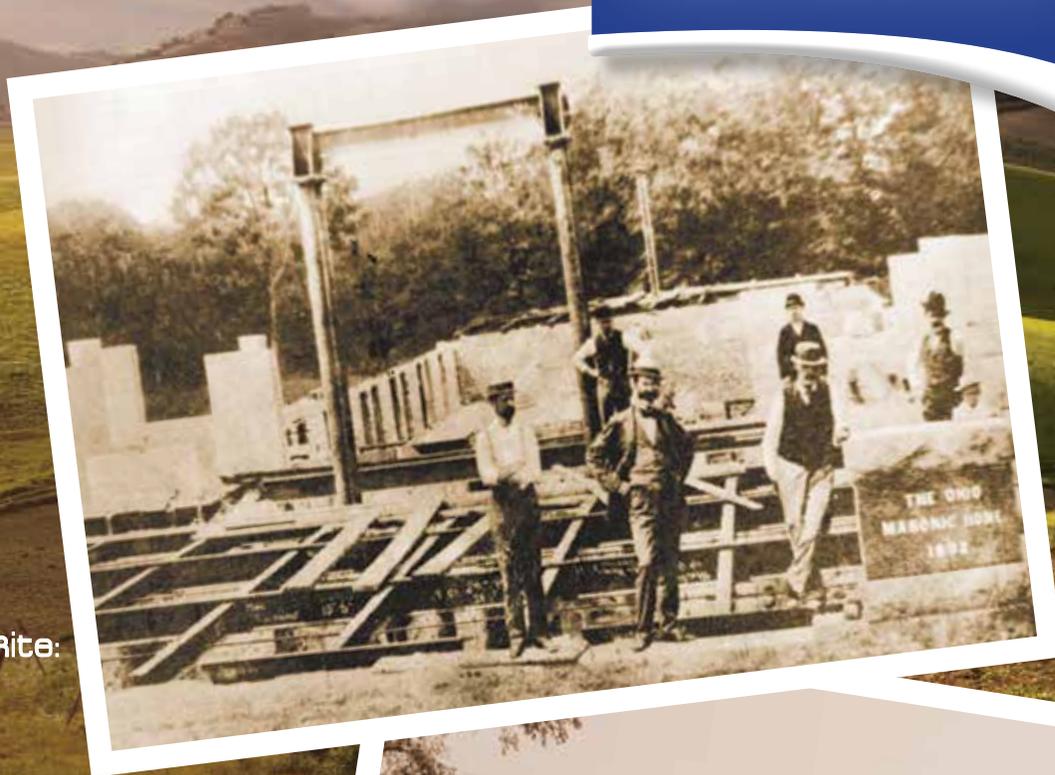


THE Journey



THE OHIO
BEACON

Volume 22, Issue 3 Summer 2015



The Time is NOW!

Enjoy the Journey

The New Scottish Rite:
Welcome Home!

Nurse Bette

A Year in Review

Cornerstone: an interview!

WWII Masonic
Artifacts Uncovered

Journey of a Lifetime

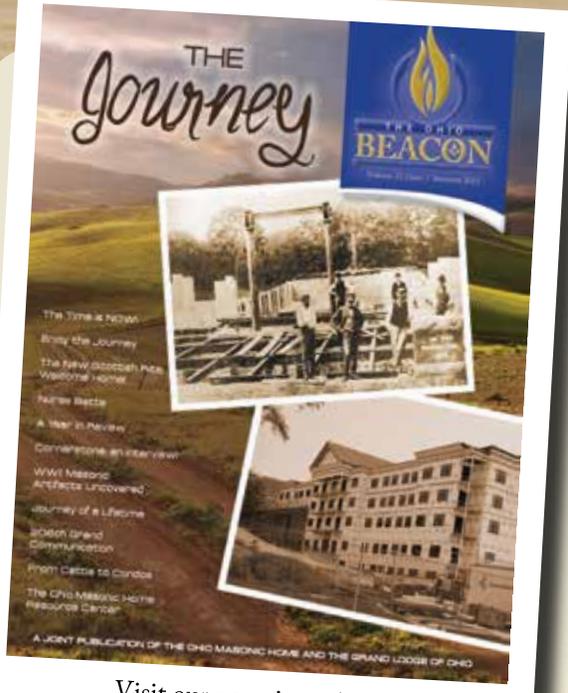
206th Grand
Communication

From Cattle to Condos

The Ohio Masonic Home
Resource Center



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



Visit our new site online at theohiobeacon.com and sign up to receive your Beacon electronically!

The Ohio Beacon is published quarterly. Please report all changes of address to your Lodge secretary, who, in turn, will notify the Grand Secretary, who maintains the database that produces the BEACON mailing lists.

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THE TIME IS *Now!*

The Time is NOW! I really believe that. As Rebecca and I have talked with the Brethren and Ladies of this great jurisdiction, I believe more than ever that we are on the cusp of a new resurgence in Masonry. I am excited and optimistic for our future. But we must not sit back and rest, there is much to be done.

First, I want to thank the Grand Lodge Officers for a great year. They each have performed at a level that far exceeded my expectations, and the expectations were very high to begin the year. This group of men are the right ones to move the Grand Lodge and Masons of Ohio in the right direction. I am so proud to call each of them not only brother, but my friend.

The long range plan that we have developed is great. The Officers are all committed to staying the course, with minor changes, and moving us in the right direction. Leadership training is continuing and expanding. Wardens and Deacons training is continuing. Leadership and education will remain a focus. There are programs to be added, but they enhance what we currently have and are not 180 degree changes.

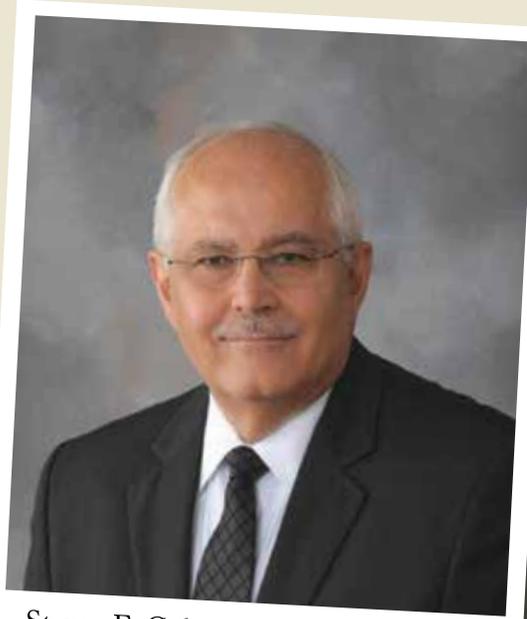
The move to technology has really been beneficial. Communication has been quick and accurate with email. Filing reports on line gives us the ability to query for information and help us determine what needs attention and what is working well. There is more to come. Thanks to all who have contributed to a successful "Quantum Leap" this year. It will make a huge difference.

Roadblocks, potholes, construction, and naysayers are always obstacles to change, but, "The Time is Now" to work together to ensure the future is bright. It is not acceptable to utter the comment "We have never done it that way before." If Freemasonry does not change, it will die.

We have said many times that Masonry is not about ritual. I firmly believe that ritual only starts the process of education and making good men better, but is not the entire journey, it is only the tip of the iceberg. We must start with GOOD ritual, continue with meaningful education, and change our meeting process to keep the good men we attract coming back. We won't change our morals, ethics, and attachments to our principles, but we must change the process. Brethren, "THE TIME IS NOW!" to let go of the "way we used to do it" and step aside so the young men in our beloved Fraternity can lead us.

It has been a fantastic ride. Thank you to all who have ridden with us. May God bless each of you, Freemasonry, and our great country.

Moving Masonry in new directions is not fast, and it is not easy.



Steven E. Cokonougher, Grand Master





Tom Stofac, CEO, Ohio Masonic Home

ENJOY THE *Journey*

and at the Ohio Masonic Home (OMH). Our journey together has been so rewarding for me. We at OMH are not reaching for destinations, but enjoying the journey as the living expression of our Masonic Obligation.

As we approach the end of 2015, our journey together is filled with exciting new adventures. This edition highlights one of those adventures, the new Scottish Rite and the remodeled Hillman building which will be renamed York Rite. We will be dedicating these buildings on October 18, 2015. I hope many of you can attend this event or at least visit the Springfield campus to tour the buildings. If you are interested in coming to live the journey on our campus, we are currently taking reservations for the new apartments!

Thanks to all of you who are on this journey together with us and for all of your support. Our journey will continue to be filled with exciting new possibilities. My friends, aging is not a destination and life is a journey, enjoy the journey.

Many of you have heard me say, "Aging is not a destination, but a journey." This statement could be modified to say, there are no destinations in life, but life is a journey, enjoy the journey.

Years ago, I was on a national speaking tour. I would end every presentation with, "Life is a journey, enjoy the journey." A fellow came to me once after my presentation and thanked me for the ending statement. He and I spoke and enjoyed each other's company, so I gave him my business card to stay in touch. This was common and I thought we might connect at some point, but never thought I would experience what happened next. One month later, he called me and thanked me again for my message and closing statement. He had taken my encouragement to heart and retired from his job as CEO of a retirement community and was going to do what he enjoyed and live life in a better way.

I felt very guilty as he was a younger man and I was concerned that I had ruined his life, but I tried to take my own words seriously and hope that he would enjoy the journey. I asked him what he planned to do and he wasn't completely sure, but was intending to work with his cousin as a consultant in a software development company. I wished him well and asked that he stay in touch not only because I enjoyed him as a person, but because I felt a bit responsible.

Three years later, I needed to have a management tool developed. I called my friend, and we were able to build a tool that later became the birth of a national data management and consulting company in the field of aging. He and I became business partners in this endeavor for several years. Almost 20 years later, we are no longer business partners, but the company is thriving and our friendship is one of the best I have on this earth.

I tell you this story because it is one I hold close to my heart. It reminds me that life is truly a journey and not a destination and that attitude can open up possibilities for life-long friendships and true joy. This is the same way I feel about my time here with all of you in the Fraternity



On June 26, the 2015 Ohio Special Olympics got off to a rainy start, but there was a silver lining hidden in the clouds. At Jesse Owens Stadium in Columbus, Ohio Timothy T. Brooks, representing Fielding Lodge 192, presented a \$200.00 check to Cathy Duffin of Clark County Special Olympics at the opening ceremony. What is a bit of rain when you're surrounded by so many smiling faces?

Photo by Pat Rice Fielding Lodge 192



THE NEW

Welcom

Our new Scottish Rite building, opening late October, offers 65 new studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments with floor plans designed specifically to meet your needs.

Conveniently located on the Springfield Masonic Community campus in Springfield, Ohio, you will notice the difference the moment you visit us. We are proud to offer personalized housing, tailored amenities and outstanding health services all within a vibrant community that promotes independence and wellness for all individuals we serve.

Ranging from 530 to 1,125 square feet of living space, our apartments feature large windows with beautiful views, kitchens with all appliances, master bedrooms with full bathrooms, oversized or walk-in closets and personalized heating and cooling.



Apartments feature:

- Spacious open design and floor plans
- Comforting color palette
- Large windows with scenic views
- Bay windows
- Neutral flooring
- Individual temperature controls
- Optional furnishings
- Emergency response system

Apartment bathrooms feature:

- Paint colors that promote visibility
- Pocket doors
- Sensor lighting to assist in cueing
- Walk-in and roll-in showers
- Locked cabinetry options
- Emergency response system

The Scottish Rite community offers:

- Wellness and fitness center
- Physician's health clinic
- Ice cream parlor
- Media library
- Art gallery
- Gift shop
- Post office
- Salon
- Masonic museum
- And so much more!

Paired with an on-site physician's clinic within 80,000 square feet, our new apartments will be



NEW SCOTTISH RITE

Home!



completely modernized and will offer state-of-the-art comfort in a new wellness-based environment.

Applications are coming in and space is limited so apply today!

Or for more information contact Brian Clayborn at bclayborn@ohiomasonichome.org or by calling 937-525-1755.

The new Scottish Rite Building at the Springfield Masonic Community will open its doors free and clear largely due to four very special philanthropists who gave major gifts to the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation in 2013. We would like to share our gratitude for the

kindness of these individuals: Brother and Mrs. Samuel Edward Dumbleton, Brother Carl Eric Abrahamson and Brother Clarence E. Brown, Jr.



Want More Information?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

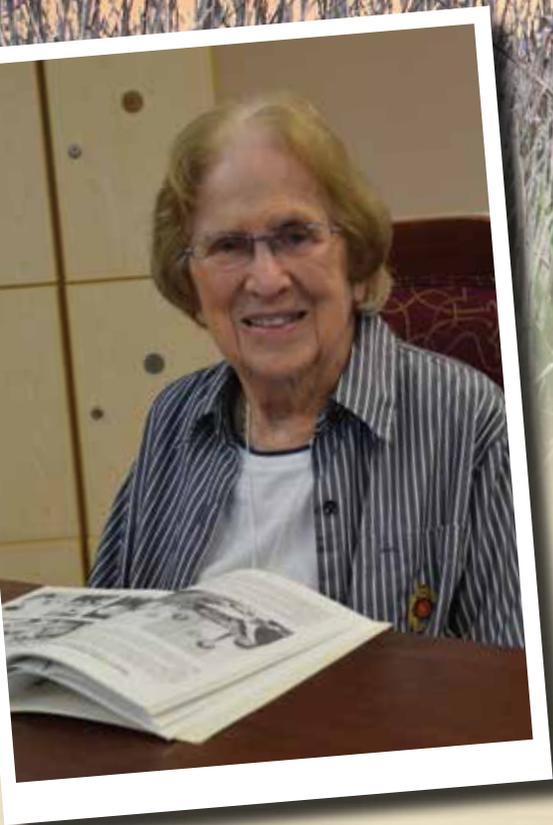
Phone: _____

Email: _____

Which unit are you most interested in? (One-bedroom, etc.)

Mail this form to:
Springfield Masonic Community
ATTN: Scottish Rite Information
2655 West National Road
Springfield, Ohio 45504

You can also contact Brian Clayborn at bclayborn@ohiomasonichome.org or by calling 937-525-1755.



Nurse OF SPRINGFIELD MAS

Florence Nightingale once said, "Live life when you have it. Life is a splendid gift-there is nothing small about it."

Mary Elizabeth "Bette" Conover of Springfield Masonic Community truly exemplifies this sentiment. She will tell you how blessed she feels. At 97, she is very independent, despite her failing vision, and it is clear from the moment you meet her that she is a genuine "people person."

Bette was born on April 4, 1918 in Logan County, Ohio. She moved to Springfield in the late 1930s to be near her beau, Brother Fred McDonald, who twice served as Master of New Carlisle Lodge 100. Bette attended nursing school at City Hospital before the pair was married in 1940. They soon had two wonderful sons, James and Jack, both of whom now reside in Florida. Jack is a very active Mason, serving as Marshal and a Past Master of Indian River Lodge 90 in Titusville, Florida. While her sons were growing up, Bette devoted her time and energy to raising them and it wasn't until the nest was empty that she decided to rejoin the workforce.

Bette began her career at the Ohio Masonic Home in 1962 at the age of 44 as a registered nurse on the 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. shift. For ten years, she worked two nights per week, spending her Fridays and Saturdays providing medical care to residents.

In 1971, Bette was promoted to assistant director of nursing, and then two short months later was offered the position of director. Over the next decade, Bette served as director of nursing, making rounds, overseeing a large staff and coordinating with the Ohio Masonic Home's Chief Executive Officer, Ill. Brother Keith M. Bruster.

During this time, the campus consisted of four main buildings, Rickly Memorial, Eastern Star, Cunningham and the Walcutt building, a cottage formerly occupied by child residents. Most of Bette's time was spent in Rickly which held living quarters as well as a clinic and physical therapy area.

Even with her busy schedule, Bette still tried to make rounds every day simply to say hello. She remembers the closeness between her employees and the residents,

including one bittersweet occasion when a resident thanked her and remarked how glad she was that her husband had prepared her final days to be spent at the

"May God hold you
safe and secure in the
palms of his hands."



Nursing Director and R.N. Supervisors.

Bette

SONIC COMMUNITY

Ohio Masonic Home. The closeness extended beyond the employee, resident bond, and on to the nursing staff itself. More than once, Bette would enjoy a friendly chance meeting with an employee while running errands or out to dinner.

When Bette retired in 1981, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, George H. Thomas remarked how the Ohio Masonic Home would no longer be the same without her smiling face and loyal support.

In 1990, the year of Bette and Fred's 50th anniversary, Fred passed away. Bette took solace in the Lord, and her friends and family. It was at church where Bette would meet Bob Conover, a retired podiatrist and member of Anthony Lodge 455. During Bette's time working as a registered nurse, Bob had been volunteering his expertise at the Ohio Masonic Home as well, giving his Wednesdays to check on residents. Bette and Bob were married in 1995 and lived in town before moving to Springfield Masonic Community in 2012. Although Bob passed away only two years later, Bette still says there is no place she would rather live.



In August 2015, a flagpole will be raised at Pathways Memory Care Center on the Springfield Masonic Community campus in loving memory of Bob Conover. Inspired by Bob's military career as a bomber pilot in WWII and their mutual love of our great country, Bette donated the funds to gift Pathways with their own flagpole. Here, the American flag will fly in celebration of God, country and family, a reminder of Bette's favorite quote, "May God hold you safe and secure in the palms of his hands."



KNIGHT EMINENT *Commandery*

The 2nd Division of the Knight Eminent Commanders Association invites all past and current Eminent Commanders to the Annual Meeting / Initiation of new past Commanders on Friday, September 25, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ohio Masonic Home Auditorium.

Candidates, please R.S.V.P.
SK Lynn Chadbourne, KYCH,
Recorder at lynnchadbourne@earthlink.net.

Residents of the Ohio Masonic Home will have their initiation/ lifetime membership fee waived.

A YEAR



in Review



CORNERSTONE

An Int



Jessica Updegraff
President of Cornerstone

So what is Cornerstone? What is its mission?

Well, basically Cornerstone encompasses home and community based services. This includes home health, which is typically paid for by an insurance company or medicare, and provides a nurse or a physical/occupational therapist to come in to the home to get a person back on their feet. Helpings hands, or non-skilled care, is private pay, but that can mean that it is paid for by VA or Passport; which is a Ohio program for elderly and Medicaid qualified residents. Hospice is paid for by medicare and some insurance companies. We come in and partner with the patient so they can die with dignity, and that means we keep them as comfortable and pain free as possible, while being surrounded by the people who matter most to them. An additional service of hospice is that once the patient passes, we still provide care for the family for the next 13 months to help cope with bereavement. Our mission is to provide the right care at the right time in the right place.

How long has Cornerstone been a part of the Ohio Masonic Home family?

Cornerstone started as Masonic Helping Hands in 2000, and in 2008 acquired and started its home health and hospice in Urbana. In 2009 we acquired a second home health to provide services in Northeast Ohio.

From the aide to the CEO,
we all have the same
purpose; right care,
right place, right time.

Tell me, why was Cornerstone created, what need was present to cause it to come into being?

Part of the reason the Ohio Masonic Home created Cornerstone was they saw the future of healthcare was to serve masons not only on campuses, but in the community as well. In this way, the Ohio Masonic Home could provide another service branch for people who aren't ready to move in to a Masonic community or who want to stay independent in their home.

How does it help Masons in Ohio?

Cornerstone goes into the community to help Masons stay in their home, and that's the main goal is to help people remain in their home if they want. But the connection to the Ohio Masonic Home helps these Masons to have an avenue to the Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center and the Masonic Financial Assistance Corporation, as well as gets them in to communities when needed for short term rehab or illnesses that require a short healthcare stay. At its heart, Cornerstone helps connect Masons to Masonic-based communities and services.

Where in Ohio is Cornerstone located?

The counties our Home Health and Helping Hands cover in the Northeast part of the state are Mahoning, Columbiana, Portage, Trumbull, Summit, Stark, Wayne, Medina, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Cuyahoga, Stark, Ashland, Carroll, Jefferson, Tuscarawas and Holmes.

In the West Central part of Ohio we have Home Health in Clark County and Helping Hands and Hospice in Warren, Clark, Montgomery, Champaign, Miami and Greene counties.

Who can use Cornerstone's services?

Everyone!

HEALTHCARE:

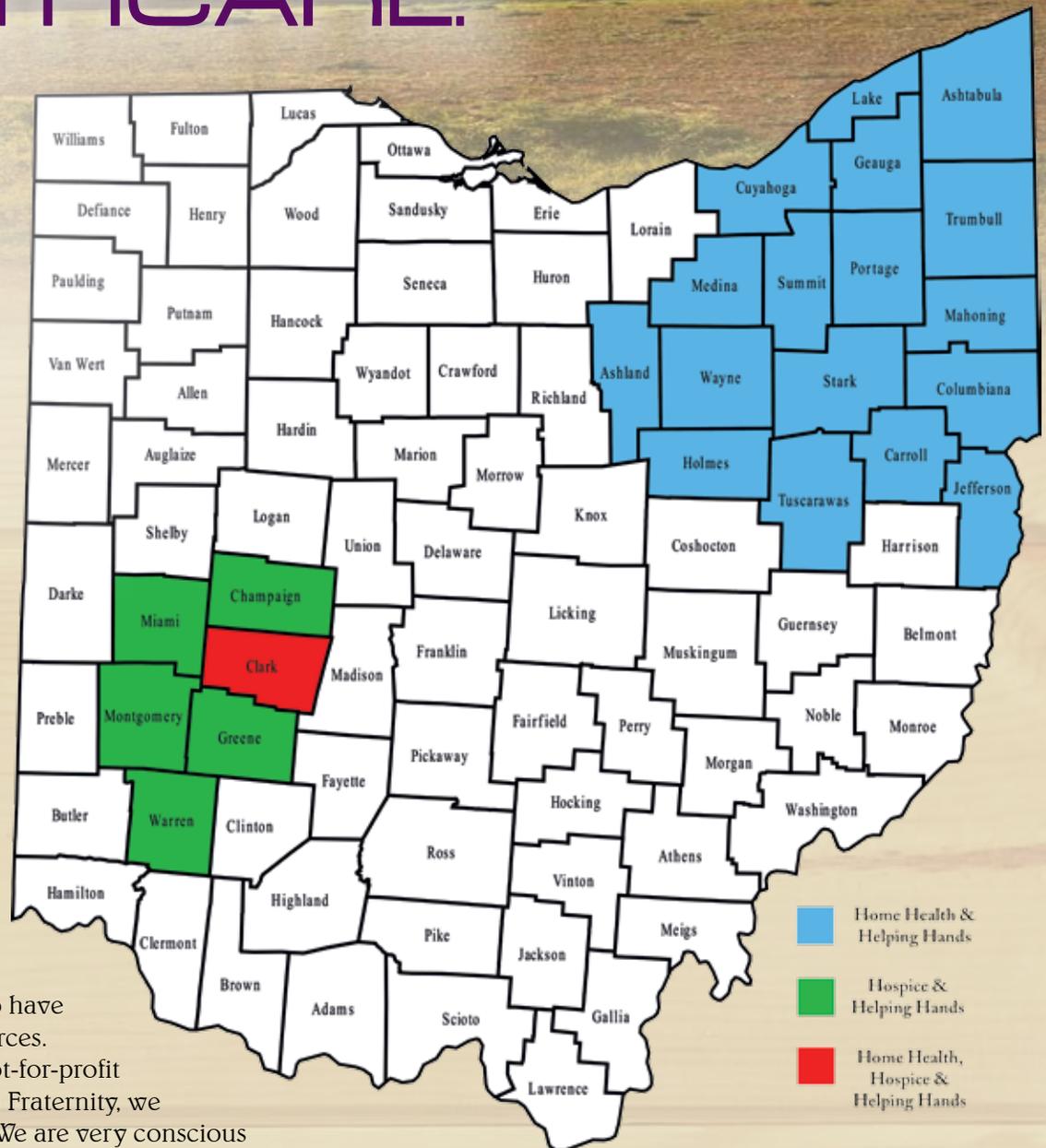
Interview

What types of care does Cornerstone provide?

If you need someone to help put up Christmas decorations, walk the dog or go grocery shopping, we have aides through Helping Hands to assist. Through Home Health, we have nurses for medical health care, or therapy after surgery to help you get your strength back. Our Hospice provides palliative care as well as assistance coping with bereavement.

What sets Cornerstone apart from other home health services?

What sets us apart is we're connected to the Ohio Masonic Home (OMH), so we do have access to several different resources. Additionally, because we're a not-for-profit and affiliated with OMH and the Fraternity, we provide care in a different way. We are very conscious about how we hire people, train people, and about the philosophies that we practice. From the aide to the CEO, we all have the same purpose; right care, right place, right time. A piece that sets us apart in the Northeast area is they specialize in therapy after head injuries, strokes and hip or knee replacements. Where our hospice is concerned, we have nurses certified in hospice and palliative care, which not all agencies have; and if called, we are there within two hours to say, "This is hospice and this is what we provide." If the situation is appropriate, we open the case the same day. The industry standard is 48 hours, which could mean unnecessary waiting, but we hold ourselves to a higher standard.



Those are good points, so, what is on the horizon for Cornerstone?

At the moment Cornerstone is expanding home health, skilled care nursing therapy to Southeast Ohio and the Springfield Masonic Community campus. As the new Scottish Rite building opens, we have been working with Springfield to make certain we will be providing services for independent living so we are there from day one and the process is as smooth as possible.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the Brethren about Cornerstone and what it means to them?

I think that's it, thank you for this opportunity to share what we're all about!



WORLD WAR II

Masonic Artifacts Uncovered

The Grand Lodge Museum recently received a package from Brother Tim Baird, the son of Worshipful Brother James Baird, who was already a Freemason when he served in the Pacific Theater during WWII. The package contained a number of items pertaining to Square & Compass (Masonic) clubs that were started in the Pacific Theater at Guadalcanal, Batangas, Philippines, and Tulagi, British Solomon Islands.

The artifacts include a brief history of each club, complete membership rosters and assorted photographs.

Several of the photographs document the members of Batangas Square and Compass club working with Philippine Freemasons to rebuild the lodge hall of Batangas Lodge No. 35, which had been put to the torch by the Japanese army during their occupation.

As the World War II generation slowly disappears and families begin the process of going through their belongings, more such Masonic artifacts may be uncovered. The Grand Lodge Museum is the perfect repository for these artifacts.

FINDLAY LODGE

Bears for Hugging

The Brethren of Findlay Lodge have begun to supply Sir Koff-A-Lot teddy bears to the Blanchard Valley Health System as their latest community service project.

For patients recovering from surgery, even something as simple as coughing can be problematic. The Sir Koff-A-Lott bear was developed by two cardiovascular surgeons to assist patients during post-operative respiratory therapy, which for some is very painful.

Lodges interested in more information about this project should email Findlay Lodge at orangehat@gmail.com.



Journey

OF A LIFETIME

Western Reserve Masonic Community resident, Steven Dinin believes that the journey lasts a lifetime. He continues to pursue interests in computers and technologies, actively participating in SeniorNet; an organization bringing technology access and education to adults ages 50 and up in an effort to enrich their lives and enable them to share their wisdom.

This year, Steven took his love for technology one step further by entering SeniorNet's national curriculum contest. Medina SeniorNet submitted four subjects:

1. Creating a simple website
2. Backing up documents
3. Making a holiday address book and labels
4. Computer care and maintenance

The computer care and maintenance lessons authored by Steven and Pieri Levandofsky won second place nationally!

Curriculum submissions had to follow criteria set by national headquarters. Lessons had to be completely original—not updates of previously released lessons—and specific formatting requirements such as cover pages, logos, and such were established.

All the submissions will be released nationally for other learning centers to use later this month.

This is an invaluable resource for all the centers to share and provide to students. Medina SeniorNet's website (www.medinasenior.net) was also recognized and benchmarked as a pattern for all the other centers this spring. We are fortunate to



Medina SeniorNet Coordinator Charlene Kosc, Steven Dinin and Pieri Levandofsky

have such a great group of talented and dedicated volunteers!

SeniorNet was founded in San Francisco, CA in 1986 by Dr. Mary Furlong. It is now located in Ft. Myers, FL, and headed by Leslie M. Smith. There are currently learning centers located across the United States and internationally, staffed by volunteers. In May 2016, SeniorNet will be celebrating 30 years of service to seniors with ceremonies in New York City. Medina SeniorNet started in its present location at Western Reserve Masonic Community in September 2004.

CATHEDRALS

Built by the Masons

Cathedrals Built By The Masons, represents the culmination of more than 50 years of researching and photographing the great cathedrals by Right Worshipful Brother Russell Herner, PDDGM from the 16th Masonic District.

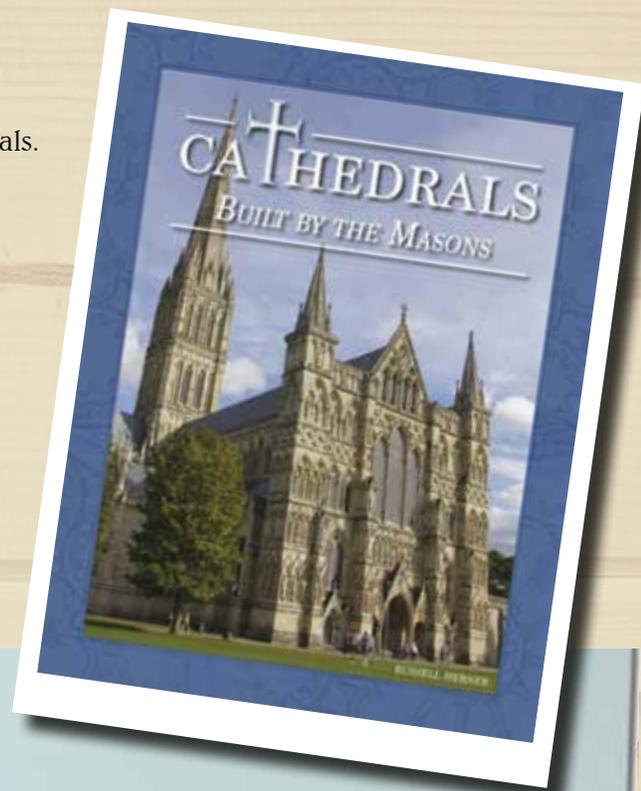
Through well-researched text, as well as drawings and color photography, this book captures the magnificence of European cathedrals, and the brilliance of the Master Builders and craftsmen who designed and built them. Cathedral building is a fusion of man's greatest accomplishments in the arts, sciences, and humanities over the centuries.

More than 250 photos and drawings capture the quality and craftsmanship built into these stunning structures created to replicate God's house or heaven on Earth. Color photos illustrate the gorgeous naves, detailed fan-vaulted ceilings, beautiful stained-glass windows, flying buttresses and 650-year-old parchment drawings of the cathedrals.

This book will enable the reader to discover the origin of Gothic architecture, see how Gothic cathedrals were built using primitive tools and learn about the development of Freemasonry and its direct descent from the stonemasons of the Middle Ages. Enjoy 30 cathedral tours and acquire a few Masonic secrets of the stonemasons.

By providing insight into the operative trade of the stonemasons, "Cathedrals Built By the Masons" enables a Freemason to hone a better understanding of his speculative Craft.

Visit www.schifferbooks.com to obtain a copy.



206th Grand Communication

The next annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio will be held in Columbus on October 23 and 24, 2015 at the Columbus Convention Center.

During the annual communication, the delegates act as the legislative, electoral and appellate body of Ohio symbolic Masonry.

The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior

Wardens are voting delegates at the annual communication, and their attendance is an important obligation. Accordingly, these officers should make plans today to attend.

Any Ohio Master Mason in good standing with his lodge may attend. Proper attire would be jacket and tie, apron and a current dues card. Details are available at www.gl2015res.com.

FROM CATTLE to Condos

James E. Timmons was born on July 22, 1946 in Springfield, Ohio. He spent the early part of his life learning about farming with his two older brothers and two younger sisters. After high school, he began working at International Harvester building trucks and automobiles. In 1965, at age 19, Jim was drafted into the United States Army to serve in Vietnam working on helicopters as a Sergeant in the 20th Transport Company. After one year stationed in Cu Chi, he returned home to Springfield and his job at International.

In 1971, Jim learned of an opportunity to work on the Ohio Masonic Home farm milking cows. He spent the first few years working under a manager before taking on full responsibility of the farm and animals. Many of those serving on the Ohio Masonic Home Board of Trustees had farming backgrounds, and recognized the incredible benefit of having a working farm within the organization. The cattle provided the Home with fresh milk and the ample lands were farmed to produce food for the residents. The farm was run on a system called "the shares," which allowed Jim to partially own the Ohio Masonic Home's cows and they in return claimed partial ownership of his herd. The profit from the milk they sold was then divided equally.

Jim had been working at the Ohio Masonic Home for four years when he met Marilyn, a Tecumseh High School

math teacher from Springfield whom he would marry in 1976. Two years later, inspired by the Masons he worked around, Jim was raised a Master Mason at H.S. Kissell Lodge 674. The next decade held several more important events for Jim, including the births of his son and two daughters, Jason, Jill and Jaime, and his own college graduation, ten years in the making.

The Timmons family not only tended the lands and cattle at the Ohio Masonic Home, they also resided in a farmhouse located on the hill just east of the current Masonic Square villas. The space the villas would begin to occupy in 1986 was then the home of cattle, barns and the all-important milking station. Jim would be the last Ohio Masonic Home dairy manager, as twelve years after the Masonic Square groundbreaking, the cows were sold and the farm slowly disassembled. In 2002, Jim and Marilyn left their farmhouse on the Ohio Masonic Home grounds and settled on a thirty acre farm nearby.

Jim continues to farm the land on campus, planting corn and soybeans and bringing his own herd of cattle out to graze in a southern pasture. Few realize exactly how large the campus truly is, but after 44 years, Jim knows every acre like the back of his hand.

The cattle provided the Home with fresh milk...





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Scan code to learn more about
the trusted partner to help
people age respectfully

THE OHIO MASONIC HOME *Resource Center*

The Ohio Masonic Home, as a visible expression of Ohio Freemasonry, brings you a free, one-stop phone call for aging questions, needs and issues.

The Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center is a program designed to assist in keeping the Masons and their families as healthy and independent as possible. Based simply on the idea of “aging where you want and how you want,” this program is the easy, one-call way to obtain products and services that will enhance health and independence, and will help provide a positive aging experience.

It is our commitment to provide you with friendly, professional and responsive services. Our goal is to serve as an advocate for aging “how you want, where you want.”

**We look forward to assisting you, so call toll-free
877-881-1623 today!**



THE OHIO MASONIC HOME

Resource Center

The Trusted Partner to Help People Age Respectfully

877-881-1623

The Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center can quickly:

- Connect individuals to the Ohio Masonic Home campuses
- Connect individuals to home health, hospice or other home-based medical services
- Answer questions on aging
- Provide contacts for our Network of Excellence
- Make referrals to appropriate local agencies
- Assist in obtaining products to enhance the aging process
- Share caregiving resources