

# BEACON

A JOINT PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF OHIO AND THE OHIO MASONIC HOME

## First Capstone Life Skills Camp Hosted in Ohio

The first Capstone Masonic Life Skills Camp for “at-risk” children and for Masonic youth was hosted July 1-6, at Craftsman Park in Akron.

The Camp successfully brought together a mix of 32 boys and girls, ages 11-16. Roughly half of them were recommended as “at-risk” children in need of the life skills necessary to turn their lives around. The other half came from the various Masonic youth groups.

The Camp’s success is best summed up by Tommy, one of the young campers, “I learned that sometimes you need to break things (problems) down, to build, to reach your goals.”

The week-long Camp was packed with a detailed daily schedule, which focused on building the three R’s, Respect, Responsibility, and Relationships. The activities varied from swimming, canoeing, and low-rope obstacle course training to individual



*Campers enjoy canoeing during free time*

and group building exercises and a lakeside 4th of July Fireworks show. All activities shared a common foundation in experiential learning.

Craig Erb, co-leader and activities coordinator for the Camp, explained

that experiential learning techniques attempt to teach children through hands-on activities, learning by doing. Each activity provided the campers with a specific “problem” that they needed to work together to solve.

The 32 campers were randomly divided into four groups of eight campers each along with at least one staff member per group.

On July 3rd, the campers had three very special visitors – Grand Master Jack L. Allen; Past Grand Guardian for Jobs Daughters, Janet Boggs; and Larry Chisholm, director of the National Masonic

Foundation for Children. All three voiced their approval and enthusiastic support of the dual purpose of the Capstone Camp, providing our Masonic youth and priority “at-risk” youth with life skills.

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## CEO Q&A Part 2 Continued from Spring Beacon



*Joseph (Jerry) B. Kuyoth, C.N.H.A. CEO, The Ohio Masonic Home*

**Q** This year the Ohio Masonic Home Board of Trustees has a new chairman and several new board members. How does this change affect The Home?

**A** Change always has an upside and a downside. The upside of new leadership is the fresh perspective they bring to the organization. The downside is the absence of many of those fraternal leaders that guided us through a seven-year period of unprecedented growth. Board membership has become a substantial time commitment during the past decade. Two-thirds of the Ohio Masonic Home

Board of Trustees also serve on one of our subsidiary boards and all the trustees serve on various committees. Since our board structure provides the majority of the work be done at the committee level, each board member has a minimum of 12 half-day or full-day meetings a year. This is often combined with a demanding work schedule, leadership responsibilities within the fraternity, and a mandatory retirement age of 70. We have been extremely pleased with our Ohio honored Masons and their willingness and enthusiasm to serve on our boards.

*(continued on page 2)*

# 'GET BETTER OR GET BEATEN'



by Jack L. Allen, Grand Master

This is the title of a biography of Jack Welch by Robert Slater, published by McGraw-Hill. Welch is the CEO that turned GE around. This is not a review of that book; I simply wanted to quote the title because I think it is the position Freemasonry and other fraternal organizations find ourselves in as we start the new millennium.

For 41 years now, it appeared we were getting beaten. Our numbers declined, lecture records collapsed, and many buildings fell into decay. Public respect, even knowledge of the fraternity declined. Those who through ignorance ridiculed the fraternity got all the headlines while we remained 18th Century silent.

Then we decided to get better. How did we turn the tide? We have begun accepting the fact that this is the 21st Century – two full centuries after the first Masonic Lodges appeared in the Ohio territory.

We long ago climbed down from our horses and into our automobiles. We gave up wagon trains for airplanes. Smoke signals gave way to telephones and fireplaces have been replaced by central heating. Even our Lodges got into the spirit of change where creature comfort was involved. Lanterns yielded to electric lights and potbellied stoves were replaced by thermostat-controlled heating and air conditioning systems. Next we adopted a new policy about membership, speedier

degree timetables, shorter examinations and plural memberships. We have given up the “stuffiness” of the 18th Century and have truly opened our doors to all men in the real spirit of brotherhood.

If we are to continue getting better we must adopt even more 21st Century thinking. We must become, as the U.S. Army calls themselves, “an incubator of self-actualization.” We must become an “even more useful member of society.” We must reach beyond widows, orphans and ourselves because today’s society is about helping and caring.

If we are to attract the next generation, if we are to encourage today’s young man to actualization, we must continue getting better.

This year we have seen a new spirit, a new determination to measure up just by getting back to basics. I say without reservation that we are getting better. The number of Lodges qualifying for recognition at Grand Lodge this October is absolutely inspiring.

If we are to shed the “or get beaten” label we must continue to “get better.”

Elsewhere in this issue of the Beacon we have outlined issues that will come before the Grand Lodge this October. How will we react to these opportunities to continue our march into the 21st Century? Will we “Get Better or Get Beaten?”

By the way, I commend Slater’s book to your reading. I have used Welch’s theory of the three circles found on Page 31 of the paperback edition throughout my year. It worked for me.

## CEO Q&A Part 2 *(continued from page 1)*

**Q** What are the key governance issues of concern to the board?

**A** Number one is strategic planning. Prior to 1997 we had no formal strategic planning process to manage campus construction plans and operations. Now we have a master strategic plan and have recently revised it to include all three of our campuses. That plan is operationally critical because our budget has grown substantially, and our resident population and employees have doubled in the last seven years. The Board’s Long Range Planning and Policy Committee, manages the strategic master plan and will help determine our organizational direction. The effective management of our endowment and our financial picture is second. Although we have a substantial endowment, we also provide one of the largest amounts of

fraternal assistance in the nation. So we have a tremendous responsibility to manage that endowment well and to continue to increase it for the benefit of Ohio Masons and their families. Finally, we must effectively and efficiently manage our growth. For the first time in the last quarter century our accommodations have reached nearly full occupancy. Ninety-nine percent of our endowment and our annual gifts come from fraternity members. Overall, 85 percent of our current residents are fraternity members or immediate relatives of Master Masons. Although we are a Masonic facility, we’ve consciously chosen to provide services in the health care spectrum to others in need as part of our Masonic charity. Therefore, 25 percent of our health care residents have no Masonic affiliation but have medical concerns that we are

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## The Beacon is Published Quarterly

Please report all changes of address to your Lodge Secretary, who, in turn, will notify the Grand Secretary, who maintains the database that produces The Beacon mailing labels.

The Ohio Masonic Home includes Masonic Health Care, Inc.; Masonic Retirement Village, Inc.; and the Benevolent Endowment Foundation, Inc., at the Springfield campus; the Browning Masonic Community, Inc., in Waterville; and the Masonic Eastern Star Community, Inc. in Cincinnati.

Jerry Guess, APR at The Ohio Masonic Home, Director of Public Relations  
2655 W. National Road  
Springfield, Ohio 45504-3698  
(937) 525-3074  
jguess@ohiomasonichome.org

George Braatz, P.G.M.,  
Grand Secretary at The Grand Lodge  
F.&A.M. of Ohio  
P.O. Box 629  
Worthington, OH 43085  
(614) 885-5318  
gbraatz@freemason.com

# 80-Year Ohio Mason Honored

Elbert Durbin St. John, an 80-year member of Jamestown Lodge, #352, in Jamestown, Ohio, was presented a beautiful, engraved clock to recognize his eight decades of Masonic membership.

Brother St. John, now age 102, lives in the Larksfeld Place retirement community, in Wichita, Kansas.

The presentation to Brother St. John, shown seated in the picture, was

made by Most Worshipful Brother William J. Brown, a Past Grand Master of Kansas, far right in the picture.

He was accompanied by five other Masons from Kansas, two of whom formerly worked with Brother St. John at Kansas Gas and Electric. A reception at the retirement center made the event a festive one. Nine additional residents of the Home, who were Masons, also took part in the presentation.



80-year-old member Elbert Durbin St. John

## First Capstone Life Skills Camp Hosted in Ohio *(continued from page 1)*

The Masons of Summit County, who own Craftsman Park, played a vital role in making the Camp a success. They provided numerous volunteers who worked as chaperons, helped with activities, and ensured the campers had the very best amenities the Camp could offer.

Chisholm stated that Craftsman Park was perfectly suited as a location for the Capstone Camp, particularly because of the newly built low rope obstacle course, as well as its lakeside location.

Grand Master Jack Allen said that he was very pleased and proud of the efforts of the Summit County Masons in support of the Camp, including their recent \$12,700 donation.



*Campers guide each other wearing blind folds to encourage trust and teamwork*



*Capstone Camp focuses on teaching life skills to youths*

The idea for the Capstone Camp grew out of the Masonic Model Student Assistance Program and the Masonic Youth Life Skills Camp. During the now nationally acclaimed, three-day Masonic Model Student Assistance training program, teams of teachers and other school officials are taught that most kids who are “at-risk” lack the life skills needed to make the ever more difficult decisions they face. However, the program itself does not have the ability to provide those children, once identified as “at-risk,” with the life skills they need.

The Masonic Youth Life Skills Camp was started last year to provide Masonic youth in Pennsylvania with life skills as a precaution against them becoming at-risk youth.

The Capstone Camp takes both programs to their next logical extension, a camp that continues to provide Masonic youth with life skills they need, while also providing them to youth who have been identified as priority at-risk cases.

“The premise behind the Capstone Camp is that we make sure our own youth have the kind of decision-making skills that will keep them away from drugs, alcohol and other dangerous behaviors. At the same time, we can reach out to young people that the Student Assistance teams, which the Grand Lodge has trained, have recommend as priorities,” said Chad Simpson, director of program development for the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

Chisholm added that the Masons of Ohio should be very proud of their efforts to protect the future of our children, and that the Capstone Camp provides a model for other Grand Lodges in their efforts to help at-risk children.

When asked how the camp experience could be improved, Brandon, a young camper, responded, “Make it two weeks long next time.”

# FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE



by Timothy B. Strawn CAE, President,  
The Ohio Masonic Home Benevolent  
Endowment Foundation, Inc.

## How to Make a Good Gift Better!

We are truly blessed at The Ohio Masonic Home to have so many great supporters and wonderful

donors! Every gift we receive, regardless of size, is special to us and important in our overall efforts. For each and every one of them, we say "thank you."

We are finding that more and more people are indicating interest in and taking advantage of the various gift-planning options available today. These include bequests by will, charitable trusts, gift annuities, gifts of securities and real estate, endowment giving and other possibilities.

Some gifts can be made to benefit the charity now (current gifts) and others can be made now to benefit the charity later (deferred gifts). Some gift arrangements are revocable (you can change your mind); others are irrevocable. All can benefit from gift planning.

A planned gift usually requires more thought than a quick check written against monthly income. These gifts often come

out of estate assets. You have to consider the impact of your gift on your overall financial condition. Can you afford a sizable gift at this time, or should you make it later by will? What is the best way to make this gift? Do you need temporary or lifetime income from your gift arrangement? What are the tax implications?

Careful planning can actually make a good gift better. Consider these potential benefits of planning your gift:

- Maximize its size
- Obtain life income from it
- Optimize its tax-related benefits
- Tailor it to a specific need
- Protect yourself from hasty decisions
- Increase your personal satisfaction

### Help For You

The Foundation wants to help you make a good gift better! We are available to assist you in finding the best gift plan for your needs. We can provide tailor-made illustrations of gift options. And, as always, we will be sensitive to your financial needs and objectives and protect your confidentiality.

For further information about charitable gift planning, complete and mail the response coupon below. Or call the Foundation office toll-free at 888/248-2664.

## Learn More About Charitable Gift Planning

- Please send me information about Charitable Gift Planning.
- Please contact me about a personal visit
- I have provided for The Ohio Masonic Home/Foundation in my will or other estate-planning document
- I would be willing to consider including The Ohio Masonic Home/Foundation in my will or other estate-planning document
- Please send me information about The Rickly Society

### I am also interested in:

- Masonic Square (Independent Living) in Masonic Retirement Village
- The Apartments at Cunningham Place (Independent Living) in Masonic Retirement Village
- Bancroft Manor (Assisted Living) in Masonic Retirement Village
- Rickly Commons (Assisted Living) in Masonic Health Care
- One or more of the following levels of nursing care in Masonic Health Care:
  - Intermediate Nursing      — Skilled Nursing
  - Respite Care                — Rehabilitative Care
  - Pathways Center for Alzheimer's Care
- Browning Masonic Community:
  - Patio Homes in Browning Masonic Community in Waterville
  - Independent Living in Browning Masonic Community in Waterville
  - Assisted Living in Browning Masonic Community in Waterville
- Masonic Eastern Star Community (formerly Hamilton County Eastern Star Home)
  - Nursing Care in Masonic Eastern Star Community
  - Assisted Living in Masonic Eastern Star Community

To request more information about Charitable Gift Planning please complete and return this coupon. You also may call the Endowment Foundation toll-free at 888/248-2664.

Please complete this form and return it to:



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Benevolent Endowment Foundation, Inc.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone (Area Code First) \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge \_\_\_\_\_

For more information on these options, we invite you to call: Masonic Retirement Village Admissions toll-free at 888/290-2664; or Masonic Health Care Admissions toll-free at 888/243-2664; or Browning Masonic Community Admissions toll-free at 866/878-4055; or Masonic Eastern Star Community Admissions at 513/542-6464.

## Legendary Baseball Player Cy Young – An Ohio Mason

Each year in baseball, the best pitcher in each of the Major Leagues is chosen as the Cy Young Award recipient.

This award was named for one of the premier pitchers in baseball history, who also was an Ohio Mason.

In the historic archives of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, a membership card, without fanfare, relates the simple information: D. T. Young, initiated, passed and raised in February, 1904 in Mystic Tie Lodge, #194; recipient of a 50 year medal; died on November 4, 1955.

But behind those statistics is a man whose accomplishments have set the standards for nearly a century of athletes who participate in the game of baseball.

He was born in Urichsville, Ohio, as Denton T. Young. Because of his reputation for pitching a fastball, his teammates began calling him “Cyclone,” which was eventually shorted to “Cy.”

Cy Young has one of the baseball records no one will probably ever break – 511 career wins. He had more than 30 wins during five different seasons, more than 20 wins on 10 occasions, and he completed more than 700 of 815 games he started.

He tossed three no-hit games, and on May 5, 1904 pitched baseball’s first “perfect” game, in which no one on the opposing team was allowed to reach first base.

On his death in 1955, he was buried wearing his Masonic apron.

## Masonic Support of Special Olympics Again Surpasses \$100,000 Mark

A rousing, standing ovation greeted more than 150 Ohio Masons as they entered St. John’s Arena in Columbus for the opening ceremonies of the Summer Games of this year’s Ohio Special Olympics.

The pride of those Masons, all clad in their aprons, was intense as they circled the floor, and as the cheers and applause persisted.

That pride, which should be shared by all Masons in the state, was even greater a few minutes later, as Grand Master Jack L. Allen presented an enlarged check to Special Olympics for \$105,311, a 73 percent increase in giving from one year ago.

The warmth and appreciation received from the Special Olympics athletes, their families, friends and other supporters, makes all the fund-raising efforts worthwhile, according to Michael Cecil, chairman of the Grand Lodge committee.

“As we enter the 19th year of supporting Ohio Special Olympics, I see renewed support of this worthwhile



*Enlarged check, banner are very visible as Masons march during opening ceremony*

cause,” Cecil said. “Ohio Special Olympics athletes know who we are and that we care about them.”

He attributed much of the success to a new “back to basics” program of working towards a goal, rather than simply donating. He said success stories are still coming in from local Lodges, that programs like this are increasingly becoming part of their local communities. The committee is already working on the program for next year.

### Lodges that donated between \$500 and \$999:

Magnolia, #20	Heber, #501
Ebenezer, #33	Fort Recovery, #539
Xenia, #49	Babcock-Iris, #600
Medina, #58	John W. Barkley, #621
Tiffin, #77	West Gate, #623
Batavia, #104	Joppa, #666
Toledo-Ft. Industry, #144	Community, #684
Palestine, #158	Lincoln, #693
Lockbourne, #232	Old Portage, #718
Groveport, #240	Alpha, #729
Conrad, #271	George L. Marshall, #734
Orient, #321	Triangle, #748
Marks, #359	Huber Heights, #777
Pataskala, #404	
Humboldt, #476	

### Lodges that donated \$1,000 or more

New England, #4	Lyndhurst, #508
Scioto, #6	North Baltimore, #561
Mt. Zion, #9	Toronto, #583
Center Star, #11	Neoacacia, #595
Franklin, #14	East Gate, #603
Pickaway, #23	St. Andrew’s, #619
Coshocton, #96	University, #631
Dresden, #103	Capital City, #656
Greenville, #143	George A. Holly, #745
Ohio, #199	Beaver Valley, #753
Rubicon, #237	
Blendon, #339	
Bellville, #376	
Yellow Springs, #421	
Green Springs, #427	

## Kidney Foundation Praises Northwest Ohio Lodge

The Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio has recognized the efforts of Northern Light Sanford L. Collins Calumet Lodge, #40, in Maumee, for his fund-raising efforts on behalf of the Foundation.

Holly Hoagland-Fojtik, executive director, explained that during the past three years, the Lodge has held annual pancake breakfasts to benefit

the Kidney Foundation. More than \$7,500 has been raised during that period, \$2,500 this year, she said.

“All Lodge volunteers, such as Doug Towslee, event coordinator, play a vital role in the success of Kidney Foundation programs. Due to their commitment of raising necessary funds, the Kidney Foundation can continue its mission of patient

services, health education and research,” the executive director said.

“Funds raised from the pancake breakfast help to defray the rising cost of patient services and education. The Lodge’s commitment to the Kidney Foundation and the community is important and their volunteering is vital,” she said.

# BROWNING MASONIC COMMUNITY –

## *More Than Just A Home*



Henry Hanzel

Generally when one thinks of a Retirement Community and Independent Living units such as patio homes, the image of a place to hang your hat, kick back and relax comes to mind. Although our patio homes do offer this comfortable environment, they are even more to those who are active.

Henry Hanzl is a prime example of someone who is enjoying his retirement by being active and industrious. Henry turned his garage into a woodworking workshop rather than drive to the campus woodshop.

Many area Masons have received one of Henry's Masonic related creations. His other designs can occasionally be found at local craft shows. But they sell fast.

Henry is a (and we hesitate to use the word) "retired" self-employed contractor. He is the host at the campus Monday night social games, and can be seen at other times with residents engaged in bridge, euchre, and pinochle. Henry has transferred his Masonic Lodge membership to Wakeman Lodge #522, which is located on the Browning Campus. He will serve as the Lodge's Worshipful Master this coming year.

Henry says, "Living here at Browning has allowed me to remain active. I have made so many new friends and love them all. I enjoy helping out in anyway I can."

For information on our Independent Living Patio Homes, please call us at 1-866-878-4055, or write us at 8883 Browning Drive Waterville, Ohio 43566. To visit us on the Internet go to [www.ohiomasonichome.org](http://www.ohiomasonichome.org) and click on Browning Masonic Community.

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## Masonic Eastern Star Community News

Masonic Eastern Star residents, family members and staff combined efforts to help prepare and escort 26 residents to Cincinnati's 27th Annual Lucille Chenault Senior Citizen's Ball recently held at the Cincinnati Convention Center.

Eastern Star ladies donated various gowns and our volunteers made the necessary alterations to ensure our ladies were the best dressed at the Ball. Our men also donned their best suits for the event.

An employee in housekeeping contributed by making corsages and boutonnières for our residents attending the event. With eight family members and 10 staff members escorting them, it was off to the gala event. Cincinnati Mayor Charles Luken recognized all those present.

MESC residents attended this event to dance, and dance they did. Winning several prizes for their top dancing moves.

The star of the evening was our own Vesta Wright at 106-years young. Jerome Cook, an MESC employee, escorted Vesta to the dance accompanied by MESC's Karen Satchwell, LPN. Vesta Wright was featured that night on television newscasts about the event.

The day reflected the true pride that staff, residents, volunteers and family members have for being part of the Masonic Eastern Star Community.



*Belle of the Ball — Vesta Wright (center) was escorted to the 27th Annual Lucille Chenault Senior Citizen's Ball by her friends Karen Satchwell and Jerome Cook*

# Annual Grand Lodge Meeting Slated For October 19–20 in Columbus

## Four educational breakout sessions will be featured

Four educational breakout sessions have been planned to provide a special incentive for Masons attending the Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge, F.&A.M., of Ohio on October 19-20, 2001 in Columbus.

The Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, to be held in Battelle Hall North at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, will also feature presentation of the P. Dean Gerber and Rufus Putnam Awards, activity reports from Grand Lodge committees and leaders, and decisions on at least 10 items of proposed legislation.

Details on the Grand Lodge session and information regarding registration and meals have been sent to all Lodge Secretaries. Contact your Lodge Secretary for this information.

The expansion of the breakout sessions at Grand Lodge is the result of two highly successful educational meetings held last year. The intent of the meetings is to help Lodges and Lodge Officers to be better prepared to handle their duties and to improve Freemasonry in their communities.

This year, the four breakout sessions will be held at 3-5 p.m. on

Friday, October 19, and repeated at 7-9 a.m. on Saturday, October 20. It is hoped that delegates from Lodges divide up, attend all the sessions, and share the information on their return to their respective Lodges.

### Topics this year will be:

- Presentation skills
- Developing a one-year plan
- Membership development and retention
- How can Masonry help improve our youth organizations

The P. Dean Gerber Award and the Rufus Putnam Award, two prestigious honors of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, will be presented by Grand Master Jack L. Allen at the Friday night banquet.

To make time for the breakout sessions, much of the business of Grand Lodge will be compressed and reorganized. Voting on legislation may take place on Friday afternoon and on Saturday morning. In all, the business session is planned to be more efficient and comfortable for delegates.

## Summary of Legislation

Following are legislative topics that will be considered at Grand Lodge this year:

- Alterations in section detailing examinations of candidates.
- Proposal that Lodge business be conducted in Entered Apprentice Degree
- Expansion in the number of rituals that may be available to each Lodge
- Change in timing of when suspensions for non-payment of dues become effective, moving that date from current December 31 to May 31 of each year
- Restricting a brother from holding two elective offices at the same time
- Alteration in voting requirements for amending the Grand Lodge Code, from two-thirds vote to majority vote
- Alteration in voting requirements for amending the Grand Lodge By-Laws, from two-thirds vote to majority vote
- Permitting and providing rules for a Grand Master's (or one-day) Class of candidates
- Expansion of which brothers may represent a Lodge at Grand Lodge by proxy, to include Past Masters of the Lodge
- Increase in the purchase price of an Endowed Membership to provide additional annual income for Lodges

## A Trip Down Memory Lane



Richard C. McKeever (left), Robert Bates (center) and John Koehler were among the 52 Ohio Masonic Home Alumni Association members who attended the 25th Triennial Homecoming at the Home. More than 740 children of Master Masons were residents of the Home from 1897 to 1956. Alumni from 11 states accompanied by more than 100 family members attended the July event.



Flag Presentation – Grand Master Jack L. Allen, right, who is also serving as Commander of Defense Federal Employees American Legion Post #792, presents a new American Flag to Grand Secretary George O. Braatz, to be flown on the flag pole at the Grand Lodge Building in Worthington.

## Mason Raised by President Truman Receives 50-Year Pin

What started out as an ordinary presentation of a 50-year pin to an out-of-state brother, turned into an exciting time conversing with a brother raised to the Master Mason Degree by President and Most Worshipful Brother Harry S. Truman.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio frequently receives requests from other Grand Lodges to have 50-year pins presented to their members living in Ohio. Other jurisdictions reciprocate and present many pins to Ohio Masons as well.

Such a request was received by the Grand Secretary's Office from the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The recipient, Paul L. Edwards lives in Curtice, Ohio, and so nearby Genoa Lodge, #433, was asked to make the presentation.

On May 3, Wayne G. Dewey, Worshipful Master of Genoa Lodge, and Right Worshipful Brother Edward L. Draper, a Past District Deputy Grand Master in the 11th Masonic District, visited Brother Edwards at his home, and spent a "great and wonderful two and a half hours" with him.

They learned that Brother Edwards, now 86 years old, was raised on December 7, 1949, in McDonald Lodge, #324 in Missouri. Brother Harry Truman, then President of the United States and a Past Grand Master of Missouri, was present and took several key roles in the Master Mason Degree. Brother Edwards has vivid memories of that occasion.

## Ohio Masons Recognized For Contributions To Ohio Historical Foundation Programs

The Grand Lodge of Ohio was recognized this spring at the 3rd Annual Appreciation Program by the Ohio Historical Foundation, and was among a long list of corporate and community supporters of the Ohio Historical Society during 2000-2001.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio has sponsored Ohio Village Lodge, #10, at the Ohio Village site in Columbus since 1977. The second floor Lodge there accurately depicts the appearance of a Lodge more than a century ago.

Each year, the Grand Lodge contributes \$9,000 to the support of that facility, and in the quarter century since this support began, Ohio Masonry has donated nearly \$225,000 to the effort, according to Charles Eichensehr, Historian for the Grand Lodge, who also works at Ohio Village.

Ohio Village replicates what a small community would have been like in the years 1850 - 1865. Of course, such a village would have had a Masonic Lodge.

Brother Eichensehr reports that, in addition to the thousands of visitors who annually get a glimpse of what an historical Lodge looked like when they tour Ohio Village, approximately 16 to 20 Lodges yearly schedule meetings there in the old-time Lodge Room.

Since Ohio Village Lodge opened, 180 Entered Apprentice Degrees, 246 Fellowcraft Degrees, and five Master Mason Degrees have been conferred in the Lodge Room.

For more information on Ohio Village Lodge, call Brother Eichensehr at 614-297-2687.

A check with the Grand Secretary's Office in Missouri found that Most Worshipful Brother Truman's participation in such ceremonies, even while President, was quite common.

His wife, Bess, preferred to stay in Independence, Missouri, rather than in Washington, D.C., and so the President would make frequent trips back home, and while there would often use the opportunity to visit a Lodge.

President Truman's Masonic activity while in the White House is known elsewhere too. The newsletter of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, distributed this May, tells about how President Truman conferred the Master Mason Degree on a friend of his in Alexandria-Washington Lodge in Virginia in June, 1948. Since he was not familiar with the Virginia ritual, he made special provisions to be tutored in the White House in the ritual before conferring the degree.

## NORTH BEND LODGE HELPS BUILD MONUMENT FOR ARMED FORCES



Miller-Stockum American Legion Post in Cleves, Ohio (near Cincinnati) recently unveiled a monument to all persons who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The monument was dedicated on Memorial Day this year. The cost of the monument was bolstered by a \$5,000 donation from North Bend Lodge, #346, in Cleves. Many members of the Lodge are also members of the American Legion Post, including Don Bennett, Commander.

North Bend Lodge has long been a very visible, active and charitable part of the community.

# More Light About Masonry



## Our Ohio Masonic Presidents Recognized

*This is the second of a series of articles focusing on the Masonic records of the four Ohio Masonic Presidents of the U.S.*

### **Brother William H. McKinley Universal Brotherhood Personified**

In 1865, future president William McKinley was serving in the Union Army under General Sheridan, who was occupying Virginia. Major McKinley often observed what appeared to be a special bond between some of the Union surgeons and several of the wounded Confederate prisoners.

From time to time, the surgeons would converse intently with various prisoners, even occasionally giving them money. Overcome by curiosity, he inquired as to why the surgeons were taking these extra steps in the care of their wards. He learned that the surgeons were Freemasons as were several of the wounded Confederates.

Major McKinley was so impressed by this striking example of brotherly love in the mists of a terrible "brothers' war" that he decided to petition Hiram Lodge #21 in Winchester, Virginia, and become a Master Mason.

Hiram Lodge afforded more than 200 Union soldiers the opportunity to become Freemasons.

Either Brother McKinley's impressive level of proficiency or the expediency of war enabled him to be initiated on May 1, 1865, passed on May 2, 1865, and raised on May 3, 1865. Brother McKinley maintained his membership at Hiram (later Hiram Winchester)



*William McKinley, 25th President of the United States*

Lodge until August 21, 1867, when he affiliated with Canton Lodge #90, in Ohio.

Another fraternal story further illustrates the type of man Brother McKinley was. During the final days of his bid for the Republican candidacy for President, then Ohio Governor William McKinley consented to be initiated a member of the college fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

The initiation took place in the Governor's office after he had sent his staff home for the day. The ceremony was held on the eve of Governor McKinley's trip to the Republican National Convention in Minneapolis where he would in fact be nominated the Republican candidate for President.

One of the young men who initiated Governor McKinley was Matthew B. Excell, then serving as Democratic mayor of Alliance. After the ceremony, Mayor Excell addressed the Governor

and said, "Well, Governor, some of us here are Democrats and some of us are Republicans, but we all wish you success in Minneapolis."

McKinley paused for a moment and then rested his hands on the shoulders of two of the young men and said, "Yes, some of us are Democrats and some of us are Republicans, but we are all brothers now."

Brother William McKinley's sense of the importance of brotherhood as illustrated by these two stories must cause one to wonder what kind of president he would have become, if his term in office had not been cut short by an assassin's bullet. For when William McKinley died on September 14, 1901, the nation lost not only a President and Ohio a son, but mankind lost a brother in the truest sense of the word.

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The Grand Lodge of Ohio Museum recently was given a unique composite portrait by William McKinley Lodge #431. William McKinley Lodge was originally Eagle Lodge, of which Brother McKinley was a founding member. The composite was given to the Lodge by Hiram Winchester Lodge in 1921 and contains a photo of William McKinley, surrounded by photos of the officers of the Lodge who initiated him in 1865. This and other interesting Masonic artifacts can be seen at the Grand Lodge of Ohio Museum located at 634 High Street, Worthington, Ohio, which is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. If possible, please call for an appointment for a tour.

## Freemasonry Fed Spirit of Brother Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin – patriot, statesman, philosopher, and inventor – was also a very active Freemason, and according to a recent article in a national magazine, he was heavily influenced in his beliefs by the teachings of the Fraternity.

In the June, 2001 issue of the *Smithsonian Magazine*, a feature story, "Dr. Franklin's Plan," by Stephen Schwartz, states, "One of the central

influences that helped him in this was Freemasonry. Once inside the brotherhood, Franklin discovered that it almost exactly mirrored his own beliefs. Its ascending degrees, like his list of virtues, were designed to help man build a life that was 'four square and true' through hard work and fair dealing."

Later in the article is written: "As Masonry fed his spirit, so the American

Philosophical Society... would come to feed his mind."

Brother Franklin is a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and during the years he spent in Europe as a statesman seeking help for the fledgling United States, he often met in European Lodges with some of the most influential thinkers of the day.

# Retirement Village Update



by *Greg Holm, President,  
Masonic Retirement Village*

When you think about retirement, you may be surprised to find out that what you want is what most people want – the ability to remain healthy and independent, a deep feeling of security, and some lifestyle choices about where you want to live and how you want to live.

At the Masonic Retirement Village we offer you all that, and much, much more. Our independent living lifestyle choices range from a beautiful, maintenance-free, two-bedroom, two-bathroom patio home with an attached garage, or a cozy apartment that offers meal plans and housekeeping, to a private room in a residential care setting that offers assisted living services.

A monthly service fee is charged in Masonic Square and at The Apartments at Cunningham Place. A daily service fee is charged at Bancroft Manor. We currently offer a 100 percent refundable entry fee option for our patio homes – we give you back 100 percent of your entry fee at the time you move out of your patio home, either to an apartment or to assisted living or to a health care setting. Paying an entry fee can significantly lower your monthly service fee. And paying an entry fee is an option, not a requirement.

We now have a Reservation/Waiting List not only for our patio homes, but also for our apartments. Twelve new patio homes opened this summer, and as of July, only two end units are available.

If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, or would like to schedule a tour this Fall, please call Carol Zennie, Director of Marketing for the Masonic Retirement Village, at our toll-free number, 888/290-2664.

## CEO Q&A Part 2 *(continued from page 1)*

privileged to meet through Masonic benevolent care. This program has also enabled us to tap into third party reimbursement (Medicare and Medicaid) which saves the endowment more than \$7 million dollars annually. In an effort to continually meet prospective resident needs, we are looking to continued expansion of our Springfield and satellite campuses in a progressive yet responsible manner.

**Q** What are some of the future health care trends and the management challenges they may present?

**A** Although not new, one continuing trend is the increased number and popularity of assisted living facilities and the increasing number of continuing care retirement communities that are decreasing the number of their nursing beds. Organizationally because of our fraternal mission and continuing care philosophy, we go against the trend. We have a statewide audience seeking out independent and health care services primarily. That is where we place our emphasis and our development dollars. Another trend is the increased client demand for wellness services. Features like our walking paths,

exercise room with equipment and fitness instructors allows us to meet resident needs and wants. We have to closely monitor our constantly changing audience and be prepared to meet their expectations as they change over the years. Home-based and community services will become increasingly popular as the baby boomer generation contemplate retirement.

**Q** What do you consider your top three accomplishments in the past seven-years?

**A** Number one is the financial stability of the organization. The diversification of revenue by the certification for Medicare and Medicaid was a major step. That coupled with the increase in occupancy was the cornerstone to financial solvency. The Masonic Health Care staff accomplished this in a very efficient manner. I am pleased that during my tenure the endowment has doubled in size despite our growth in operational expenditures. This is a testimony to the investment decisions by our Board of Trustees and the ongoing benevolence of the fraternity. Second would be the adoption of a strategic master plan. That is our future road map to ensure

we meet the health care and retirement needs of Ohio Masons. It also allows us to be flexible so we can take advantage of new potential opportunities. Finally, creating satellite campuses and opening the admissions criteria for our services are both positive moves to serve more Ohio Masons and others in need.

**Q** What happened to asset surrender?

**A** Asset surrender was eliminated in January 1995, primarily to breakdown roadblocks to admission. Masonic assistance is available for those who meet the conditions of admission (non divesture of assets) and cannot meet the total cost of care. Residents or their families handle their own resources as long as they last. An application for admission is made and after appropriate review, tour, and medical assessment, admissions can occur. Despite the various names of the corporations – Masonic Health Care, Masonic Retirement Village, Browning Masonic Community, Masonic Eastern Star Community and The Benevolent Endowment Foundation – each is part of The Ohio Masonic Home.

## Welcome Home

We are pleased to introduce new residents who arrived from April 23, 2001, to July 9, 2001.

### MASONIC HEALTH CARE

Ruby "Myrl" Dunn  
St. Andrew's #619  
Daisy Gray  
Springfield, OH  
Bessie Storm  
Norris #426, OES  
Nancy Posey  
John W. Durst #716  
Maxine Sibole  
Springfield, OH  
Ruth Augustus  
Springfield, OH  
Betty Eckels  
Springfield, OH  
Charles Nolting  
College Hill, OH  
Harry S. Johnson #641

Geraldine Reveal  
Solar #730  
Lloyd Ingram  
Hillman #481  
Iva Mote  
Pomeroy, OH  
Mary Lou Reeb  
Springfield, OH  
Sherry Wooten  
Springfield, OH  
Viola Flint  
Cookeville, TN  
Pearl Thompson  
Mechanicsburg #113  
Madison Bickel  
Anthony #455  
Ernest Gresh  
Luther B. Turner #732  
Elizabeth Guyton  
Springfield, OH  
Lulu McKee  
Springfield, OH  
James Doughty  
Springfield, OH  
Roselle Drummond  
Springfield, OH

Rosemary LaFayette  
Springfield, OH  
Juanita Sumpter  
Springfield, OH  
Myrtle Boblitt  
Springfield, OH  
Philip Abele  
Springfield, OH  
Mary Jane English  
Springfield, OH  
Cora Strickland  
Ralph R. Rickly #670  
Wilma Mathews  
Morning Light #80,  
OES  
Pearl Thompson  
Mechanicsburg #113  
Hazel V. Brumfield  
Springfield, OH  
Janet Patrick  
Springfield, OH  
Reibel, Lillian  
Columbus, OH  
Jay, Elizabeth  
Brookville, OH

### MASONIC RETIREMENT VILLAGE

#### Bancroft Manor

Doris M. Talbot  
La Fayette #79  
Charlotte S. Tanner  
Evanston-Eversull #695  
Roger M. Wells  
George M. Verity #760

#### Cunningham Place

Alice Bendel  
Blendon #339  
Edna Wise  
Hollywood #133,  
OES, CA

#### Masonic Square

William & Carroll  
Caylor, Warren #24  
Robert & Marion  
Durrum  
Michael L. Fennell #711  
John & Roma  
Garringer  
Fielding #192

James & Doris  
Goddard  
Beaver Valley #753  
Fred & Barbara  
Leonard Marion #70  
Robert & Joanne  
Pulver, Lyndhurst #508  
Harry & Bettie Smith  
Alpha #729

### BROWNING MASONIC COMMUNITY

Roger DeWese  
Waterville, OH  
Isobel Hardy  
Toledo, OH  
Len & Elaine Larimer  
Wakeman #522  
Irene Maurer  
Dayton, OH  
Bob & Linda Neddo  
Toledo Ft. Industry  
#144  
Bill & Lillian Niner  
Northern Light #40

### MASONIC EASTERN STAR COMMUNITY

Marjorie Alexander  
Cincinnati, OH  
Edith Douglas  
Cincinnati, OH  
Margaret Dyehouse  
Cincinnati, OH  
Irvin League  
Cincinnati, OH  
Mildred LeMasters  
Buckeye #587  
Bernice Lewis  
Melrose, MASS, OES  
Samuel Owens  
Cincinnati, OH  
Anna Richter  
Arra #160, OES  
Dorothy Schaeper  
Cincinnati, OH  
Edward Steed  
Cincinnati, OH  
Marie Stenger  
Cincinnati, OH  
Elizabeth Williamson  
Mt. Healthy #365, OES

## In Memory

We honor the memory of these residents who passed away since the last issue of the Beacon: (April 23, 2001 to July 9, 2001)

### MASONIC HEALTH CARE

Marcus K. Behr  
Four Mile #212, MO  
John L. Biete  
South Gate #692  
Charles Billman  
Grove City #689  
Royal P. Brainerd  
Charleston #702  
Elizabeth B. Brown  
Springfield, OH

Ruth E. Daggy  
Franklin #55, OES  
Evelyn M. Fenton  
Cincinnati, OH  
Donald W. Fielder  
Harmony #8  
Kenneth Fleming  
Sulgrave #696  
Ernest Gresh, Sr.  
Luther B. Turner #732  
Rosa S. Guerrero  
Darlington, S.C.  
Helen E. Hages  
Springfield, OH  
Sarah L. Harvey  
South Charleston, OH  
Carol H. Henderson  
Lebanon, OH  
Hazel M. Justus

Marion #70  
John S. Kelker  
Mantua #533  
Vergie J. Klein  
Centerville, OH  
Florence McCullough  
Lakewood #601  
Janet L. Patrick  
Springfield, OH  
Bruce G. Rowand  
Springfield, OH  
Robert W. Sealock, Jr.  
H.S. Kissell #674  
Margy L. Scott  
Kentucky, OES  
Susan E. Shafor  
Jefferson #90  
Jack D. Sheets  
Clark #101

Leslie E. Skillings, Sr.  
Fielding #192  
Dora E. Stickle  
New Carlisle #100  
Brenda K. Suttles  
Springfield, OH  
Minnie L. Thomas  
Springfield, OH  
Pearl W. Thompson  
Mechanicsburg #113  
Elizabeth H. Watson  
Springfield, OH

### MASONIC RETIREMENT VILLAGE

#### Bancroft Manor

Naomi G. Runnels  
Copley, OH

Helen Wiltfong  
Chapter #104, OES  
West Virginia

#### Cunningham Place

John D. Fasnacht  
Adoniram #517

### BOWNING MASONIC COMMUNITY

Miriam Anderson  
Acme #554

### MASONIC EASTERN STAR COMMUNITY

Carrie Dickman  
Montgomery #94  
Dorothy Dickman  
Montgomery #94

Phil Hand  
Walnut Hills, OH  
Estelle Himburg  
Hoffner #286, OES  
Eunice Peters  
Mt. Healthy #365,  
OES  
Connie Mathes  
Dorcas #277, OES  
Irvin League  
Mason #678  
Jessie Heck  
Queen City #66, OES  
Elsie Stearns  
Olmsted Falls #705

## Thank You For Your Generosity

We offer our grateful appreciation to the estates, individuals, groups, or other Masonic bodies who have supported The Ohio Masonic Home with donations given between April 1, 2001, and June 30, 2001.

**\$10,000+**  
AASR Valley of  
Cincinnati  
Katherine E. Baas  
C.E. Brister  
Luella L. Brunthaver  
Rodney E. Ellis  
Olive N. Gaebelein  
Bonnie G. Hursh  
Lucille F. Jones  
George & Frances  
Klawitter

Thomas Livesay  
Thelma A. Miller  
William B. Miller  
George K. Moss  
John P. Richardson  
Mr. & Mrs. W. R.  
Sauerbrun  
Marie Leonard  
Irving W. Hubbell  
**\$2,000+**  
Helen N. Brown  
CFC - Central Ohio

Paul M. Cochran  
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Jay W. Duhamel  
Grand Court Order  
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Betty H. Oberle  
E.D. Radenbaugh  
George Rapping  
Vivian H. Schulze

Howard M. Sheeler  
**\$1,000+**  
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Ely #424  
Robert J. Fink  
Harding Concordia  
#345  
Bessie V. Hosler  
Hazel Justice  
(Memorial by Phyllis  
& Don Dicks)

Floyd Kelly  
Henry King  
Sarah McCullough  
Forest L. Middleton  
Northern Light #40  
Arnold F. & Kathryn  
A. Palmer  
Robinson Locke #659  
Harold G. Shrive  
Frank R. Williams  
Edieann Didham  
(In Memory of  
Dorothy Freeman)

## Cutting Ties Supports Charity Fund

More than \$500 was raised in May for the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation, as Grand Master Jack L. Allen, cut off ties of donors.

The Grand Master's Reception in the 19th Masonic District was a barbeque this year and everyone was encouraged to dress casually. If you wanted to wear a tie, the planners said, be prepared to have it cut off and be charged \$25 for that privilege.

Many in the audience that night chose to be charitable – and to wear ties.

Wielding a pink-handled scissors, Most Worshipful Brother Allen strolled through the audience, and severed members' "ties" to both their silk and dollars.

It was a fun evening, enjoyed by all present, with the Charitable Foundation the real beneficiary.



*Roger Coombs, left, receives shorted tie from Grand Master Allen, as Tom Jones assists.*

## Ohio Job's Daughters Bursting With Pride

Job's Daughters have given more HIKE (Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment) presentations than any other Grand Jurisdiction in the world.

HIKE is the organization's philanthropic endeavor, which provides funds for hearing devices for children all around the work without cost to them or their families.

In the past year, Ohio Job's Daughters have presented grants exceeding \$30,000. There are five HIKE representatives in the state who have raised more than \$4,000 each for the program this year. And, since 1985, Ohio Job's Daughters have made 133 presentations totaling \$221,431, which is also the high level in the world.

For more information about this HIKE project, contact Diana Tinker, the state HIKE chairperson, at [dlt1980@megsinet.com](mailto:dlt1980@megsinet.com).

**The Ohio Masonic Home**  
2655 W. National Road  
Springfield, Ohio 45504-3698  
Web site: [www.ohiomasonichome.org](http://www.ohiomasonichome.org)  
Web site: [www.freemason.com](http://www.freemason.com)

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