

BEACON

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

Brother Bob Evans, now 84, continues to help others, display Masonic beliefs

When most people hear the name Bob Evans, they usually think about a familiar restaurant.

However, the real Bob Evans has set aside his sausage business and the company that bears his name. Instead, he is currently working on easing the load of cattle farmers all across the nation with innovative farming techniques.

Not only is Bob Evans a household name, he is also very proud to be a Master Mason. Bob was raised in 1940 in Morning Dawn #7 in Gallipolis, Ohio. He received his 32nd Degree in the Valley of Columbus.

The values and lessons learned in

Momentum grows for One-Day Class

Momentum is building for a 2003 encore of Ohio's successful Grand Master's One-Day Class from last year.

Candidates will receive all three degrees in Symbolic Masonry in one day at 25 district locations on various Saturdays during the month of March.

In 2002, more than 7,700 men became Master Masons during the event, a success that astounded Masons throughout the world. The timing of this issue of the BEACON falls around the deadline for becoming part of the class this year.

Full details are available from your Lodge Secretary or on the Grand Lodge Web page www.freemason.com.

Lodge have had a huge influence on his dealings in business. "I highly recommend a young person become a Mason," he said. "You will never find a Mason you can't trust."

At age 84, Bob Evans is still very healthy and active. His face lights up as he talks to customers and staff at the original Bob Evans Restaurant in Rio Grande, Ohio. He gets a twinkle in his eye when he talks about his son, Bobby, the youngest of six children.

"He just joined a Masonic Lodge in Bozeman, Montana," he said. "I just visited him, and I gave him my Masonic ring. He's very proud to be a Mason, and I'm proud of him."

In 1948, Bob Evans started making sausage in his small restaurant in Gallipolis. In 1953, along with a few friends, he started the company that is now Bob Evans Farms. The company has grown from a "down on the farm" restaurant in southeast Ohio to a chain of 480 restaurants across 22 states. This year, the company's sales will top the \$1 billion mark.

Bob Evans retired from Bob Evans Farms in 1986. Since then, he has been working with 4-H as the only lifetime member in Ohio, and he is developing and promoting new ways to run a livestock business. He believes that



profits will come from spending less, rather than producing more.

One way to do this, he says, is to grow heartier grasses. In so doing, cattle can graze all year long. Traditionally, farms would put cattle in the pasture in the warm months and feed them corn, soybeans, and hay in the winter. Yearlong grazing would eliminate the need to plant corn and soybeans, as well as harvesting and storing the crop. It would also reduce the need for expensive farm equipment, he believes. These savings would translate into higher profits for the cattle farms.

The man behind these innovations, Brother Robert Evans, had humble beginnings. He was born in 1918, and

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A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER



by *William P. Mayberry, Sr., Grand Master*

Here we are at the end of February and it has been more than four months since I was installed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

It has been a busy and enjoyable four months as I have traveled around Ohio and the country promoting Freemasonry.

I had the pleasure of visiting and addressing nearly 300 Ohio Masons and their ladies at two special receptions on January 13 and 15 in Sarasota and Tavares, Florida. Ohio Masons living full-time in Florida and those just spending the winter there were part of the attendance.

I thank all of you for your support of the Grand Master's One-Day Classes being held in March. It takes thousands of our brethren to make events like this happen. This is a real team effort to help grow our membership in Ohio.

The Special Olympics Oath is:

Let me win.

But if I cannot win,

Let me be brave in the attempt.

In the past years, the Grand Lodge of Ohio has contributed from \$60,000 to more than \$125,000 for the Ohio Special Olympics. During most of that time, it required

\$30 to "Sponsor an Athlete." Now, it costs \$50 to bring each athlete to the games in Columbus.

Last year, we supported 2,500 of the 3,000 athletes. Let us be BRAVE, like our athletes, and reach the goal of raising \$150,000 so that we may support all 3,000 athletes on June 20, 2003. We ask that you put that date on your calendar so that you may join in presenting the check and parading before the athletes in Columbus.

While there are lots of ways to make a positive difference in our communities, this year I have asked our Lodges across the state to promote the OhioReads Program.

My Brethren, reading is a key to success in life, if a child can read, he has a chance to succeed. If a child cannot read, he is doomed to failure, and our society will have to pay the consequences of that failure.

By volunteering to be a tutor through OhioReads, an adult can help a child along the path to success. It doesn't take money, and it really isn't a lot of time — just one hour a week. But if a Fraternity like ours supports this program, we can make a difference in its success.

I invite you to join with me in achieving our objectives for membership, charity, and service. By so doing, you will strengthen our Fraternity, and you will help us show that, through Freemasonry, we are "Building a Brighter Tomorrow."

Again, I thank you for all your support.

STRATEGIC PLANNING OR "WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ASSET SURRENDER?"



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

Psychotherapist Mira Kirshenbaum once said, "Bottom line: Be afraid of being stupid, be afraid of missing out on great experiences, but don't be afraid of failure."

Planning prevents failure. Don't let fear of failure prevent planning. I used to be concerned that when making a presentation to a group

that all the information being shared had to be new. Even when the group was totally new, last month's data was no longer relative. In my nine years at The Ohio Masonic Home, I have learned that failure to repeat and emphasize important points leaves most with a vague understanding at best of the message being conveyed.

In January 1995, asset surrender was eliminated as the means of paying for your residency at The Ohio Masonic Home. Although this article is reaching more than 175,000 readers, I will continue to relay this fact and the many ways available to pay for services at one of our four retirement and healthcare campuses. I now understand it has nothing to do with hearing or reading the message and all to do with the audience's interest and applicability of the words.

In August of 1997, we unveiled our Springfield campus construction master plan, the first step toward strategic master planning. The plan has since been updated in January 2000 and again following the mergers with the Masonic Eastern Star Community and the Browning Masonic Community. With the acquisition of WRMC and dramatic changes on the horizon in funding and consumer expectations, it seemed that it was time to give you some insight into where we are heading in the next decade.

Again, we have embarked on a strategic planning process. But this one has a twist. It's not only about bricks and mortar and geography, but affordability, personal choice, and diversification. The new plan, to be unveiled in late 2003, will provide a blueprint for our future that can be implemented and modified on a continuous basis while providing a sensitivity to changes in our consumers as well as our funders. Many of the building plans for the future will remain viable options, options that can be implemented when strategic initiatives intersect with societal and fraternal support and acceptance.

Yes, asset surrender is gone, but strategic planning is here to stay. Writer M. Scott Peck once said, "All human interactions are opportunities either to learn or teach." We intend to make the most out of both opportunities.

Grand Master sets Special Olympics goal of \$150,000

Grand Master William P. Mayberry, Sr., has set this year's fundraising goal for Special Olympics at \$150,000.

"I know that we can reach this goal if we all work together," Michael Cecil, chairman of the Special Olympics Committee, said.

The Grand Master has also announced the Special Olympics awards levels, and has introduced a new level of award to recognize those Lodges that

donate \$1,500 or more to the program. Those Lodges will receive a special gold medal plaque from the Grand Master to be presented at Grand Lodge 2003.

At the \$1,000 level, Lodges will receive a gold medal plaque presented at Grand Lodge, and Lodges that attain the \$500 level will receive a special certificate. All Lodges in these categories also will be recognized in the BEACON.

Design the 2003 Grand Lodge Special Olympics Pin

Do you want to be part of history? The Grand Lodge Special Olympics Committee is looking for a new design for the 2003 Special Olympics pin. The pin design must contain a square and compasses and the Special Olympics logo. The Special Olympics logo is available on

www.freemason.com.

To enter, put your full-color design on a plain 3" x 5" note card and send to: Mike Cecil, 169 Huron Street, Bellville, OH 44813-1208. Entries must be postmarked by April 1, 2003. There will be awards for the winner.

CD to benefit Ohio Special Olympics

The Rhythematics are releasing a new CD, called "The Widow's Son," with proceeds going to Ohio Special Olympics.

The Rhythematics, a world beat acoustic trio composed of Columbus-area Masons, is dedicating the CD in memory of Jerry Rasor, Grand Master of Ohio in 1978 and the Mason who began the relationship with Ohio Special Olympics.

Thom Williams, a Past Master of Blendon Lodge #339, and former lead guitar player for Sonny and Cher, leads the group in such songs as "First Light" and

"Flights of Winding Stairs". Thom is joined by Brothers Mike Cox, a past member of Jimmy Buffett's band, and Mike Mogan, who has played with JD Blackfoot and Peter Frampton.

The CDs are \$15, and are available at www.astring.com/widowsson, as well as select central Ohio merchants. The profits on the six-song CD will go to sponsor Ohio Special Olympics athletes at the 2003 Summer Games. For more information, and to listen to samples of the songs, please visit www.freemason.com.

Ohio Masons lead contributions to George Washington Masonic National Memorial

The impressive memorial building in Alexandria, Virginia., dedicated to the Masonic life of our first president, Brother George Washington, is a joint effort of all the Grand Lodges in the United States.

The cornerstone ceremony in 1923 included such dignitaries as former President and Ohio Brother William Howard Taft. The building was dedicated in 1932.

In statistics kept by the George Washington Masonic National Memorial since 1982, the Grand Lodge of Ohio has contributed more than \$534,000 to its operation — more than any other Grand Lodge during that period.

Every Ohio Mason has participated because each new Master Mason in the Buckeye State pays \$5, as part of his initiation fees, to support the Memorial. In addition, an amount equal to 25 cents for each Ohio Mason is paid annually to the Memorial.

With this investment, all Ohio Masons are encouraged to visit the Memorial whenever they are in the Washington, D.C. area.

Bob Evans *(continued from page 1)*

has lived his whole life around Gallipolis. His father, Stanley, was one of nine children of a coal miner. Stanley attended four years of school his entire life, and was self-educated. At 16, he passed the teacher's exam and he was teaching at age 17. Stanley joined Wood County Lodge #112 in Bowling Green, and he was certain to instill the values of Masonry on Bob at a young age.

Stanley also taught his son the importance of a good work ethic. This is very evident in his ability to turn a 12-seat restaurant into a

billion-dollar corporation. Stanley also stressed the importance of helping others without expectation of anything in return.

Bob Evans has selflessly dedicated all of his time and abilities to teach often-struggling farmers how to increase profits without increasing costs.

In his desire to help those around him, and with living according to his ethics and integrity, Brother Bob Evans is truly following the Masonic tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.



The company has grown to 480 restaurants across 22 states.

Grand Lodge Utilities Program is growing

Master Masons, their families and friends are increasingly taking advantage of the Grand Lodge Utilities program and the benefits it offers to them and the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation.

Though natural gas prices have continued to rise, reflecting the uncertain economic and world political environment, Tim Berry continues to receive calls at MetroMedia Energy from Ohio Masons who want to sign up for the Natural Gas Program and support the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation as they keep their homes warm.

Berry suggests that unlike most natural gas suppliers, who traditionally

fix rates in the winter when prices are the highest, he encourages MetroMedia customers to maintain a variable rate until April, May or June, when natural gas prices are at their lowest.



“This way every year our customers lock in a fixed rate at a time that is most financially beneficial to them,” said Berry. For more information or to enroll in the Natural Gas Program call Tim Berry at 800/490-4427, ext. 105.

The long distance phone portion of the Grand Lodge Utilities Program also has proven to be especially popular. Ohio residents continue to enjoy a rate of 5.9 cents per

minute in state and 4.9 cents per minute out-of-state long distance rates.

These rates are good 24 hours a day and seven days a week, while low international rates are also available. There are no monthly fees associated with this program, nor are there any fees for switching from your current long distance provider. For more information or to enroll in the long distance program, please call 1/866-833-4530 and mention the “Masons of Ohio Program”.

As long as Ohio Masons need to use natural gas and long distance phone services, why not use those companies that give a portion of their profits to support the programs of the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation?

Ohio makes history with High Twelve at Grand Lodge

A total of 52 Ohio Masons made history on January 3, when they became the charter members of the Worthington High Twelve Club — the only High Twelve Club in the world to meet in a Grand Lodge headquarters.

George O. Braatz, Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary, was installed as the Charter President by Ike Hoshauer, the Secretary of High Twelve International.

Worthington High Twelve meets on the first Friday of the month, from noon to 1 p.m. Reservations are required. High Twelve is a luncheon club of Masons.



Grand Master William P. Mayberry, Sr. (left) helps in charter presentation with Ike Houshauer and George O. Braatz.

Grand Masters Cup Golf Tournament

The Grand Lodge of Ohio will host the 1st Annual Grand Masters Cup Golf Tournament on Tuesday, September 9th, 2003, at the prestigious Little Turtle Country Club in Westerville, Ohio. All of the proceeds for this tournament will go to the Charitable Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, F.&A.M.

The tournament will consist of 144 golfers in a “Scramble”. Registration begins at 11 a.m., with a noon shotgun start. This will be an excellent opportunity for golfers to play one of the most exclusive courses in the state. Little Turtle’s peaceful, wooded setting will provide an excellent location for this event.

The Charitable Foundation assists our communities with projects like the Masonic Model Student Assistance Program, as well as providing relief for our Brethren, their widows and orphans.

Entry fees for the Grand Masters Cup are \$90 per golfer, or \$360 per team of four. This includes 18 holes of golf, use of a cart, lunch and dinner. A non-golfer’s “Dinner Only” package is available for \$35 per person.

For more information on the tournament, along with registration information, please visit www.freemason.com and click on “Grand Masters Cup”.



OhioReads Literacy program needs help from Lodge members, Eastern Stars statewide

Ohio Lodges and OES Chapters are embracing the OhioReads program and its efforts to ensure that all Ohio's children learn to read.

Grand Master William P. Mayberry Sr., Worthy Grand Matron Betty Dawn Hardman, and Worthy Grand Patron Larry E. Groves are promoting the importance of Ohio Masons and Eastern Stars volunteering in their local elementary schools for one hour a week as reading tutors.

Every Lodge must have at least five volunteers to qualify for this year's Grand Master's Award.

Please ask yourself these questions:

- Would you like to be remembered 20 or 30 years from now as that special person?
- Are you retired and looking for a way to keep yourself busy and be important in someone's life?

• Can you and your spouse spare one hour a week?

• Do you like the thought of making a difference in a child's life?

If you have answered yes to any of the questions above, then you might make the perfect OhioReads volunteer tutor.

To make a lasting difference in a child's life and the life of your community, call 888-OhioReads. The OhioReads staff will be able to provide you with a name and contact number for a Volunteer Coordinator in your local area. The local school provides all necessary training.

Please remember to identify yourself as a Mason or an Eastern Star member. They are waiting for your call.

Information can also be obtained by calling the Grand Lodge office at 800/292-6092.



Grand Master presents awards

At the Annual Grand Lodge Communication in October, 2002, Grand Master Thomas E. Reynolds presented several special awards to the following recipients:

- Hiram Lodge #18, for its community service and this year its sponsorship of a Masonic Model Student Assistance Program workshop on April 16-18, 2002, presented to Worshipful Master C. Christopher Adams.

- University Lodge, #631, for its overwhelming support of the Grand Master's One-Day Class, presented to Worshipful Master Michael A. Mahaffey. This Lodge received 82 members in the class.

- Glen E. Opp, Past District Deputy Grand Master in 10th Masonic District, for his long-time service for Ohio's Masonic education, and leadership in the Mid West Education Conference, High Twelve, Scottish Rite and York Rite organizations.

- Russell Herner, Past District Deputy Grand Master and current District Advisor in the 16th Masonic District, for his hard work, extra effort, scholarship and leadership in numerous areas of Freemasonry in Ohio.

Brother Herner just published a new book, "Antique Ice Skates for the Collector". His previous book, "Stonehenge: An Ancient Masonic Temple", has been widely read by Masons.

Pitman honored for serving 50 years as lodge secretary in Sycamore

Harry "Bud" Pitman was honored by Enterprise Lodge #579, in Sycamore, Ohio, for his 50 years of serving the Lodge as Secretary. He continues in the position.

He was also presented his 60-year membership pin by Grand Master William P. Mayberry, Sr. More than 100 brethren and guests attended the reception in the Sycamore Community Center and news of the event was carried in several area newspapers.

Brother Pitman, now 86, and his wife Imogene, have been married for more than 50 years. He received a new Lodge Officer apron, identifying his 50 years as Secretary.

Others in attendance included Thomas E. Reynolds, Past Grand Master, George O. Braatz, Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary; Dwayne C. Jones, Grand Chaplain; Terry W. Posey, Junior Grand Deacon; Tobe N. Riedel, Associate

Grand Chaplain; and numerous distinguished Masons from the district.



Innovative MRV test program garners positive reaction

Rodney W. Skinner manages a unique Masonic Retirement Village (MRV) test program that may be a future model for the long-term care industry. Instead of sending someone to a nursing home, he helps them explore options to remain at home.

Worshipful Brother Skinner, twice past master of Cedarville Lodge #622, assumed his position as director of the Masonic Senior Services Program in December 2002.

“My mission is to visit brethren in their home, review their long-term care choices, help them plan their long-term care options, and identify possible links to community-based services and benefits that would allow them to remain at home,” said Skinner. “I also try to help them navigate through health insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid issues as well,” he added.

A native of Indiana, Skinner is an Ohio licensed social worker with more than 27 years of healthcare experience. “I started working in healthcare as a certified nursing assistant. I worked my way through college to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Purdue University,” said Skinner.

“I frequently visit Masonic Lodges and give presentations about the MRV Test Program. The brethren are amazed I will visit them in their home rather than just talk to them on the telephone. Many brothers don’t realize there are usually a variety of community-based support services available to them or that they may qualify for various state or federal assistance programs to help them remain at home,” he added.

“The number of telephone calls and referrals I receive is growing daily,” said Skinner. Currently, the limited test data gathered shows a projected program cost savings. Instead of spending funds to admit and provide care for a Mason at one of four Ohio campuses, the associated costs of keeping a Mason in his home are absorbed by other community, state or federal programs. This frees The Ohio Masonic Home’s Endowment Funds to be used for other charitable needs, and allows the Mason to continue living at home.

“This is the most exciting program I’ve been associated with. We are being proactive,” said Skinner. “I predict within five to 10 years this program could be available to all



UNDECIDED ON WHAT TO DO OR WHO TO CALL NEXT ? — MRV’s Director of Masonic Senior Services, Rodney W. Skinner, can help you plan long-term care options and find community-based services that may allow you to remain at home instead of moving into a long-term care facility.

Ohio Masons and affiliated with other similar programs as a joint venture to make it more effective,” he said.

The Home’s Chief Operations Officer, Greg Holm, anticipated the value the program could add to The Home’s complement of services. He researched, wrote and proposed creating a Masonic Senior Services Program. The Home’s Board of Trustees approved the program that would be implemented in several phases.

“The healthcare industry is on the leading edge of a revolution that will dramatically change the way we operate and manage senior healthcare programs,” said Holm. “We must prepare to meet those challenges by creating cost effective, innovative ways to deliver quality services to Ohio Masons,” he added.

Masons who live in southwestern Ohio and who would like to receive more information about the Masonic Senior Services Program should telephone Skinner at 888/290-2664 or in the Springfield area at 937/525-4951.

Industry, government partner to improve health care quality — regain public trust

During the past year, the federal and state government and many health care associations made a major effort to give the public meaningful, comparative health care data.

“Our internal Quality Improvement Program already encompasses many of these quality measures,” said The Home’s Director of Quality Improvement Linda Heaton.

“However, the basic principle of quality improvement is that there are always opportunities to enhance the

care and services we provide to our residents and their families. The comparative data will also facilitate development of best practices,” said Heaton.

In March, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) launched a Nursing Home Quality Initiative pilot program in six states, including Ohio. The program, which is now national, was created to give consumers information that would help them to select a nursing home for themselves or

a loved one, and to provide Medicare and Medicaid certified nursing homes with information and technical assistance in measuring and improving the care they provide. These nursing home measures are available to consumers on the CMS Nursing Home Compare Web site, www.medicare.gov.

“Working together, we can ensure that nursing home consumers receive

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FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE



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

The Endowment Foundation is pleased to announce the addition of two fund raising professionals to its staff.

Brother Ronald L. Molen, a member of Harmony Lodge #49 in Missoula, Montana, and Brother Kenneth E. Hershberger, a member of Unity Lodge #130 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, have assumed the positions of Director, Development and Director, Planned Giving, respectively.

“We were quite fortunate to attract two such experienced professionals to our staff”, said Foundation President Right Worshipful Brother Tim Strawn. “And the fact that they are both Masons is a very special added bonus.”

Brother Molen, a Certified Association Executive, (CAE) and a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), previously served as Executive Director of the Cincinnati Parks

Foundation and Director of Development at Wesley Hall, a long term care facility in Cincinnati. “I’m very excited about the opportunities before us at The Home and very pleased to be able to serve Freemasonry, which has played an important role in my life.” Ron is also a Legionnaire of the Order of DeMolay, an Honorary Member of its Supreme Council and a former Executive Director of DeMolay International.

Brother Hershberger, who brings more than twenty-five years of fund raising experience to the job, comes to us from the Putnam Museum of Natural History in Davenport, Iowa, where he served as Director of Development. His previous fund raising experience includes positions in social service agencies and health care facilities. “I’m looking forward to working with the brethren and their loved ones to help them better understand, utilize and benefit from the various planned giving instruments available to them for inclusion in their financial and estate planning,” said Brother Hershberger. Ken is also a Legionnaire of the Order



Brother Ken Hershberger, director, Planned Giving (left) and Brother Ron Molen, director, Development, review the most recent Annual Report of The Home.

of DeMolay.

Both Ron and Ken may be reached at the Foundation’s office in Springfield.

Note: With the recent initiation of Linda Gast and Staci Maine of the Foundation staff into Neal Chapter #522, Order of the Eastern Star, the Foundation staff is now 100 percent Masonic-affiliated!

Healthcare *continued from page 6*

the information they need to make informed health care decisions, while promoting quality improvement in our health care system,” said CMS Administrator Thomas A. Scully.

The federal ratings complement the Ohio Department of Aging database at www.ltcoho.org. This Ohio Long-Term Care Consumer Guide provides information to help consumers select a long-term care service provider. It has searchable profiles of Ohio nursing homes, including customer satisfaction survey results, accepted payment methods and services available.

Last July, the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA), which represents most of the nation’s 17,000 nursing homes, assisted living and community service providers, also launched a quality initiative.

AAHSA’s long-term care members will make a voluntary organization-

wide commitment to quality improvement. The initiative is called “Quality First: A Covenant for Healthy, Affordable and Ethical Long-Term Care”.

“Quality First is about achieving excellence in aging services and earning public trust,” said The Home’s Chief Executive Officer Jerry Kuyoth. “That process will be ongoing and permanent on our campuses,” he added.

Providers who endorse the program adopt the Quality First Principles, agree to implement policies and procedures such as continuous quality assurance and quality improvements, public input and disclosure of quality data to the public.

“The overall mission of this initiative is to achieve excellence in long-term care and to earn public trust for what we do,” said William L. Minnix, Jr., AAHSA’s president

and CEO. “By endorsing these principles and this covenant, we pledge to work in partnership with consumers and government to create an environment in which consumers can feel confident that they are receiving the high quality care and service they deserve.”

Quality First consists of seven principles that have been jointly endorsed by AAHSA, the Alliance for Quality Nursing Home Care, and the American Health Care Association (AHCA). The seven core principles are:

- Continuous quality assurance and quality improvement
- Public disclosure and accountability
- Patient/Resident and family rights
- Workforce excellence
- Public input and community involvement
- Ethical practices
- Financial stewardship

Masonic Model School's success story told by a teacher who knows results first-hand

The following are excerpts from a speech given by Ms. Brenda Miller, a teacher at Garfield Alternative School in Middletown, Ohio with over 15 years experience in teaching and four years experience working with the Masonic Model program at Garfield.

Before a large crowd of Ohio Masons, including the Grand Lodge Officers, Ms. Miller explained that as an alternative school, Garfield's mission is "to assist, support, and guide at-risk students as they earn a high school diploma and empower them as positive contributors to society. The Masonic Model Student Assistance program seems to Ms. Miller to have been designed with Garfield's mission in mind.

We typically have between 180 and 200 students enrolled with an age range of 14-21 and all of them have come to us on referral either from their home high school or junior high, their parents seeking help, or most commonly through the courts and juvenile

probation system. The students we deal with on a daily basis define the word "dysfunction."

Garfield's 28 member faculty and staff are committed to helping students escape lives of limited opportunity. When one of our teachers brought in some information that her father, a Mason, had passed along to her about a model for student assistance we were excited.

The school spent several years trying to find an effective "plan of attack" for the development of an effective intervention plan. Because the school is small, the staff was in tune to identify children in pain, but figuring out where to start and what to do about it has always been a struggle. Through the implementation of the student assistance model we have been more effective at serving as mentors and making every effort to reach the individual student.

The past four years have proven the Masonic Model to be a success at Garfield. It has done wonders to improve the communication between teachers and administration. The kids feel the change and it has made things infinitely more effective since we are now promoting a unified front.

Our parent involvement has increased and attendance at parent-teacher conferences has doubled. We even have parents now making referrals to our team when they have exhausted their options at home. There is a



Ms. Brenda Miller addresses Grand Lodge officers.

heightened sense of awareness among the students that we are listening to them and genuinely care what happens. We have noticed a considerable rise in confidence levels and self esteem, which in turn has resulted in improved grades and higher proficiency test scores.

Since the implementation of the Masonic Model at Garfield, we have routinely had close to 20 percent of our student body earning honor roll status each quarter and from a group that came to us with a 15 percent attendance rate we have been operating, as a school, at 83 percent!

I hope these remarks shed some light on this wonderful program for those of you who were unfamiliar, and to illustrate how useful this model is in the school setting. I would like to thank the Ohio Masons for supporting and sponsoring the Student Assistance Program. And, I speak for the entire team from Garfield when I say how much we truly appreciate your commitment to providing direction to today's young people.

Claypool serves as Imperial Potentate



Charles A. "Tad" Claypool, an Ohio Mason, is currently serving as Imperial Potentate of the Shrine of North America. A resident of Dayton, he is a member of Far Hills Lodge, #784, and is active in numerous Masonic organizations in the Dayton area, as well as being Past Potentate of Antioch Shrine Temple. His father also served as Antioch's Potentate and as Imperial Potentate

Special forces officer receives Final Degree

Captain Eric Coombs, of the U.S. Army Special Forces, received his Master Mason Degree in November, after returning from multiple deployments to Afghanistan, Bosnia, Senegal and Kuwait.

His father, Dr. Roger Coombs, Worshipful Master of Center Star Lodge, #11, assisted Heath Lodge,



#771, in conferring the degree, as courtesy for Morning Dawn Lodge, #8. Captain Coombs had received his first two degrees a few years earlier while in college.

The new Master Mason and his wife, Paula, have returned to Fort Bragg for future possible Green Beret mission assignments.

More Light About Masonry



William Howard Taft

President, Chief Justice, made Mason at sight

Brother William Howard Taft was made a Master Mason at sight by Grand Master Charles. S. Hoskinson on February 18, 1909. At the time, Taft was President-elect of the United States.

The ceremony was performed in the presence of a great gathering of Brethren assembled in the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Cincinnati.

Numerous high ranking Masons from around the country and the world were present, including 18 visiting Grand Masters; 12 Past Grand Masters of Ohio; the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, three officers of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, seven Past Grand Commanders; 11 visiting 33rd Degree Masons and a large number of 33rd Degree members of Ohio. The Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery, all of Ohio, were also represented. Of the 500 Worshipful Masters of Ohio Lodges, 302 were present, as were 20

of the 25 district lecturers.

The actual ceremony was simple and brief, lasting only one hour. Grand Master Hoskinson opened an occasional communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of conferring upon Mr. Taft the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. After propounding the customary questions and receiving the required answers, Hoskinson obligated the candidate in the Entered Apprentice degree and instructed him in the unwritten work of the degree. The same was done for the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees. After the reading of the Master Mason charge, the Grand Master proclaimed that Brother William Howard Taft, having received the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, to be a Master Mason in good and regular standing.

Following the ceremony, Grand Master Hoskinson presented him with a new morocco leather Bible, which

Brother Taft inscribed: "To Grand Master Hoskinson, with gratitude and fraternal good wishes of William H. Taft, made a Master Mason February 18, 1909." This Bible with several other Taft artifacts is now displayed at the Grand Lodge Museum in Worthington.

At 7:30 p.m. that evening, Brother Taft, seated with the visiting Grand officers on the stage, watched the officers and craftsmen of Kilwinning Lodge #356 confer the sublime degree of Master Mason on Brother Frank H. Heitman. At this time, the members of Kilwinning Lodge presented Brother Taft with a lambskin apron.

Brother Taft was considered a Mason at large, paying his dues to the Grand Lodge until April 14, 1909, when he affiliated with Kilwinning Lodge. Both his father and brother had been members of Kilwinning Lodge, and he maintained his membership there until his death on March 8, 1930.

Beware of Cowan(s) and Eavesdroppers

As Freemasons, we are admonished to keep cowans and eavesdroppers out of the Lodge. After close scrutiny of the Grand Lodge of Ohio membership records, it appears that our Lodges have done less than a bang-up job.

Since 1808, there have been 116 Cowan and 1 Cowans on our membership rolls. David H. Cowan was even a Charter Member of Potter Lodge #540 (now Southgate Potter Lodge, #782).

On the other hand, however, our records show that not one "Eavesdropper" has ever been admitted to membership in an Ohio Lodge.

'Masonic Authority' defined

One of the major problems the Masonic Information Center (MIC) has encountered in dealing with the news media and the general public about anti-Masonic rhetoric, is the issue of "Masonic authority."

According to Richard E. Fletcher, executive secretary of the MIC, it is difficult for people to understand that Freemasonry is structured in such a way that its highest "Masonic authority" rests within the Grand Lodge of each state or province.

"Because many writers have expressed their opinions and associated themselves with related Masonic organizations," he explained, "the perception is that these Masonic organizations, which are not Grand Lodge, have authority over all Freemasons. They do not."

"Also, however prominent or well known they may be, writers on Freemasonry only speak for themselves. Their opinions are not authoritative for

all Freemasonry."

The MIC is associated with the Masonic Service Association, with headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary George O. Braatz represents Ohio on the MIC Board of Advisors.

The following statement is approved by the MIC and recommended for use throughout North America:

Who Speaks for Freemasonry?

There is no national or international Masonic authority. Freemasonry in North America is governed by independent legislative bodies known as Grand Lodges who exercise absolute Masonic authority within a state or province.

Writers may express their opinions about the Fraternity, but their statements are not authoritative. Only the Grand Lodge can make authoritative statements, and these apply only to their members.

New director prepared to meet all challenges

Tell her it can't be done, and she will do it! That's the positive attitude of The Home's new Director of Organizational Integrity and Risk Management Nancy L. Archiabile.

"If people challenge me, that's when I have to do it," said Archiabile.

"When my children were one, three and five-years-old, my sister and her six-month-old baby and our mother jumped into my car and we went on vacation. Just because the husbands said we'd never go on vacation without them," she said.

"In 1991, I was a Director of Nursing when management changed my job and told me, 'You're now the systems manager.' I said I don't even know what a system is, how can I manage it? And they told me to research it. That's when it became clear to me that if I wanted to have an impact, I would have to learn to evaluate and fix systems, because the problem was usually the system, not the people," she said.

A Cincinnati native, Archiabile has been tasked to build a corporate organizational integrity program that will ensure employees institutionalize The Home's corporate values and principles.

"Wearing my risk management hat, I will review our corporate systems to ensure they are designed to prevent risks," said Archiabile. "For example, one big risk management issue in the health care environment is resident falls. If this is an issue, then we will enhance the existing program to reverse that trend," she added.

Risk management issues can appear anywhere. From vehicle operational safety and maintenance programs to knowing how to properly assist a resident in and out of vehicles. Archiabile will review programs, analyze trends, and identify where The Home is at greatest risk and then take corrective action to eliminate that risk.

"If you have a good quality improvement program, which we do, and a good, complimentary risk management program, you will not have to worry about organizational integrity," said Archiabile.

A Registered Nurse, Archiabile earned a three-year diploma from Mercy Hospital in Hamilton, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Mount St. Joseph, Cincinnati, and a Master of Science Degree as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Health from Wright State University. She also recently earned an Ohio Nursing Home Administrator's License.



The Ohio Masonic Home Director of Integrity and Risk Management Nancy Archiabile

So what does a risk management expert do to relax?

"I read. When I go on vacation I will take six to 12 books and read them all. It drives my husband nuts. I also do some type of aerobic exercise like walking at least six days a week. But my problem is I love all kinds of snacks and my favorite food is anything someone else fixes because I hate to cook," she said.

"My job is to ensure the work environment on all four campuses is a safe, positive one for employees, so they may continue giving quality care to our residents," she said.



Brother Stan Tatol, a member of Dayton Lodge # 147, recently received a 60-year Masonic Pin presented by District Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Nelson Pelfrey at the Dayton Masonic Center. Bro. Tatol is also a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Dayton, Antioch Shrine, and Oriental Band. Vicki Slaughter, his granddaughter and an employee at The Masonic Home, congratulates her grandfather. Mrs. Stan Tatol, Mrs. Slaughter's husband Steve, and their two children also attended the ceremony.



Ohio plans five "signature" events to commemorate 200th anniversary

The Clark County Ohio Bicentennial Bell was recently on display for Masonic Health Care residents, visitors and employees at the Springfield campus.

As part of Ohio's Bicentennial celebration, all 88 counties will cast a large commemorative Bicentennial bell. Each bell is molded in the "American" style of the Liberty Bell and is personalized with a county name, forging date, the Great Seal of Ohio and the Bicentennial Logo.

The Ohio Bicentennial Commission enlisted the world's largest bell company, the Cincinnati-based Verdin Company, in business since 1842, to produce each bell. All material involved in the bell casting is produced in Ohio. The project also reflects Ohio's role as the leading manufacturer and number one state for metal foundry work.

"This project, while re-establishing the tradition of early bell-founders, guarantees a lasting Bicentennial legacy for the generations to follow," said Stephen C. George, executive director of the Bicentennial Commission.

Ohio plans five "signature" events to observe the official March 1, 2003 Bicentennial date:

Inventing Flight: The Centennial Celebration, July 3-20 in Dayton.

Celebration of Lake Erie Heritage: Ohio Bicentennial Tall Ships, July 9-20 in Lake Erie ports along the North Coast from Cleveland to Toledo.

The Path to Statehood: Bicentennial Wagon Train, June - July. This event will be held along U.S. 40 from the Ohio River to Worthington to the Indiana line and will pay tribute to settlement of Ohio about the time of its statehood.

Columbus Celebrates Ohio's Bicentennial: Plans are being developed for a significant July Bicentennial celebration that will include fireworks, a street festival, parades and live music in Ohio's capital city.

Tall Stacks on the Ohio River: October 15-19. Two riverboats from 15 cities and 11 states will participate in five-days of riverboat cruises and races.

For more information about Ohio's Bicentennial plans call the toll-free telephone number, 888/OHIO200.



A BICENTENNIAL ALARM — Carol Cooper, postal clerk supervisor, and Dr. Rev. Keith Rhoden, director of Pastoral Care, tested the clarity of Clark County's Bicentennial Bell. Numerous Masonic Health Care residents, visitors and employees could not resist the temptation to ring in Ohio's Bicentennial.

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, 2002 and December 31, 2002.

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DeMolay scholarships granted to 18 young men

The DeMolay Scholarship Foundation of Ohio, Inc., has granted 18 scholarships of \$1,900 each to young men who are members of the Order of DeMolay.

The scholarships are paid from investment income in the Foundation, which is tax exempt and accepts donations to improve its work.

The recipients this year are: Aaron Blankenhorn, of Delaware; David

Eldridge, of Dayton; Noah Hampton, of Lakewood; Derek Johnson, of Middleport; Edward Klepaz, of North Royalton; Ross Langendorfer, of Whitehouse; Kevin Lofton, II, of Tiffin; William Lovas, of Burton; Alan McKinney, of Cincinnati; Matthew Mundwiler, of Maumee; Todd Pfeifer, of Euclid; Adam Ralston, of Georgetown; Joseph Rehnert of Fairview Park; Gregory Rider, of

Strongsville; Donald Shupert, of West Union; David Sinowetski, of Strongsville; Richard Umbach, of Cincinnati, and Matthew Vitaris, of Westerville.

For more information, or to make a contribution, contact the DeMolay Scholarship Foundation, c/o 10244 Tottenham Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45231-1851.

Reynolds confers with other Grand Masters



Ohio Past Grand Master Thomas E. Reynolds is shown with a group of other Grand Masters during the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario last July. The Grand Masters, from left, are Marvin A. Cunningham, Sr., of Pennsylvania; George Cull, of Newfoundland & Labrador; Robert H. Starr, of the District of Columbia; Ohio's Grand Master Reynolds; Carl J. Fitje, of New York; Bennie G. Owens, of Maryland; and Robert Allen, of Rhode Island.

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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; the Masonic Eastern Star Community, Inc., in Cincinnati; and the Western Reserve Masonic Community, Inc., in Medina.

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