve prospered at the Youth Appreciation Day event each year.

Bro. Tom knew nothing about Freemasonry before he worked with R.W. Past Grand Master John K. Young at his law firm, Peck, Young & VanSant. His work caused him to visit the Masonic Temple and the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown in the early 80s while attending board meetings. “I think the Masonic Villages are fantastic,” he said. “The first time I saw the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown, I thought, ‘Wow, this is amazing!’ He brought his wife and children for a visit on Autumn Day, and they, too, found it to be very impressive. He was involved when the original Independent Living Community was built in the late 1980s, has served on the Pension Subcommittee since 1989 and has given presentations on campus about estate planning.

“Success begets success,” Bro. Tom said. “I wanted to be part of it … not thinking I would be able to help out at all. I like to show it off. I’ve brought many clients and friends here. Recently, I’ve helped three people move to Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill.

“It’s been amazing to watch [Masonic Villages] grow. What most people do not realize is that the board does not do anything without going through about 2½ years of planning. If there’s a demand from people who want to come here, we try to make it more affordable for everyone. Everything is first class. The Mission is great. It makes me proud.”

All of these experiences, in addition to having met every Grand Master since 1968 through Bro. John, made Bro. Tom want to join this fraternity of “high class” men. “When I finally asked Bro. John how I could join the fraternity, he asked, ‘What took you so long?’”

Bro. Tom was raised as a Master Mason in Melita Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia, on May 23, 1984. He served as Worshipful Master twice, in 1988 and 1996, and has served as Chaplain, Trustee, and Junior and Senior Warden, as well. “Soon after joining, I went right through the chairs. The second time I was Master, I put new members in all the chairs and tried to incorporate a sense of humor,” Bro. Tom said. “I told them we’re going to have fun,” he said. Soon, brethren started bringing their friends into the lodge, with 12-18 new people joining each year, and the average age in the lodge decreased.

Today, Bro. Tom is a managing partner with Toscani & Lindros, LLP, in Berwyn,
In addition to his various roles with the Masonic Villages, Bro. Tom is President of the Berwyn-Paoli Area Little League, Chairman of the Easttown Township Parks & Recreation Board, Events Chairman of the Easttown Township Tri-centennial Committee and a board member of the Berwyn Veterans Memorial. He formerly served on the board of the Main Line Chamber of Commerce and the Berwyn-Devon Business & Professional Association.

Bro. Tom is probably best known for founding the Field of Dreams complex in Berwyn, Pa. (For many, the name may be reminiscent of the 1989 “Field of Dreams” movie starring Kevin Costner, James Earl Jones and Burt Lancaster). Bro. Tom organized the massive project, which was built by countless volunteers and funded through numerous fund raisers. “Our motto is, ‘There is no limit to what can be accomplished when no one cares who gets the credit,’” Bro. Tom explained. Like in the movie, Bro. Tom’s attitude was, “Act now, think later. If we build it, they will come.” And come they have!

The first game was played at the complex on June 30, 1993, between two Challenger teams (comprised of youth with physical and mental disadvantages). Since then, hundreds of games have been played there each spring, from tee ball youngsters to teens playing competitive majors’ league games, and every Sunday at noon, the Challenger teams play. It’s also host to a first responders’ tournament, in which local fire companies and police forces play in front of the league’s players. Since its opening day, the complex has added several more fields, concession stands, announcer boxes and dugouts. In appreciation for his work, Field #1 was named “Toscani Field” in his honor.

Bro. Tom has received numerous local, state and national awards for his selfless contributions to the community and disabled youth, but this humble Mason insists he didn’t do it all alone, pointing to the gracious work of volunteers and donors. “Whenever you start something, you have a chance to fail and look like a fool,” he said. “You just need to realize that if you do fail, you can get back up and move on. When you get over your fear, you can do anything. The biggest sin is a waste of time, energy and brains.”

Bro. Tom certainly uses what he’s been given.

In 2009, Bro. Tom was presented with the 14th annual “Great Friends to Kids Award” by the Please Touch Museum for his two decades of work and financial contributions to the Field of Dreams complex. The Phillie Phanatic was a fellow honoree. In 2012, he received Penn Liberty Bank’s Mirabile Award for outstanding community service. The bank contributed $5,000 in his honor in support of the 2013 Challenger Day, which features baseball games and other activities for special needs children with help from local high school student “buddies.” Festivities include the Mummers, free hot dogs and hamburgers (which Bro. Tom, himself, cooks), and a visit from his good ol’ green friend, the Phillie Phanatic.

Bro. Tom is extremely proud of his family. He and his wife, Anne, who teaches at Good Samaritan Episcopal Day School, have a son and two daughters. Peter, a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, is an investment analyst, and he and his wife have a daughter, Julia. Mary Ellen is a media analyst, and Lara is a marketing director. Lara and her husband have a 2½-year-old son, Carter, who has special needs. Carter’s battle for life began soon after birth, requiring numerous surgeries and therapies and a liver transplant at 9 months. Carter’s care is difficult, but “can’t” is an unknown word in the Toscani family vocabulary. The family continues to support and help Carter work toward goals the doctors deem impossible for him both physically and cognitively.

“I guess I’ve always been working toward this part of my life,” Bro. Tom said, without an ounce of pity in his eyes. “I volunteered as a child and during college and law school with kids with special needs, and now we have a special needs grandchild,” he states with great pride.

Bro. Tom and Anne belong to St. Norbert Parish in Paoli, Pa. He enjoys golf, skiing and reading about history. And, he still fills in as a baseball and basketball coach, when needed.

Top photo: The Berwyn Veterans Memorial, for which Bro. Tom serves on the board, volunteers and fund raises.
Second photo: Bro. Tom with his family. Front row, left-right: His son, Lt. Peter, holding granddaughter Julia; daughter-in-law Erin; daughter Mary Ellen; daughter Lara, holding grandson Carter; and son-in-law Aaron. Back row: Bro. Tom and his wife, Anne.
PA Masons Reunite in Florida

More than 500 Pennsylvania Masons, their wives and widows who reside permanently in Florida or who visit there during the winter, attended the Florida Masonic Reunions. Held in March in Tampa, Sarasota and Palm Beach Gardens, the reunions provided opportunities for the attendees to receive information on services provided at the Masonic Villages. R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith presented eligible members in attendance with their years of service emblems and awards. Award recipients with the Grand Lodge officers at the Palm Beach Gardens reunion. Bro. C. David Peeling, Lodge No. 106, Williamsport, Pa., who resides in Lantana, Fla., (front row, far left) received his 70-year Masonic Service Emblem. Bro. Martin Freedman, who lives in Florida but is a member of Williamson-Corinthian Lodge No. 368, Philadelphia, (front row, second from right) was surprised at the reunion by his son, Bro. Ernie Freedman, also from Lodge No. 368. R.W. Grand Master Jay W. Smith called them up front so Bro. Martin could pin the Lewis Jewel on Bro. Ernie.

Fresh Fruits & Vegetables

IN SEASON

Hundreds of jarred goods including preserves, jams, fruit butters and much much more. Visit our online catalog and ship directly to your home at MVFarmmarket.com

Hours: Mon. - Sat., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
717-361-4520
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown
Located on the grounds of the Masonic Village
We accept FNMP checks

Follow us on Facebook

Autumn Day 2013

Masonic Reunion
Mark Your Calendar
Saturday, September 21
at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown

JOIN US for the Jerry Migrala Children’s Home Centennial Health Walk!
$15 donation to Children’s Home
Thank you to the following individuals who have provided for the following items since the printing of the November issue:

**Masonic Village at Elizabethtown**
- Bro. Terry and Lori Seiders: Alarming floor mats
- Bro. Robert Duckett: Card tables
- Bro. Jeffrey and Nancy Hoyt: Wheelchairs

**Bleiler Caring Cottage**
- Bro. Ken and Elaine Bleiler: Carpet sweeper and shampooer

**Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill**
- Hackenburg Mount Moriah Lodge No. 19: TVs

**Masonic Children's Home**
- Bro. Wayne Garafola: Wish List
- Williamson Corinthian Lodge No. 368: Music program

There is an all-inclusive wish list posted on the Masonic Charities website at MasonicCharitiesPA.org, or feel free to contact the Office of Gift Planning at 800-599-6454.

Please note that if funds donated for any item listed are over subscribed, the funds will be used for additional wish list items or needs in the same service area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Cost per Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Temporal thermometers</td>
<td>$425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hospitality cart</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Wheelchairs - regular</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ipads</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Computer tablets</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Digital blood pressure monitors</td>
<td>$750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Refrigerators</td>
<td>$900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Specialty mattresses</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Electric lift recliner</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Washer/dryer set</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>TVs - living rooms</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bariatric mattresses</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Low beds</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wheelchairs - Broda</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Blanket warmer</td>
<td>$3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Golf cart with weather cover</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Hydraulic sinks for Hair Care Salon</td>
<td>$3,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Piano (Roland - acoustic)</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Automatic doors - handicap accessible</td>
<td>$6,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Treadmill for Rehab Dept.</td>
<td>$10,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Piano (Roland - grand)</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Whirlpool tubs</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Cost per Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ceiling fans</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Shampooers</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gas grill</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Exercise bike</td>
<td>$450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Outdoor carpet</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Computer</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bathroom floors</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Garage door</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Washer/dryer set</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Refrigerator</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gazebo</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Carpet - screened in porch</td>
<td>$2,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Roof</td>
<td>$11,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kitchen cabinets</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Suburban vehicle</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Television</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Flat screen TV and Wii system</td>
<td>$1,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spirit of Philadelphia lunch cruise outing</td>
<td>$1,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>District of Columbia Museums w/lunch and transportation</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>harvest Ball event</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baltimore Aquarium w/lunch and transportation</td>
<td>$3,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sit-to-stand lift, power base</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Photosmart compact printer w/extra cartridges</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hand rail tilt and roll scale</td>
<td>$1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Outdoor tent (size 20 x 20)</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ARJO sit-to-stand lift</td>
<td>$4,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4 Channel E-stimulation (electric)</td>
<td>$4,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Creating Your Legacy Through the Masonic Charities

Generous bequests throughout the history of our Masonic Charities have strengthened our ability to make a significant difference in the lives of countless individuals and families. The simplest way to make a bequest to one or more of the Masonic Charities is to name the charity as a beneficiary of your Will. You need only amend your Will by having your attorney draft a simple codicil. You will continue to have control over your assets for your lifetime. In addition, by giving a bequest to the Masonic Charities, it will cost you nothing now, yet it may give you a great deal of satisfaction to know that your future gift will live on. Additionally, bequests can be very private gifts, too. You can make a bequest anonymously and change it any time.

You can designate any specific charity or offer unrestricted support for the area of greatest need. Your estate will also benefit from estate tax savings as all bequests are tax deductible. By including any Masonic charity in your Will, you are eligible to become a member of our Franklin Legacy Society and receive regular updates on the charity of your choice and attend the annual donor dinner. Members also receive a handsome book clock with an etching of Bro. Ben Franklin at his printing press on the cover.

Please contact your local gift planner to make sure that the language you use will best accomplish your wishes. We would be glad to work with you and your attorney in the drafting of your codicil. You may also contact us for more information or to notify us of your intention to support a Masonic charity. All inquiries are confidential.

Contact the Gift Planner in your area:
Central Pennsylvania 717-367-1121, ext. 33437 or 800-599-6454
Western Pennsylvania 412-741-1400, ext. 3011 or 866-872-0664
Eastern Pennsylvania 610-825-6100, ext. 1348
Out-of-State 717-367-1121, ext. 33312 or 800-599-6454

The 2012 Masonic Charities Annual Report will be released on May 24. Please go to www.MasonicCharitiesPa.org to see what exciting things are going on with each Masonic charity. If you would like a hard copy, please call (800) 599-6454.

Financial information about Masonic Charities can be obtained by contacting us at 1-800-599-6454. In addition, Masonic Charities is required to file financial information with several states. Colorado: Colorado residents may obtain copies of registration and financial documents from the office of the Secretary of State, (303) 894-2680; http://www.sos.state.co.us/. Florida: SC No. 00774. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, WITHIN THE STATE, 1-800-Help-FLA. Georgia: full and fair description of the programs and activities of Masonic Charities and its financial statement are available upon request at the address indicated above. Illinois: Contracts and reports regarding Masonic Charities are on file with the Illinois Attorney General. Maryland: For the cost of postage and copying, documents and information filed under the Maryland charitable organizations laws can be obtained from the Secretary of State, Charitable Division, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, (800) 825-4510. Michigan: MICS No. 17968. Missouri: The official registration and financial information of Masonic Charities may be obtained from the Missouri Secretary of State’s office by calling 1-888-373-8473. New Jersey: INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE Solicitation AND THE PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY DURING THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD THAT WERE DEDICATED TO THE CHARITABLE PURPOSE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY CALLING (973) 504-6215 AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/ocp.html#charity. REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. New York: A copy of the latest annual report can be obtained from the organization or from the Office of the Attorney General by writing the Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. North Carolina: Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 1-888-830-4989. Pennsylvania: The official registration and financial information of Masonic Charities may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Virginia: Financial statements are available from the State Office of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. Washington: The notice of solicitation required by the Charitable Solicitation Act is on file with the Washington Secretary of State, and information relating to financial affairs of Masonic Charities is available from the Secretary of State, and the toll-free number for Washington residents: 1-800-332-4483. West Virginia: West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial information of this charitable solicitation and the percentage of contributions received by the charity during the last reporting period that were dedicated to the charitable purpose by calling the State Office of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 4173, Charleston, WV 25322. The notice of solicitation required by the Charitable Solicitation Act is on file with the Washington Secretary of State, and information relating to financial affairs of Masonic Charities is available from the Secretary of State, and the toll-free number for Washington residents: 1-800-332-4483. West Virginia: West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial information of this charitable solicitation and the percentage of contributions received by the charity during the last reporting period that were dedicated to the charitable purpose by calling the State Office of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 4173, Charleston, WV 25322. The notice of solicitation required by the Charitable Solicitation Act is on file with the Washington Secretary of State, and information relating to financial affairs of Masonic Charities is available from the Secretary of State, and the toll-free number for Washington residents: 1-800-332-4483. Washington: The notice of solicitation required by the Charitable Solicitation Act is on file with the Washington Secretary of State, and information relating to financial affairs of Masonic Charities is available from the Secretary of State, and the toll-free number for Washington residents: 1-800-332-4483. Washington: The notice of solicitation required by the Charitable Solicitation Act is on file with the Washington Secretary of State, and information relating to financial affairs of Masonic Charities is available from the Secretary of State, and the toll-free number for Washington residents: 1-800-332-4483. Washington: The notice of solicitation required by the Charitable Solicitation Act is on file with the Washington Secretary of State, and information relating to financial affairs of Masonic Charities is available from the Secretary of State, and the toll-free number for Washington residents: 1-800-332-4483.

Office of Gift Planning, One Masonic Dr., Elizabethtown, PA 17022 or call 800-599-6454 or email giving@masonicvillages.org

☐ I/We have remembered the following Masonic Charity(ies) in my/our estate plan:
☐ Please send me additional information on including a Masonic Charity in my/our estate plan.
☐ Please send me information on your Franklin Legacy Society that recognizes individuals who have included a Masonic Charity in his/her Will or living trust.

Name __________________________
Address _________________________
Phone __________________________
Email ___________________________