

BEACON

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

Carl Lindner embodies *both the Masonic and American* dreams

Carl H. Lindner, Jr., may be the embodiment of the Masonic dream—a good man made better by the teachings of Freemasonry, who incorporated those teachings into his daily life, used them as the rule and guide of his business dealings, and realized the success of hard work and a faith-based, principled life.

Ohio Masons are very proud of Brother Lindner, as a business leader, philanthropist, principle owner of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team and Freemason.

He is also the embodiment of the American dream.

Living the American Dream

Born in Dayton, Brother Lindner, at the age of 21, along with his father Carl H., Sr., brothers Robert and Richard, and his sister Dorothy, founded United Dairy Farms in 1940. First day's sales were \$8.28. Many of Brother Lindner's holdings have since been consolidated under American Financial Group, a diversified financial holding company with more than \$17 billion in assets, of which he is the founder and principal shareholder.

He has given freely of his time to the community, and provided extensive services on major boards and committees for the College of Business Administration of the University of Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Fine Arts Institute, the Cincinnati Symphony, Citizens for a Better Cincinnati and Drake Planetarium.

In addition, he served on the Founding Board of Directors of the Kennedy Center and has been a devoted supporter of Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.

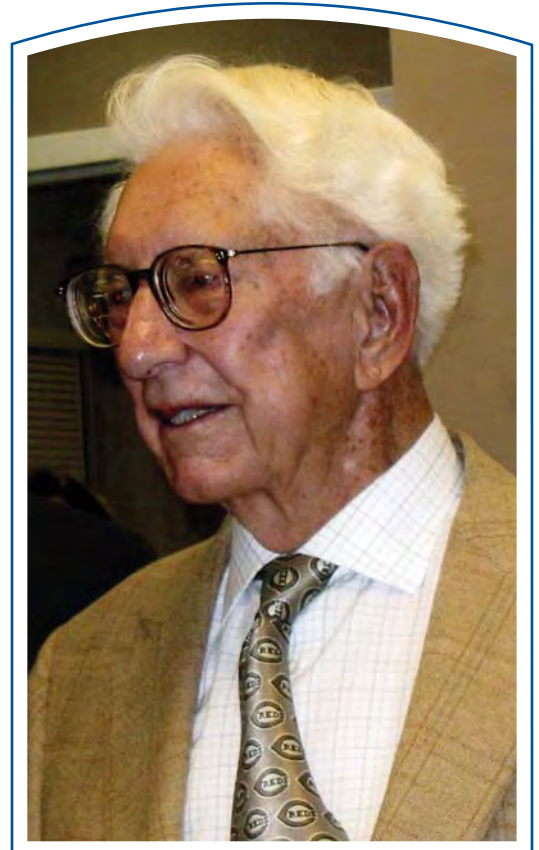
Brother Lindner has been recognized by the Jewish community, having received the Jewish Institute of Religious Faith Award, the International Peace Award and the Man of the Year Award by United Jewish Appeal. He is said to be the largest non-Jewish contributor to Jewish causes in the United States.

The civic and humanitarian awards he has received are numerous, as well as honorary doctoral degrees from universities.

Giving Back to the Brotherhood

At an early age, with encouragement and guidance from his father, Brother Lindner, and his two brothers, were introduced to Freemasonry. All three brothers are currently 60-year-plus members of Melrose Lodge #671 in Norwood and 33° Scottish Rite Masons.

While Brother Lindner's generosity to civic organizations and causes may have attracted more public attention, he has been very generous, as well, within the Fraternity. He was significantly responsible for the Scottish Rite Valley of Cincinnati's



establishing its first Children's Learning Center to assist dyslexic children and he recently provided an endowment to establish a second Learning Center at Norwood Masonic Temple.

He has also provided the downtown Cincinnati Masonic Center with gifts to

support its operation and completion of several capital projects. Several years ago, the Lindner brothers established an endowment for

the Norwood Masonic Temple to provide for its continuing operation.

"What the public doesn't know is that we (Freemasonry) give over \$2 million a day to charitable causes. What other organization can match that?"

See LINDNER, continued on page 5.



"BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE..."

by **Brother David Bannerman**, CEO, *The Ohio Masonic Home*

Have you ever heard that phrase? Many times my mother told me to do something before it was too late. As a third grader, I remember thinking I was smart when I turned in my homework late, saying, "Better late than never," to which Mrs. Denton replied, "Better never late!"

Years later I was in a training program offered by IBM, teaching community leaders how to be better managers. At the end of the week, we were told, "If you have something to say to someone, tell them "before it's too late." The concept was, don't let a meaningful conversation go unsaid.

On the way back from the IBM conference, I had intended to visit my uncle Lou. He had cancer and was not doing well. Instead I was excited about what I had learned, so I hurried home, got back

to work and never had that conversation with him. He died a few months later.

My father told me he never wanted to retire. He loved meeting and helping people. He worked until he was 70. After he retired, he said he wished he had retired sooner, because he could be with friends and do more fun things. He lived just another few short years, with increasing disability and pain until he died at age 79.

Moving to Masonic Retirement Village in Springfield, Browning Masonic Community in Waterville or Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina should get the same attention you give to planning a major life change. If you intend to live in a retirement community, make the call for an appointment today. If you wait, you may not be able to live well with those you love because you waited



Brother Dave Bannerman visits with Masonic Retirement Village resident and longtime Ohio Masonic Home photographer John Bryan at a resident council meeting.

too long.

Don't wait to visit one of our communities. As one of the youngest residents on campus, I can say you will like living among neighbors who have similar values and interests. Try us, "before it's too late."



FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

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

June 6th—Masonic Home Day—what a great day it was! Fun, food, fellowship, an opportunity to visit our residents, tour this beautiful campus and a Shrine parade—all made for a wonderful time for the 1,600+ folks who attended. One other very important event, the dedication and naming of our Community Center, capped a grand Home Day.

We dedicated the Center in honor of Illustrious Brother Carl H. and Edyth Lindner as the result of a significant gift they provided to the Foundation. Unfortunately, due to illness, Mrs. Lindner could not be present but Illustrious Brother Lindner and his associate Brother John Rogers were in attendance.

During the ceremony, the audience was reminded of Illustrious Brother Lindner's unequalled and unflinching support for our fraternity as well as his outstanding business leadership and civic benevolence. While many accomplishments and recognitions were recounted, on this day the overriding theme was his love for and support of Freemasonry in so many ways. This latest



RWB Tim Strawn (right) gave tribute to Illustrious Brother Carl Lindner (left) at Masonic Home Day. Brother Lindner has supported the Home over the years by providing a matching gift program for members of his Lodge (Melrose #671) who wanted to support the Home via the One Grand Club.

gift to the Foundation is just one of the several ways he has shown his support for The Home over the years. We are indeed

fortunate to count Illustrious Brother Lindner as our brother and one to whom we can proudly point as an example worthy of emulation by others as a citizen, leader, man and Mason!

In his remarks, Illustrious Brother Lindner discussed his humble beginnings in business and the important role the fraternity has played in his life, the lives of his brothers—Illustrious Brothers Richard and Robert, and his business. For more than 60 years, he and his brothers have carried into their daily lives the lessons of our craft and the "counsel" from their father, Carl, Sr., about the importance of those lessons. The genuine humility of this renowned Brother was readily apparent to all as he spoke of his life and his many blessings.

We again thank Illustrious Brother and Mrs. Lindner for this wonderful gift which will support our Masonic endowment for years to come. It was truly a pleasure to have you with us that day, Illustrious. Thank you again for your consideration and support of The Home with this gift!

William Burgett squares his work as operative, speculative Mason

ONE OF THE LARGEST COMMERCIAL and industrial construction contractors in the nation has been true to Masonic teachings.

William B. Burgett, owner of Kokosing Construction Company, received the Community Service Award in the 19th Masonic District in May from Grand Master Jim S. Deyo.

Brother Burgett, a member of Thrall Lodge #170 since 1959, told the audience that when he was five-years-old, his parents gave him a set of toy tools, one of which was a builder's square.

After 46 years of being a Mason, he said, he sees the value of that square and what it has meant throughout his life, both as an operative working tool and as a symbol of being honest in all dealings with others. In making the presentation, Most Worshipful Brother Deyo noted that this is a man of "impeccable character."

Brother Burgett started Kokosing Construction in 1951 with basically a pick and a shovel. Kokosing has grown into a company that does commercial and industrial

construction, sewer and water line work, treatment plants, marine construction, bridges and concrete and asphalt paving.

The company started with two people, but has more than 2,000 employees today. The May 2004 issue of an engineering news record magazine ranked Kokosing

Construction as the 65th largest contractor in the United States.

"My strengths," Brother Burgett said, "are my wife, the solid foundation my parents gave me, my faith, and the three D's: desire to accomplish whatever I set out to do, determination to do top-quality work, and discipline, which is the most difficult of the D's. Life has trade-offs. Everything has a price. Discipline keeps you in line with the goals and values you have established to accomplish what you set out to do."

His community service record is very lengthy for Fredericktown and Knox County. During 1994-95, he served on the Fredericktown Community Library



William Burgett, center, with his wife Shirley, receives Community Service Award from Grand Master Jim S. Deyo.

The three D's: desire to accomplish whatever I set out to do, determination to do top-quality work, and discipline, which is the most difficult of the D's.

Committee, where he spearheaded the construction of a new library. It was built by volunteer labor, with the exception of

brick laying, interior wall finish, and installation of heating and air conditioning.

They raised the library from the foundation to the roof in one day, including windows, plywood and paper on 75 percent of the roof. More than 300 people helped that day, including church and community

members, and many employees of Kokosing.

On the day after Brother Burgett received his award in May from the Grand Master, he headed another one-day building project, new offices for Hospice of Knox County. Kokosing gathered 150 volunteers, working from dawn to dusk, to complete the entire skeleton of the building. The action was covered extensively in *The Columbus Dispatch*.

Brother Burgett has also been active in the Knox County Area Development Committee, the United Way of Knox County and the Waterford United Methodist Church.

He and his wife Shirley of 55 years, Shirley, have five children, 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

'Wild West Characters' book written by Ohio Mason

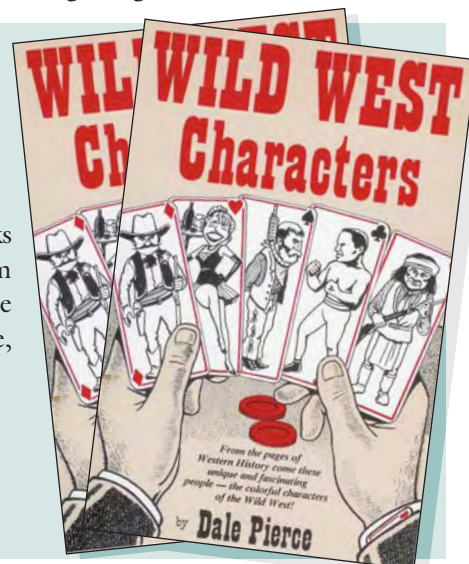
A book entitled "Wild West Characters" by Dale Pierce, currently Lodge Education Officer of New Philadelphia Lodge #177, was published by Golden West Publishers.

The book provides short biographical sketches of many "characters," some whose names are familiar, and some not. The reader quickly gains a unique insight of the rough and tumble lifestyle of the early western growth of our nation, through the vivid

writing of Brother Pierce.

Quite a few of the characters in the books are Masons and reference is made to them in the writing. Among those Masons in the book are Kit Carson, Tom Mix, Albert Pike, and Zeb Pike.

For more information or to order the book, check the publisher's Web site: www.goldenwestpublishers.com



Getting STRONGER Every Day



Brother Henry Hanzl of Browning Masonic Community enjoys using his skills to make wooden Masonic symbols. "The wood shop isn't just for men," he said. "Women are welcome too."

His youthful energy is contagious. He is an avid Toledo Mud Hens fan, catching as many baseball games as he can. He dines with a group of his fellow Browning Masonic Community residents at different restaurants every month. He makes crafts from his woodshop. He enjoys games of Euchre or Scrabble. He's active in his Masonic lodge. He supports the little league baseball team sponsored by his lodge by attending their games. He's leading a fundraising effort to install a putting green at Browning.

He is Sir Knight Henry Hanzl.

"We do a lot of different things together here," Henry says of his brethren at Browning. "The Activities Department offers a lot of choices. All you have to do is sign up!"

Henry seems to sign up for just about everything. "Activities give us all an opportunity to get to know one another better," Henry said. "This is my time. I want to enjoy it."

Henry enjoys working in the woodshop at this garden villa. "I'm into crafts," he said modestly. In fact, Henry makes tables, chairs, dressers, bookcases, cabinets, plaques and just about anything else imaginable. His woodwork has earned awards in statewide competition.

Some of his favorite wooden creations are Masonic symbols. Henry estimates he's made 30,000 Masonic symbols over the past 20 years. He gives them to new Master Masons.

Henry, a 52-year Mason, originally joined

W.K. Ricksecker Lodge #606. He later was a charter member of Solon Lodge #757. When he moved to Browning 12 years ago, he became a member of Wakeman Lodge #522, which meets on the Browning campus. He is a Past Master of Wakeman Lodge. He is also a member of the Order of Eastern Star and of the High-Twelve Club.

"I live Masonry," Worshipful Brother Hanzl said. "Masons look out for the welfare of others—not just fellow Masons."

Henry is proud of the charitable work done by Masons everywhere. "I don't know what more important thing I could do than to help my fellow man," he said.

He is also proud of Browning Masonic Community. "It's a wonderful place," Henry said. "You can have the serenity everyone is looking for, along with all the activities you could want."

Henry particularly likes his garden villa home. "I love having my own place," he said. "I have a nice big kitchen, all the appliances, plenty of cabinets, a big pantry, a skylight in the living room, two bedrooms, a nice big bath, a huge closet in the master bedroom and a big garage."

He also appreciates not having to worry about maintaining his home. "The Browning staff takes care of all those difficult and time-consuming chores," he said. "I don't have to mow the grass or shovel snow either. I'm quite pleased."

For information regarding Browning Masonic Community in Waterville, call 866/878-4055.

Masonic Senior Services now serving Northeast Ohio

The continuing expansion of Masonic Senior Services has reached northeast Ohio, providing assistance for older Masonic adults and their families.

Kimberly Howitt has joined Masonic Senior Services as Service Coordinator in Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. Howitt will work to identify community-based services that allow older Ohio Masons to remain in their homes.

Masonic Senior Services provides assistance in planning for long-term care and clarifies Medicare and Medicaid issues.

Howitt holds a bachelor's degree in Gerontology from Bowling Green State University and is pursuing



Kimberly Howitt

a master's degree in health care from Cleveland State University. She previously worked as Recruitment and Retention Specialist for Eliza Jennings Senior Care Network in Lakewood. She also worked at Lutheran Home Society in Toledo and Oakridge Nursing Home in Westlake.

Howitt joins Senior Service Coordinators Amy Colley of Cincinnati, Liz Witter of Toledo and Brother Rodney Skinner of Springfield. Each of the coordinators is available to speak at lodge functions regarding aging issues. Masons who would like more information about Masonic Senior Services may call 888/286-0010.

\$125,000 given to Ohio Special Olympics



Surrounded by Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Master Jim S. Deyo receives a special plaque from the Ohio Special Olympics for the outstanding work the Ohio Masons have provided to the effort over the years. The presentation came after the Grand Master presented a check for \$125,000 to help support the Special Olympics athletes in the annual summer games.



Michael D. Cecil, left, chairman of the Grand Lodge Special Olympics Committee, and Grand Master Deyo, pose with two Special Olympics athletes from Medina County.

Lindner (continued from page 1)



Unveiling the sign that announces The OMH Community Center's new name are: *Illustrious Brother Carl H. Lindner, 33°; Brother W. David Bannerman, CEO, OMH; Right Worshipful Brother Timothy B. Strawn, President, OMH Foundation; Most Excellent Companion Dale G. Ray, Jr., Chairman, OMH Board of Trustees.*

An accompanying story describes Brother Lindner's contributions to the Ohio Masonic Home (page 2).

Brother Lindner is most proud of his involvement in bringing together the leaders of the Grand Lodge of Ohio and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio in 1995, resulting in a joint recognition of each other. This first meeting led to many joint meetings in the years since.

Masonic Pride

"I have been a Mason for over 60 years and I believe Masonry's proudest moment came at that historic meeting 10 years ago here in Cincinnati," Brother Lindner said.

"We broke ground that day when we realized that we believed in the same things, had similar purposes and could do even greater work if we all cooperated."

Honors from the Fraternity for Brother Lindner have also been extensive. A few notable examples include the Killian H. VanRensselaer Gold Medal from the Valley of Cincinnati and the Gourgas Medal from the Scottish Rite's Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Brother Lindner's pride in Freemasonry is strong.

"The community is so much better because of Freemasonry," he said. "The work with the children through the Learning Centers for dyslexia and the hospitals for treating burns and healing broken bones are the more public venues for our charitable work. What the public doesn't know is that we give over \$2 million a day to charitable causes. What other organization can match that?"

19th century costumes worn to celebrate anniversary

Members of Cincinnati-Lafayette Lodge #483 and their wives celebrated the 180th anniversary of the dramatic 1825 visit by the Marquis de Lafayette to the city, by donning early 19th century customs and going on a river cruise.

Lafayette, born in France in 1757, came to the American colonies to fight in the Revolutionary War in 1777. He became a close friend of General George Washington and a major general in the Continental Army. He came back to the United States in 1824 at the urging of President John Quincy Adams to tour the country.

During the latter part of his tour in 1825, he traveled up the Ohio River to Cincinnati, crossing from Kentucky to Ohio on a special barge built for the event.

In Cincinnati, he was greeted with a parade, fireworks and a crowd of several thousand people.

One of his stops was the newly formed Masonic Lodge bearing his name. Lafayette was a Mason, becoming a member in France while he was a young man.

Each year, Cincinnati-Lafayette Lodge enjoys a dinner cruise with the brethren and their ladies, and used the dress of the period this year to make the event special.

The Lodge visited in 1825 was Lafayette Lodge #81. Cincinnati Lodge #133 and Walnut Hills Lodge #483 were daughter Lodges of Lafayette Lodge. Eventually, Cincinnati and Walnut Hills Lodge merged, and in 1994, Lafayette Lodge merged with them, taking the name of two Lodges and the number of the other.

Thanks for the memories

by Jim S. Deyo, Grand Master

AS A YOUNG MAN GROWING UP in a small rural community, I always enjoyed the Bob Hope radio shows. That was before we had television! I was always very curious as to why Bob's theme song was "THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES."

Each of you having given me the opportunity to serve as your Grand Master this year, have provided me a clear understanding of why it was so important for Bob Hope to say, "THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES."

one clear dream: to become the very best that I could be and become a part of the community which consisted of so many men who on a daily basis displayed true compassion for their fellow man. They were indeed, the Masons of Mt. Sterling, Ohio. It seems like only yesterday in my Masonic career. Time has swiftly passed through the hour glass of human life and brings me to the end of another wonderful Masonic adventure.

It is now time to close another chapter of the Masonic Book and prepare ourselves for the future. To close the chapter without saying, "THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES," would be impossible for any Grand Master.

Upon my election last October, to serve as your Grand Master, you provided a new repertory of dreams for this Grand Master. I have traveled from the East Coast to the West Coast and from the North to the South of these United States and even into

Canada, with but one goal on each of these journeys: to make sure Ohio maintains its stature as a dominant force in Freemasonry.

Each of these journeys developed new friendships that produced memories to be filed within the archives of my Masonic life. While traveling upon this frontier, it was even more important to travel the frontier of the many highways within Ohio that takes one through the deep valleys and across the interstates of this great state to



Grand Master Jim S. Deyo, and his wife Margie, enjoy a happy moment while showing off the western outfits they wore to a theme dinner during the Conference of Grand Masters last February in Calgary, Alberta.



A surprise birthday cake greeted Most Worshipful Brother Jim S. Deyo, on his visit to the 21st Masonic District Reception in Akron. The crowd watches as he blows out the candles.

Fulfilling the Impossible Dream

We have been taught throughout life to "DREAM THE IMPOSSIBLE" and then make it become reality.

When I knocked and you opened the door to me just 44 years ago it would have been impossible for this (then a young man of twenty-three) to have dreamed all of the dreams that have become reality for me within your Masonic Fraternity. At the time that I was accepted into lodge, I had but

visits with our many brethren and their ladies in both fraternal and social meetings. To witness the enthusiasm within our fraternity at these special events gives one assurance that our fraternity has a definite place within our lives and our communities.



An Excellence in Youth Award is presented to Timothy Simpson in Akron by Grand Master Deyo.



Grand Master Jim S. Deyo and wife Margie pose in their summer formal wear.



Grand Master Jim S. Deyo, right, discusses issues in Freemasonry with Jeffrey B. Hodgdon, Grand Master of Massachusetts.

One-Day Class Success

The Grand Master's Class, which was made possible through your support, took your Grand Master to even new heights as he traveled across the blue skies looking down upon the deep valleys, green meadows, tilled fields, lakes and streams of Ohio, all part of a plan to visit the many sites of the Grand Master's Classes.

Thank you for providing such a wonderful experience for 2,984 new Masons as they began their search for more light in their Masonic journey in life.

At one location, there was a limousine complete with a red carpet entrance and a jar of grey poupon greeting your Grand Master, while at another, a sheriff's escort to the Masonic Center. At every location there was always a driver awaiting the arrival of your Grand Master. We only missed one runway in our seven landings and had to approach a second time for a safe landing.

When we left the Akron-Canton Airport, the beauty of the sun just beginning to set in the West left no doubt God's light had shined down upon us. It was obvious that the Masons of Ohio completed one more successful day in Masonic History. The real beauty came in the darkness of the evening when the pilot, Worshipful Brother Dan Hrinko turned on the runway lights for landing at Grimes Airport in Urbana, Ohio, and we pushed the aircraft into its hanger. Well done. Our work for the day had ended. Thank you, brethren, for all of your dedication to make this day a success.

Your Boundless Generosity

When called upon to act with charity, you have responded generously within your communities while also recognizing the need to support our Ohio Masonic Homes, Charitable Foundation, the Scholarship Foundation and Special Olympics.

Congratulations! This year you received a very special award at Special Olympics by being recognized as HONORARY COACH OF THE YEAR by the Special Olympics Committee.

This award is rarely given to a group and demonstrates the special position each of you represent in your dedication to this special project.

As I write this final message as your Grand Master, you have flooded the Grand Lodge Office with mail from our most recent appeal to you for contributions to the Charitable Foundation. Again, thank you for your generous charitable support.

A Final Thank You

As I close this final message to you as a Grand Lodge Officer and as your Grand Master, I say thank you for the opportunities that you have given to me. You have certainly left me better and more internally enriched than when I came into the fraternity. After all, it is the internal and not the external qualifications that should enrich out lives.

When you look at a map of Ohio and locate a small dot on the map that says Chenoweth, remember that you have filled a house at that dot where Margie and I reside with many special memories.

Jimmy Durante always concluded his radio show with, "Good Night Mrs. Calabash wherever you are," I say to each of you, the Masons of Ohio, goodbye wherever you are. Thank you, for this "ONE MOMENT IN TIME."



ABOVE: Grand Master delivers his message at a Grand Master's Reception in the 5th Masonic District, in Defiance.

LEFT: Grand Master displays a grim face as he studies his notes during a quiet moment before his speech is introduced.

Second annual joint picnic of 13th, 19th Districts very successful

Members of the 13th and 19th Masonic Districts held their second annual combined summer picnic in June in Somerset, and it was another very successful, well-attended event. The food was good and plentiful, the fellowship was outstanding, and the picnic featured a tug-of-war contest between the two districts.



Wooster Lodge to build Daniel Icesman Athletic Fields

Ebenezer Lodge #33 in Wooster has launched an exciting community program that will bear the name of Past Grand Master Daniel F. Icesman, a member of the Lodge.

Wooster City Council in May unanimously accepted the Lodge proposal to construct three new softball fields at the city's Freeland Park, to be the home of the Wooster Summer Girls Fast Pitch League. Construction will start fall 2005 and be ready for use spring 2007.

Ebenezer Lodge will be responsible for financing the project, but it will include assistance and contribution from Masons across Ohio.

The project will include foul line fencing, portable outfield fences, drainage, bleachers, benches, infields, bases, mounds and home plates.

The athletic complex will be called "The Daniel F. Icesman Masonic Fields."

Most Worshipful Brother Icesman is the patriarch of Freemasonry in the Wooster and the 20th Masonic District area. He served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in 1978-79.

10-year anniversary of Prince Hall Recognition slated in Cincinnati

A decade has past since the Grand Lodge of Ohio and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio jointly agreed to recognize each other.

This historic event will be honored at the 3rd Annual Brotherhood Night in Cincinnati on Saturday, November 19.

Past Grand Master James E. Olmstead, along with Past Grand Master Steven Reece of Prince Hall, and Carl H. Lindner, of Melrose Lodge #671, will be honored for their leading roles in the recognition.

Brotherhood Night will be held in the Cincinnati Masonic Center, with recognition of dignitaries at 5 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 8 p.m. Jim Breech, kicker for the Cincinnati Bengals Football Team, will be the guest speaker.

Adult tickets are \$35 each and \$15 for youth under 18. For more information or to order tickets, contact David Fine, chairman of the event, at 513/260-9234.

All proceeds will go to help four Masonic charities: The Shrine Burns Hospital, the Royal Arch Masons Adopt American program, the Scottish Rite Learning Centers and the Prince Hall Scholarship Fund.

Ohio wins top National DeMolay Award



Ohio DeMolay received one of only six Grand Master's Eagle Awards presented this year at the annual meeting of the International Supreme Council of DeMolay in Orlando. Ohio Executive Officer Jeff Shaw, center, holds the distinguished award, honoring the state for its outstanding new membership performance. DeMolays, pictured, from left, are Joe Rehnert, State Scribe; Eddie Jones, State Senior Councilor; Chris Grinstead, State Master Councilor; and Alex D'Ettore, State Junior Councilor.

Cutting off pant legs engineered by Past Grand Masters



Past Grand Masters Douglas O. Brenneman, left, and Jack L. Allen, right, get a kick out of raising some money for a charitable fund to help a local brother. Each started by putting in some money so they could cut off the legs of the pants of Dennis R. Kessler, center, District Deputy Grand Master of the 13th Masonic District. Many others followed and more than \$300 was raised. The action took place at the joint picnic of the 19th and 13th Masonic Districts.

Cruise-In draws crowd to Browning

Residents and visitors enjoyed a variety of activities at Browning Masonic Community's annual Waterville "Cruise-In" including a car show, farmer's market, flea market, children's games, music, food and campus tours.

The delicious grilled hamburgers and hot dogs were served by Rubicon Lodge #237. Proceeds from the event support Special Olympics.

LEFT: BMC President Brother David Subleski took a spin around campus in The Home's mini-grand prix car. RIGHT: Children enjoyed bouncing around in the inflatable playground.



MASONIC RETIREMENT VILLAGE

Hi, Neighbor!

When Mary Hayes moved two years ago into her apartment at Iredell Gardens on the grounds of The Ohio Masonic Home, she was surprised to find her former Old Mill Road neighbors now lived right across the hall. Dick and LaVida Campbell, Mary's neighbors 28 years prior, were her neighbors once again.

Even before she was reunited with her neighbors, Mary knew she would feel at home at The Ohio Masonic Home. After all, she had worked as a nurse at The Home for 15 years. She soon learned that some of her other new neighbors were former co-workers Helen Westfall, Emma Potter and Roxy Stewart.

Mary appreciates the friendship of her fellow residents. "Everyone is very friendly," she said. "If you want privacy, just shut your door. But if you want company, all you have to do is open your door."

Having lived on 10 wooded acres nearby, Mary understands people's reluctance to move to a retirement community.

"Owning and maintaining a home was a lot of work," she said. "And I was lonely."

As a nurse, Mary is impressed with the



Mary Hayes takes care of vacationing neighbors' pets but keeps only stuffed animals for herself. "I'm too busy to be tied down with a pet," she said.

care provided at Masonic Health Care.

"I've seen a lot of nursing facilities," she said. "The nursing care here is far better than any I've seen."

She also appreciates the peace of mind The Home offers. "I like the security here," Mary said. "There are guards patrolling the grounds, a sprinkler system and emergency alert buttons. I like that."

Mary appreciates all the other amenities. "The dining room is lovely and I don't have to worry about cooking meals," she said. "The housekeeping is tremendous. Everything is spic and span."

Relieved of household chores, Mary enjoys volunteering all over campus and at the local animal shelter. And she likes taking care of residents' pets while the owners vacation.

"I love animals," she said. "And I like

to help people. That's what I do."

She drives her neighbors to the bank and other errands, participates in the campus exercise program and walks every night after dinner with fellow resident Don Potter.

"We need to work our arms and legs so we can continue to be active," she said.

Mary said she always knew she would live at The Home.

"I never looked anywhere else," she said. "We're a Masonic family. Masons help people. It is a privilege to be a Mason and a privilege to live here. It's all about helping people. I'm so thankful I moved here. Every resident is like a brother or sister. I would do it all over again."

For information regarding Masonic Retirement Village in Springfield, call 888/290-2664.

HOME s·w·e·e·t HOME



Chuck Nathaniel at Pathways Center for Alzheimer's Care enjoys getting outdoors for walks with his sister, Sandra. "I can get out and do anything I want to do," he said.

He grew up in the shadow of The Ohio Masonic Home. As a youth, he watched as The Home's water tower was built. Years later, he worked as a contractor to restore portions of The Home's Bushnell Hall. Now, he is a resident of The Home's Pathways Center for Alzheimer's care.

"It feels like home," Chuck Nathaniel said. "I feel like I've always been part of The Ohio Masonic Home."

Chuck is known to many in the Springfield community as the former owner/operator of Chuck's Rockin' Ranch, a nightclub on Columbus Avenue. Chuck left the construction business when the opportunity to run the nightclub arose.

"It was a grand time," Chuck said of the nightclub business, which featured live country and western music. "We had pig roasts, wedding receptions, car shows—all kinds of different activities that people enjoyed."

Chuck said he still bumps into former patrons when he's out and around in Springfield and enjoys reconnecting with them.

His appreciation for the outdoors can

be nurtured at The Ohio Masonic Home. "The campus is beautiful," he said. "I love to get outside and admire the grounds here."

Chuck moved to the Pathways Center nearly two years ago when he became unable to manage his own care due to the onset of Parkinson's Disease.

"He needed more assistance than we could get for him at home," said Sandy Warren, Chuck's sister.

While the Pathways staff makes sure Chuck is getting the care he needs, they also enable him to be as active as he can be.

Chuck is impressed with the support he gets from the staff.

"The people here at The Home make sure everything is right," Chuck said. "They really live up to their reputation of providing quality care."

As one who coordinated fun activities for the patrons of his nightclub, Chuck

particularly enjoys the activities provided for residents by the staff of The Ohio Masonic Home.

"Terri Algeo does a great job of coordinating fun and interesting activities for us," he said. "It's very gratifying."

Although he is not a Mason, Chuck appreciates the Masonic values upon which The Ohio Masonic Home operates.

"I believe a Mason is someone of high moral character," he said. "Throughout my life, I have found that to be true."

Those Masonic principles are part of the reason Chuck stays nears his roots at The Home.

"If I had to do it all over again," he said, "I would come here."

For information regarding Pathways Center for Alzheimer's Care, contact Masonic Health Care in Springfield at 888/243-2664.

Ohio Masonic Home Scholarship offered

Applications for the Ohio Masonic Home Scholarship Program will be accepted through April 1, 2006, for the 2006-2007 academic year.

The scholarship is exclusively for orphaned children of Ohio Masons.

The application form may be downloaded from The Home's Web site at www.ohiomasonichome.org or, requested

by writing to: The Ohio Masonic Home Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 120, Springfield, OH 45501.

Each scholarship award will be for one academic year and may not exceed \$3,000 or the cost of tuition.

Applicants must be the natural or adopted son or daughter of a deceased Mason who, at the time of his death, had

achieved the degree of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master Mason and who was in good standing with the Grand Lodge of Ohio, F.&A.M. Please refer to application criteria for eligibility.

If you have any questions regarding The Home's Scholarship Program, please contact OMH Chief Financial Officer David R. Stacy at 937/525-3032.

the piano man

As if it is streaming down from the heavens, a piano emanates “God Bless America” from on high in Western Reserve Masonic Community (WRMC). Although the music is heavenly, it comes from WRMC resident Bob Stelts playing the piano on the second-floor atrium.

“I’m just an average player, but I play with feeling,” Bob said modestly. “But people like it.”

The piano has been part of Bob’s life since he was 12. Although he has periodically been taken away from the piano by the military, work, family obligations and health concerns, he has always returned.

“It’s amazing that he has picked it up again,” said Bob’s wife, Irene. “It had been years since he’s had time to play.”

“I love music,” Bob said. “If God gives you some ability, you should use it.”

“It really attracts people,” said Bob’s wife, Irene. “When he plays, they come.”

Bob plays at resident talent shows and regularly entertains residents, staff and visitors. Free from the hassles of owning a home, Bob appreciates the freedom at WRMC to pursue his passion.

“The ongoing repairs and taxes got to be too much for us,” Bob said. “There’s a lot of work and expense in maintaining a home. We could no longer manage it.”

Irene said their daughter and daughter-in-law looked throughout Northeast Ohio for a suitable retirement community.

Ultimately, they recommended WRMC.

“It’s very inviting,” Irene said. “The pricing is good and the apartments are larger than most. They clean for us. The grounds are well-kept. There’s lots of shopping nearby. And Medina is a nice community.”

“And the food is good,” Bob said. “They feed us well!”

“They keep us active and happy,” Irene said. “You can go on trips or stay here and work on crafts like painting or woodcarving. You can be busy all the time if you want.”

Although Bob is not a Mason, he appreciates the values of a Masonic organization.

“I admire Masons and what they do,” he said. “We knew Masonry has a good religious foundation. That is important to us.”

Also important to them is the financial stability of The Ohio Masonic Home. “This is an endowed facility,” Irene said. “We know we’ll be in good hands for the rest of our lives.”

That peace of mind allows Bob to enjoy the piano.

“It’s fun for me and the other residents enjoy it,” Bob said. “Residents tell me, ‘You keep on playing.’”

For information regarding Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, call 866/433-1514.

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 and June 30, 2005.

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When he’s not entertaining his wife and neighbors with the piano at Western Reserve Masonic Community, Bob Stelts likes to talk sports with the guys. “I’m an Indians fan,” he said. “But they make me mad sometimes.”





PLANNING AHEAD

by *Illustrious Brother Owen Johnson, 33°*, Medical Director, United HealthCare



Illustrious Brother Owen Johnson, 33°, M.D., is concerned about Baby Boomers. “As a group, they have not prepared for retirement,” he said. “This puts their families in poor situations.”

Owen’s concern is part of his motivation for becoming a member of The Ohio Masonic Home Board of Trustees, where he serves on the Membership Committee and chair of the Nominating Committee.

“At The Ohio Masonic Home, your children don’t have to worry. You know you’ll be taken care of regardless of what may happen.”

Owen is Medical Director for United Healthcare in Columbus.

“I went into medicine to help people,” he said. His involvement on The Ohio Masonic Home Board of Trustees provides an opportunity to help Masons.

“No other retirement community can offer the camaradery and fellowship that comes with Freemasonry,” he said. “That is a benefit you cannot buy.”

Owen is a 33rd degree Mason and member of University Lodge #631 and Valley of Columbus, Scottish Rite, as well as a member of Commandery and Council

York Rite bodies. He is Past Thrice Potent Master of Enoch Lodge of Perfection in the Valley of Columbus.

“The eternal friendships I have developed through my Masonic affiliation have been very rewarding,” he said. “I have met people I never would have otherwise met. When you see someone with a Masonic pin or ring, you feel an immediate bond.”

Owen is pleased that The Ohio Masonic Home continues to adjust to the needs of Masons.

“The staff and Board of The Ohio Masonic Home is reassessing the needs of our brethren,” he said. “We’re finding that Baby Boomers want to stay in their homes. In order to be responsive to their desires, we need to supply care in their current environment. This is our goal with Masonic Senior Services.”

Masonic Senior Services provides assistance in planning for long-term care and clarifies Medicare and Medicaid issues, allowing many Ohio Masons to continue living in their own homes with relative independence.

However, Illustrious Brother Johnson emphasizes that Baby Boomers need to start thinking about their futures.

“Retirement living requires planning,” he said. “Getting older isn’t easy.”



Please remember
The Ohio Masonic Home
in your will.

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

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