In order for the public to be made more aware of Freemasonry, its charities, its history and to dispel the negative concept and ignorance of the Craft, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has produced a slide and video program. The program is intended to be used in non-Masonic groups such as church groups, firemen's service clubs, women's clubs, and soon will be available to the Pennsylvania Lodges. The program is about ten minutes in length and is available on video cassette, 35 mm one projector carousel and 35 mm two projector carousels.

Also, a large portable display (see photo) is available for use in malls, fairs and other public places entitled "Who Are The Freemasons?" together with photographs and titles depicting Pennsylvania Masonic charities. The portable display unit is easily packed into several containers that may be shipped throughout the state.

Arrangements for the use and showing of both the slide program and the portable display may be made by contacting the Office of the Grand Master.

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Brother Saves Life of Mason

Scottsdale, Pennsylvania electrocuted himself while using a power drill on his daughter's patio. Bro. Maholtz cried out and fell unconscious. Bro. Pollock ran over and attempted to dislodge the power tool from Bro. Maholtz's fist with a board. The drill would not move, so he ran into the apartment to unplug it. After calling 911, Bro. Pollock returned to Bro. Maholtz who was blue, had no pulse and had stopped breathing. He administered CPR and succeeded in restoring Bro. Maholtz's pulse and breathing. Emergency help arrived and took Bro. Maholtz to the hospital where he recovered fully.

Bro. Pollock states that he strongly feels that employers should teach CPR to their employees. Further, he feels that CPR can be used in the workplace as well as at home to save the life of a co-worker, family member or friend. In this instance, the life of a Brother of the Mystic Tie has been saved.

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On January 2, 1889, non-Masonic ceremonies were held to commemorate the completion of the interior decoration of Egyptian Hall of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. From the dedication of the Temple in 1873, the building remained undecorated until 1887 when the Art Association was charged with the embellishment of the various halls with paintings and sculpture.

Egyptian Hall was the first room designated for decoration. The funds for this project were first sought from the members of the Association, as well as other interested parties. However, the entire cost of the decorative work in Egyptian Hall was $1200, and was underwritten by Bro. William J. Kelly, Grand Master from 1897 until 1898, and member of Washington Lodge No. 59. Bro. Kelly meant for this work to stand as a memorial to his friend.
The Grand Masters Speaks

Bro. Arthur J. Kurtz, R. W. Grand Master

Ber brethren...The new year of Nineteen Hundred Eighty-nine is upon us and as our Fraternity begins its officially recognized 227th year of existence (a statement that could be controversial), many events of considerable interest are being planned and scheduled for your Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Twelve new District Deputy Grand Masters for the Districts of C, H, J, 2, 12, 15, 21, 24, 39, 48, 56, 59 and 60, have already or will be presented and commissioned. The retiring District Deputies upon being created a Past District Deputy, for the first time in Grand Lodge history, will be recognized and awarded a Past District Deputy Grand Master's Jewel of gold. Each Deputy eligible for this jewel, must have served at least five years in that capacity.

Our Independent Living Community planned for construction on the campus of our Masonic Homes, is coming along extremely well. At this writing - January 1st - and just two months since our models at the Masonic Homes were opened for inspection, forty-nine units have been reserved with a $2,000 down payment. Actual groundbreaking has been scheduled for early spring. Brochures on all models, prices and particulars are available from Bro. Raymond E. Tierney, Administrator, c/o Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022.

Our Grand Lodge official visitation to the Grand Lodge of Ireland is scheduled for the dates of May 23 thru June 3, 1989. This extraordinary and first-time meeting of these two Grand Lodges in Dublin, Ireland, will be preceded by an outstanding nine day tour of Southern Ireland. Already 120 Brethren and their ladies have signed up for the tour. A few last minute vacancies are still available. Our Irish Brethren, I've been advised, are planting a most unusual and interesting convocation.

And finally, my Brethren, I've been told that your response to the recent 1988 charity appeal for the Masonic Homes, Youth Foundation, Drug & Alcohol Abuse Program and other Grand Lodge Charities, has exceeded several past years. Thank you, Brethren, and may God bless you and yours in the new year.

Sincerely and fraternal,

Grand Master

Grand Lodge Officers Elected for 1989

Grand Master Authorizes A Past District Deputy Grand Master Jewel

All District Deputy Grand Masters who have served five or more years will be entitled to the P.D.D.G.M. Jewel upon retiring.

Grand Master's Itinerary

February, March, April 1989

FEBRUARY 1989
3 Presentation of new District Deputy Grand Master for the 60th Masonic District, Mount Olive Lodge No. 794, Lebanon
4 Lodge No. 5, 225th Anniversary, Philadelphia
6 Presentation of new District Deputy Grand Master for the 48th Masonic District, Corinthian Lodge No. 573, Millville
8 Presentation of new District Deputy Grand Masters for the 12th, 15th and 59th Masonic Districts, Scottish Rite Cathedral, Scranton
16 Lodge No. 226, Lebanon
18-21 Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Arlington, Virginia
25 Lodge No. 297, Pittsburgh

MARCH 1989
1 Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Corinthian Hall, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia
2 Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Gestateville
4 Lodge No. 677, 75th Anniversary, Lansford
11 Lodge No. 345, 125th Anniversary, Scranton
14 Lodge No. 706, York
15 Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Sunbury
18 Rainbow Honor Day for the Grand Master, A.A.S.R., Philadelphia
24 Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown

APRIL 1989
4-5 Health Fair, Penn State Campus, Harrisburg
8 Job's Daughters Pageant and Shrine Circus, Harrisburg
13 Masonic Congress Committee, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown
17 Lodge No. 216, Pocono
20 Lodge No. 464, Harrisburg
22 Lodge No. 578, 100th Anniversary, Prospect Park
23-25 Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
26 Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown
29 Lodge No. 596, 125th Anniversary, Connellsville

Masonic Education Month

Grand Master proclaims March 1989 Masonic Education Month. A special program developed by the Public Relations Committee and entitled "Frequently—Searching for Answers" is to be used for the March Stated Meeting.

OPENINGS AVAILABLE FOR IRELAND TRIP

Masonic Lodges, Past Masters in the 60th Masonic District are encouraged to participate in this Grand Masters' trip to the Emerald Isle, a few months prior to the Scottish Rite Scottish Rite legislative session. Lodges who have already signed up are: 50th Masonic District, Scottish Rite Temple, Scranton; 48th Masonic District, Scottish Rite Temple, Wilkes-Barre; 4th Masonic District, Scottish Rite Temple, Allentown; 2nd Masonic District, Scottish Rite Temple, York; and 1st Masonic District, Scottish Rite Temple, Philadelphia.

Chapel of Four Chaplains


Each year, on the fourth Sunday in October, Masonic District "D" honors a few Brothers from the District for their Masonic charity and service to Masonic charities. This past October they were recognized by the Chapel of Four Chaplains with the Legion of Honor award. It was on Sunday, October 28, 1988, that Rev. Arthur J. Kurtz, R. W. Grand Master, received the Bronze Medalion, the highest award the Chapel of Four Chaplains presents. Other recipients of the award have been General Carl Vuono, Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army; U. S. Senator Claude Pepper and former President of the United States, Ronald Reagan.

The Chapel of Four Chaplains was founded as a memorial to four chaplains who were aboard the troopship, Dorchester, when the ship sank in the icy waters off the coast of Greenland in 1943. A Catholic priest, John P. Walsh; a Jewish rabbi, Alexander D. Goode; and two Protestant ministers, George L. Fox and Clark V. Poling, gave their life jackets to four young people. The four chaplains, with arms linked together, stood in a circle and prayed as the ship sank.

The chapel is dedicated to no one religion, but encourages and recognizes the spirit of volunteer service with a vital faith and commitment to God and mankind as was exemplified by the Four Chaplains.

At four o'clock each Sunday, there is a memorial service during which the story is retold, and the altar rotated until all three altars, Catholic, Jewish and Protestant, are viewed.
The Grand Lodge Archives has acquired more artifacts and books that once belonged to Bro. Wanamaker, as his famous store continues compressing its operations into the lower five floors of the building in Center City Philadelphia. In addition to more books for the library and three immense wooden bookcases, Bro. Wanamaker’s Thirty-second Degree Patent surfaced and the Store graciously offered it to the Grand Lodge Archives. The elaborately engraved certificate that Bro. Wanamaker was enrolled in the Philadelphia Consistory of the Grand Army of the Royal Secret, the Thirty-second Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction on January 17, 1913. Later that year in September Wanamaker, who was made a Mason-at-Sight in 1908, was crowned an Inspector General of the Supreme Council, Thirty-third Degree. The certificate is attractively framed in a gift box made of a frame of the copper-plate engraved document. It is now on display with the Wanamaker books at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

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1988 marked the 205th anniversary of the first printing of The Ahiman Rezon for an American Masonic Jurisdiction. It was in that year that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, under the leadership of Bro. William Adcock, ordered a version of The Ahiman Rezon better suited for use in the United States to be published. It was to be based partially on The Constitutions of the Freemasons, the very first Masonic book printed in America, published by Bro. Benjamin Franklin in 1734, the same year he was named Provincial Grand Master. The well-respected and Masonically knowledgeable Bro. Reverend William Smith, D.D. (1727–1805), Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, was chosen to edit the work. He was Grand Secretary in 1783, the year that this new Ahiman Rezon was completed and printed by the Philadelphia firm of Hall and Sellers. Perhaps in return for the editorial work, Bro. Smith was permitted to append the sermon he had given on St. John the Evangelist’s Day 1778.

A New York Brother Saves Life of a Pennsylvania Mason

Bro. Michael E. Pollock of Phoenixville-Waverly Lodge No. 527, Detroit, Michigan received the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit last November. This award, the highest awarded by the American Red Cross, is given to an individual who uses a Red Cross-learned skill to save someone’s life. In this case, the skill employed was cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). In August 1985, Bro. Pollock was at his home in Brighton, New York when his neighbor’s father, Bro. Joseph Mahozl, 68, of Marion Lodge No. 562 in continued on page 16

Twelve New District Deputy Grand Masters

Bro. Arthur J. Kurzt, R. W. Grand Master, has appointed twelve new District Deputy Grand Masters as follows:

MASONIC DISTRICT C
Richard Dennis Miller
Richardson Lodge No. 250
133 Terme Avenue
Upper Darby, PA 19082
For Lodges Nos. 97, 98, 101, 103, 105, 107 and 108

MASONIC DISTRICT D
Walter E. Mcel, Jr.
Hiram Goode Lodge No. 81
5707 Rising Sun Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19132
For Lodges Nos. 81, 131, 138, 141, 142, 143 and 149

2ND MASONIC DISTRICT
Delvin L. Zincker
Robert Burns Lodge No. 404
3321 Chester Street
Geauga Hill, PA 19111
For Lodges Nos. 31, 34, 364, 428, 429, 430, 756, 757, 761 and 768

12TH MASONIC DISTRICT
Richard H. Duey, II
George M. Dallas Lodge No. 501
23 Winfield Drive
Dallas, PA 18012
For Lodges Nos. 51, 52, 359, 442, 541, 542, 721 and 725

13TH MASONIC DISTRICT
Benjamin H. Lox
King Solomon Lodge No. 541
1918 Western Avenue
Scranton, PA 18510
For Lodges Nos. 391, 392, 439, 459, 548, 549 and 550
Home (717) 342-6127
Office (717) 342-6127

21ST MASONIC DISTRICT
Clifford E. Reid, Sr.
Owen Lodge No. 155
R. D. 8, Box 146-A
Woodbine, PA 19495
For Lodges Nos. 298, 311, 347, 480, 515, 537 and 540

Bro. Pollock and Mahozl

Twelve New District Deputy Grand Masters

The following were created Past District Deputy Grand Masters after serving five or more years:

Bro. Frank W. Pedraraac, Masonic District “C,” a member of Keystone Lodge No. 271, Philadelphia;
Bro. William E. Rilely, Masonic District “H,” a member of Oliver-Oriental Lodge No. 385, Philadelphia;
Bro. Robert H. Mason, 2nd Masonic District, a member of Penrose Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg;
Bro. Milan Miholic, 12th Masonic District, a member of Plymouth Lodge No. 332, Plymouth;
Bro. Paul A. Lucas, Jr., 13th Masonic District, a member of Oriental Star Lodge No. 588, Peckville;
Bro. Ralph F. Spearly, 21st Masonic District, State College Lodge No. 700, State College;
Bro. Robert K. Doughish, 23rd Masonic District, a member of Commonwealth Lodge No. 105, Erie;
Bro. William C. Manley, 29th Masonic District, a member of Apollo Lodge No. 477, Apollo;
Bro. Robert O. Finley, 48th Masonic District, a member of Cornhillan Lodge No. 573, Millvale;
Bro. Paul O. Walker, 56th Masonic District, a member of North Star Lodge No. 241, Warren;
Bro. Clinton E. Shrieve, 59th Masonic District, a member of Moosic Lodge No. 664, Moosic;
Bro. Marvin G. Speicher, 60th Masonic District, a member of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womseldorf.
that some years ago a metal coin bank, designed in the form of the Masonic Lodge of Brazil, was produced and sold. The Library and Museum staff have searched through the collections, but have not been able to locate one of these banks in our holdings. If anyone has one of these in his possession or knows the location of one, please contact the Librarian and Curator with your information.

A Brother has raised a question concerning the fact that the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania does not recognize the “M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,” but does mention that there are references to this Grand Lodge in relationship to the Masonic Homes in Elizabethown.

It should be made quite clear that the reason that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania does not “Officially” recognize the “Prince Hall Grand Lodge,” has absolutely nothing to do with the fact that this is a “Black Grand Lodge.” The simple and clear fact is that no Grand Lodge will recognize more than one Grand Lodge within one geographical area. An example in points is; the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania recognizes the “State” Grand Lodges in Brazil, but does not recognize the “United Grand Lodge of Brazil” because this Grand Lodge has “Blue Lodges” within the areas as the separate “State” Grand Lodges. Therefore, since we hold Jurisdiction over the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we cannot recognize another “Grand Lodge” which operates within the same area.

As to the mention of the “M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge” in relation to the Masonic Homes in Elizabethown; the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has for some years included members of “Prince Hall Grand Lodge” as residents and applicants to the Homes under the same requirements as our members.

A Brother who is a member of a Blue Lodge in this Jurisdiction has raised the following question: “As a member of a Pennsylvania Lodge, can I become an affiliate member in a Lodge in Grand Lodge Territory?”

The following two citations, the first taken from The Ahiman Rezon and the second from the Digest of Decisions, make clear the position of The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

1809. No member of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction shall be permitted to be, at the same time, a member of another Lodge, either in this, or in any other Jurisdiction; but members of Subordinate Lodges in this Jurisdiction, may accept Honorary Membership from any Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal correspondence.

1921. It is not permissible for a Brother to be a member of two Lodges at the same time, either in this Jurisdiction, or in this and another Jurisdiction. Dual membership was prohibited as long ago as the year 1804. Grand Lodge, 1859.

One of our Brothers from Pennsylvania has raised the following question: “While I am aware that members of the Craft were very much a part of the ceremonies at the laying of the Corner-stone of the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., were there any members involved in the Corner-stone laying?”

Indeed, Freemasons were an important part of the laying of the Corner-stone of The White House. In a pamphlet entitled: The Laying of the Corner Stone of The White House, A Report Prepared for the Lodge by R. Baker, Past Master, we find the following noted on page two: and it was originally published in the City Gazette, of Charleston, South Carolina.

Masonic Education Seminar Held at Patton Campus

The Third Annual District Education Seminar was held the last weekend in October 1988, at the Masonic Conference Center at Elizabethown, Pennsylvania. Bro. Arthur J. Kurtz, R. W. Grand Master, welcomed the more than seventy conference, after which the Brethren watched a new video tape used in England to illustrate the good that Freemasonry does there. A rather humorous side light occurred when it was found that many Brethren needed soap. One of the Brethren went to the grocery store and bought thirty bars. Two nights before “mischief night,” the looks that drew from the woman at the checkout counter will not soon be forgotten.

Saturday’s events included a well-received presentation by Bro. Earl Hasenauer, D.D.G.M. on team-building and group decision-making and Bro. Robert Butto, P.D.D.G.M. presented a new traveling exhibit. More information on this display can be found elsewhere in this issue. Interest in education meetings then followed.

Masonic Education Seminar continued on page 6

Freemasonry and Organized Religions

Today, critics of Freemasonry justify their opposition by saying that Freemasonry is just a religious organization, which brings about much misunderstanding concerning our fraternity.

It is true that Freemasonry has been teaching for centuries a comprehensive plan and pattern for human life based upon the fundamental beliefs of the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, the supreme worth of the individual over the material things of creation, and the capability of man to reach a higher level of perfection through education and training industriously applied in honorable labor.

Freemasonry teaches that man owes his first duty to his Creator. In fact, Freemasonry is made up of men keenly aware of their individual and collective responsibility to God. Therefore, no atheist can be a Mason. However, Freemasonry is not a religion, it is a philosophy.

First of all, Freemasonry is not a church nor a substitute for a church. It does embrace several great beliefs, but it is not a dogma, it is a philosophy. It is a fellowship, but not an ecclesiastical system. It is ritualistic but not sacramental. Freemasonry has always been a bulwark for religious liberty. It is a support for the religious beliefs of its members. Freemasonry is not a permit for a Mason to replace his church, but to enforce it. It does not supply the essential supplements. It does not subvert, but supports.

The philosophy of Freemasonry is to make man the master of his own destiny, to show him that there also is an immortality on earth bought by his actions; that he can, through his own efforts, endear himself to his fellowmen and set a blueprint of moral rectitude for those who follow him. Freemasonry teaches man to insert his name in the "Book of Life" as one who has lived and left his world a little better than when he was born in this "vale of tears." Freemasonry teaches that to make honor and duty the steady beacon-light that shall guide your life-ssel over the stormy seas of life, to do that which is right to do, not because it will insure you success or bring with it a reward, or gain the applause of men, or be "the best policy," but because it is right and therefore ought to be done; to war incessantly against error, intolerance, ignorance, vice, and yet to pity those who err, to be tolerant even of intolerance.

Freemasonry teaches we are to labor to improve the social order by enlightening man's minds, warming their hearts with love of the good, inspiring them with the great principles of human fraternity.

Freemasonry realizes that religion may be rigid and dogmatic, while philosophy is pliable and adaptable. We cannot expect all men at the present stage of world progress to subscribe to one religion, but we can patronize in philosophy which is fundamental same in all sects and creeds. All major moral religions share aspirational obligations of all men of good will who seek perfection of body and soul. No institution teaches more plainly the fundamentals of good citizenship than Freemasonry. The virtues which characterize a good citizen are in its obligations and charges, while its ceremonies remind Masons of the duties they owe constituted authority.

Where does Freemasonry get its amazing vitality? It is because its foundation is laid on the great truths which concern the great moral lessons it inculcates. Behind the two great truths, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, is the chief Masonic virtue, Charity or brotherly love. Masons are taught to practice this virtue at all times and to assimilate it into their very being. It is this virtue that urges Masons to do their duties, to stretch forth a helping hand to a fallen brother; to hold his reputation equally with their own; to render good counsel in his ear, and the most friendly manner, endeavor to bring about the best person their brother could be.

Freemasonry is felt today in one of the most potent social forces, embracing several great beliefs, but it is not a dogma, it is a philosophy — a bulwark for religious liberty.

Bro. John H. Platt, Librarian and Curator and Secretary to the Committee, speaks at the Masonic Education Seminar at Elizabethown.

Bro. George H. Hohenshild, R.W. J.G.W. and Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Education confers with members.

Charles H. Larcumpen, D.D., Grand Chaplin
Happenings at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown

The Ten Thousandth Resident Admitted to the Masonic Homes

The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, admitted their ten thousandth resident. Mrs. Jean M. Joyce, widow of Bro. John J. Joyce, a member of Fritz Lodge No. 347, Girard; Bro. William E. Riley, Past District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 8, presented the membership to the Masonic Homes.

Mrs. Joyce, born in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, came to the Masonic Homes in 1910, and became a member of Fritz Lodge No. 347, Girard, at that time. She is the widow of Bro. John J. Joyce, who was a member of the Masonic Homes for many years. Mrs. Joyce has been a resident of the Masonic Homes for over 50 years, and has been an active member of the community. She is the first resident to be admitted to the Masonic Homes in 1910, and is the tenth resident to be admitted in 1910.

The Independent Living Community Takes to the Road

Throughout the winter months, the Independent Living Community staff will be visiting several locations throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, introducing members to the newest concepts of living at the Masonic Homes. These informal presentations will provide the opportunity for members to travel to a location within their District to learn more about the Independent Living Community which is scheduled to begin construction in the Spring of 1989. Members will also be able to view the plans and ask questions regarding this project.

Several sessions will be held during the months of March, April, and May. If you are interested in attending a special presentation in your area, please call the Office of the Independent Living Community at the Masonic Homes at 717-567-1121 (extension 315 or 314) for additional information on the dates and times.

Director of Development and Public Relations Needed

The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, is seeking a development professional to coordinate existing annual giving programs and institute current development practices to meet the requirements of today's donor and changing tax laws. Candidates for this position must have prior experience. Individuals interested should send their resume to:

Personnel Office
Masonic Homes
Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022

December Quarterly Review

The R. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania will meet in Quarterly Communication on March 1, 1989, at the Masonic Temple located at One North Broad Street, Philadelphia. The Communication begins promptly at 7:00 p.m.

As always, the Communication is open to all Master Masons; one need not be a member of Grand Lodge to attend. Dinner is free and will be served at 5:00 p.m. that day.

Montgomery County Special Olympics

Benjamin E. Riley, Past District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District "H," Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, representing the members of the Lodges in District "H," presents a check in the amount of $800 to Ann Marie Tracy, Treasurer of the Montgomery County Special Olympics, and Duncan Anderson, Sports and萃nitions Coordinator for the Montgomery County Special Olympics. The presentation was open to the public.

The Independent Living Community Takes to the Road

About the Masonic Homes and how their need was met. The following are some of their comments:

"I made up my mind to make the Masonic Homes my new home and it has been. I am proud of my new home and enjoy entertaining my family and friends here."

"Coming to the Masonic Homes is the best decision I ever made. My husband needed nursing care that I could no longer provide to him."

"There is no finer place than the Masonic Homes. If I were not living here I would be alone. I outfitted all family and most of my friends. Now I have the companionship of new friends."

"I checked into many facilities before I came to the Masonic Homes and found no other place I'd rather be."

The many services provided by the Masonic Homes are greatly appreciated by these residents and others. Needs have been met since 1910 with the continued financial support of Masons, their families and friends. All Pennsylvania Freemasons should be justly proud of their Masonic Homes.

Members Elected to Committee on Masonic Homes

The elected members of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes for 1989 were re-elected at the December Quarterly Communication held in Philadelphia on December 7, 1988.

Bro. Kenneth E. Thompson of New Wilmington, a member of America Lodge No. 98, was again elected Chairman of the Committee for 1989 during the meeting of the Officers of the Grand Lodge on December 7, 1988, and was re-elected at the meeting of the Committee on the Masonic Homes held at Elizabethtown.

For their work on behalf of the Masonic Homes, the following Masons were recognized:

Bro. Thomas Freese of Schuylkill Haven, a member of Page Lodge No. 270, Schuylkill Haven;
Bro. Gene Walker of Somerset, a member of Somerset Lodge No. 598;
Bro. John T. Fairview, a member of Lake Erie Lodge No. 507, Girard;
Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, R. W. Past Grand Master, a member of Tyrone Lodge No. 616, Luzerne County;
Bro. Walter L. Sykes of Canonburg, a member of Chariot Lodge No. 297, Canonburg;

The Grand Lodge line officers and the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary are also members of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes as directed by the Grand Secretary.

Schools of Instruction 1989

Schedules and instructions will be mailed out prior to each meeting.

Northeastern Regional Instructor Appointed

December 27, 1988

Bro. Walter F. Lindemuth of Taylor, Pennsylvania, is the new Northeastern Regional Instructor, replacing Bro. Benjamin H. Lee. Bro. Lindemuth is a Past Master of Acacia Lodge No. 570, and a former Principal Instructor for the 13th and 59th District Schools of Instruction.

Regional North Eastern

Instructor

April 4
Harri sburg
8
St. Marys
8
Johnstown
11
Williamsport
May 6
Reynoldsdale
13
Clairfield
18
Philadelphia
June 3
Allentown

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From the Grand Secretary's Desk...

My Brethren,

In 1965, a change in our Ritual was issued providing for the removal of the Penalties from the Obligation and their relocation within the Ritual. This change probably created a greater expression of opinion, both pro and con, than any other change in Pennsylvania Freemasonry.

I use this column not to express my opinion but rather to express some of the rationale of prominent Masonic personalities regarding the Penalties, and their significance to our Fraternity.

In 1968, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania reduced the significance of the Penalties by qualifying their symbolic presence in the Obligations. Some members felt that the removal of the Obligation of the Penalties was due to outside influences rather than to rational thought. There was, however, much internal discussion voiced within the Fraternity long before outside opinions were addressed. Others looked at the change as a divergence from the Landmarks. The Ritual, however, is not a Landmark and never has been regarded as such.

In 1964, the United Grand Lodge of England instituted what many members felt was an "unsatisfactory compromise" following an evaluation at their Quarterly by Bro. Bishop Herbert. The M. W. Grand Master at a Quarterly Communication stated "to such a serious matter as an Obligation it must be considered whether the penalties included are really meant or not. Clearly they could not be, and never could have been, actually enforced even 250 years ago. If, therefore, the penalties in the Obligations are not really meant, this must throw doubt on whether the Obligation is binding so far as theorealy, more important matters it contains are concerned."

The most logical rebuttal to critics opposing the change is that we were requiring our members to obligate themselves on the Vows of the Sacred Law to Penalties which violated some of our very principles. After qualifying the Penalties as symbolic, we then obligated them to a meaningless series of words. The explanation of the signs now lies outside of the Obligation, and the change is not decreed as meaningless, but rather as an integral part of our history.

At another Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of England, V. W. Bro. Maj.-Gen. Denis A. Beckett expressed what may well be the foremost logical thinking for considering the change when he stated "Brethren, Freemasonry does not exist in a vacuum; it is woven into the fabric of the society in which we live and have to continue to exercise its beneficial influence and to continue to attract candidates and willing to serve its ideals it must be sensitive to the changes taking place in society whilst standing firm on the Grand Principles on which it is founded. What was acceptable in days gone by is not always acceptable today and may be even less so tomorrow."

No change is ever going to satisfy all members of any organization, but it is necessary in the evolution of an organization to resist stagnation. When resistance requires change, it is then the responsibility of the leadership to make the change.

I again emphasize that I am not necessarily expressing my opinion. However, a change has been introduced. The change for the sake of change will never serve a viable purpose, but refusal to make a change when deemed necessary is tantamount to opposing any organization to extinction.

This decision was based upon analysis of some of the greatest minds in Freemasonry.

Individuals, we may not always agree on changes that take place within our Fraternity. It is, however, important for us to recognize that when changes do take place our acceptance and support is necessary to maintain our strength. Freemasonry has always been and will always be greater than any of its component parts. Individuals have come and gone, and will continue to come and go, but it is the opinion of any individual, will have no lasting great effect on it.

Hobah Lodge Lays Cornerstone

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was held on October 1, 1988 in order to lay the cornerstone of and to dedicate the new Masonic Temple of Hobah Lodge No. 276 in Brookville, Pennsylvania. The event began with a dinner at noon for Bro. Arthur J. Kurtz, R. W. Grand Master, many of the Grand Lodge officers, most of the local Lodge officers, the Temple Board members and their guests.

After dinner, the Jaffa Temple Shrine, 11°, Unit, assisted by local police, formed a motorcade to take the Grand Master and his officers to the new Temple. The Grand Master, with the help of the Grand Lodge officers, then laid the cornerstone according to ancient custom. Following their labors, the Brothers moved inside for the Dedication of the new Lodge room.

Masons Care About Our Vets

Several months ago, Bro. Jack Lee Strickland, Chief of Volunteer Services at the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Administration Hospital, was made aware of the need at the center for a bus to transport patients to various activities. "Let," as he is known among his co-workers, gathered a dedicated group of volunteers, and initiated a plan of action. Mr. Ed Kaminski, a volunteer, was elected as the Chairman of the "Bus Project," and the project was off and running.

Over $100,000 was collected over the span of the last eight months. This enabled these men to successfully complete their goal six months before the two year time limit that they had set for themselves. To date, more than ten thousand hours of time have been volunteered.

Traveling throughout a fifty mile radius of the Wilkes-Barre area, the Committee has contacted various Veteran's organizations, senior citizen's clubs and key clubs. They have also contacted Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, the various Masonic bodies, and many more organizations. A total of 100,000 handwritten envelopes were sent out. To define the scope of their efforts, cars and buses were collected, to collect donations, were distributed among the various clubs and businesses, raffles were run and nightly collections were made at bowling alleys. The results speak for themselves.

Bro. Strickland, a member of Charity Lodge No. 144 in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, has praised the Committee for a job well done.

The bus, which accommodates twelve wheelchair patients, and nineteen ambulatory patients, was delivered in November of 1988.

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Clarence J. Rohrer Honored

Bro. Clarence J. Rohrer has faithfully and diligently served Western Star Lodge No. 361 in all of his appointed capacities for forty-five years. He was duly honored as the March 1988 State Meeting of his Lodge, by being Passed the Chair by Dispensation. Bro. Clyde D. Shick, W. M., officiated.


Notes and Queries

"On Saturday the 15th inst. the first stone was laid in the south-west corner of the president's house, in the city of Washington, by the Free Masons of George-Town and its vicinity, who assembled on the occasion. The procession was formed at the Fountain Inn, George-Town, in the following order, viz: 1. The Free Masons, in masonic order. 2. The commissioners of the fed. building. 3. Gentlemen of the town and neighborhood. 4. The different artificers, and..."

Anyone wishing to read the entire piece may do so at The Grand Lodge Library and Museum. It should be noted that a major exhibition is being planned by the Curator's staff of The White House for the Bicentennial Celebration of the Cornerstone in 1992.

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Youth Foundation

Walt Disney Class

The memory of Senior DeMolay Walter E. Disney was honored when Pennsylvania DeMolay held an initiation on December 10, 1988 at the Masonic Conference Center. This was a very successful statewide class, involving twenty-five chapters and the conferring of the Degrees on sixty-six candidates. More than 275 Masons and DeMolays witnessed the ceremonies which included the Initiatory Degree, DeMolay Degree, Ceremony of Light and Flower Talk.


Programs Available

The Pennsylvania Youth Foundation can provide films, slide presentations, speakers and programs for Lodge meetings and public gatherings, on a variety of subjects, including the youth groups, the Public Speaking Program and Free-masonry’s commitment to youth. For information about the Masonic-related youth groups, the Masonic Conference Center, or programs available, contact Bro. Thomas R. Labagh, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, 1248 Banninbridge Road, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022.

P.Y.F. Representatives

Each year the Worshipful Master appoints a Lodge Representative to the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation, who is responsible for keeping the Lodge informed about the Masonic-related youth groups supported by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Your P.Y.F. Representative can do much to raise the level of visibility of the Masonic-related youth groups in the community.

Drug and Alcohol Foundation Gives Money

The Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse among children has, as its recent Advisory Board meeting, approved a grant of $90,000 to the Family Center of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia. This grant is to provide funds for a Chair in Perinatal Addiction within the Department of Pediatrics of Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University. The person selected by the foundation to be the recipient of the funding will be Loreta P. Plesmen, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Founder and Director of Family Center. The funds will be utilized to perform services that Dr. Finnegan cannot possibly undertake alone. The grant will be initiated for women and children. Her pioneer work in the field has been well published and deserves some description for our readers.

The epidemic of drug and alcohol abuse has increased over the past decade, bringing with it a host of complex problems. In the pregnant woman, drug and alcohol dependence is overwhelming, not only to her own physical condition, but also to that of the fetus and eventually the newborn infant. Maternal addiction presents a significant health problem because of the high incidence of prematurity and infants who are small for gestational age. The majority of deaths among newborn infants are associated with low birth weight.

Medical complications and birth weight in infants born to drug-dependent women have been found to be influenced by the inadequacy of prenatal care, the presence of maternal obstetrical or medical complications and the abuse of multiple drugs by the mother. The problem of infant morbidity becomes particularly apparent when one considers that the majority of drug-dependent women neglect general health care and prenatal care and tend to abuse more than one drug.

Family Center, a comprehensive outpatient treatment program for drug-dependent women in Philadelphia, recognizes the special needs and goals of the pregnant, drug-dependent woman. The program provides patients and their children with medical, psychiatric, and social services as well as a variety of clinical assessments. Comprehensive treatment begins with a general assessment to determine the extent of the many problems surrounding drug abuse in pregnancy.

Drug Abuse Infants' Fetus

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Youth Foundation

Lodge. He should make regular reports to the Brethren at Stated Meetings, submit their report on youth for publication in the Lodge notice, and arrange for youth programs for the Lodge members at the close of meetings. By a final resolution adopted with the adult leaders of the local youth groups he can keep the Brethren informed about their activities.

If there are no local Masonic-related youth groups, he can bring information on what it takes to sponsor a Masonic-related youth group, and can make reports on community youth organizations to the Brethren. P.Y.F. Representatives receive various mailings from the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation to assist in their duties.

Masonic Conference Center - Patton Campus

The Masonic Conference Center - Patton Campus in Elizabethtown continues to be the focal point of our youth support program, with nearly 2500 young people from Rainbow, DeMolay and Job’s Daughters participating in educational activities while at the facility.

The Conference Center is used by others as well. Nearly 1400 teachers participated in the drug and alcohol training programs of the Department of Education, and over one thousand Masons participated in various other seminars. In all, more than six thousand people utilized the camp, on more than one hundred days of scheduled activity.

The 1989 schedule is filling up, and fifty-three different activities are already planned. The facility is available for use by Lodges and other Masonic organizations for seminars, family activities and outings to the Masonic Homes. For details, contact the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation offices.

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Egyptian Hall

Bro. Thomas Ranken Patton, a member of Union Lodge No. 121 and founder of the Patton School for Boys at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. Several design proposals were submitted to the Association, but those of Bro. Geza Hergen of Lodge No. 51 (now University Lodge No. 51) a widely acclaimed painter from Bavaria, were chosen. Egyptian Hall is painted in accurate colors of Egyptian life and death from the temples and tombs of Egypt’s Nile Valley. In addition to his work in Egyptian Hall, Bro. Hergen also painted murals on the other rooms in the Masonic Temple.

In the agreement between the Art Association and the artist, Bro. Hergen agreed to perform all the decorative embellishment of Egyptian Hall within four months, which he did. Lodges that normally met in the Hall agreed to meet in other halls until the work was completed.

During the one hundred years since the completion of Egyptian Hall, literally hundreds of thousands of people have visited and enjoyed its beauty. One of the most significant groups in recent years to visit the Hall was the forty professionals who attended the “Interiors Conference for Historic Buildings,” which was held in Philadelphia in December 1988. This national important Conference was sponsored by the United States Department of the Interior.
Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes and the Opening Ceremony for the Independent Living Community Model Units

Many weeks of careful planning and preparation went into the festivities for this year's Autumn Day at the Masonic Homes. Advance ticket requests indicated that at least nine thousand Pennsylvania Masons and their family members could be expected for a fun day of fellowship and good food. As the day began, Grand Lodge representatives and Masonic Homes staff were slightly dismayed to see overcast skies, where the sun should have been shining. Optimism prevailed and outdoor festivities proceeded as scheduled; an occasional drizzle did not dampen anyone's spirits. It was anticipated that the visitors expected at the Masonic Homes would be drastically reduced by the inclement weather, but visitors kept coming as the day went on.

The highlight of Autumn Day was the opening ceremony for the Independent Living Community Model Units. The ribbon was cut by Bro. Arthur J. Kurtz, R. W. Grand Master, who was joined by the Committee on Masonic Homes. The units consist of a full scale model of an apartment, and a cottage. After the ceremony, the Grand Master personally escorted the individuals who had placed deposits on the units of their choice through the model units. Throughout the day, escorted tours were given by Masonic Homes staff of these attractively decorated units.

We would like to say a special “thank you” to all the hearty individuals who weathered the cold and wet conditions to stand in line for up to one hour to take a tour through the model units. We received many positive comments from the over one thousand individuals who had an opportunity to take the tour. All the familiar sights, sounds, and aromas of outdoor food were present; sausage, sauerkraut, hot dogs, ice cream, soda, coffee, and something new this year: Masonic Homes’ own bean soup, which couldn’t be served fast enough. Apple butter on a bun had to be sampled too.

The music groups, at times, had to be moved indoors, but wherever they performed they were warmly appreciated. Those groups performing for everyone’s enjoyment were the Zembo Shrine Highlanders, Hot House Jazz Band, Bainbridge Band, Zembo Shrine Oriental Band and the Carousel Organ. A mime, juggler and the Zembo Clown also entertained many visitors while walking through Grand Lodge Hall, the Village Green and tent areas. Also located in these areas were tents filled with crafts and gifts for purchase, that were made by our residents as well as fresh produce items grown at the Masonic Homes.

Another important event on Autumn Day was the variety show presented by the residents of the Masonic Homes. This attracted a crowd of spectators for the performance filling the Deike Auditorium to its capacity of over five hundred seats. Several of our residents participated in this event, sharing their talents which ranged from singing, reading their own poetry, stand-up comedy, and playing musical instruments.

Residents in the congregate living area of the Masonic Homes wore a flower and name tag and served as hosts and hostesses for the day. Many individuals visited with our residents during the Resident Rooms Open House. During this time many friendships were established, and old friendships were rekindled as our residents shared their homes with many interested visitors.

As late afternoon approached, Masons and their families who had been a part of Autumn Day 1988, began to make their way to their cars and tour buses for the trip home. For many, it was their first visit to the Masonic Homes, for others a heartfelt reunion as they walked the familiar grounds.

Many favorable comments were received and there were questions about an Autumn Day for 1989. Plans are already underway for this event which is scheduled for October 21, 1989.

“Open House” of the Model Units for the Independent Living Community at the Masonic Homes

The model units for the Independent Living Community at the Masonic Homes, which consist of a full scale model of an apartment and a cottage, are now open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for anyone interested in making an appointment to discuss this new concept of living at the Masonic Homes and to inspect the attractively decorated units. For anyone visiting the Masonic Homes on Saturday or Sunday, our residents will serve as your host or hostess between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The following special “open houses” have been scheduled for the model units:

Saturday and Sunday May 20 and 21, 1989 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

There will be representatives available at the “open houses” to answer your questions.