

BEACON

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

A Man with Unwavering Vision

Brother John H. McConnell's Community Leadership Includes Bringing NHL Team to Columbus



John McConnell (right) at the opening ceremony of Nationwide Arena

Ohio, for years the largest state without a National Hockey League team, is now the home of the Columbus Blue Jackets, largely the result of the vision, determination and commitment of John H. McConnell, industrialist, philanthropist and a Master Mason for 53 years.

The Columbus Dispatch, in relating the behind-the-scenes work, which brought the Blue Jackets franchise to Columbus, described Brother McConnell as "a man who, with unwavering vision, built an international steel empire from scratch and landed a National Hockey League franchise for a city that desperately wanted to be major-league."

Brother McConnell, in exhibiting such Masonic virtues as hard work, concern for his community, and the practice of the "golden rule," stands as a modern-day success story—possessing a genuine desire to make his community successful too.

Humble Beginnings

The son of a West Virginia steel-worker, Brother McConnell served with

the U.S. Navy during World War II and later attended Michigan State University on the G.I. Bill, where he played on the football team. Before college, he had followed his father into the mills of Weirton Steel Co. and after graduation in 1949, returned to work in the sales department at Weirton. He later joined the sales staff of another steelmaker and moved to Columbus in 1954.

His experience in the steel mills and in selling steel alerted him to an industry

niche being developed for custom steel-processing services, such as slitting steel or reducing rolled steel's thickness to meet customer demands. He decided to launch his own business and arranged to sell his first load of steel. His cost to purchase the steel was \$1,800 and he only had \$1,200. So he took his 1952 automobile to a local bank and secured a loan on it for \$600 to complete the deal. He sold the steel to a company in Springfield for \$2,400.

From such a humble beginning, Brother McConnell founded Worthington Industries, Inc., which today, with 8,000 employees, 55 facilities in 20 states and 11 countries, and annual sales of \$2 billion, is the country's leading intermediate steel producer and a leading manufacturer of metal related products.

The company's philosophy, closely based on the "golden rule," has resulted in an industry-recognized profit-sharing plan, benefits such as low-priced haircuts for all workers, and a repeated position on Fortune magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For."

(continued on page 3)

Just Wait Until Next Year

Due to the volume of new construction projects scheduled to start in April, the Grand Master and I have made a joint decision in consultation with the Ohio Masonic Home Board of Trustees to cancel Masonic Home Day for 2001.

Safety and campus access were the main issues that led to this decision. Although Home Day will be greatly missed, the construction sites and infrastructure work behind Rickly and Bancroft Manor would have severely

restricted campus pedestrian and traffic flow.

This was a difficult decision. However, we will double our efforts in 2002 to make Masonic Home Day a truly memorable event. We continue to encourage family members and friends of residents, and Masons and their families to visit and tour our campus as it grows to meet future fraternal health care needs.

The Grand Master and I thank you for your understanding in this matter.

*Jerry Kuyoth, C.N.H.A.
CEO, The Ohio Masonic Home*

Message from The Grand Master

by Jack L. Allen Grand Master

This year's theme, "Learn It - Live It - Share It," isn't just for the individual to apply to everyday life, or just for lodges being challenged to return to



Masonic basics, it is a working theme for the Grand Lodge and its officers.

Under the heading of "**Learn It**," we are becoming familiar with the legislative process as we work with Ohio lawmakers and lobbyists seeking property tax relief for all fraternal organizations that do charity and community works. Even now we are compiling a list of such Masonic efforts just in Ohio. Politics is a stranger to Symbolic Masonry, but we are learning.

We continue to develop an Ohio Masonic Renewal Plan designed by eight young Masons best positioned to tell the gray hairs what young men want in a fraternity like ours. While Masonry remains the same organization of principles, morals, and ethics our great-grandfathers knew, other things may change. The plan being developed encompasses membership, publicity and lodge programs.

For years I have heard brethren ask questions that started with the words, "When is Grand Lodge going to do something about . . .," followed by a host of issues.

Under the heading of "**Live It**" we have created an Information and Technology Committee made up of some very knowledgeable Masons from a variety of computer-dependent backgrounds. The Grand Lodge and subordinate lodges are exploding in every direction with computerized record keeping, report generation and Web pages. It is time to develop a master plan that will keep us on top in this ever-changing field of communications.

If you haven't visited the Grand Lodge Web site at www.freemason.com, I encourage you to do so regularly. We have a couple of whiz-bang Webmasters that improve or expand the site almost daily. If your lodge has a Web site and it doesn't have a direct link to the Grand Lodge page, please send an e-mail link to Chad Simpson, at csimpson@freemason.com.

We are in the midst of reviewing and evaluating many of our education programs in order to keep these lessons current and beneficial. The late MWB Hilmer W. Newman gave us TELL (The Excellent Lodge Leader) Program 18 years ago. It's time to revise and maybe even add another dimension in leadership studies. RWB Steven J. Krekus is becoming our expert on what some other grand jurisdictions are doing. He has attended warden's workshops in Texas and will next venture to Massachusetts to experience their program. Maryland provided us a report on their summer school for prospective Worshipful Masters, and other jurisdictions have invited us to come see what they offer.

"**Share It**" has been somewhat my personal undertaking. In November, the basic nine Masonic "families" in Ohio came together for a "share it" day. The presiding and elected line officers of

Grand Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, Scottish Rite, Shrine, Grotto, Eastern Star and Amaranth shared plans, problems and programs. There was no hidden agenda. Just get together and talk. In fact, it had been agreed in advance there would be no effort to try and organize or agree to anything as a group.

The relaxed and friendly atmosphere resulted in two study groups involving all nine bodies being created. One study group will try to coordinate all nine state-level calendars to eliminate conflicts. The second study group will ponder the concept of dividing the state into concurrent regions and then coordinating the nine calendars within a region. I am very grateful to my York Rite brethren who suggested the meeting and then supported me in spreading the welcome mat to the nine "families."

Another "**Share It**" undertaking involves our youth groups. A meeting was held with the adult leaders of DeMolay, Jobs Daughters and Rainbow. For years we have been listening to their pleas for more adult leaders, but a mechanism for helping them was lacking.

This October 19 and 20, during Grand Lodge in Columbus, the youth will have an opportunity to speak to their leadership needs during one of the four breakout training sessions that will be conducted each day.

As you can see, your Grand Lodge is practicing what it preaches.

The Beacon is published quarterly

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 Public Relations Office
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

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 mailing labels for The Beacon.

Grand Lodge Officers for 2000-2001

Grand Master: Jack L. Allen
1494 Country Club Rd.,
Columbus, OH 43227-2133

Deputy Grand Master:
Thomas E. Reynolds
616 N. Main Str.,
N. Baltimore, OH 45872-1141

Senior Grand Warden:
William P. Mayberry, Sr.
7101 Hunters Creek Drive,
Dayton, OH 45459-3467

Junior Grand Warden:
Steven J. Krekus
648 Fairfield Lane,
Aurora, OH 44202-7837

Grand Treasurer:
Thomas H. Galyen, P.G.M.
9112 Fern Cove E.,
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138-2630

Grand Secretary:
George O. Braatz, P.G.M.
P.O. Box 629,
Worthington, OH 43085-0629

Grand Chaplain:
Walter E. Ellenberger
6642 Kingsbridge Dr.,
Sylvania, OH 43560-3440

Grand Orator: Jim S. Deyo
14160 Yankeetown-Chenoweth Rd.,
Mt. Sterling, OH 43143-9418

Grand Marshal:
James M. Williamson
3709 N. Lakeshore Dr.,
Jamestown, OH 45335-1020

Senior Grand Deacon:
Michael A. Himes
224 E. State Road,
Cleveland, OH 45002-1354

Junior Grand Deacon:
Ronald L. Winnett
328 Deer Trail Rd.,
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-9712

Grand Tyler: Wayne J. Wooten
7840 16th Rd.,
Amanda, OH 43102-9706

Message from The CEO

Thanks for the Memories, Welcome Aboard

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

The end of last year represented a sad time for residents, staff, supporters and Trustees of The Ohio Masonic Home, and its family of companies. After 13 years of service to the OMH Board of Trustees, three of those years as Chairman, Most Excellent Companion Earl C. Gifford retired from the board.

During Brother Gifford's tenure as chairman, The Home opened The Apartments at Cunningham Place, Pathways Center for Alzheimer's Care, Masonic Community Center, 36 patio homes, and a new powerhouse. Also accomplished were mergers with The Browning Masonic Community in Waterville and The Masonic Eastern Star Community in Cincinnati. To complete

his active tenure, Brother Gifford was involved in the approval to expand each of these three companies in 2001.

Although his modesty would not acknowledge it, Brother Gifford presided here during unprecedented growth in our 109-year history.

Along with Brother Gifford, Illustrious Brother Richard L. Coy, 33rd and Brother James Landaker also completed their terms of service. Brother Coy retired after 12 years of service, and Brother Landaker has completed his term, which he substituted in for Most Worshipful Brother Thomas D. Zahler. Brother Coy led the effort for campus growth through his work on the Long Range Planning and Policy Committee.



Brother Landaker was a key voice in making Masonic Retirement Village a viable financial entity and instituting modern methods of investing our endowment. The fraternity will be eternally indebted to these men for their service to our senior members and others in need.

It is my pleasure to welcome Brother Owen E. Johnson, M.D., Brother Dimitrios Xanthakos, M.D., and Most Excellent Companion Wayne S. Dill as new members of the Ohio Masonic Home Board of Trustees. Each is appointed to a three-year term effective Jan. 1, 2001.

The medical expertise of Dr. Johnson and Dr. Xanthakos in the areas of administration and practice combined with Brother Dill's rich Masonic and business experience will serve our organization well into the future.

Please join me in welcoming them to our mission of service and care to Ohio Masons, their families, and others in need.

A Man with Unwavering Vision (continued from page 1)

Brother McConnell, now Chairman Emeritus of the company, was raised a Master Mason in a Lodge in East Lansing, Michigan, in 1948 during his junior year at Michigan State University. He said he petitioned the Lodge because members of his family were Masons and he was pleased with the principles of the organization. He joined the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Columbus in 1955, is a member of the Aladdin Shrine Temple, and was created a 33rd Degree Mason in 1987. The class of candidates in the Valley of Columbus was named in his honor in the Fall of 2000.

A Long History of Service

A recipient of the Horatio Alger Award and the National Football Foundation Gold Medal Award, Brother McConnell has been inducted into the Central Ohio Business Hall of Fame and the Columbus Hall of Fame. He has received the Ohio Governor's Award, the Mr. Ohio Gold Award, the Michigan State University Outstanding Alumni Award, and the Southern Illinois University Entrepreneur of the Year Award. He also has been presented honorary degrees from MSU, Ohio University, and Ashland University.

He is a genuinely humble man and does not want to be considered a celebrity. "If you see a turtle sitting on a fence post, you know he did not get there alone," Brother McConnell said, adding that no one becomes successful alone.

The Worthington Industries founder chose Columbus as the city to start his company because he saw it as a city with a future. But for all his business success, he eventually may be best known for leading the investment group that brought an NHL franchise to the city.

Brother McConnell really only wanted to have a minority share of the ownership, but when the deadline arrived and other potential investors did not step forward, he put his name on the line and became 80 percent owner of the new franchise.

According to one NHL official, "Mr. McConnell pulled off one of the most heroic feats I've seen in the more than 20 years I've been involved in major-league sports."

Giving Back to the Community

Brother McConnell commented, "I came to Columbus in 1954 and

Columbus has been very good to me. I wanted to give something back."

His "giving back," however, has been legendary for years. In 2000, he was presented the Harrison M. Sayre Award by

the Columbus Foundation, recognizing leadership in philanthropy. Over the years, Brother McConnell has generously supported numerous educational, health and research projects and civic activities in central Ohio, including a major gift to develop the McConnell Heart Health Center at Riverside Methodist Hospitals.

Another gift helped establish the gorilla habitat at the Columbus Zoo. He serves as chairman of the Ohio Health Corporation, chairman emeritus of the Law Enforcement Foundation of Ohio, a director of the GMI Engineering and Management Institute of Flint, Michigan, and on a variety of charitable boards, including the Columbus Zoo and the YMCA.



McConnell

Foundations for the Future

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

Is a Charitable Gift Annuity Right for You?

One of the increasingly popular gift giving options available to our donors is the Charitable Gift Annuity. This easily-established gift provides not only a gift to the Home



but also provides an income stream to the donor and/or one other person for life that may compare favorably to other financial arrangements. Additional benefits of this gift option are an income tax deduction in the year the gift is made and, for gifts made with appreciated securities, partial bypass of capital gains tax.

Is a Charitable Gift Annuity right for you? Try this simple little test to find out!

- 1. I would like to make a gift to The Ohio Masonic Home that would not only help The Home but also provide me with income for the rest of my life.
- 2. I would like to receive regular, fixed payments I can count on.
- 3. I would like to receive payments that would be as much or more than I might receive from other financial arrangements.
- 4. I would like a portion of each payment I receive to be tax-free.
- 5. I would like to receive a charitable income tax deduction for my gift.
- 6. I would like to reduce the size of my estate to lessen (or avoid) estate taxes.
- 7. I would like to know more about charitable gift annuities.

If you answered yes to most or all of these questions, a gift annuity from The Home may fit your needs perfectly! Use the coupon below to request further information. Or call the Endowment Foundation at our toll-free number, 888/248-2664, to confidentially discuss your interest. We'll be happy to help in any way we can!

Learn More About Charitable Gift Annuities

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

- Please send me information about Charitable Gift Annuities.
- Please contact me about a personal visit
- I have provided for 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

Please complete this form and return it to:



THE OHIO MASONIC HOME
Benevolent Endowment Foundation, Inc.

Five Masonic Drive • Springfield, OH 45504-3658
Call Toll-Free 888/248-2664 or Fax 937/525-3090

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

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 at 419/878-4055; or Masonic Eastern Star Community Admissions at 513/542-6464.

Masons Making a Difference in Their Community

Around 10:30 a.m., twice a week, Brothers Robert E. Duemmel and Virgil P. Steinmetz arrive at North Industry Christian Church, just south of Canton, to load 15-22 hot meals that they deliver to senior and disabled persons as part of the Meals on Wheels Program of Stark and Wayne Counties.

The two-hour, 30-mile trek will find them winding their way through North Industry, East Sparta and Waynesburg Drive, stopping a few minutes at each designated home.

“Our people are always anxious to see us and want us to stay and visit with them since in many cases, we will be the only persons they will see all day,” said Brother Duemmel. “We always deliver the meals directly to the recipients so that we can be assured of their physical



Brother Duemmel visits Eileen Johns

condition. If we don't get a response and are unable to contact a neighbor, we immediately report the situation to the Meals on Wheels office who will dispatch special help.”

Living by the word of the craft

“What little bit of time it takes out of my day to do this really makes me feel good,” Brother Steinmetz remarked. “It's just the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping another human being out that makes it all worthwhile.”

Meals on Wheels delivers five days a week. Often, sack lunches as well as frozen dinners are provided to carry the recipients over the weekend. Special diets such as low sodium or fat free, etc., are also individually prepared and delivered.

“Many of our people are in their 80s and 90s and have no one to look after them. In many cases they are not able to prepare and cook the right type of foods needed for their special diets,” he said.



Brothers Duemmel and Steinmetz deliver Meals On Wheels twice a week

Congratulations to these two Masons who have carried the teachings of our Craft into their daily lives to make a difference in the community in which they live.

Brother Duemmel is a member of Temple Lodge, #710, and has been with the Meals on Wheels program for 7 years. Brother Steinmetz is a 50-year member of Caldwell Lodge, #330, and has been a volunteer for 13 years.

(Thanks to Editor Gary G. Cox of “The Masonic Bulletin” of Canton, for permission to use this story.)

Chad Simpson New Director of Program Development

Chad E. Simpson has been named Director of Program Development for the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and will work full-time in developing and promoting a variety of programs for Ohio Freemasonry.

He succeeds Most Worshipful Brother George O. Braatz, who in October was elected Grand Secretary.

Brother Simpson graduated Magna Cum Laude from Simpson College in Iowa in 1996 and came to Ohio in 1997 to begin his graduate studies at Bowling Green State University. He received his Master of Arts degree in 1999. He was formerly employed as a financial services representative for Nationwide Financial Services.

He is a dual member of North Baltimore Lodge, #561, and York Lodge, #563, now serving as York's Senior Deacon. Brother Simpson is an officer in York Temple Chapter, R.A.M., and York Council, R.&S.M., and is a member of Columbus Commandery, Knights Templar.

He also continues to serve on alumni advisory boards for his college fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon.



Chad Simpson, New Director

Masonic Eastern Star Community News



The Ohio Department of Health recently gave the Masonic Eastern Star Community a deficiency free survey. Some of MESC's 100 employees who helped prepare for the annual survey include: (Top row, left to right) Deloris Schneider, Amy Hirschman, and Nancy Boggs. (Bottom row, left to right) Theresa Mosley, Henrietta Shelton and Kristy Kaimer.



MESC Board of Trustees Chairperson Betty Whitaker and Ohio Masonic Home Chief Executive Officer, Jerry Kuyoth, visited MESC employees to personally congratulate them on achieving an error free annual state survey. (Top row, left to right) Carol Steier, Lelia Williams, Donna Plasters, Jan Hale, Betty Whitaker, Jerry Kuyoth and Elvesta Cunningham. (Bottom row, left to right) Tim Campbell, Rona Johnson, and Carol Gullett.



**Masonic Eastern Star
Community, Inc.**

Medicare Versus Medicaid *(Part Two – Medicaid)*

By John H. Rondot
Director of Reimbursement

Medicaid is a state sponsored program with matching funds received from the federal government.

In a nursing facility, Medicaid requires the resident to not only meet certain medical criteria (Level of Care) but also must meet certain financial requirements. Unlike Medicare, the resident is not entitled to Medicaid unless the resident meets both the medical and financial requirements.

The resident must apply for Medicaid before an assessment for medical necessity can be performed. The rules become very complicated when it comes to financial eligibility.

The resident may only have \$1,500 in assets. Any assets owned prior to applying for Medicaid may not be given

away or sold at less than market value within three years prior to applying for Medicaid. A pre-paid burial fund may be owned and not counted towards the \$1,500 limit. If at any time the resident's assets exceed \$1,500, the resident will be removed from the Medicaid program until such time that the assets do not exceed the \$1,500 level.

Any income received must be used towards the cost of the nursing facility care. This income is used to reduce the amount Medicaid pays the facility. The



resident will be entitled to receive \$40.00 of their income to be used for any service not covered by the Medicaid program (i.e. haircuts, gift shop purchases and meals out of the facility). There are no deductibles to be met or co-insurance to be paid. Medicaid pays for all covered medical services.

The rules change when the resident has a surviving spouse living in the community. The surviving spouse may keep their home, furnishings and car. They may maintain one half of the couple's joint assets up to \$81,960. The surviving spouse may also retain their earned income.

Most facilities are able to assist any resident or responsible party who would like to apply for the Medicaid benefits. The resident and/or responsible party may also contact their County's Department of Human Services.

(Part One—Medicare published in Fall 2000 Beacon)

Ohio Masons Sponsor Award Program

School Leaders Recognized for Curtailing Drugs, Alcohol, and Violence

A new award program to recognize leaders in combating drugs, alcohol and violence in Ohio schools is being sponsored by the Masons of Ohio, in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Education.

Cash awards will be given annually to five regional Safe and Drug-Free Schools (SDFS) coordinators who have demonstrated outstanding performance in their work.

The announcement of the new program was made by Grand Master Jack L. Allen at the annual Ohio Prevention and Education Conference in Columbus this December, to which more than 500 SDFS coordinators attended.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio, through its Charitable Endowment Fund, will provide \$6,000 in cash awards for the recipients. The Ohio Department of Education will provide the technical advice and selection of the winning awardees.

Since 1997, through its Masonic Model program, Ohio Masons have been sponsoring three-day workshops at no cost for teams from schools throughout the state to train them to identify and intervene with "at risk" students in the classroom. So far, more than 800 participants from 100 schools have taken part in the workshops. Four more workshops planned during the first five months of 2001 are expected to add another 225 persons from 45 additional schools.

Michael Magnusson, SDFS Consultant for the Ohio Department of Education, said, "This nationally acclaimed student assistance training seeks to enhance the skills of its participants and promote a bond between the school and community resources devoted to early and effective intervention and with students demonstrating patterns of behavior that could threaten their success at school."

Nominations for the awards must be submitted by May 1. Five regional winners will be announced in September, with the state winner announced in December. The state winner will receive \$3,000 and each of the other four regional winners will be awarded \$750 each.

Long-time Members Honored



Judd M. Bright, 80-Year Member Recognized

Judd M. Bright, 102 years old, was honored by Grand Master Jack L. Allen for completing 80 years of Masonic membership.

Most Worshipful Brother Allen presented Brother Bright with a specially designed and engraved clock.

Brother Bright was born on a farm in Greenwich, Ohio, on February 18, 1899, and has lived in Oberlin since 1923. For 22 years, he has lived in the Firelands Retirement Center II.

He has been a member of Ashland Lodge, #151, since February, 1921.



75-Year Member Pin Presented in Florida

Julius Rex Keyser received a special visit from Grand Master Jack L. Allen and several Grand Lodge Officers in his home in Sarasota, Florida, in January, and received his 75-year pin. He is a member of West Salem Lodge, #398.

Browning Masonic Community News

The Browning Masonic Community is located in the Maumee River Valley, which runs from Lake Erie through Northwest Ohio to Indiana. Residents here enjoy the area's rich heritage that is captured and revealed in numerous historical books and articles dealing with the nation's early development.

Worshipful Brother Robert D. Carroll, a retired Toledo firefighter, is a new Browning resident just starting to learn about his new home.

"I should have moved here a long time ago. My wife has been gone now for five years and it was a real chore trying to clean and maintain my house. The utility bills alone were about to overwhelm me," said Brother Carroll.

"Here, I am among friends. The staff is great. They go out of their way to help



me and make sure I am all right. Also, financially this is a bargain. It's more economical for me to live here than own my own home and then deal with food, utility and maintenance costs and the

stress of keeping everything in order. Browning is the place to be. I would recommend my new home to anyone," he added.

Brother Carroll, 86-years-old, is an avid golfer and 65-year member of Rubicon Lodge #237. He serves as the Lodge Chaplain and is a Past District Education Officer of the Eleventh Masonic District.

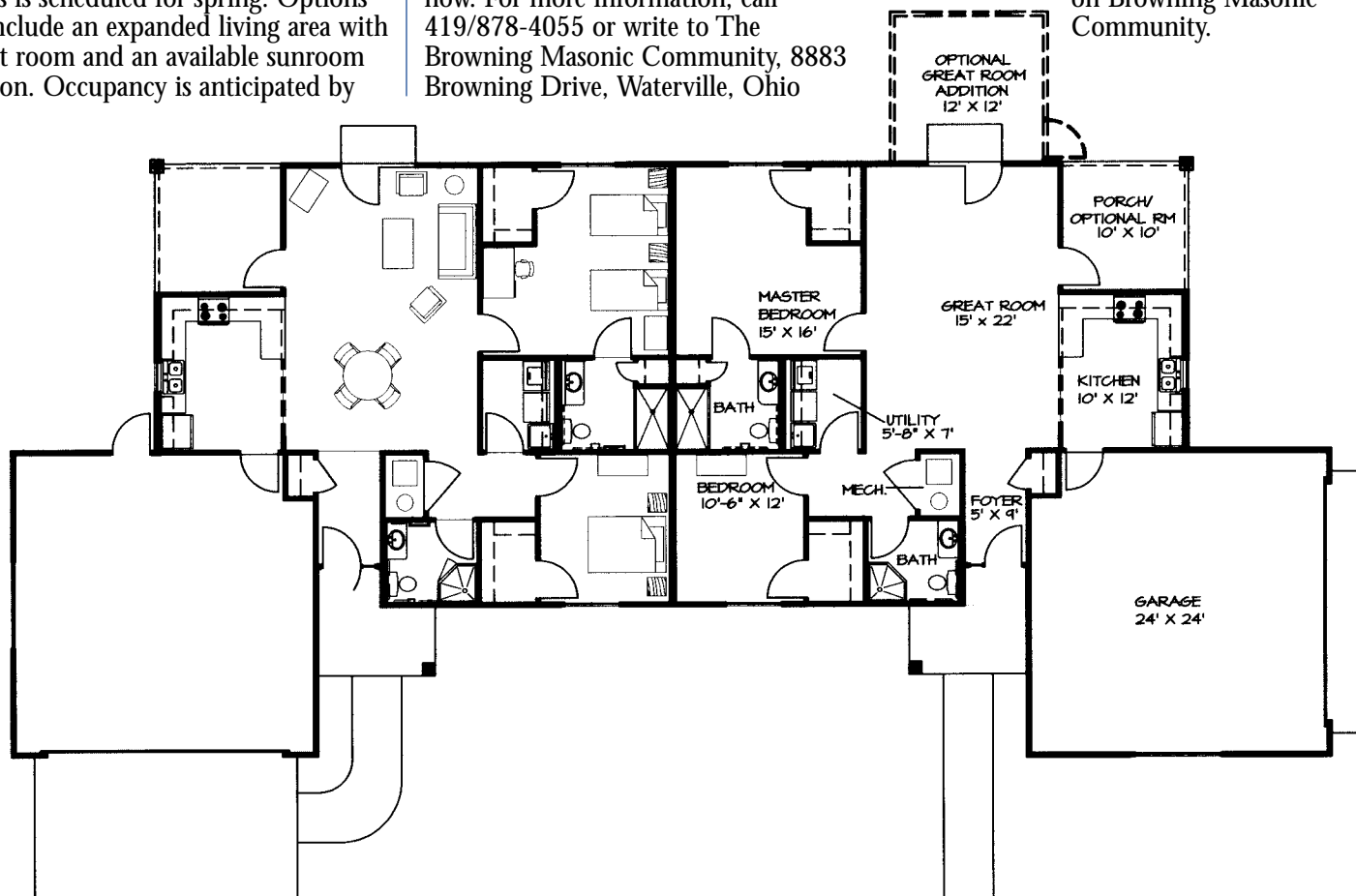
If you are considering a move to a retirement setting, visit here to discover why the Browning Masonic Community is the place to be. For an appointment to visit Browning, call 419/878-4055 or write to the Browning Masonic Community, 8883 Browning Drive, Waterville, Ohio 43566. The residents and employees look forward to meeting you.

Browning Masonic Patio Homes

Browning Masonic Community is now offering new patio homes. Construction of these spacious new homes is scheduled for spring. Options will include an expanded living area with a great room and an available sunroom addition. Occupancy is anticipated by

late summer or early fall. Don't get left out in the cold. One of these warm and inviting homes can be yours if you act now. For more information, call 419/878-4055 or write to The Browning Masonic Community, 8883 Browning Drive, Waterville, Ohio

43566. To visit the Browning Masonic Community Web page, go to www.Ohiomasonichome.org and click on Browning Masonic Community.



More Light About Masonry



President Bush Planned to Take Oath of Office on Masonic Bible

President George W. Bush planned to take his oath of office on January 20 on the historic St. John's Lodge Bible - the same Bible on which President and Brother George Washington, the new President's father George B. Bush, and three other Presidents took their oaths of office.

However, because of inclement weather, the Bible was not used. The decision was made by the St. John's Lodge representatives in order to preserve the Bible. Another Bible was substituted at the last moment.

St. John's Lodge, #1, is part of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Three Brothers from St. John's Lodge always accompany the Bible, and the Lodge never allows the Bible to be transported by airplane. First ladies are not eager to hold this Bible, because it weighs in excess of 10 pounds. The Bible was recently featured on the History Channel.

Originally, when Brother Washington was about to be sworn in as our nation's first President in New York City, no Bible was present, and a Mason went to the nearby St. John's Lodge to obtain one for the occasion. The Bible has been a treasured possession of the Lodge ever since.

Did You Know?

Larry L. Householder, the newly elected Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives is a member of New Lexington Lodge, #250. He joined the Lodge in 1981 when he was 22 years old.

Ernest Borgnine, well-known television and movie star, recently received his 50-year pin in Masonry from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. He is a member of Abingdon Lodge in Abingdon, VA, and expressed his pride in being a Mason. He is a 33rd Degree Mason.

Mel Tillis, recording star, singer, and performer, during a recent fund-raising concert, donated the proceeds to several charitable efforts of the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. Brother Tillis is a 33rd Degree Mason. Half of the proceeds from the fund-raiser were given in memory of fellow performer, the late **Brother Burl Ives**.

The Red Carnation was adopted in 1904 as Ohio's State Flower in honor of President and **Brother William McKinley**, who was assassinated in 1901. Brother McKinley wore a carnation in his lapel every day for 29 years.

What's the Best Word – Lodge, Hall, or Temple?

The word, "lodge," is easily recognizable as referring to the operative side of Masonry and the place where Masons lived and work.

"Hall," on the other hand, according to Norman Leeper, Past Master of the Southern California Research Lodge, is the word used in most of the world to describe the meeting place of Speculative Masons.

Research indicates that the first Masonic "hall" we have any account of is in Marseilles, France, in 1756. In England, the guilds met in halls, and the United Grand Lodge of England is headquartered in Freemasons' Hall.

The word, "temple," is of recent origin, notwithstanding the allegory of King Solomon, and seems to be uniquely American, first appearing around 1830 in the aftermath of Anti-Masonry.

Statistics

At the end of the last Grand Lodge year (July 31, 2000), Grand Lodge of Ohio membership totaled 133,599.

The report of the Grand Secretary provided these additional statistics for the year that ended July 31, 2000:

Total gains.....	2,735
Total losses, deaths.....	4,603
Total losses, non-payment of dues.....	1,867
Total losses, all categories.....	7,133
Net loss.....	4,398
Total number of Lodges.....	582
Average age of Ohio Masons.....	64.25
Average number of members per Lodge.....	229.55
Average annual Lodge dues.....	\$34.68
Number of Lodges reporting net loss in membership.....	467
Number of Lodges reporting no change in membership.....	43
Number of Lodges reporting net gains in membership.....	72

Unusual Time Capsule Opening Led By Masons from Batavia Lodge

For hundreds of years Freemasons have conducted cornerstone-laying ceremonies for public buildings.

Recently, members of Batavia Lodge, #104, had the chance to undo what their brethren accomplished 117 years earlier.

On July 26, 1883, members of Batavia Lodge laid the cornerstone for Clermont County's "Old County Home" building. That cornerstone inscription reads: "By request of the County Commissioners, this stone with memorials it contains was laid by Batavia Lodge, #104, F.&A.M. under direction of C.C. Keifer, G.M. of The Grand Lodge of Ohio. July 26, 1883. A.L. 5883."



Masons unveil Grand Lodge memories

No specific time was ever included for reopening the time capsule in the cornerstone, and so Clermont County officials decided to do it during the county's bicentennial celebration.

One-hundred and seventeen years later, on October 7, 2000, led by David Sexton, Worshipful Master of Batavia Lodge, and Michael A. Himes, Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, the 300-pound cornerstone was removed from the building. The time capsule was not opened until December 2 at a gala event during the bicentennial activities.

When the time capsule was opened, it contained numerous newspaper clippings and business cards, many of them from area Masons of the era. Also found was a one-page handwritten letter, signed by Fletcher Lee Ray, Grand Master, dated July 26, 1883, saying "this stone was deposited by me in form, upon the above date."

Retirement Village Update

by Greg Holm President, of Masonic Retirement Village

All You Want from a Retirement Community

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 two different entry fee options for our patio homes—one option gives you back 100 percent of your entry fee at the time you need to move on, either to an apartment or to a health care setting. Paying an entry fee can significantly lower your monthly service

fee. Paying an entry fee is an option, not a requirement.

The Village's Residency is Growing!

We now have a Reservation/Waiting List not only for our patio homes, but also for our apartments. By the first week of April, we'll have 12 new residents in Masonic Square- Phase II-B. Twelve new patio homes are currently under construction -Phase II-C-with an opening date planned for June 1. Several end units are still available!

If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, or would like to schedule a tour this spring, please call Carol Zennie, director of marketing, at our toll-free number, 888/290-2664.

WELCOME HOME

We are pleased to introduce new residents who arrived from November 15, 2000 to January 19, 2001.

MASONIC HEALTH CARE

Anne Allison
Anthony #455
Mildred Asper
Springfield, Ohio
Verda Bond
Medway, Ohio
Mary Bowshier
Springfield, Ohio
Lanore Browne
York #563
Arthur Compton
Centerville, Ohio

Marcella Denlinger
Yellow Springs #421

Randolph Dirks
Vandalia #742

Helen Dunn
Western Reserve
#71, OES

Evelyn Fenton
Springfield, Ohio

Kenneth Fleming
Sulgrave #696

Patricia Graves
Springfield, Ohio

Frances Haston
Milford #54

Nora Howard
Springfield, Ohio

James Insley
Springfield, Ohio

Mary Michael
Springfield, Ohio

Eulah Platt
Anthony #455

Ada M. Riley
Springfield, Ohio

Betty Rung
New Carlisle #100

Ruth Saylor
Springfield, Ohio

Margy Scott
Kentucky, OES

Martha Shinkle
Jeffersonville #468

Ruth Shook
Dayton #147

Donald Skillman
Mechanicsburg #113

James Slater
South Charleston,
Ohio

Kenneth Smith
St. Andrew's #619

Alice Souders
Springfield, Ohio

Everett Stites
St. Andrew's #619

Minnie Thomas
Springfield, Ohio

Howard Wells
Mechanicsburg #113

MASONIC RETIREMENT VILLAGE

Bancroft Manor

Alice Campbell
New Carlisle #100

Cunningham Place

Mary J. English
Pleiades #298, OES

Mildred Lewis
Billows #483, OES

Masonic Square

Robert & Eunice Bray
Parma #721

Hugh & Florence
Hubbard, Orion #353

Kenneth & Myrtle J.
Kettlewell, Amity #5

Harold & Audrey
Mills
St. Andrew's #619

William & Kathryn
Reese, Vandalia #742

BROWNING MASONIC COMMUNITY

Roger Dewese
Waterville, Ohio

Paul Lindsay
Wakeman #522

William Polson
Sylvania Pyramid
#287

MASONIC EASTERN STAR COMMUNITY

Lucian Ball
Apperson #195
Kentucky

Margaret Beckman
Cincinnati, Ohio

Naomi Blum
Dorcas #277, OES

Catherine Hall
Cincinnati, Ohio

Opal Hopper
Cincinnati, Ohio

Rose Hubbard
Cincinnati, Ohio

Ernestine Melvin
Ionic #22, OES
Michigan

Jerome Minneweather
Cincinnati, Ohio

IN MEMORY

We honor the memory of these residents who passed away since the last issue of the Beacon:

MASONIC HEALTH CARE

Catherine D. Ballinger
Latham #364, OES

Ida L. Bickel
Springfield, Ohio

Betty O. Birch
Marion #70

Opal L. Bivens
Circle #2

Gladys L. Brouhard
Chapter #14, OES
West Virginia

Mary E. Brunson
Goshen #119

Glenna E. Davis
Springfield, Ohio

Miriam I. Davis
Dayton, Ohio

James V. Dawson
Springfield, Ohio

Randolph H. Dirks,
Sr., Vandalia #742

Louis A. Gideon, Jr.
Vandalia #742

Edith N. Green
Milford, Ohio

David W. Grube
Clark #101

Louis A. Gideon
Vandalia #742

Claude E. Herron
Lockbourne #232

James E. Insley
Urbana, Ohio

Donald Johnson
Alpha #729

Nora A. Kline
Vandalia #742

Neal E. Kolb
St. Andrew's #619

Esther M. Larimer
Michael Finnell #711

Gearl D. McFarland
Springfield, Ohio

Geraldine L. Magly
Humboldt #476

Virginia Matthews
Springfield, Ohio

Leland McInturf
Millenium #779

Ilean Moore
St. Andrew's #619

Mary M. Morgan
Maple Heights, Ohio

Imogene A. Muncy
St. Andrew's #619

Ethel Plummer
Lincoln #693

Sinoloa I. Roll
Fielding #192

Mabel A. Schroth
Brenton D.
Babcock-Iris #600

Patience K. Shomock
Unity #12

Elsie Simpkins
Hoffner #253

Mary Sloat
Springfield, Ohio

Merrill R. Swan
Anthony #455

James A. Terhune
Springfield, Ohio

Merrill B. Weller
St. Andrew's #619

MASONIC RETIREMENT VILLAGE

Masonic Square

Paul E. Cowgill
Triangle #748

Robert R. Tisdall
Franklin Circle #498

Cunningham Place

Edgar R. Delaney
Old Erie #3

Charles R. Meranda
Anthony #455

BOWNING MASONIC COMMUNITY

Juanita Keiter
Toledo #341, OES

MASONIC EASTERN STAR COMMUNITY

Olga Brussel
Cincinnati, Ohio

Morgan Crayton
Quarry #382

Dolores Hamilton
Cardinal #140, OES

Amanda Hornsby
Manchester #351
Kentucky

Charles Kneupfer
College Hill -
H.S. Johnson #641

William Mart
Cincinnati, Ohio

Michael Rice
Buckeye #587, OES

Rosemena Weaver
Loyal #49 Indiana

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 October 1, 2000 and December 31, 2000.

\$10,000+

AASR - Valley of
Dayton
C.E. Brister

Dean A. Eckert by
Eleanor H. Eckert

Eunice V. Elser
Warren P. Gerber

Estate of Sarah Gwen
Jones (Memorial to
Lot D. Jones)

George and Frances
Klawitter

David C. Mitchell, Sr.

George K. Moss

Vivian H. Schulze

Clyde & Marguerite
Wooley

\$2,000+

Orlando W. Davis
Jay W. Duhamel

Grand Chapter of
Ohio, Royal Arch
Masons

Grand Council
of Ohio, Royal &
Select Masons

Dorothy Kendig

Lyndhurst Lodge #508

National Lodge #568

Betty H. Oberle

Howard M. Sheeler

Solar Lodge #730

Toledo Ft. Industry
Lodge #144

Warren Watson by
Charlotte Holland
York Lodge #563

\$1,000+

Arabic Club
Foundation
G.D. & B.J. Arters

Beaver Valley
Lodge #753

Community
Lodge #684

Gail B. Coon

Groveport Lodge #240

Golden Gate
Lodge #245

Hiram Lodge #18

Bessie V. Hosler
Floyd H. Kelly

Lakewood Lodge #601

Linden Lodge #637

Mason Lodge #678

Masonic Veterans
Association of Ohio

James L. Murphy

Norwood Lodge #576

Oakley Lodge #668

James E. Phillips
(Memorials)

William N. Preece

Dana F. Reynolds by
Dana F. Reynolds, Jr.

Ralph R. Rickly
Lodge #670

Harold G. Shrive

South Gate
Lodge #692

Unionport
Lodge #333

West Gate
Lodge #623

University Lodge #631

Marvin & Jean Green

Nearly 300 Ohio Masons Attend Winter Florida Receptions

Grand Master Jack L. Allen visited and addressed nearly 300 Ohio Masons and their ladies at two special receptions, on January 15 and 17 in Sarasota and Leesburg, Florida. Several Grand Lodge Officers and representatives from the

Ohio Masonic Home accompanied him, and a variety of veteran emblems were presented to brethren. Ohio Masons living full time in Florida and those just spending the winter there were part of the attendance.



Grand Master Allen addresses group in Sarasota.

Ohio Mason Elected Utah Grand Master

Peter Norman Doelfs, a dual member of Summit Lodge, #213, in Twinsburg, OH and a Lodge in Utah, was elected and installed as Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Utah in February.

Most Worshipful Brother Doelfs has been a member of Summit Lodge since 1975.

First Reception Held for Ohio Masons in Arizona

Grand Master Jack L. Allen addressed more than 80 Ohio Masons and their spouses in Tucson, AZ on February 22.

It was the first time such a gathering had been planned for Ohio Masons in Arizona. Several Grand Lodge officers accompanied the Grand Master to the event, which followed the annual Conference of Grand Masters, held this year in Phoenix.

The Ohio Masonic Home

2655 W. National Road

Springfield, Ohio 45504-3698

Web site: www.ohiomasonichome.org

Web site: www.freemason.com

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