

# The Pennsylvania FREEMASON



October 2009 • Volume LVI No. 3



IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

## The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.— That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,— That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and well-being; prudent not to change the form of Government, unless it is necessary to do so.

That the history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. — That to the same King we owe a peculiar Duty, because of a long train of abuses and usurpations, which have assumed a character of a systematic and tyrannical oppression, and which have evinced a consistent and flagrant disregard to the Rights of the Colonies, and a determined resistance to every attempt to redress their Grievances.

That the King has refused his assent to certain Acts of the British Parliament, which were passed in consequence of repeated Petitions from the Colonies for redress of their Grievances.

That the King has dissolved the Representative Assemblies of the Colonies, and has refused to allow them to meet again, and has endeavored to govern these States by a pretended Legislature, which he has chosen and appointed, and which is not elected by the People.

That the King has kept standing Armies in the Colonies, in violation of the Acts of the British Parliament, which require that no Soldiers should be quartered in the Colonies without the consent of the local Legislatures.

That the King has endeavored to obstruct the Trade of the Colonies, and to increase their Taxation, in violation of the Acts of the British Parliament, which require that no Tax should be levied on the Colonies without the consent of their Representatives.

That the King has endeavored to deprive the Colonies of the right of Trial by Jury, and of the benefits of the Acts of the British Parliament, which require that no Person should be held in bondage or slavery without the consent of the local Legislatures.

That the King has endeavored to deprive the Colonies of the right of self-government, and of the benefits of the Acts of the British Parliament, which require that no Person should be held in bondage or slavery without the consent of the local Legislatures.

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# The Pennsylvania FREEMASON

October 2009

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submission we receive.

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### Mailing address changes

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### Correction from the May/June 2009 issue

The article, "From Basement to Museum: The Conservation & Exhibition Efforts for a Forgotten National Treasure" was written by Andrew A. Zellers-Frederick, former executive director of the Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania.

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## The Pennsylvania FREEMASON

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Stephen Gardner, Editor

# Stephen Gardner

## R.W. Grand Master

### Brethren:

It has been the privilege of this Master Mason to serve as Grand Master over the last two years. It has been one of the most humbling and rewarding experiences of my lifetime. Pat and I have been received with unlimited kindness across our magnificent state. Thank you for making us part of your family wherever we traveled.

Brother Marvin Cunningham, R.W.P.G.M., thank you for providing me with the Masonic experience of a lifetime. It has been a personal mission to bring honor to the position you entrusted to me. I have done everything I could to serve with the same honor, values and quality of character I observed in you. It is this Master Mason's prayer that your confidence was well placed.

As your Grand Lodge Officers have traveled throughout the state, we have been genuinely impressed by how hard so many brethren are working for our gentle craft. We see this in the pride of a lodge when we join the brethren in the celebration of an anniversary of their lodge, the Wardens' Workshops, Schools of Instruction and in the day-to-day lodge activities. Clearly, our lodge officers, current and upcoming, are working hard to build a stronger tomorrow for their lodges. We see those who are not a 'Past,' as well as those who are, demonstrating their pride in their lodge and their fraternity by sharing in these laudable goals. We have accomplished a lot, but we still have much more work ahead of us.

In order for us to strengthen our beloved fraternity, and in turn give it to our successors in better shape than when we received it, it takes work by all of us, not just our lodge officer corps. Our Masonic traditions, heritage and values were given to us by those brethren who came before us, and these are ours to protect for future generations. For some brethren, it will mean adopting new practices.

We are seeing Masonic Districts rising to levels of ritualistic proficiency and officer depth that has not been accomplished for decades. I would like to personally challenge lodges which have not yet embraced these higher ritualistic standards to do so for the good of the fraternity, today and tomorrow. You do not arrive there in the first year of a rebuilding effort. It takes time. We are in a marathon not a sprint. This is not easy, nor is it done without much work and individual effort. This Grand Master extends his eternal gratitude to those brethren who are part of taking their lodges and districts to new levels of achievement. You are to be commended and complimented for your hard work and your efforts. You are living examples of the Masonic Spirit we are working to demonstrate to the world. Your accomplishments are truly significant and will be recognized by future generations of Masons as such. To you and those who have supported and assisted you in working to accomplish this component of our beloved fraternity – Thank you!

It is necessary to understand that it is not just the ritual. Improved work is essential and contributes to the complex challenges of building an active, involved and educated membership. Sustaining camaraderie in our officer ranks and the rekindling of the Masonic Spirit in more and more brethren is what we are working to achieve. In working toward the goal of increasing the quality of the fraternity, we can contribute to other goals such as retaining members, encouraging members to be more active and involved, and perhaps commanding the attention of non-Masons by assisting in sparking their interest in petitioning our ranks.

The Unity Gavel and Unity Box are completing their two-year journey and are on course to having visited every lodge in our jurisdiction. To date and with three more months to go, there have been almost 13,000 touches to the Unity Gavel in its travels. Their

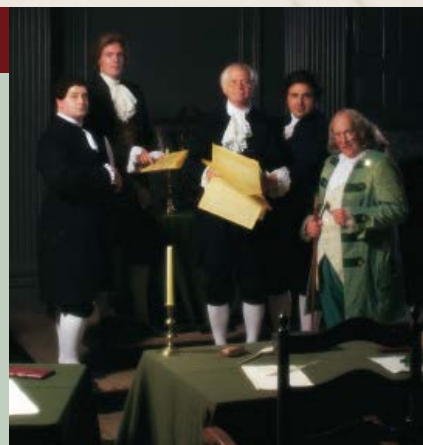
Continued on page 4



## ON THE COVER

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania hosted the Northeast Conference of Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries July 17-18. The meetings were held in Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence was signed by our forefathers, at least nine of whom are known to have been Masons, 233 years prior.

The Northeast Conference is comprised of attendees from the following Grand Lodges: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.





travels have both physically and symbolically linked Pennsylvania Masons in every Masonic community in our state. By the physical passing of the Unity Gavel from one brother to the next, we are symbolically united as a band of brothers and are reminded that the care of our fraternity is briefly in each of our hands.

Over the last two years, we have also seen the work on and completion of the exterior conservation of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, the home of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This impressive edifice is now restored to its original brilliance and magnificence. Our Masonic ancestors gave us this gift, our generation restored it, and now future generations of our brethren will enjoy this piece of their Pennsylvania Masonic heritage. Masons of our generation are blessed to have been personal witnesses and participants in this successful exterior conservation effort.

Our lodges have had, at no cost to them, the enhanced ability to communicate with their membership with the "Call 'em All" program. This has assisted in improving participation at lodge and district level functions. When a brother passes, this has been a powerful tool in creating maximum short-term notification permitting brethren to pay their final respects.

In excess of \$244,000 has been contributed by the brethren around the state to the "Change for the Troops" program. For myself, there is no doubt that this is the most emotional program over these two years. By this effort, the Pennsylvania Masonic family has been able to tell our troops in the desert: thank you for your service and sacrifice. The entire Pennsylvania Masonic family has come on board for this effort: our Blue Lodges, Grand Commandery, Grand Council, Grand Chapter, O.E.S., DeMolay, Rainbow, Job's Daughters, Scottish Rite, National Sojourners and more, as well as some very generous personal contributions and private efforts at raising funds have all caused this dollar figure to be arrived at. On behalf of the troops who have benefited from your kind generosity – THANK YOU.

Along with the United States and global economies, Grand Lodge has addressed the most demanding financial crisis and associated challenges in many generations. Tough times have required tough decisions. Through significant persistence and effort, your Grand Lodge Officers, those brethren in positions of financial responsibility in Grand Lodge, the staff of Grand Lodge and our Masonic Villages, and even our Masonic Villages' residents, successfully rose to meet these challenges head on. The financial integrity and financial status of your Grand Lodge and Masonic Villages remains secure. It is believed that the worst of these financial times are behind us. We all hope that we will never experience this type of financial trauma again.

In another couple of months, Brother Tom Sturgeon will serve us as our next Grand Master. It has been my pleasure to have known Brother Tom since our terms as District Deputy Grand Master overlapped back in 1992 and through, to, and including our service together as elected Right Worshipfuls. Because of Tom's demonstrated integrity, leadership and love for our fraternity, it is in full confidence that I know he will serve us well as our next Grand Master. Brother Tom, it will be with great pride that I will have the privilege of addressing you as 'Grand Master' and I am looking forward to your service in this capacity.

To my fellow Grand Lodge Officers, it has been a privilege to have served alongside you. Your personal friendship, counsel and the support of you and your ladies have made the experiences of the last two years simply magnificent. There are not words to properly communicate my fraternal love for each of you. You are the most trusted and respected brothers I have. You will no doubt continue to serve with distinction, lead us successfully into the future and excel in doing so.

This is no doubt the most difficult part of this message because of its personal nature. You cannot serve in this capacity without the support of your entire family. Together over the last two years, my beautiful and amazing wife of 35 years, Pat, and I have shared this amazing journey. Pat has been my strongest supporter and, when necessary, a polite but candid critic. The sacrifices of this service were shared and all too often hers. Pat asks for nothing, but I owe her everything. She, too, has served this fraternity. Pat, from myself and also from the Masonic family in Pennsylvania, thank you for what is very rightfully said, your service to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Pat, I loved you yesterday, I love you today and I will love you tomorrow. I will love you forever.

In this service, the fraternity often has a window to part of your personal life. We shared our family with the fraternity. You became part of their family, too. You met our son, John, his beautiful wife, Bethany, and their beautiful then-newborn daughter, our favorite granddaughter, Alexis, at the Annual Grand Communication in Philadelphia in December 2007. Now, they have blessed us with a second 'Grand' child, our favorite grandson, Heath. I shared the pride of a father when John and I both served in the East at the same time. You shared in our prayers as our son, Peter, was deployed to the desert and safely returned home. We are proud of his personal sacrifice and of his service to our Great Nation. And now we also look forward to welcoming his fiancée, Jessica, to becoming part of our family. And recently, with the passing of Pat's mom, your prayers, phone calls, cards, letters and expressions of sympathy, helped us at a very difficult time in our lives.

How can you properly thank all who have made the last two years so amazing? You cannot. Everywhere it has been and will always be the people we have met. Pat and I will always remember you. Thank you for being such a great part of our lives.

*Respectfully & fraternally,*

R.W. Grand Master





It has been quite an experience to witness and partake in your time in the Grand Lodge line. The past two years have definitely been the most unique experience of all. Having to experience most of the last two years from half way across the country, and while deployed sometimes half way around the world, has made me appreciate all the effort that you have put in to your time as Grand Master for the fraternity. The fundamental ideas of the fraternity that have been emphasized during your term have shown through in the health and strength that currently exists across the state.

Even though I have been separated by distance during these past few years, I have been personally affected by your term. Without a calling card I would not have been able to talk to family, friends, and girlfriend at the time. My now fiancé and I would like to thank both you and Mom for enabling me to be able to talk to each other and to family and friends. I know for us, and for other military members receiving calling cards from the Change for the Troops program, it is a crucial element in keeping our spirits high during a deployment. It is also because of the friends you have made during your term that I have met many great people and developed friendships out in Nebraska.

As you have stated, "We must work to preserve, strengthen, grow, and re-earn our heritage the same way our military re-earns our freedom. We cannot take it for granted, as the future truly is in our hands." I know that through your dedication and efforts, as well as those of every brother across the state, the health and vitality of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania and it's relationships with other jurisdictions is assured.

With great appreciation and admiration,  
*Peter and Jessica*



**R.W.G.P. (Right Worshipful Grand Pop),**

It has been a privilege to watch this journey you have been on for the last eight years. After many conversations, it is clear that it is not only the memories of the places you have been to that will last a lifetime, but people you have met along the way. The heritage of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania has been well preserved by the programs that you have put in place. The Unity Gavel served as a perfect reminder to all Masons in the Commonwealth that we are all a part of one fraternity, whether we come from a large city lodge or from a small country one. I know that the Change for the Troops program exceeded your wildest expectations. It just goes to show that when a program is put in place that touches everyone on a basic level, we join together to move forward in unanimity and success will follow. It also shows that the core belief of charitable efforts which has been around since time immemorial will continue to exist long after we have handed the reigns of the fraternity off to the next generation.

Congratulations,  
*John, Bethany, Alexis & Heath*

*Two years will soon be gone  
You see,  
For you as G. M.  
Of this Masonic Fraternity.*

*The Temple in Philly  
Is a glorious site,  
The conservation project  
Completed just right.*

*The staff and the aides  
All of the DDs, too  
Are really quite  
An extraordinary crew.*

*Traveling in state  
Out of state, too  
Meeting and greeting  
Friends, old and new.*

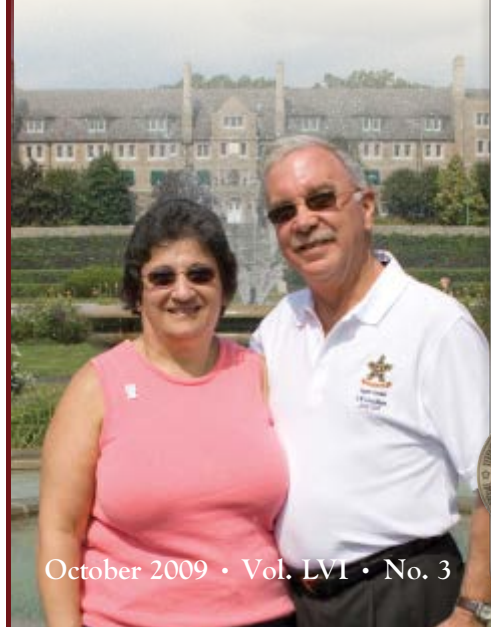
*Germany, Cyprus  
Italy and Greece  
Visiting them  
In harmony and peace.*

*Autumn Days, the Gala  
Banquets and meetings galore,  
Were much too exciting  
To ever be a bore.*

*The kindness shown to us  
Across this jurisdiction,  
Was straight from the heart,  
And not just tradition.*

*Soon to be home  
For more than a day,  
We'll have to keep you busy  
In some other way.*

Congratulations on a job well done.  
**All my love, Pat**



Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania





The Members of the Grand Lodge are requested to attend:

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held in the Freemasons Cultural Center at the Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, Pa., Saturday, December 5, 2009, at 10:00 o'clock, a.m., at which the Grand Lodge Officers and Committee on Masonic Homes will be elected.

Action will be had upon the following proposed Amendment to the Ahiman Rezon so that the same as amended shall read as follows:

### Grand Lodge Dues

Whereas, Grand Lodge dues were fixed at Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) by vote of the Grand Lodge on December 3, 2003, and still remain in that amount today; and

Whereas, a careful study and analysis of all Grand Lodge annual receipts and expenditures has been made and which shows the general expenses of Grand Lodge running in excess of anticipated receipts; and

Whereas, it is apparent that the annual income of Grand Lodge must be increased to avoid the operation of the Grand Lodge at a deficit; and

Whereas, after consideration by the Grand Lodge Committee on Landmarks and the Committee on Finance, it has been deemed advisable to amend the Ahiman Rezon.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Article 10.01, Item 6, of the "Ahiman Rezon" be amended by striking out the amount of \$20.00 and substituting in lieu thereof the amount of \$25.00, so that Item 6 of Article 10.01 shall read as follows:

"6. Dues and Fees of Subordinate Lodge, viz:

Grand Lodge dues annually for each member who was a life member on December 7, 1955 - \$2.00

Grand Lodge dues annually for all other members - \$25.00

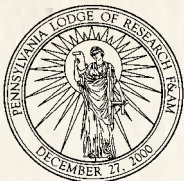
The subordinate lodge shall be relieved from payment of any Grand Lodge dues for any member whose lodge dues are remitted because of the inability of such member to pay his lodge dues, or where the lodge dues are remitted because he has been a Mason in good standing for 50 or more years, provided such lodge action in either case is by Resolution duly certified as such to the Grand Secretary.

Fee for each initiation, or admission, of a brother from a Lodge of another Jurisdiction - \$100.00"

The Members of the Grand Lodge are also requested to attend the Annual Grand Communication in the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 1000 Fort Duquesne Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa., Monday, December 28, 2009, at 10:00 o'clock, a.m. at which the Grand Lodge Officers will be installed.

**Mark A. Haines**

R.W. Grand Secretary



## FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER

An occasional periodical on Masonic Knowledge published by the Pennsylvania Lodge of Research  
Bro. Stephen Gardner, R.W. Grand Master • Bro. Joseph F. Acton, Worshipful Master, 2009

There has been a lot of interest in Freemasonry recently with movies, books and magazines touting the fraternity as something mystical, secretive, tyrannical, anti-church, anti-clerical, Satanic and a substitute for religion. Sometimes our own members can be confused, especially when criticized by members of churches and other religious institutions, which accuse Freemasonry of being a religion or a substitute for religion.

As noted by the Masonic Service Association, in its release of "Freemasonry and Religion" in December of 1993 (and revised in September 1996), Freemasonry is NOT a religion. While we require of our members their belief in the existence of a Supreme Being, Freemasonry advocates no sectarian faith or practice. While our Masonic ceremonies and gatherings involve prayers, both traditional and extempore, which affirm our dependence on God and which seek divine guidance, Freemasonry is open to men of any faith.

The Obligations that Freemasons take are sworn on the Volume of the Sacred Law, regarded as "the rule and guide of life." In the Judeo-Christian tradition, this open book is the Bible. To Freemasons of other faiths, it is the book held holy by them. These obligations

are undertakings to follow the principles of Freemasonry and to keep confidential Masonic means of recognition. The much-discussed "penalties," judicial remnants from an earlier era, are symbolic, not literal. They really symbolically refer to the pain any honest man should feel at the thought of violating his word.

Freemasonry lacks the basic elements of religion: (a) it has no dogma or theology; (b) it offers no Sacraments; and (c) it does not claim to lead to salvation by works, by secret knowledge or any other means. The secrets of Freemasonry are concerned with modes of recognition, not the means of salvation.

However, Freemasonry is far from indifferent toward religion. Without interfering in religious practice, Masonry expects each member to follow his own faith and to place his duty to God above all other duties. The moral teachings of Freemasonry are, if honestly presented and acknowledged, acceptable to all religions.

For further reference and information, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania some years ago presented a video discussion on Freemasonry and Religion. This can be accessed through your District Deputy Grand Master or the Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania.



# June Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of PA



The Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication was held June 20, 2009, at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia with 212 members and one visitor from another Jurisdiction attending.

In addition to a Resolution to amend the "Ahiman Rezon," described on page 6, a petition was received to Warrant a new lodge in Macungie to be named Lehigh Valley Day Lodge No. 813 (read more about this on p. 15).

To celebrate the completion of the recent conservation project, the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia was rededicated to Freemasonry. Congratulatory letters and a citation were received from Bro. Ed Rendell, Governor of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Senate and the Senate of Pennsylvania.

R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner was presented with a flag that was flown in 40 missions in Iraqi combat territory in honor of Pennsylvania Freemasonry, a display of gratitude for the fraternity's support of the troops fighting overseas.

Contributions were received for the Masonic Temple Initiative, the "Change for the Troops" program, the Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation and the Masonic CHIP program.



Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania





# CHANGE FOR THE TROOPS

*\$244,183.31 has been raised as of Sept. 15, 2009*

**Stephen Gardner & Gordon Hensel,**

On behalf of the soldiers here in Afghanistan and myself, thank you for your most generous gift of phone cards. The families are always relieved when they get a call from their service member and these will certainly ease the minds back home when soldiers use them to call.

**Thank you,  
SGM Gigi Banjak**

---

**May 14, 2009**

**Mr. Gardner,**

I wanted to personally thank you for the phone cards that you sent. I and two of my fellow Marines do appreciate the cards. It was a welcomed and wonderful surprise. They couldn't have come at a better time. We are finishing our long seven months here and will be returning to the states early June. The phone cards will be of great use as we make our final calls from here in Iraq.

Mr. Ed Stumm is a great man and a close family friend. I will see him upon my return to Pennsylvania in late June and will personally thank him as well. If I could ask a favor for you to please pass on my thanks to the rest of your organization and specifically Mr. Gary Dukeman for the calling cards and your continued support. Thanks again.

**Thank you,  
J. M. SPEAKMAN  
Captain USMC  
HMLA-369  
AH-1W Cobra Pilot**

---

I appreciate the card and please let the PA Masons know that we are grateful for their support and generosity.

**Dave Wentzel  
SSG, PAARNG  
E Co 2-104th GSAB (forward)  
Motor Sergeant  
"DARKHORSE 9"**

---

**Dear Grand Secretary's Office,**

On behalf of the Capooci and Kaczmarek families and our grandson Lee Kaczmarek who is serving in Iraq, we would like to thank you for the calling cards you sent for him and his other troops. The cards were greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for thinking of our troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sincerely,

**The Capooci Family  
The Kaczmarek Family  
Especially Thank you from our grandson, Lee.**

**Dear Brother Secretary,**

I am sorry that I will miss Strawberry Night this year, due to the "needs of the Army."

Please convey my greetings and thanks to all of the brethren present for the support they have given myself and my soldiers. All of my soldiers have received one (some two or three) of the 300-minute phone cards that Grand Lodge has been purchasing and sending over. Many of them were surprised at the generosity of the brethren and several changed their attitude about the lodge in general. I have been reading in the "Freemason" about how the "Change for Troops" program is working and we are certainly seeing the benefits.

Pennsylvania has had the largest number of Citizen Soldiers deployed of any state since September 11, 2001. And the deployment of the 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team is the largest deployment from our state since WW II. We have over 500 soldiers here currently.

Again from my soldiers and myself, thank you for the support.

**Fraternally,  
SFC G.S. Robins III  
Squadron TAC-A NCOIC/PSO  
2nd Squadron 104 Cavalry (RSTA)  
"TASKFORCE RAVEN"**

**Camp Taji, Iraq**

*Also: Master Mason, Mt. Pickering Lodge, No. 446, Upper Uwchland  
"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants." -Thomas Jefferson*

---

**Stephen Gardner  
RW Grand Master**

On behalf of my family and son-in-law, SPC Joseph Adams, I would like to thank you for sending the phone cards for him and his friends. They were greatly appreciated.

**Sincerely,  
James C. Rae (PM)  
Mozart Lodge No. 436, Philadelphia**

---

**RWGM Gardner:**

Sir and Brother, It is with great appreciation and pride to hear from our son-in-law that he has received the phone cards and your letter in Afghanistan. He did say the cards were in great shape but the envelope they were in looked like it walked the last 1,000 miles in the desert. I wish to convey my thanks to everyone involved for the great program. It really shows what we can do when we put our minds and resources together. It has to help the morale of our people overseas to at least call and let the home folks know where they are. I know my folks never knew where I was until a few weeks later when mail left the ship.

**Thanks again,  
Royal F. Parker  
Drexel Hill, PA**





# Their Work is Never Done



*Command Sgt. Maj. John Jones of Julian, Pa., 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, shown next to Stryker combat vehicles*

“Change for the Troops” continues to touch the lives of more and more soldiers serving in Afghanistan and Iraq every day. In early September, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was contacted by Bro. Richard Ackerman, Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, father of Maj. Brian Ackerman, the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Aeromedical Evacuation Unit in Afghanistan, inquiring about the calling card program. Col. and Bro. Harris Brooks made direct contact with Maj. Ackerman, whose unit is responsible for transporting injured soldiers from the battlefield to the U.S. military hospital in Afghanistan. After being stabilized, the wounded are sent to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany before returning to the United States.

After speaking with Maj. Ackerman, Bro. Brooks learned, much to his surprise, the two had met before and have similar backgrounds in aeromedical evacuation. As the OIC and a Masonic representative, Bro. and Maj. Ackerman will oversee the direct distribution of the calling cards to servicemen and women as they arrive at the hospital in Afghanistan. Within hours of their injuries, they are able to call home and update their families. The calling cards have 300 minutes, so the injured can continue to use the card as they are transported to Germany and make their way home.

The more than 4,000 members of the 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT), which were activated at the end of 2008 and deployed to Iraq in January, have begun returning home after more than six months of combat operations north of Baghdad. Thanks to the generosity of Pennsylvania Freemasons, family and friends through “Change for the Troops,” each of the unit’s soldiers, as they deployed to the desert,



received a 300-minute calling card to keep in touch with their loved ones.

“This allows me to keep in touch with my wife, child and newborn,” Capt. Adam Grove said.

“Having communication back home really makes deployment less stressful,” Staff Sgt. Brian Remsing said.

Not only was the unit given calling cards as they deployed, but Command Sgt. Maj. John Jones of the 56 SBCT contacted Bro. Brooks from Iraq and requested 1,500 additional calling cards. Grand Lodge immediately filled the request. “We’re not just giving them cards,” Bro. Brooks said. “We stay in communication with units in the AOR [Area of Responsibility], and as they need more calling cards, we provide them.”

“I want to thank all the Pennsylvania Masons for the calling cards,” Command Sgt. Maj. John Jones wrote from Iraq. “As the 56th SBCT Command Sergeant Major, knowing our soldiers had some help calling home when they needed to was a big help. That, in itself, was a relief to the leadership of the 56 SBCT. I am sure the calling cards helped some of our soldiers get through a tough time or say hello to someone back home. When soldiers can contact their family and friends it is often a big stress relief when deployed.

“Again I want to thank the Pennsylvania Masons from all the soldiers in the 56 Stryker Brigade Combat Team.”

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is planning a Welcome Home reception before the end of the year to thank the Stryker Brigade for their dedication and service, with invitees to include Gov. and Bro. Ed Rendell; Maj. Gen. Jessica Wright, Adjutant General of Pennsylvania; TSgt Kevin Casciano, Family Readiness NCO for Airmen and Family Readiness Flight 305th AW at McGuire Air Force Base; other SBCT leadership and members of Grand Lodge. Grand Master Gardner anticipates having the soldiers share their stories and giving them a tour of the Masonic Temple.

Stryker Brigade, Company C of the 1st Battalion of the 111th Infantry (1/111th) out of Kutztown, has expressed profound appreciation for the calling cards and other contributions from Pennsylvania Freemasons, including transportation home for Christmas from Fort Dix prior to their deployment to Iraq in January, legal representation for a soldier’s wife and money for a welcome home party upon the unit’s return to the United States.

In gratitude for the Grand Lodge’s efforts to comfort troops overseas, the Pennsylvania Air National Guard entertained Grand Master Gardner and the Grand Lodge Officers with lunch at the Willow Grove Air Reserve Station and a tour of their aircraft and facilities on Aug. 8. Poor weather prevented the main event, which was to include a flight in a Pennsylvania Air National Guard Tanker as the tanker refueled A-10 fighter planes out of Willow Grove mid-air. The event is being rescheduled.

In late October, Grand Master Gardner will travel to the Grand Lodge of Germany and will also pay a visit to the Ramstein Air Base in Germany to personally distribute 75-minute calling cards for soldiers receiving care at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center before their return home.

Thousands of troops remain stationed overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan. Your contributions to “Change for the Troops” is continuously appreciated. Until every soldier is home, our work supporting the troops will not be finished.

*Capt. Adam Grove of York and Staff Sgt. Brian Remsing of Philadelphia on Sept. 6 at Camp Taji, Iraq. The phone cards provided by the Masons are sure to see use at calling centers in Iraq and Kuwait as 56th SBCT, Pennsylvania Army National Guard Soldiers redeploy to the U.S. after eight months in Iraq, part of a year-long mobilization.*





THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA

# CELEBRATING AMERICA



*21st Century Masonic Renaissance*



**Monday, December 28, 2009**

David L. Lawrence Convention Center  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The installation, luncheon and banquet, are open to the public. Please invite your spouse, family and friends to attend along with you!

## Schedule

**10AM**

Anticipated Open Installation of  
**Thomas K. Sturgeon**  
as Right Worshipful Grand Master

**(immediately following installation)**  
FREE Luncheon *(reservations requested)*

**5:30PM**

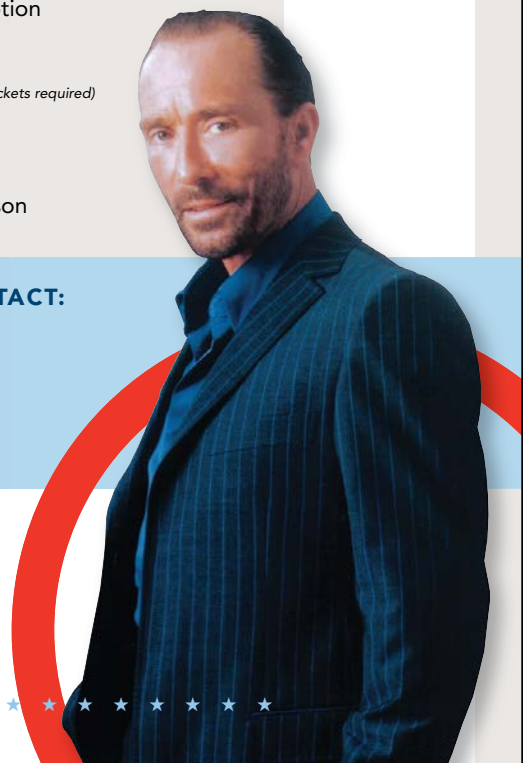
Cash Bar Reception

**6:30PM**

Dinner *(advanced tickets required)*  
Entertainment

**COST**

\$50.00 per person



**FOR TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Your District Deputy Grand Master**  
or the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Office at  
215-988-1901 or [gsoffice@pagrandlodge.org](mailto:gsoffice@pagrandlodge.org)

**Reservations are due by November 15, 2009**

Entertainment by Grammy Award Winner

**Lee Greenwood**

*featuring the 1985 Song of the Year, "God Bless the USA."*



Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania



## Warrant Members Honored



On March 9, Mount Zion Lodge No. 774, McConnellsburg, honored the three remaining warrant members of the lodge during their Stated Meeting. R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner and R.W. Junior Grand Warden Robert J. Bateman attended.

Mount Zion Lodge was constituted by a warrant from Grand Lodge on April 10, 1954, in a meeting of 15 Grand Lodge Officers and 27 warrant members who had resigned their memberships in other lodges to form this new lodge.

*Left-right: Brothers Harvey J. Culler, raised 4/17/53, George Washington Lodge No. 143; Robert J. Bateman, R.W.J.G.W.; Daniel E. Winter, raised 2/22/52, George Washington Lodge No. 143; Stephen Gardner, R.W.G.M.; and Kenneth G. Richards, raised 1/28/49 in Everett Lodge No. 524.*

## Two Lodges Make History in Annapolis, Maryland

Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135 and Hackenburg Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 19, both of Philadelphia, traveled to Annapolis Lodge No. 89 in Maryland on May 2, to confer the Master Mason Degree on Bro. Alexander Reiner, of Lodge No. 135. The degree team was composed of officers from both lodges, with Bro. S. Robert Wagman, P.M., Secretary of Lodge No. 19, as Worshipful Master. This was the first time that Pennsylvania ritual had been presented in Annapolis Lodge. They were able to accomplish this with the assistance of Bro. William L. Kingsbury, District Deputy Grand Master for District C. This was the second time that both lodges had traveled together to another jurisdiction to confer a degree, and both hope to continue this in the future.

At the completion of the degree, the three lodges enjoyed lunch prepared by the Stewards of Annapolis Lodge.

During the degree conferral, the ladies toured Annapolis and then both lodges toured the Naval Academy. After stopping for a buffet dinner, the group returned home with memories of a great time and thoughts about next year's trip.



## Good Samaritan Lodge Members Live Up To Their Name



On May 9, members of Good Samaritan Lodge No. 336, Gettysburg, participated in their semi-annual cleanup of the "Friend to Friend" monument cemetery annex adjacent to the Gettysburg National Battlefield. The lodge signed an agreement with the National Military Park to volunteer every May and November to do a general cleaning of the entire monument area. Providing their own equipment and supplies, the brethren weed, trim hedges, prune shrubs, rake leaves, mulch shrub beds, sweep the area and haul away any trash they generate.





## I'm a Dues Payer

Written by Robert L. Duge, Jr., R.W.P.G.M. 2000-2001

I'm a dues payer,  
 That's what I'm called.  
 I belong to a fraternity,  
 But don't get involved.  
 It fits really nice,  
 What do the symbols mean?  
 I better think twice.  
 We meet once a month,  
 That's what the notices still say,  
 But its so long since I've been there,  
 I don't get out that way.  
 It's not that it's far,  
 I pass it all the time,  
 But I've got things more important,  
 There's things that are mine.  
 There's football, there's basketball, baseball  
 and more,  
 Those things that are close to the refrigerator  
 door.  
 The TV, the VCR, the movies with gore,  
 I don't know who could want more.  
 My friends, my Brothers,  
 The obligations I took,  
 Once meant something to me,  
 But lately I don't give them a second look.

You see I'm a dues payer.  
 That's what I am.  
 I'm proud to belong,  
 But wouldn't lend a hand.  
 But be there when I need you, my brother, my  
 friend.  
 You may not recognize me,  
 But of your hand, I may need a lend.  
 Let the "powers that be" run the show,  
 I'm too much on the go.  
 There's not enough time or money right now  
 for me,  
 See me later,  
 Maybe when I'm 83.  
 Take a look in the mirror,  
 Are these things you say?  
 If so, reconsider and without delay.  
 For if you don't,  
 You can only blame yourself,  
 And all others like you who sit on the shelf.  
 Yes, you're a dues payer,  
 That's what you are,  
 Get involved and give yourself to your  
 fraternity,  
 'Cause it won't last through eternity.



## Entered, Passed and Raised While on Mid-Tour Leave from Iraq



On the evening of May 6, members of Marion Lodge No. 562, Connellsville, were pleased to confer the three degrees in Freemasonry on LTC Kenneth E. King, Commander, 306th Military Police Battalion. A dispensation to confer the degrees on the same day was granted by R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner. Bro. King was home on a two-week leave from his duties at Camp Bucca, Iraq. Bro. Scott A. Felentzer, W.M., conferred the Entered Apprentice Mason degree and Bro. Michael C. Snyder, S.W., conferred the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees. Following the degrees, several presentations were made, including a U.S. Flag which had flown over Camp Bucca in Iraq. In addition, Bro. King was presented with a letter from R.W. Grand Master Gardner, recognizing his sacrifice and thanking him for his service to our country, along with a "Change for the Troops" calling card.

*Left-right: Brothers Michael C. Snyder, S.W.; Kenneth E. King; and Scott A. Felentzer, W.M.*

## JOIN YOUR BRETHREN! Use the NEW Masonic Credit Card and Benefit Our Masonic Charities



The new Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Visa credit card is the **only** card that supports the Grand Lodge and our Masonic Charities. U.S. Bank offers a rewards program that benefits members and allows you to support our Masonic Charities every time you use it. In addition to great benefits, which include no annual fee, your choice of rewards and 1,000 bonus points with your first purchase, U.S. Bank is pleased to provide a special introductory offer of 0% APR for 6 months on all purchases and balance transfers.

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 The creditor and issuer of the Visa Platinum card is the U.S. Bank National Association ND.

*The card is also available with a picture of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, a group of famous Masons or a circle of children.*





## A Brother in the East... the Far East

By Bro. Anthony J. Dintino III, St. Alban Lodge No. 529

In November 2008, I made my first trip to Japan, which was a long-time dream finally fulfilled. Being an avid martial arts devotee, even as a child, I always had a great respect and admiration for Japan and the Japanese people; therefore, this was a trip I wanted to take years before being made a brother of our craft.

However, after attending the Academy of Masonic Knowledge Meeting in March 2008, where one of the speakers talked about Freemasonry in Japan, I made the decision to contact a lodge in Tokyo and request permission to visit. After several e-mails, I made contact with the secretary of Tokyo Lodge No. 2, Bro. David Parmer, P.M. Bro. Parmer, who ironically is a Philadelphia native, welcomed me to attend their Stated Meeting to be held on Nov. 6.

After a 14-hour flight and 1½ hour drive to the hotel in the Akasaka section of Tokyo and a quick shower, I was off in a taxi cab to the Tokyo Masonic Center. In keeping with Japanese custom, I had brought along several Philadelphia Phillies baseball caps as gifts for the officers of the lodge. I knew these would be well received with the recent Phillies win in the World Series. With only about 500 native Japanese Freemasons in the whole country, the Masonic Center is not a well-known building (unlike our Temple); therefore, it took a little walking around and guidance from the one western person I found, to get to the Masonic Center. Although he was from Canada, I gave him a Phillies hat as a token of thanks.

Once inside, I was very cordially invited to wait in a lounge for Bro. Parmer. He showed up shortly thereafter, and I received my first examination as a Mason. Having been satisfied I was a brother of the craft, I was invited to sit in the north as the lodge opened.

I was extremely surprised to see how beautifully the lodge was decorated. Various shades of blue and natural wood adorned the room, which had the tessellated border going around the edge of the carpet. The pinnacle of the lodge room's décor was the "Canopy of Heaven" above the altar; this was a section of the ceiling that had been recessed and made in a dome-shape, painted blue, with lights as stars. This really embodied the symbolic meaning, as one felt as if he was looking into the infinite universe as constructed by the Great Architect.

Attendance at the meeting was small, but warm nonetheless.

With a Master, two Wardens, Secretary and two Deacons, the meeting was opened and conducted in English. Obviously, the ritual was much different from ours in Pennsylvania, but still embodied the true brotherly love of Freemasonry. Worshipful Master Satoru Harano, P.M., conducted his meeting with great reverence and earnestness. Sitting with me in the audience was Past Grand Master Hideo Kobayashi, whom I came to find out is an avid baseball fan, and he also sent his high regards for our R.W. Grand Master and our Jurisdiction. At the close of the meeting, I presented Brothers Kobayashi, Harano and Parmer with Phillies caps; they in turn presented me with their 60th Anniversary Lodge Pin, which I proudly wore at our St. Alban Stated Meeting in December.

In the true nature of our craft, this experience was a "three-fold" first for me: it was my first trip to Japan, my first trip to another lodge outside our jurisdiction and my first examination as a visitor. I still keep in touch with Bro. Parmer and look forward to a future trip to Japan and seeing my brothers in Tokyo Lodge No. 2.



Left-right: Brothers Satoru Harano, W.M., Tokyo Lodge No. 2; Anthony Dintino, St. Alban Lodge No. 529; Hideo Kobayashi, P.G.M., and David Parmer, P.M., both of Tokyo Lodge No. 2.





# A Lifesaver, Almost a Thousand Times Over



Bro. Edward Budman, P.M., Lodge No. 2, Philadelphia, has quietly helped save the lives of hundreds of people over the course of his lifetime. He's not Superman, nor is he a doctor. He is a blood donor.

Since the age of 17, he has donated 41 gallons of blood which, based on the American Red Cross' assessment, means he potentially has come to the rescue of 985 people in need. His selfless act has earned him a Real Heroes 2009 Award from the American Red Cross Lower Bucks County Chapter & Citizens Bank.

Bro. Budman donated his first pint of blood as a young man after his grandmother became ill.

"It became a habit," he said. "There's always a need. If you can give, the effects are nil. For a person who needs it, it's very important."

Someone in this country needs blood every two seconds, according to the American Red Cross, while only about 5 percent of eligible Americans give blood annually. Blood donation is a simple sacrifice, and while most donors never meet their recipients, they feel the satisfaction of knowing they may have saved the lives of multiple strangers.

Bro. Budman knows first-hand that illness or injury can strike at any moment. Three years ago, he was diagnosed with melanoma and had to temporarily stop donating blood. Today, he is fully recovered and back to giving regular blood donations.

Instead of a traditional blood donation, he gives blood platelets and plasma through a more complex process called apheresis. While the process takes about two hours, it immediately replenishes the donor's red blood cells and he or she is able to donate blood again within three days. The legal maximum number of times a person can donate platelets in a year is 24, which is exactly how many times Bro. Budman makes the sacrifice.

He also donates infection-fighting white cells called granulocytes. These are needed for patients receiving bone marrow transplants whose white blood cell counts are low. He is on call with local hospitals in case a patient matching his granulocyte type needs help – a call he has answered 20 times in his lifetime.

Carrying on a tradition of blood donation are Bro. Budman's sons, Brandon Budman and Bro. Derek Budman, also a member of Lodge No. 2. He even found a way to combine his dedication to the Masonic fraternity with his commitment to donating blood.

For 15 years, he has served on the Board of Directors for the Masonic Blood Donor Club, a blood assurance plan. A blood assurance plan is a group of people who join together and agree to donate blood on a routine basis in anticipation of the future needs of the group's members. Participation offers members cost-free blood replacement on a nationwide basis, as long as the hospital is a member of the American Association of Blood Banks. This offers valuable protection for members and their families, since most

**"Be a blood and organ donor. All it costs is a little love."**

~Author Unknown



health insurance policies may not pay for all the blood required.

As a member of the Masonic Blood Donor Club, Bro. Budman organizes blood drives through local churches and he visits lodges to share more information about blood donation and the benefits of being a member of the blood donor club.

"Ed has never lost his commitment to the numerous Masonic blood drives and the value of human life," Bro. David Tansey, District Deputy Grand Master of District D, Jerusalem Lodge No. 506, Philadelphia, said. "He leads by example and represents himself and all Freemasons with honor."

"The best feeling is just making sure you are doing what you can," Bro. Budman said.

To become a hero to many, you can find a Masonic Blood Donor Club membership form on the Grand Lodge Web site at [www.pagrandlodge.org](http://www.pagrandlodge.org) and select Blood/Organ Donors from the left panel. If for health reasons you are unable to donate blood, you may join to be supplied with a donor. There are no dues required for membership; however, voluntary donations are greatly appreciated.

If you would like to schedule a speaker; if your lodge, valley or Shrine wants to set up a Bloodmobile; or to participate in a Bloodmobile with a local church, school or business, please e-mail Bro. Norman A. Fox, Hackenburg Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 19, Philadelphia, at [normfox@aol.com](mailto:normfox@aol.com) or contact Bro. William Gottschalk, Frankford Lodge No. 292, Philadelphia, at (717) 361-4067 or via e-mail at [bng5650@dejazzd.com](mailto:bng5650@dejazzd.com).

## Blood Donations Really Add Up (according to the American Red Cross)

**32,000:** number of pints of blood donated each day in the United States

**3:** number of gallons of blood used every minute

**2:** number of seconds that another person needs blood

**6:** number of times you can donate blood each year

**3:** number of lives saved with each donation

**60:** number of minutes it takes to donate blood

**Priceless:** satisfaction of helping others



# The Birth of Lehigh Valley Day Lodge



On Sept. 12, Stephen Gardner, R.W. Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge Officers held a Special Communication to constitute the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania's 813th lodge, Lehigh Valley Day Lodge, Macungie. The first day lodge in Pennsylvania Freemasonry's history, it is only the fourth lodge to be constituted in the last 30 years.

Lehigh Valley Day Lodge has been more than a decade in the making. Grand Master Gardner first suggested the idea while serving as District Deputy Grand Master of the 10th District (1992-1998), according to current District Deputy Grand Master Ralph Slider.

"We had two purposes for wanting to get a day lodge started," Bro. Slider said. "To accommodate older Masons who cannot drive or don't wish to be out late at night, and to attract younger non-Masons who work second or third shift and because of their work schedule have been unable to join the fraternity. We want members to have the opportunity to meet during the day time."

The process of forming a new lodge begins when brethren approach their District Deputy Grand Master. Through his approval, the members then petition the R.W. Grand Master for permission. Led by Bro. Robert H. Hoffman, III, W.M., Lehigh Valley Day Lodge No. 813 and P.M., Greenleaf Lodge No. 561, Allentown, the

members working on approval of Lehigh Valley Day Lodge met as a club in January and elected future officers. The officers attended meetings of all Masonic bodies and informed membership of the new lodge. Response was immediate. Every officer carried several petitions with him at all times, and as of Aug. 29, they have 143 Warrant members.

The Warrant officers are Brothers Hoffman, Worshipful Master; David M. Howells, Sr., P.M., Senior Warden; James E. Flemming, P.M., Junior Warden; Carl J. Willis, P.M., Treasurer; and Curtis C. Lemuell, Secretary.

All brethren will keep dual memberships in their current lodge and the new Lehigh Valley Day Lodge. The lodge will meet in the Lehigh Lodge No. 326 Masonic Temple in Macungie.

"We're excited and anxious. Our officer line has been filled since day one," Bro. Hoffman said. "We hope [Lehigh Valley Day Lodge] opens the door to more day lodges throughout the state."

New lodges are numbered in the order they are constituted. If a lodge dissolves, the number is never reused. As of 2009, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has a total of 440 active lodges, including its newest, Lehigh Valley Day Lodge.

## Three New Lewis Masons Raised at East McKeesport Lodge No. 765

Two fathers from East McKeesport Lodge No. 765, Duquesne, have been busy the first half of this year conferring degrees upon their sons and presenting them with Lewis Jewels. Lewis Jewels have been used in England and other Jurisdictions under the United Grand Lodge of England for many decades, and under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania since 2007.

On April 16, George Drakulic III and Matthew Luke Mochan separately received the third degree in Freemasonry. Bro. George

Drakulic II acted as the guide for his son, George. Bro. Edward P. Prihoda, P.M., conferred George's degree.

Bro. Michael Mochan, P.M., W.M., conferred the Master Mason degree upon his youngest son, Matthew. On June 11, he conferred the Master Mason degree upon his eldest son, Michael Christopher Mochan. Michael's recently raised brother, Bro. Matthew, acted as his guide. A fine meal and fellowship followed both conferrals.



Left: Bros. George Drakulic III, George Drakulic II, Matthew Luke Mochan, Gregory Drakulic and Michael Mochan. Bro. Gregory Drakulic (uncle) traveled from North Carolina to witness the conferral.

Right: Bros. Matthew Luke Mochan, Michael Mochan and Michael Christopher Mochan





# Third Annual MSG Sean M. Thomas Memorial Ride



On June 6, the Masonic Motorcycle Club, Chapter 38, revved their engines and hit the open road to help provide educational scholarships for the children of soldiers killed in the Global War on Terror since Sept. 11, 2001, including Bro. and MSG Sean Thomas's daughter, Alexa. The motorcycle ride, hosted by the Muncy American Legion post, took participants on a 70-mile route through Lycoming and Sullivan counties and returned to the Muncy Legion for food, raffles, prizes and DJ entertainment donated by RMB Sound.

Bro. Thomas, La Fayette Lodge No. 199, Lock Haven, was a native of Hughesville, Pa., and was serving with the Pennsylvania National Guard in Iraq when he was killed in a rocket attack on Feb. 27, 2007. His wife, Carrie, and Alexa were present at this year's event, as they have been since the ride's inception in June 2007. The ride was started to help provide educational money for Alexa and to keep Bro. Thomas' memory and sacrifice to his country alive.

His brothers, Dave and Dan Thomas, have been very supportive of the event and wanted to help other children as well. As a result, 50 percent of all proceeds were given to this year's American Legion Legacy Run, a motorcycle ride from Indianapolis to Louisville which raises money for a scholarship trust fund to help provide educational benefits for children of fallen soldiers all over the United States.

On Aug. 19, members of Chapter 38 rode to the Flight 93 National Memorial crash site in Shanksville, Pa., to present the American Legion National Commander with a check for \$2,000 for the Legacy Run. Members of Chapter 38 have raised well over \$25,000 in the last three years and have given it all to various local and some national charitable causes and organizations, including Wounded Warriors, Scotland School for Veterans Children, Andrew's Special Kids Foundation, Masonic Children's Home, Toys for Tots

Marine Corps League, Wilkes-Barre VA Hospital patients, Shriners Hospitals for Children, Masonic Child Identification Program (CHIP) and many other local organizations.

Chapter 38 would like to thank everyone who attended the Third Annual MSG Sean Thomas Memorial Ride and look forward to seeing everyone again next year for the fourth ride. Special thanks to the following for their help and support: Combat Vets, Muncy American Legion, Legion Riders 251, Knight Crew Motorcycle Club, Masonic Motorcycle Club Chapters 25 and 32, RMB Sound, Sullivan County Roadhouse, Laporte State Police Troopers and all the firemen and women from Pennsdale and Muncy who helped ensure a safe ride for all participants.

Chapter 38 members also regularly attend Rolling Thunder in Washington, D.C., as well as numerous local motorcycle, Masonic and veteran-related events. Members belong to various Masonic lodges, Scottish Rite, Zafar Grotto, American Legion, VFW, 40/8 and other related organizations. For more information, please visit [www.chapter38.net/default.aspx](http://www.chapter38.net/default.aspx).



Left-right: Martin Russell, Watsonstown Lodge No. 401; Robert Trutt; Craig Kratzer; Jamie Phillips, Lodge No. 401; Andrew Kline, Mifflinburg Lodge No. 370 and Lodge No. 401; Todd Whitmyer, Charity Lodge No. 144; and Combat Vets Brian Sosonskie and James Hotchkiss.

## Lodge No. 19 Celebrates 230th Anniversary with Table Lodge



Hackenburg Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 19, Philadelphia, celebrated its 230th Anniversary of the Military Warrant issued to the lodge on May 18, 1779. During the Table Lodge, speeches were given about Brothers Benjamin Franklin, George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette. Nearly 90 brethren attended the event, with numerous visitors from both Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135, Philadelphia, and Prudence Lodge No. 11, of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The Table Lodge was officiated by Hackenburg Mt. Moriah's Worshipful Master Michael Feldsher, P.M., Senior Warden Scott Kattleman and Junior Warden Jerome Springer. The speeches were given by Brothers Leonard Rosenfeld, P.M., Richard A. Heath, P.M., Worshipful Master of Palestine-Roxborough Lodge No. 135, and William Ciminera, a high school history teacher at Upper Darby

High School and tour guide at Independence Hall. Bro. William L. Kingsbury, P.M., District Deputy Grand Master for District C, conferred 50- and 60-year service awards on the appropriate lodge members. The lodge honored its Steward, Bro. Leonard Kornit, with an engraved plate for his years of service.

The Franklin Institute loaned the lodge two pieces from the Franklin Collection, a fish trowel and a first edition published treatise on Franklin's Experiments on Electricity, and provided a glass case and insurance for the event. Numerous citations marking the lodge's anniversary were also displayed from the State of Pennsylvania, the City of Philadelphia, the office of Pennsylvania U. S. Senator, Arlen Specter, as well as other Pennsylvania congressional and state representatives. A historical representation of the lodge's minutes and meeting notices were put on display by the Masonic Library and Museum of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the affair.

In keeping with the lodge's history of charitable giving, a silent auction was held, raising \$500 to benefit the Spinal Cord Unit of Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia. The lodge received the following generous donations for the auction: a Masonic watch from Robbins Diamonds in Philadelphia, a hockey puck used in a Flyers game and signed by Mike Knuble and a signed photograph of Samuel Dalembert of the 76ers.







Following the Erie Masonic Temple's 100th Anniversary Celebration on June 6, attendees enjoyed a cruise on the Victorian Princess on Presque Isle Bay, an inlet of Lake Erie.

Shown at left are R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner and his lady, Patricia; R.W. Senior Grand Warden Jay W. Smith and his lady, Nancy; R.W. Junior Grand Warden Robert J. Bateman and his lady, Joanne; and R.W. Grand Secretary Mark A. Haines and his lady, Karen.

## 150th Anniversaries

In 1859, under the leadership of Pennsylvania native President Bro. James Buchanan and Vice President Bro. John C. Breckinridge, Governor of Pennsylvania Bro. William Fisher Packer welcomed the first state agricultural college: Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania. This school is better known as the Pennsylvania State University today. Further north, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was founded, although classes were not offered until 1865. Among inventions premiering that year was the first hotel passenger elevator, a set of moving stairs, the first sleeping car (by Bro. George Pullman), a rocket and the first fishing line factory. French tightrope walker J.F. Gavelet, also known as Charles Blondin, crossed Niagara Falls. Bro. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, was born this year.

### Union Lodge No. 334, Bradford

Through the recommendation of North Star Lodge No. 241, Warren, Union Lodge No. 334 was constituted on Aug. 3, 1859.

To celebrate 150 years, lodge members hosted a banquet on Sept. 5. R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner and several Grand Lodge Officers were in attendance. All lodges within District 22 were invited, and the event included a barbershop quartet.

McKean County, where Bradford is located, was created out of Lycoming County in 1804 and was named for Thomas McKean, governor of Pennsylvania from 1799-1808 and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. It is one of the prime wilderness vacation areas in the eastern United States due to the soaring mountains and forests which blanket the area.

The origins of the name Bradford are unknown. Some say the town was named in honor of William Bradford, the second U.S. Attorney General and namesake of Bradford County. Others maintain the town was named after founder Daniel Kingsbury's ancestral hometown of Bradford (at the broad ford, in this case, on the Avon River), England. Bradford was at the center of the 1880s oil boom and is home to the Zippo lighter company.

### Eureka Lodge No. 335, Montoursville

Through the endorsement of members of Lodge No. 106, Williamsport, Eureka Lodge No. 335 was constituted on Aug. 4, 1859.

In honor of their 150th anniversary, lodge members gathered on Aug. 8 for a special meeting and banquet. Grand Master Gardner and Robert J. Bateman, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, joined the brethren for the celebration.

The lodge's home, Lycoming County, created in 1795, was named for Lycoming Creek. All or part of 17 counties were created from Lycoming, and it remains the largest county in Pennsylvania, despite being only one-tenth of its original size. Once the lumber center of the state, Lycoming's chief economic resources are coal, limestone and agriculture.

Montoursville, founded by John Burrows, is named for the Montour family who originally settled in the area. Burrows was a mailman and courier for President and Bro. George Washington and eventually served as a state senator. Having bought 570 acres, Burrows divided his land into lots and sold them until his death in 1837. Montoursville was incorporated as a borough in 1850.

## 100th Anniversary

As was the case 50 years earlier, Freemasons served as U.S. president, vice president and governor of Pennsylvania in 1909. President Bro. Theodore Roosevelt and Vice President Bro. Charles W. Fairbanks served in the White House, until President Bro. William Howard Taft and Vice President James S. Sherman were inaugurated. Bro. Edwin S. Stuart led Pennsylvania as governor. Elsewhere in the world, Brothers Robert Peary (a native of Cresson, Pa.) and Matthew Henson were the first to reach the North Pole, while Bro. Ernest Shackleton found the magnetic South Pole. That same year, the first memorial postage stamp was issued on Feb. 12 and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in 1909, commemorating the 100th anniversary of President Lincoln's birth.

### Parian Lodge No. 662, Beaver Falls

Through the recommendations of Beaver Valley Lodge No. 478, Parian Lodge No. 662 was constituted on June 25, 1909. Beaver Valley Lodge later merged with Parian Lodge in 1979.

In honor of their 100th anniversary, lodge members are planning a celebration on Oct. 24. R.W. Grand Master Gardner has been invited to attend.

Beaver County was one of the eight counties created by an Act of Assembly in 1800. It was named for the various streams called Beaver which flow through it. These streams formed important

links in the proposed Ohio and Lake Erie Ship Canal. The county was rich in bituminous coal, fire clay, sandstone, limestone, gas and oil, and nearly 80 percent of the soil is fertile because of the many waterways.

Beaver Falls, the home of Parian Lodge, was originally called Brighton, but the name was changed to Beaver Falls to avoid confusion with the town of New Brighton and because of the falls in the Beaver River. Incorporated a borough in 1868, Beaver Falls is located 31 miles northwest of Pittsburgh on the Beaver River, six miles from its convergence with the Ohio River. The area has suffered and prospered with the fortunes of Pittsburgh.





# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Outdoor Meeting In The Hills

by Richard E. Bigley, P.M., Secretary, Marion Lodge No. 562



Scott A. Felentzer, W.M., welcomes Thomas K. Bro. Rexford F. Cox, P.D.D.G.M. (right), addresses Fraternity members, visitors and officers of Marion Sturgeon, R.W.D.G.M. (left), look on. Rodney E. Boyce, D.D.G.M. (center) Lodge No. 562 pledge allegiance to the flag.

June 26, 2009, was a beautiful day in a remote location near Dawson, Pa., when 571 brothers from 69 lodges and six different Jurisdictions enjoyed a delicious cooked-to-order New York Strip Steak dinner with all the trimmings. Following dinner, Bro. Scott A. Felentzer, W.M., Marion Lodge No. 562, with the aid of his officers, kicked off the 12th Annual Meeting in the Hills by opening a Lodge of Master Masons at 7:30 p.m. Bro. Felentzer announced that the purpose of this special meeting was to recognize and honor one of District 30's very own Past District Deputy Grand Masters, Bro. Rexford "Rex" F. Cox. Bro. Rodney E. Boyce, current District Deputy Grand Master, was received and carried out the evening's program of honoring Bro. Cox. Bro. Richard J. Stemmler, P.D.D.G.M., talked about Rex's personal life, including his marriage, family and work. Bro. James L. Ernette, R.W.P.G.M., spoke of Bro. Cox's deep involvement with the Tall Cedars of Lebanon. Bro. Jeffrey M. Wonderling, P.D.D.G.M., outlined Bro. Cox's long-time commitment to the various York Rite bodies, and Bro. Boyce spoke of his 57 years of work in Blue Lodge, including his 20 years as Principal of the 30th

Masonic District's School of Instruction. Bro. Boyce presented Bro. Cox with a booklet outlining his personal and Masonic life as presented by the aforementioned brothers. He also recognized Bro. Cox for his 75 years of membership in the Order of DeMolay by presenting him with his 75-year service pin and certificate of recognition from DeMolay International. Bro. Felentzer presented Bro. Cox with a plaque commemorating the occasion and a gift certificate to one of his favorite restaurants. Bro. Cox expressed his appreciation for the recognition and received a long and loud ovation.

Before closing the meeting, Bro. Thomas K. Sturgeon, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, spoke briefly, during which he thanked Bro. Cox for his service to Freemasonry and complimented the lodges from the Pleasant Valley Masonic Center on their success in conducting these outdoor meetings. Bro. Sturgeon said that he is looking forward to returning next year as Grand Master, and that we should all plan on attending, as something will take place that has never before occurred in Pennsylvania. With that comment, Bro. Sturgeon went on to assist in closing the lodge in harmony at 8:10 p.m.

## SCHEDULE FOR THE TRAVEL OF THE UNITY BOX AND GAVEL

April 2 - Dist. 36 No. 236, Dist. 36 No. 578	Sept. 3 - Dist. 2 No. 364, Dist. 2 No. 629	Oct. 5 - Dist. 3 No. 302	Dec. 1 - Dist. 50 No. 325
April 4 - Dist. 8 No. 25	Sept. 7 - Dist. 60 No. 409	Oct. 6 - Dist. 3 No. 801, Dist. 2 No. 756	Dec. 3 - Dist. 50 No. 594
May 2 - Dist. 34 No. 320	Sept. 8 - Dist. 1 No. 665, Dist. 1 No. 156	Oct. 8 - Dist. 2 No. 775, Dist. 3 No. 361	Dec. 5 - Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication
June 2 - Dist. 39 No. 617, Dist. 39 No. 431	Sept. 9 - Dist. 1 No. 43, Dist. 1 No. 496	Oct. 12 - Dist. 2 No. 681	Dec. 8 - Dist. 42 No. 348, Dist. 42 No. 266, Dist. 42 No. 423
June 3 - Dist. 19 No. 319	Sept. 10 - Dist. 7 No. 549, Dist. 7 No. 406	Oct. 13 - Dist. 2 No. 781, Dist. 2 No. 21, Dist. 50 No. 666	Dec. 9 - Dist. 45 No. 242
June 4 - Dist. 3 No. 315, Dist. 3 No. 262	Sept. 12 - Special Communication of Grand Lodge, Dist. 10 No. 813	Oct. 14 - Dist. 3 No. 197	Dec. 10 - Dist. 42 No. 451
June 8 - Dist. 19 No. 371	Sept. 14 - Dist. 11 No. 138, Dist. 60 No. 704	Oct. 15 - Dist. 60 No. 226, Dist. 3 No. 260	Dec. 14 - Dist. 36 No. 298
June 9 - Dist. 41 No. 358, Dist. 41 No. 278, Dist. 41 No. 312	Sept. 15 - Dist. 1 No. 665	Oct. 19 - Dist. 11 No. 216	Dec. 15 - Dist. 36 No. 767
June 11 - Dist. 39 No. 355	Sept. 16 - Dist. 11 No. 797	Oct. 20 - Dist. 3 No. 442	Dec. 28 - Grand Lodge Annual Communication
June 12 - Dist. 3 No. 143	Sept. 17 - Dist. 11 No. 267, Dist. 7 No. 367	Oct. 27 - Dist. 1 No. 551	
June 15 - Dist. 34 No. 589	Sept. 18 - Dist. 3 No. 586, Dist. 42 No. 336	Nov. 3 - Dist. 7 No. 227, Dist. 1 No. 476	
June 16 - Dist. 39 No. 313	Sept. 21 - Dist. 42 No. 465, Dist. 42 No. 503	Nov. 5 - Dist. 60 No. 307, Dist. 7 No. 435, Dist. 11 No. 222	
June 18 - Dist. 34 No. 688	Sept. 22 - Dist. 42 No. 706	Nov. 9 - Dist. 1 No. 587	
June 20 - Grand Lodge Quarterly Comm.	Sept. 23 - Dist. 1 No. 398	Nov. 10 - Dist. 58 No. 378	
July 2 - Dist. B No. 712	Sept. 28 - Dist. 60 No. 682, Dist. 2 No. 486	Nov. 11 - Dist. C No. 529	
July 7 - Dist. A,B,C,D & 8 School of Instruction	Sept. 30 - Dist. 42 No. 663	Nov. 12 - Dist. D No. 717	
July 9 - Dist. D No. 506	Oct. 1 - Dist. 42 No. 649, Dist. 1 No. 286, Dist. 1 No. 417	Nov. 18 - Dist. 8 No. 410	
Sept. 1 - Dist. 58 No. 255, Dist. 60 No. 570	Oct. 2 - Dist. B No. 732	Nov. 19 - Dist. 2 No. 464	

As of Sept. 1, 2009, the Unity Gave & Box traveled 28,294 miles to be held by 12,940 brethren at 356 lodges and 21 special events. The schedule above lists any modified dates of travel of the Unity Box & Gavel since the May issue, as well as its future visits scheduled by press time.



# Eastern Pennsylvania Masonic Family Picnic

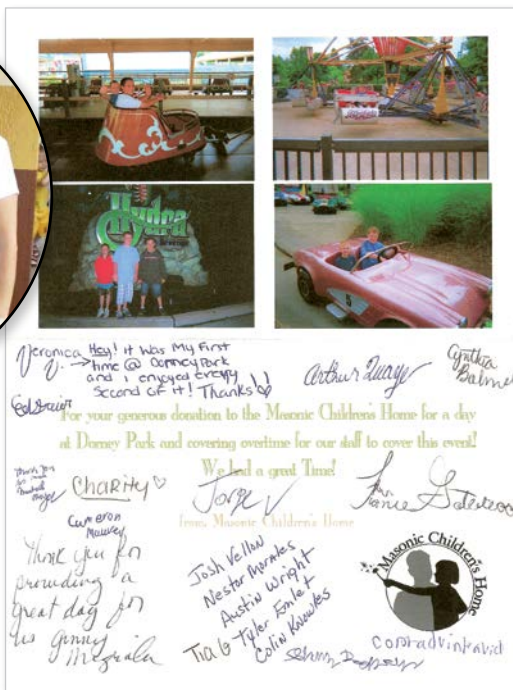


Each June for the past 18 years, thousands of Pennsylvania Masons and their families have gathered at Dorney Park and Wild Water Kingdom for the Eastern Pennsylvania Masonic Family Picnic. Boys and girls from our Masonic Children's Home, as well as members of many Masonic Youth organizations, are sponsored by various lodges throughout this Jurisdiction. The Masonic Picnic at Dorney Park allows the entire Masonic family to join together for a great day of fun, food and fellowship.



Throughout the years, the picnic has been organized by the District Deputy Grand Masters of Masonic District D. While they have arranged the sponsors of the event, the actual reason for the great success of the Masonic Picnic goes to Linda Matthews, wife of Guy T. Matthews, P.D.D.G.M. of Masonic District D. During the last 18 years, Linda has been responsible for the collection of orders, reservations and the distribution of the tickets for the picnic. Without her efforts, the Masonic Picnic at Dorney Park would not be the wonderful Masonic family event into which it has grown.

At this year's picnic on June 13, 2009, more than 500 brethren and their families were present. Bro. David Tansey, District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District D, acknowledged Linda's great contribution to the annual success of the Masonic Family Picnic and made a presentation of appreciation for her outstanding service.



## District A Lodges 482 & 487 Come Together

On April 7, for the first time, members of Robert A. Lamberton Lodge No. 487 and Athelstan Lodge No. 482, both of Philadelphia, held a Shadow Lodge for the sole purpose of unity between the two lodges. Both lodges' stated meetings fall on the first Tuesday of the month. Robert A. Lamberton Lodge hosted the meeting in Ionic Hall of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. Bro. Robert Burns, District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District A, visited for the evening and the guest speaker, John C. Sherwood, gave a talk on developing and keeping memory skills sharp.

This was the second time the two lodges have come together. In November 2008, they held a Table Lodge which was attended by Bro. Robert A. Ciampitti, Sr., then-District Deputy Grand Master. Both events were well attended and the brethren shared wonderful evenings of fellowship.

Members of both District A lodges pose for a picture in Ionic Hall.



## Time Found & Restored

At a recent stated meeting of Adelpic Lodge No. 424, Jamestown, Bro. William R. LeBarron, P.M., presented an antique Masonic clock to Worshipful Master Randy L. Kareha, P.M.

Bro. LeBarron found the clock, built in 1862, on eBay, purchased and restored it and donated the treasure to his brothers. It is now the official timepiece of the lodge.



District & Lodge News





# Reunited through Freemasonry!

By Dr. Glenys Waldman, Librarian

It all started with an e-mail. Bro. Richard Brighthaupt, a 35-year member of Royersford Lodge No. 585 and an active member in Lodge No. 263 in Lee's Summit, Mo., wrote to me in October 2007, then sent me photographs of a World War II "Soldbuch" – a German soldier's combination passport and record of payment and supplies issued. It had belonged to one Willi Seemann from Obrigheim (east of Heidelberg). Bro. Brighthaupt wanted to return it to Seemann, or his family, if possible.

A veteran of the war in Vietnam, 1966-1967, and having also served in Baumholder and Augsburg in 1968 and 1969, Bro. Brighthaupt knows how important such records can be. He said that the Soldbuch must have been brought back from Germany as a souvenir after the War. It was for sale in a flea market a few years ago as "an unusual item." Bro. Brighthaupt's father-in-law bought it because he also is a veteran and appreciates the value of such documents. The family agreed it should be returned, and Bro. Brighthaupt promised to try to do so. He tried several different times to no avail, and wondered if Grand Lodge could help him return it to the soldier's family in Germany.

I immediately wrote to a Masonic library colleague in Germany. A little later, at different times, two other Freemasons who live in Germany visited the Library. I asked all three men for their help in solving the mystery of the owner of the Soldbuch, but there were no positive results. Earlier this year, then-Deputy Grand Master of the American-Canadian Grand Lodge Paul Curran came into the Library. I told him the story, showed him the pictures of the Soldbuch, and sent them to him by e-mail. On June 12, I received an e-mail from now Grand Master Curran, which said that Mr. Seemann had been found! Bro. Gerhard Severin, who actually found Mr. Seemann, is a Past Grand Master of the American-Canadian Grand Lodge. He told Grand Master Curran: "I spoke with Mr. Willi Seemann today [June 8], and he is the person listed in the Soldbuch. He is 88 years old and quite alert." Bro. Severin called and had a long conversation with Mr. Seemann, who, at first understandably skeptical, soon became very excited about getting his Soldbuch back.

It was decided that Bro. Brighthaupt would send the Soldbuch to Grand Master Curran, and that some of the brethren would take it to Mr. Seemann and hear his story. Bro. Brighthaupt and I wrote a letter to Mr. Seemann, telling the "American" side of the Soldbuch story. Grand Master Curran included it with his own letter to accompany the Soldbuch.

On Aug. 11, 2009, Seemann, who is not a Mason, was invited to the lodge hall of Mutterloge Ruprecht zu den Fünf Rosen (Mother Lodge Ruprecht



Left-right: R.W. Gerhard Severin, P.G.M., American Canadian Grand Lodge (who found Mr. Seemann); Willi Seemann; R.W. Paul M. Curran, G.M., American Canadian Grand Lodge; V.W. Jason Mancill, Master, Alt Heidelberg Lodge No. 821, D.D.G.M. for District 1.

of the Five Roses) in Kirchheim, part of Heidelberg, where the Lodge Alt Heidelberg, with Worshipful Master Jason L. Mancill and Past Grand Master Gerhard Severin, would host the presentation. After lodge was closed, Mr. Seemann and others were invited in, and Grand Master Curran presented the Soldbuch to him.

Mr. Seemann told his story of fighting in Yalta and Sebastopol on the Russian southern front, where he was wounded on his 21st birthday – his officer's training, fighting in Normandy and being captured by the Americans in the Ruhrgebiet along with another 300,000 German soldiers. At this time, Seemann's Soldbuch was confiscated by an American soldier. Finally released from a French prison camp in July 1948, he returned to Obrigheim, where he still lives in the house in which he grew up. Seemann said, "Without his Soldbuch, one was a nobody – it was as though he didn't exist. I never thought I would hold it in my hands again. I am incredibly happy to be able to page through this old, dog-eared thing again," – 64 years, three months, and 27¼ days later!

As Grand Master Curran handed the Soldbuch to Mr. Seemann he said, "This is a wonderful story of reconciliation, a gesture of democracy and peace."

Masonic Library & Museum

## TEMPLE TREASURES



**2009 MASONIC TEMPLE ORNAMENT \$20.00**

The official Masonic Library & Museum of Pennsylvania collectible is a multi-dimensional replica of the 1873 National Historic Landmark in Philadelphia. It is proudly made in the USA from solid brass, finished in 24 karat gold, screen printed with exquisite color, assembled by hand and packaged in a beautiful gold gift box.

This hanging ornament proudly displays this architectural masterpiece etched with white details, flanked with two squares and compasses on each side of the surrounding oval frame. The reverse of the ornament reads: "Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 1873." This highly collectible piece arrives in a golden gift box.



**BOOK MARK OF THE MASONIC TEMPLE \$7.00**

Gold tone with tab to keep your page. Measures approx. 1½"x2"

**CAT'S MEOW® KEEPSAKE OF THE MASONIC TEMPLE \$15.00**

Made in USA. Brief description of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia and Freemasonry on the back. Approx. 7" x 5½" in wood.



For mail orders, please include Pennsylvania state taxes and shipping. Make checks payable to "Temple Treasures" or call (800) 336-7317 to order using your credit card. Please call about ordering multiple items as shipping cost may decrease. Also available online at [www.masonicmuseumgifts.com](http://www.masonicmuseumgifts.com)



# “The Shadow of Solomon, The Lost Secret of the Freemasons Revealed”

Author: Laurence Gardner Reviewed by Bro. Charles S. Canning, MMS, Academy of Masonic Knowledge

It is only recently that I have come to realize how deep, wide and convoluted Freemasonry actually is. Freemasonry of the 17th century is not Freemasonry as we know it. “Anderson’s Constitutions” influenced both “modern” and “ancient” Masonry and ignored historic facts. Today we can find scholarship which calls attention to missing contributions from centuries past. There are revived degrees and orders, which reflect light into dark corners of Masonic ritual, the Worshipful Society known as the Operatives being one. Perhaps in “The Shadow of Solomon” we may find light that will expose some ancient aspect of Masonry and stimulate our curiosity.

Author Laurence Gardner divides his text into three parts. Part One consists of ancient secrets, origins and power politics that influenced Masonic evolution. He investigates records and archival material that 18th century Masonry had claimed was lost. Ancient roots and metaphysical aspects are discussed, along with the development of Freemasonry through the ages. Kabbalistic overtones give new interpretation to “the most important of all Masonic devices,” the point within a circle. Secrets from Judaic lore, King Solomon’s magical expertise and philosophical schools of Egypt are spun into the mystery of Freemasonry.

Gardner examines “Anderson’s Constitutions” and agrees with other scholars that speculative Freemasonry was deliberately manufactured with a new Third Degree, rather than keeping the more appropriate older one, which highlighted the Royal Arch. The original cunning craftsman, Bazaleel, served as the role model for the invented Hiram Abif. Gardner examines the etymology of numerous Masonic words and notes how modernization changed the meaning of ritual. He builds a case for Scots Masonry and its esoteric Rosicrucian background.

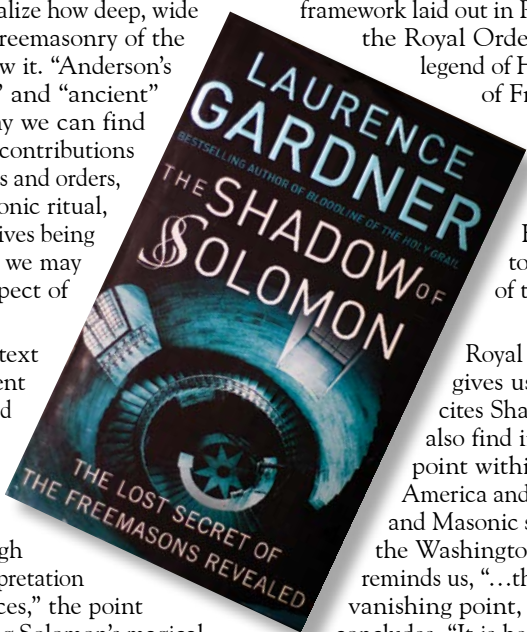
Part Two examines ceremonies and esoteric heritage, along with chivalric institutions and philosophical foundations. He builds on the

framework laid out in Part One and examines the Knights Templar, the Royal Order of Scotland, cathedral building and the legend of Hiram Abif. He notes that, “...the lost secret of Freemasonry is based on the arcane lore of Solomon’s temple, which presents itself as a sophisticated form of Hermetic alchemy.” More linguistic background is presented, along with descriptive ritual motifs and words. He reviews Roslyn Chapel, Sinclair’s voyages to North America in 1398 and the evolution of tracing boards.

Part Three returns us to the Stewarts, the Royal Society and “Anderson’s Constitutions.” He gives us much to think about in this section. He cites Shakespeare’s use of concept and words that we also find in Freemasonry. Of particular interest is the point within a circle. Gardner takes Freemasonry to America and reflects on the forming of a new government and Masonic symbols. He notes that, from an aerial view, the Washington Monument is a point within a circle. He reminds us, “...the Light is being pursued towards a proverbial vanishing point, which is also its point of emanation.” He concludes, “It is here ‘at the center’ that the ultimate universal secret waits still to be found.”

I found the text interesting and compelling. It is full of thought-provoking material, well-written and well-documented. Some crucial footnotes are from “The Forgotten Monarchy of Scotland,” a book by Prince Michael of Albany, which is self-serving. The burning of the Library at Alexandria, Egypt, in 391 A.D. is cited as a reason for the loss of so many primary manuscripts from ancient times, but Gardner fails to note the Library at Toledo, which was reopened in the late 15th century, when Spain defeated the Moors.

I recommend this book for anyone who appreciates history and the challenge of a new way of looking at the origin and evolution of Freemasonry.



Masonic Library & Museum

## BYERS' CHOICE BROTHER GEORGE WASHINGTON CAROLER \$75.00

Introducing Brother George Washington, the newest commemorative figure from Byers' Choice of Chalfont, Pa., available exclusively in Temple Treasures Museum Shop!

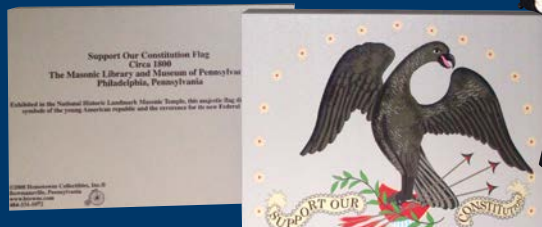
Brother George now joins Brother Franklin, proudly wearing the apron whose original is in the Masonic Library & Museum in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. Like Ben, George is a limited edition, dressed in the authentic attire of his era (circa 1790), and stands 13” tall holding a gavel. He would be a proud addition to your home.

## WOODEN KEEPSAKE OF THE SUPPORT OUR CONSTITUTION FLAG \$20.00

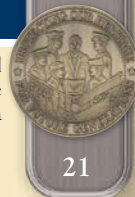
Hometowne Collectibles of Bowmansville, Pa., has created this painted wood replica of the important “Support Our Constitution” flag, circa 1800, which is part of the collection of the Masonic Library & Museum of Pennsylvania. This flag collectible displays the symbols of the young American republic and the reverence for the newly adopted Federal Constitution. Measures 4” by 6” with description on reverse. This piece of Americana is a great addition to your collection, and a conversation piece by itself.

## BYERS' CHOICE BROTHER BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CAROLER \$70.00

The limited edition Brother Ben Franklin Caroler was produced exclusively for The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania in 2007. Brother Franklin is adorned in 18th century attire worn when he proudly served two terms as Grand Master of PA. Hand-made, he stands 13” tall and would be a welcome addition to your home.



BYERS' CHOICE was established in the late 1960s by Joyce Byers, who was disappointed in the way the December holidays had become so commercialized. She desired holiday decorations that displayed the warmth and established traditions of this joyous time of year, so she made her own from what she had around the house. The first Carolers graced the family's holiday dining room table, and the next were sold quickly at a local store. Byers' Choice has continued to grow and expand through several decades to its current team of 180 artisans who handcraft those same wonderful creations.

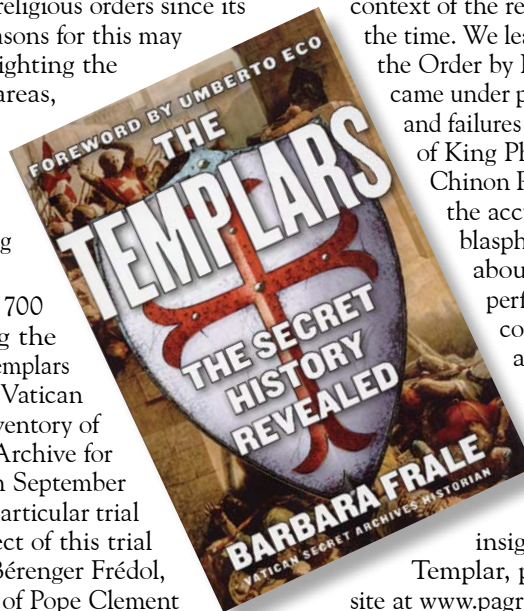


# “The Templars: the Secret History Revealed”

by Barbara Frale Reviewed by Cathy Giaimo, Assistant Librarian

The Order of the Knights Templar has remained one of the most well-known and discussed military religious orders since its demise in the early 14th century. The reasons for this may be not so much the Order's bravery in fighting the heathen in Palestine and surrounding areas, or the power they wielded rivaling any European ruler of the day. It may just be their dramatic fall from grace, the tales surrounding their rituals and lifestyle and finally the deaths of their leaders by burning at the stake.

What has been lacking for the past 700 years are any trial records concerning the supposed heresy and blasphemy that the Templars perpetuated. Ms. Frale, a historian at the Vatican Secret Archives, was reading over the inventory of documents on the Templar trials in the Archive for what seemed like the thousandth time in September 2001 when she noticed a document on a particular trial held in Tours, France. The unusual aspect of this trial was that it was conducted by Cardinal Bérenger Frédol, an eminent canon lawyer and a member of Pope Clement V's inner circle. The document, known as the Chinon Parchment, contained the trial of Grand Master Jacques de Molay and other Templar leaders, and it had been hidden in plain sight all these years!



Like any good historian, Ms. Frale puts her story in the context of the religious, social and political developments of the time. We learn of the events that led to the formation of the Order by Hugh de Payens in the 12th century, how it came under papal authority, the Templars' many successes and failures and their final and tragic defeat at the hands of King Philip IV of France. With her reading of the Chinon Parchment, Ms. Frale confidently puts to rest the accusations of the Templars being heretics and blasphemers. There are still some missing details about the more questionable rituals that were performed, but Pope Clement V must have been confident of his findings, for the Templars are absolved of heresy and welcomed back into the Church's fold.

For those of you who have already read John J. Robinson's "Born in Blood" or "Dungeon, Fire and Sword," here is a must read that offers new information and insight. For these and other books on Knights Templar, please go to the Circulating Library Web site at [www.pagrandlodge.org](http://www.pagrandlodge.org) or call the Library toll-free at (800) 462-0430, ext. 1933.

## Brother Dr. Whitfield Jenks Bell, Jr. • 1914-2009

Memorial Minute by Dr. Glenys A. Waldman, Librarian



Photograph courtesy of The American Philosophical Society.

The fraternity knew Dr. and Bro. "Whit" Bell (without the "h," an apt nickname!) best as an enthusiastic brother and member of the Committee on Library and Museum from 1990 until 2003. The rest of the world respected and loved him as the foremost authority on Bro. Benjamin Franklin and as "Executive Officer and Librarian, Emeritus/APS Biographical Dictionary Project," as he is still listed on the Web site of the American Philosophical Society. The society was founded by Bro. Franklin in 1743 – the year Bro. George Washington was 11 and Thomas Jefferson was born – for "the promoting of Useful Knowledge, especially as it respects the Agriculture, Manufactures, and Natural History of North America."

According to Bro. Bell's niece, Susan Bell Smith, this gentle man – who volunteered for the Army during World War II even though his eyesight kept him out of the military – drove an ambulance for the British troops who liberated the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, and was deeply affected by what he saw.

Bro. Bell graduated from Lower Merion High School in 1931, earned his bachelor's degree from Dickinson College in 1935 and his doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania in 1947. Ms. Smith quoted Bro. Bell, who said

that while in graduate school, he "discovered the 18th century and never left." Bro. Bell taught history at Dickinson from 1945 to 1954.

In 1955, the American Philosophical Society purchased the letters of Bro. Franklin – a major addition to its holdings – and Bro. Bell embarked on his work there as associate editor in cooperation with scholars at Yale University in a huge project to organize and publish Bro. Franklin's writings. Volume 39 of the "Papers of Benjamin Franklin" was just published in 2008. Bro. Bell became associate librarian at the American Philosophical Society in 1960, a member of the society in 1964, librarian in 1966 and executive officer in 1977. Dr. Bell held both positions until 1980, when he withdrew from the librarianship. He retired in 1983.

At various times, he was editor of a quarterly journal of William and Mary College, and visiting professor at Bryn Mawr College and the University of Pennsylvania. In addition, he wrote many books, among them one on John Morgan, a colonial physician, and the history of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

Bro. Bell was initiated into Cumberland Star Lodge No. 197, Carlisle, on Oct. 15, 1937, crafted Nov. 12 and raised a Master Mason Dec. 17. He died on Jan. 2, 2009, at age 94.

# 36th Masonic District still VERY involved in CHIP



On July 25, members of the 36th Masonic District teamed up with members from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to provide a Masonic CHIP event at Prince Hall's annual Children and Youth Festival held at their facility at 4301 N. Broad St. in Philadelphia. The event was extremely well attended by families from all over the area and was a rousing success.

A member of the planning committee, Bro. Donald Jones, P.M., assembled a host of volunteers to assist with all phases of the program. The Knights of Pythagoras Youth Organization, as well as the ladies from the Eastern Star, also provided volunteers. Thanks

to the dedication of all, a total of 194 children were CHIP'd. The goal for next year is to see that number grow to more than 200.

On June 6 and 7, members again organized a CHIP event at the Delco Fair, held this year on the grounds of the old Franklin Mint in Wawa, Pa. A total of 160 children were CHIP'd during this event, thanks to all the volunteers who gave their time to assist, District 6 for allowing us to use their CHIP trailer and the Upper Darby Square Club, who provided us with their Emergency Response Vehicle in which we set up two camera rooms. Late in the day Saturday, Bro. Richard M. Caruth, P.M., Pennsylvania CHIP Coordinator, learned that a mother who had brought her child to the fair came out specially to have her 15-month-old baby identified through CHIP. A short time ago, her older daughter had been abducted by her daughter's father, sexually assaulted and killed. She told us that this program would help give her the peace of mind knowing that she had a DNA kit and a video of her child, along with the fingerprint card. It really gave each one of us there a sense of pride and a chance to pause and reflect on just how valuable a service this program really is.

## New Rainbow Assembly Shines in Altoona

Altoona Rainbow Assembly got off to a great start with an Institution and Initiation ceremony on Aug. 8, at the Altoona Masonic Temple. The Assembly is sponsored by the 20th Masonic District, under the leadership of District Deputy Grand Master David Smith. Thirteen new members were initiated and installed as officers by a team of new Grand Officers for Pennsylvania, led by Grand Worthy Advisor Danielle Dunmire. The Mother Advisor for the Assembly is Mrs. Kelly Hoover and the Advisory Board Chair is Mrs. Sue Jarrett. This is one of many new Assemblies that are starting up as Pennsylvania Rainbow begins to enjoy a revitalized program and more interest from the Masonic family.



Bro. Dave Smith is accompanied by Mrs. Helen Snedden, Supreme Deputy, Mrs. Kelly Hoover, Mother Advisor, the Grand Officers and the new members of Altoona Assembly.

Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation





## Challenge Met!



Left-right: Bro. Victor Frederick, Union Lodge 479, Birdsboro; Miss Mary Noble, DeMolay State Sweetheart; and Bro. Jeffrey C. Bortz, State Master Councilor and a member of Lodge No. 479, who was raised in the fall by Bro. Frederick and a degree team made up of many members of Hiram's Riders.

Pennsylvania DeMolay was issued a challenge at its Annual Convention in July of 2008. At that event, Bro. Victor Frederick of the Hiram's Scottish Riders Motorcycle Club gave a presentation on his planned motorcycle trip to make a visit to each of the 32° Masonic Learning Centers in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. He asked each DeMolay chapter to sponsor him by donating 1 cent

per mile he traveled on his motorcycle tour, amounting to a \$120 donation from each chapter. To close his presentation, he promised that "Dad" Thomas R. Labagh, Executive Officer for DeMolay in Pennsylvania, would throw a pizza party at Convention 2009, paid for out of his own pocket! Bro. Labagh agreed, but only if EVERY chapter participated—100% or no pizza!

One year and \$2,880 later, "Dad" Labagh was eating his words, and his pizza, of course. Each of the 24 Chapters in Pennsylvania came through with a donation to the cause, supporting Bro. Frederick and his ride. In addition, State Sweetheart Mary Noble raised \$1,000 through a variety of fund-raiser activities during the year, and that amount was added so Bro. Frederick received a check for \$3,880, with a request that a portion of it be equally credited to each of the Masonic Learning Centers in Pennsylvania.

This is the first time in more than 20 years that all the Chapters in Pennsylvania have come together to fully support a single cause. Full of pizza and good feelings about what they accomplished, Pennsylvania DeMolay welcomed Bro. Frederick and his wife to the party and enjoyed his company for the rest of Convention 2009. Bro. Frederick was heard to remark that, "Next time, we'll make the bet to get 'Dad' Labagh a tattoo!"

## Triumph Over Dyslexia

Duncan Shaw, a member of Steel City DeMolay Chapter in Pittsburgh, spoke about his battle with dyslexia to the leaders of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania at the annual Council of Deliberation of the Scottish Rite, held at Seven Springs in July. Duncan very eloquently, and without notes, explained what dyslexia is and how it has affected his life. He also spoke of his experience at the 32° Masonic Learning Center in Pittsburgh and how staff taught him to read. Duncan's presentation captivated the audience by his honest assessment that if he hadn't learned to read by the help of the Scottish Rite, he would have ended up in the judicial system. After his presentation, R. W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner praised Duncan's presentation for the wonderful ripple effect it will have on future students at the learning centers.





# Turning It Over to the Youth...It's Really Working!



Following the Pennsylvania DeMolay Convention in 2005, Executive Officer Thomas R. Labagh determined that it was time to give the young men of the organization a larger role in the planning and executing of the \$50,000 per year program that brings DeMolays, Advisors and their families together from all across the Commonwealth. Starting with the 2006 Pennsylvania DeMolay Convention, a Youth Coordinator and Assistant Youth Coordinator were appointed. In 2009, the fourth year to have young men in the key roles, the Convention Youth Coordinator was Dan Williams, a Past Master Councilor of Templar Chapter in Pittsburgh, and the Assistant Convention Youth Coordinator was Chad Reichard, a Past Master Councilor of George Washington Chapter in Chambersburg.

These young men, 20 and 18 years of age respectively, were involved with the advance planning of the convention that involves 200-250 people each year, the selection of meals and activities and the structuring and staffing of workshops. Once the convention started, they found themselves interfacing with the personnel of the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel in Camp Hill on room set-ups, media and audio-video equipment and administrative details necessary to keep the four-day program running efficiently. The two were also charged with digital photography, assisting the state officers and presenters with workshop needs and supervising various off-site activities including programs held at Hersheypark and City Island. Brother Reichard has agreed to continue his service to Pennsylvania DeMolay at the 2010 Pennsylvania DeMolay Convention that will be held in Cranberry, just north of Pittsburgh, next year.

Building upon the success of this youth involvement with the convention, the first Youth Director for the Pennsylvania DeMolay Key Man Conference was appointed in 2007. The week-long leadership training program designed for DeMolays, and supported by young men

from all across the United States and the Canadian Provinces of Alberta and Ottawa, presents a different, but equally challenging, hands-on learning experience for an active DeMolay. The conference is held at the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation – Patton Campus in August of each year. The 2009 Youth Director was Joseph Chubb, a Past Master Councilor of Pilgrim Chapter in Harrisburg. As Youth Director, he was responsible for selecting seven days of meals and snacks for a group of 80 young men; interacting with and assisting a volunteer staff of 23 adults who staffed the conference for the week; and planning a full-fledged, three-hour carnival with games, prizes, inflatable obstacle courses and amusements and carnival food for the attendees and prospective members from the south-central area of Pennsylvania. Joseph also cast, directed, rehearsed, costumed and made-up a cast of 18 DeMolays who performed one of the induction ceremonies of the Order. He assisted with Masonic service projects at the Masonic Villages, including a presentation for the residents of the Village Green Area that featured ritualistic performances and fun-filled skits and providing dance leaders for an hour's worth of wheelchair square dancing for the residents of the Masonic Health Care Center. Jacob Palo, a Past Master Councilor of Erie Chapter and Past State Master Councilor of Pennsylvania DeMolay, has agreed to be the Youth Director for the 25th Annual Key Man Conference that will be held in August of 2010.

One of the most important objectives of the Order of DeMolay is providing young men with the tools, support and inspiration to plan, execute and evaluate their own programs. The Pennsylvania DeMolay Convention and the Pennsylvania DeMolay Key Man Conference provide this outstanding opportunity for the older members who have served their local chapters and are prepared to advance to the next level of learning by doing.



*Left: A Masonic service program is included in the Key Man Conference, and a large contingent of the DeMolays spent an afternoon with residents of the Masonic Health Care Center in Elizabethtown and participated in a rousing wheelchair square dance. There was no hesitation at all; the young men knew their responsibilities included transporting residents to and from the Assembly Room, talking with them and participating in the dance. When asked at the end of the week what they accomplished, many of the "Key Man" graduates said something like this: "We made some of the people at the Masonic Village very happy by spending time talking with them."*

*Below: Key Man Conference Youth Director Joseph Chubb, son of Bro. Gary Chubb of Brownstone Lodge No. 666, Hershey, stands in the center with all of the Pennsylvania participants at the annual conference which also brings in youth from Canada, Utah and several other states. The program is proof that, with proper guidance, the young men can run their own program with great enthusiasm, competence and effectiveness.*



Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation





# Gross Named Executive Director for Masonic Village at Sewickley

Eric L. Gross has been hired as executive director for the Masonic Village at Sewickley, responsible for all facets of operation for the retirement community. As part of the executive team, he will implement the strategic plan for the Masonic Village at Sewickley and provide leadership to staff in service enhancement, quality improvement and regulatory compliance.

Gross brings 14 years of experience in long term care to his new position. He held various leadership positions for Erickson Retirement Communities, lastly serving as senior vice president, Mid-Atlantic, Mid-West Regional, where he was responsible for operations at eight retirement communities.

Gross earned bachelor's degrees in both management and psychology from the University of California at San Diego. He is a continuing care retirement community surveyor for the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission/Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CCAC/CARF). He was president of the board of directors for The Arc of Baltimore before relocating to Pittsburgh, and has served as a board member since 2004.



## Giving Our Ladies the Royal Treatment



It was an evening fit for a queen, or rather queens, residing in the Star Points Building and the Valley Care Masonic Center at the Masonic Village at Sewickley. The second annual "Enchanted Evening" held in January 2009 treated the ladies to pampering, fine dining and delightful entertainment. Male residents also received special treatment. While not receiving make overs, they were lavished with pizza, beer and games.

Special thanks to the William Slater II Master Mason's Club at the Masonic Village at Sewickley, Advisory Committee of the Order of Eastern Star, Masonic Village staff and retirement living residents, Masonic youth groups and friends for shining light on these ladies. This was all made possible through the financial support of 22 Masonic lodges (see list to the right) and Eastern Star Chapters, Masonic Village retirement living residents, friends and family members.

On January 27, 2010, the ladies, many of whom are wives or widows of Masons or members of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the men will once again receive royal treatment at the third annual "Enchanted Evening."

For lodges interested in supporting this event, full table sponsorship is \$300 and half table sponsorship is \$150. Sponsorship of a single

lady is \$50. All contributors will be named in the evening's program and any monies in excess of that required for this event will be placed in a fund for future events benefiting the village's widows.

If your lodge would like to contribute to the enchantment, please send checks made payable "Enchanted Evening" to co-chairman Bro. David P. Rihl, 2431 Masonic Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143-2419. For additional information, contact Bro. Rihl at (412) 741-7914 or co-chairman Bro. Tracy H. Miller, P.M., at (412) 749-9086.

### Thank you to 2009 lodge sponsors!

- John H. Brashear Lodge No. 743
- Lawrence Lodge No. 708
- Dormont Lodge No. 684
- Chartiers Lodge No. 297
- North Hills Lodge No. 716
- Orient Lodge No. 683
- Western Star Lodge No. 304
- Plum Creek-Monroeville Lodge No. 799
- Doric Lodge No. 630
- Tyrian Lodge No. 644
- Butler Lodge No. 272
- Avalon Lodge No. 657
- Dallas Lodge No. 231
- Oakdale Lodge No. 669
- Franklin-St. John's-Trinity Lodge No. 221
- Myrtle Lodge No. 316
- Coraopolis Lodge No. 674
- Adelphic Lodge No. 424
- Crawford Lodge No. 234
- Covenant Lodge No. 473
- Lodge No. 408
- Sewickley Chapter #439 (Eastern Star Chapter)
- Masonic Village at Sewickley Advisory Council (O.E.S.)



# Gift Ideas for Residents in Long-term Care Homes

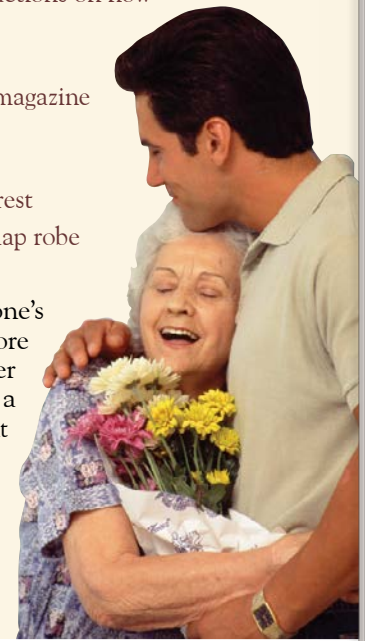


If you have a loved one living in a nursing or personal care home, you may find it difficult to decide what type of gift would be most meaningful, useful and appreciated. Below are some ideas to make your holiday shopping a little easier:

- Artwork made with love by grandchildren or great-grandchildren
- Books – in large print, on tape or on CD
- Clothing or pillow cases personalized with pictures of loved ones
- Crossword puzzles in large print
- Digital picture frame – filled with both old and recent pictures of family members and friends
- Favorite food items (check with the staff to make sure the resident is not on a restricted diet). Or, better yet – take your loved one out to eat!
- Games – playing cards, checkers or other favorites
- Gift certificate to get hair/nails done or for a massage
- Greeting cards of all types, along with stamps and writing utensils
- Magnifying glass
- Music – from their genre, or live in person if you can play an instrument or sing
- Pajamas – soft and easy to put on/take off

- Portable CD player with ear phones or an MP3 player (you may need to provide instructions on how to use it)
- Slippers or non-skid socks
- Subscription to a newspaper or magazine (preferably in large print)
- Sweat suits or sweaters
- Videos on topics of special interest
- Warm, comfortable blanket or lap robe
- Wheelchair/walker bag

Put yourself in your loved one's shoes. What would you want more than anything? Likely the answer is love! Nothing can replace a meaningful visit, precious time spent together, either individually, with grandchildren, a pet, neighbor or old friend. Call the home and see if you can reserve a room for a special gathering. Most importantly, just visit and enjoy time together!



## Thanks, Eastern Star, for Supporting Our Villages!

Despite the difficult economic times worldwide and the tightening of many wallets, at the 115th Grand Session "All Things Bright and Beautiful," Order of the Eastern Star members presented the largest donation they have ever given to the Masonic Villages: \$150,908.98.

Bro. William C. Davis, Jr., COO-Health Care Services, who received the generous contribution on behalf of the Masonic Villages, thanked Past Worthy Grand Matron Mary Ann Naugle and Past Worthy Grand Patron Clarence Echternacht and members of the Order of the Eastern Star for their many hours spent fund-raising. The funds will be distributed to four of the Masonic Village locations as directed by Eastern Star and will be used to purchase the following items as well as additional future needs for each of the Masonic Villages:



**Masonic Village at Elizabethtown: \$39,151.98**

Specialty mattresses, bariatric beds, specialty wheelchairs, whirlpool tubs, pool sliding board

**Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill: \$39,586.83**

Emergency Response System

**Masonic Village at Sewickley: \$39,546.75**

Bariatric reclining shower gurney, Abbott Plum XL IV pumps, menu boards, alternating pressure mattress, light switch pull cords, computers and printers for resident use

**Masonic Village at Warminster: \$32,623.42**

Single-unit freezer

It is through the generosity of all our donors that Masonic Villages is able to carry out its Mission of Love. Thank you again, Order of the Eastern Star!

# GIFT BOXES



**A GREAT GIFT! SHIPPED ANYWHERE IN THE U.S.**

*Fresh Local Produce*  
**Masonic Village**  
**FARM MARKET**



**DISCOVER OUR YEAR-ROUND ONLINE CATALOG  
AT [WWW.MVFARMMARKET.COM](http://WWW.MVFARMMARKET.COM) OR CALL 717-361-4520**



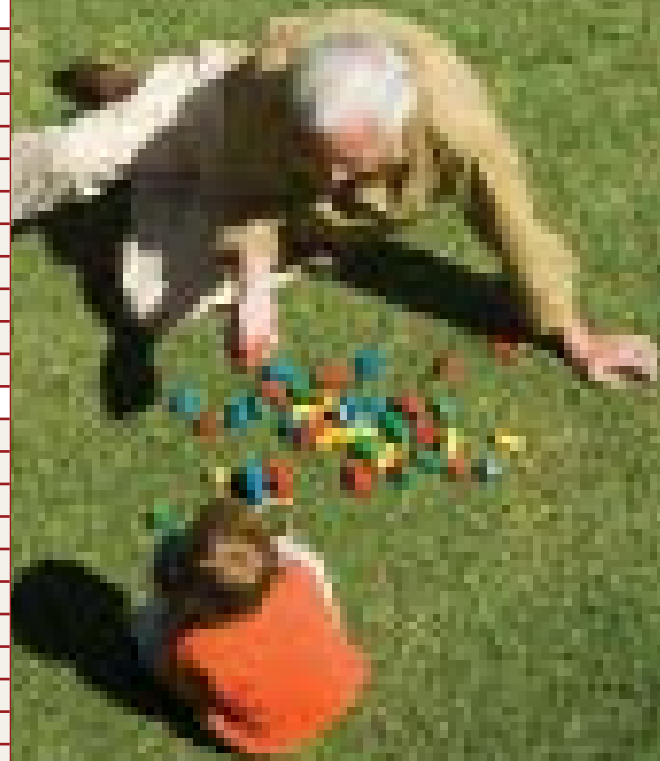
Masonic Villages





# Help Us Put All the Pieces Together

Quantity	Capital Need	Cost per Single Item	Total Cost
<b>CHILDREN'S HOME</b>			
1	Playground	\$3,000	\$3,000
40	Mattresses	\$200	\$8,000
5	Counter tops - cottages	\$2,296	\$11,480
3	Kitchen floor - cottages	\$509	\$1,527
4	Foyer floor - cottages	\$129	\$516
3	Front doors - cottages	\$400	\$1,200
4	Blinds - cottages	\$500	\$2,000
1	Bi-fold door	\$848	\$848
2	Solar panel water heater - cottages	\$8,750	\$17,500
5	Computers - cottages	\$745	\$3,725
40	Lamps	\$50	\$2,000
<b>MASONIC VILLAGE AT LAFAYETTE HILL</b>			
1	Putting green carpet	\$8,000	\$8,000
5	Apartment patio doors	\$3,000	\$15,000
1	Cambro meal delivery cart	\$3,015	\$3,015
	China		\$2,889
2	Insulated camcarts	\$1,305	\$2,610
1	ID card printer	\$11,300	\$11,300
	Plants/Planters		\$3,375
1	It's Never 2 Late therapy computer system	\$24,000	\$24,000
1	Mechanical lift	\$5,300	\$5,300
2	Pulse oximeters w/rubber boot	\$450	\$900
1	Sit to stand lift, power base	\$3,500	\$3,500
1	Portable hydration cart	\$550	\$550
1	Portable digital wheelchair scale	\$2,000	\$2,000
70	Bed spreads	\$80	\$5,600
1	Van with lift	\$45,000	\$45,000
<b>MASONIC VILLAGE AT WARMINSTER</b>			
34	Mattresses	\$332	\$11,288
5	Wheelchairs	\$300	\$1,500
2	Fully electric beds	\$1,400	\$2,800
<b>MASONIC VILLAGE AT ELIZABETHTOWN</b>			
	Channel 18 resident-run TV equipment	\$25,000	\$25,000
5	Big screen TV & brackets	\$2,000	\$10,000
1	Snoozelin Room	\$10,000	\$10,000
1	Nature reserve outside of Assembly Rm	\$10,000	\$10,000
3	Furniture for balcony	\$1,000	\$3,000
10	Heated massage chair	\$2,000	\$20,000
4	Piano keyboards (digital)	\$3,000	\$12,000
10	Spa whirlpools	\$20,000	\$200,000
14	Refrigerators	\$750	\$10,500
14	Dishes, kitchen items	\$500	\$7,000
1	It's Never 2 Late therapy computer system	\$24,000	\$24,000
10	Pulse ox	\$100	\$1,000
80	Linen tablecloths (6 foot)	\$12	\$972
3	Bariatric beds & equipment	\$5,000	\$15,000
31	Specialty wheelchairs	\$1,481	\$45,911
24	Specialty wheelchair cushions	\$500	\$12,000
2	Wii	\$800	\$1,600
14	Dishwashers	\$500	\$7,000
3	Blanket warmers	\$400	\$1,200
2	Rock and go gliders	\$3,000	\$6,000
49	Ceiling panels - resident rooms	\$215	\$10,535



## Masonic Villages' WISH LIST

The items on the **Masonic Villages' Wish List** serve the needs of residents across the state. Contributions to support these needs will bring physical aid and comfort to residents daily. For further information, please call the Office of Gift Planning at (800) 599-6454.



# Thousand Mile Challenge Benefits Masonic Children's Home

At 4:30 a.m. on Labor Day, Bro. Stephen G. Tondora, S.W., Cambria Lodge No. 278, Johnstown, set out on a "Thousand Mile Challenge," the name he dubbed for his charitable motorcycle ride to raise funds for the Masonic Children's Home.

Bro. Tondora, age 47, completed the challenge in 19 hours, pausing only for gas and water breaks. A few weeks later, on Sept. 18, he visited the Masonic Children's Home to meet the youth who would benefit from his effort.

Bro. Tondora's lodge members backed him financially, and he took along with him a phone list of brethren who said they would help him if he ran into any trouble along the way. In the fall, he plans to challenge all Masons across the Commonwealth who enjoy riding to join him in riding the same route, within the same 24-hour time frame. "I want to show others that if I can do it, now you can do it," he said. He is in the process of refining the guidelines for the challenge, stressing that no illegal or unsafe practices will be condoned.

Desiring to mesh his love for long-distance motorcycle riding with, as he stated in his own words, "the need, particularly in the midst of modern-day culture, to bring up children with the kind of guidance, values and environment Masons can provide," Bro. Tondora organized the fund-raiser like a walkathon, asking supporters to sponsor him a certain amount per mile, or to pledge an outright donation. He did not have a specific goal for his first ride, but is



pleased to have raised more than \$1,000 on his first attempt. "I'd love to see in five years that 20-25 guys would each raise \$1,000. Maybe it could catch on across the country and we can build an endowment fund," he said.

If you are interested in joining Bro. Tondora on the next "Thousand Mile Challenge," contact him at [ktondora@atlanticbb.net](mailto:ktondora@atlanticbb.net) or (814) 244-7510.

## Masonic Children's Home Treated to Fun in the Sun

Last holiday season, 65 members of Lodge No. 9, Philadelphia, arrived at the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown to have lunch with and give presents to the children of the Masonic Children's Home. The lodge also promised the youth a summer surprise.

True to their word, on Aug. 5, a bus arrived at the children's home to take all of the children and staff to Wildwood, N.J. The trip, sponsored by Lodge No. 9 through the generosity of Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC, a Philadelphia-based investment firm, covered all of the children's expenses for the day. Not only did the children enjoy the sand and surf, but they rode unlimited water

slide and amusement rides. The children's meals were paid for, and everyone received special t-shirts to commemorate the day. Members of Lodge No. 9 and Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC, met the children in Wildwood, including Rick Santella, senior vice-president, and Wayne Campbell, first vice-president, who are pictured with the children below.

"This type of event provides lifetime memories for the youth," Ginny Migrala, director of children's services, said. "We are very grateful to Lodge No. 9 and Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC, for providing this trip for the children. Everyone had a great time!"



Masonic Villages





# Lead a Carefree Lifestyle

*Explore Retirement Living at the Masonic Villages!*

**Join Us for an Open House**  
*at the village of your choice!*



## Masonic Villages

Secure Living for Active Seniors

### at Elizabethtown

Make your move before they're all taken! There are still a few brand new Sycamore Apartments available for immediate occupancy, but with the improvement in the economy we don't expect them to last long! Imagine living on our beautiful campus with countless recreational opportunities and access to on-site health care services...

**Dec. 4, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Holiday drop-in**  
**Sycamore Apartments**

One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

For More Information, Call (800) 676-6452

### at Lafayette Hill

Visit us today to tour our newly renovated retirement living apartments and hear more about our plans for expansion. Only 30 minutes from downtown Philadelphia, this community offers social and recreational opportunities, as well as on-site health care services should you need them in the future.

**Oct. 29 • Dec. 3**

**10 a.m., followed by a luncheon**

**Kenneth Mills Auditorium**

801 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

To Register, Call (610) 828-5760

### at Sewickley

Come and learn more about the many benefits of retirement living at the Masonic Village at Sewickley and how this Lifecare community protects your assets after retirement. Come see for yourself the beauty of our award-winning campus and the limitless opportunities available to enjoy.

**Oct. 22 • Nov. 19**

**10 a.m., followed by a luncheon**

**Masonic Village at Sewickley Clubhouse**

1000 Masonic Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143

To Register, Call 1-866-872-0664



[www.masonicvillagespa.org](http://www.masonicvillagespa.org)

Masonic Villages



# Irem Clubhouse Datestone Ceremony & Opening



Masonic Ceremonies for Laying of the Datestone of the Clubhouse at the Irem Shrine and Country Club were held on June 27 at the Irem Shrine Pavilion. Potentate David Warman, past and present leadership of Irem Shrine and Irem members attended the momentous event. The ceremony began with music by the Irem String Band and the Presentation of Colors by the Irem Legion of Honor.

At the conclusion of the event, R.W. Grand Master Stephen Gardner and Bro. and Noble Robert J. Rebennack, a member of Kingston Lodge No. 395, Irem Shrine, and the Irem Legion of Honor and his wife, Anne M., unveiled two bronze plaques honoring their gracious legacy gift to the Masonic Villages of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. One has been placed at the base of the flag pole outside the Clubhouse honoring all those who have died for our freedom, and the other dedicates the Grand Ballroom of the Clubhouse.

The Irem Clubhouse Restaurant & Pub served food and drinks for the first time on May 12. Residents of the Masonic Village

at Dallas were treated to some grand opening samples and were among the first to dine in the restaurant. They gave the food "two thumbs up!"

The brand new clubhouse, offering a breathtaking view of the golf course and the endless Northeastern mountains, is the perfect setting to host a wedding, reception, reunion, meeting or other event. The Grand Ballroom on the upper level seats up to 250 guests and includes a full dance floor, and the lower level features smaller meeting rooms. In addition to the pub and restaurant, the upper level also features a patio for outdoor dining as well as an outdoor bar for golfers to grab a bite to eat and continue their round. The lower level includes an entertainment room, locker rooms, offices and spaces available for future potential retail. An elevator provides access between floors. There is a porte-cochere at the main entrance and valet service is available for special events. Visit [www.iremcountryclub.com](http://www.iremcountryclub.com) or contact Laurie Knauer, Event/Sales Coordinator, at (570) 675-1134, ext. 100, for more information about booking events at the clubhouse.



## Masonic Village at Dallas Announces Many New Options

The Masonic Village at Dallas features villas and apartments available in various floor plans for active seniors 60 years of age and older. Beginning in 2009, apartment rental fees have been made available starting at just \$875 per month. Additionally, for those seniors interested in pursuing one of the four villa options, prices have been significantly reduced.

The Masonic Villages has also announced a new innovative payment option for both apartments and villas known as our "Guaranteed Appreciation Plan." That means Masonic Village guarantees that should you leave the community, you or your estate would receive 90% of the entrance fee you paid within your first year of residency. Each year thereafter, you would receive an additional 1% of the original amount that you paid for your accommodation. In today's volatile marketplace, this guaranteed appreciation is unprecedented and will provide residents and their family members with tremendous peace of mind.

Amenities available to residents have also

expanded. The Masonic Village has partnered with neighboring Misericordia University to offer residents access to the university's swimming pool and fitness center, including exercise classes and an indoor walking track; continuing education and lifelong learning programs, such as non-credit courses and the Elderhostel Program; state-of-the-art library featuring an extensive collection of books, publications, archives and a computer lab; and cultural events including art exhibits, sporting events, theater and musical concerts.

If needed, residents have preferred access to quality care through our preferred health care provider, The Mercy Center, located adjacent to the Masonic Village at Dallas, as well as other local service providers and any of the Masonic Villages' health care services in Elizabethtown, Lafayette Hill, Sewickley and Warminster, Pa.

For more information, call (570) 675-1866 or toll-free (866) 851-4243, or visit [www.masonicvillagespa.org](http://www.masonicvillagespa.org).



# Miracles Happen Every Day

Bro. Michael Papinchak, Doric Lodge No. 630, Sewickley, is a firm believer in forces beyond himself. Through his faith and his commitment to the Masonic fraternity, he knows powers larger than a single person can accomplish great things. He senses it, and he has witnessed it.

One miracle involved his only child, Patricia, or "Patty." Patty was an accomplished senior at the School of Pharmacy of Purdue University and was an internship away from graduating when doctors discovered she had cancer. She passed away soon after and was awarded a degree posthumously.

One of Bro. Papinchak's fondest memories with his daughter and wife, Olga, who passed away a few years ago, is fishing in Canada. The family would take their boat out on a lake and frequently end up in a spot where only Patty could catch fish.

"They were pike fish, which are territorial and only allow you to catch one or two before they all scatter. After catching one, I would tell her we had to keep moving," he said. "She would say there were more and, sure enough, she caught more. Olga and I tried for an hour – nothing."

Near the end of Patty's life, she promised after she passed away, she would let her parents know she was okay. After her passing, the Papinchaks returned to the lake to "Patty's spot." They watched as the sky turned black with clouds. Then, Olga saw a rainbow.

"How it was there is impossible," he said, because the conditions weren't conducive. "The rainbow grew brighter and bigger. I never saw anything like it. It lasted several minutes. I said to Olga, 'You know who's making that rainbow? It's Patty letting us know she's in paradise.' Then, it was like someone turned the intensity down. The sky darkened, and we pulled out our rods and arrived at camp just before it began pouring."

Bro. Papinchak's beliefs stem from his parents who immigrated to the United States from Ukraine. He grew up in a house with just four rooms and nine children. Despite the family's struggles, his parents had faith that by working together, they would survive. They were also committed to helping others regardless of their own situation.

While working in management at a General Motors plant, Bro. Papinchak was approached by a co-worker who asked if he was a Mason. When he answered no, the man explained the organization.

"He basically told me it was an organization that does good for mankind," said Bro. Papinchak, who joined the fraternity soon after their conversation and also became a member of the Scottish Rite. Wanting to contribute more to the fraternity, he has named the Masonic Charities in his will. Bro. Papinchak also became a



member of the Franklin Legacy Society, which is open to anyone who has included a gift provision in any amount for one or more of the Masonic Charities in their estate plans. Members of the Franklin Legacy Society enjoy many benefits, such as invitations to special events, recognition on a special donor wall and in the annual report, and a lapel pin and book clock depicting Bro. Franklin at work at his printing press.

"As a group, [Masons] do good things for those who need it," he said. "If everyone, as a group, did something similar, the world would be a better place. We help one another, especially children. After losing Patty, it was a relief to have someone to rely on when I needed it. Even after I'm gone, I want to contribute."

For information on joining the Franklin Legacy Society, bequests or a charitable gift annuity, please complete and mail the form below, or call the Gift Planning Office nearest you.

**Central Pennsylvania**  
(717) 367-1121, ext. 33437  
or (800) 599-6454

**Eastern Pennsylvania**  
(610) 825-6100, ext. 1348

**Western Pennsylvania**  
(412) 741-1400, ext. 3011  
or (866) 872-0664

**Out-of-State**  
(717) 367-1121, ext. 33312  
or (800) 599-6454

## COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM TO:

Office of Gift Planning, Masonic Charities,  
One Masonic Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

- Please send me information on how I/we can join the Franklin Legacy Society.
- Please send me information on how I can remember one of the Masonic Charities in my/our will or trust.
- Please let me/us know our rate, income and other benefits from a Masonic Charities Charitable Gift Annuity. (There is no obligation.) Send me a benefits illustration using the following information:

My age \_\_\_\_\_ My spouse's age \_\_\_\_\_ (if a two-life annuity)

Amount(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$5,000 minimum)

If you are considering using appreciated stock for a gift annuity, estimate your cost basis in dollars or percent. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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. 11796 Mississippi: The official registration and financial information of Masonic Charities may be obtained from the Mississippi Secretary of State's office by calling 1-888-236-6167. 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.htm#charity](http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/ocp.htm#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, 1-800-232-4483. West Virginia: West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. REGISTRATION IN THE ABOVE STATES DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION OF MASONIC CHARITIES BY THE STATE.