

THE MASONICARE ANNUAL APPEAL NEWS

BY THE MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT

Spring 2006



Father and Son Found New Giving Society



Gail L. and Gail N. Smith

From Past Grand Masters of Connecticut to retired Connecticut State Police Troopers, father and son Gail L. Smith and Gail N. Smith have a lot more in common than their family name. They also share another passion...their love and dedication to all things Masonicare. On November 15, 2005, father and son made a unique and generous donation to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut to recognize the tenth anniversary of Masonicare and show their profound appreciation of the organization's good works. This expression of their generosity lays the foundation for a new giving society of the Masonicare Annual

Appeal known as The Masonicare Society. This society is specifically designed to recognize donors who have given \$520 or more to the Masonicare Annual Appeal in a one-year period.

"The staff on Ramage 5 is wonderful, and the Wooster 2 aides are fabulous," says Gail L. Smith, speaking of the care his wife Harriett received. He is equally impressed by the housekeeping staff, the food services staff, and in general, the good people he has come to know within the

that are sincere and believe in what they do," he adds. "It means so much to the people we serve and to their loved ones."

In light of the respect and admiration the Smiths have developed for Masonicare over the years, they were inspired to found the new Masonicare Society. They hope their generosity will be an inspiration for all Masonicare supporters to follow in their footsteps and give a little something extra to the Annual Appeal. Contributions to the

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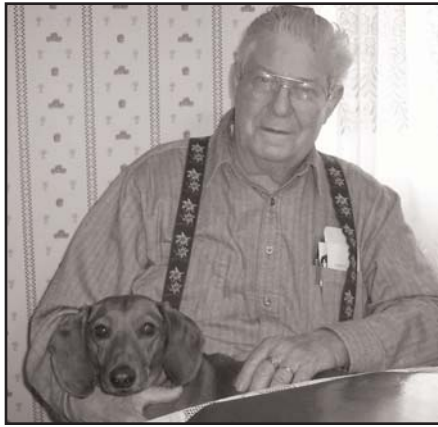
organization. His son, Gail N. Smith, wholeheartedly agrees. He is especially grateful for the care his wife Susan received from Connecticut VNA's exceptional hospice and palliative care team during her final days and sincerely believes that their compassionate care extended her life. "It is so good to observe employees these days

Masonicare Annual Appeal are important to the organization, as they directly support the Quality of Life Funds of Masonic Healthcare Center, Ashlar of Newtown and Connecticut VNA. In the past, these funds have made possible significant additions to Masonicare facilities such as a solarium, a greenhouse and innovative medical

continued on page 2

Twenty Three Years and Counting...

A Long Term Supporter of The Masonicare Annual Appeal



Skip Sharples and Fritz

Skip Sharples likes to support the things he believes in. “It’s the definition of loyalty,” he explains. “When you belong to an organization, you give it your heartfelt support.” And he is certainly a loyal Mason. Raised in 1954 as a member of Corner Stone-Quinebaug Lodge No. 122, he later affiliated with Putnam Lodge No. 46 and has served as Master of both

faithful supporter of the Masonicare Annual Appeal for an impressive twenty-three consecutive years.

During his years as a District Deputy and Associate Grand Marshal, Skip made frequent visits to Masonic Healthcare Center. “I’ve seen the care at Masonic Healthcare Center, he says, “and it’s the best. I don’t think there’s anything that would compare.” He is equally impressed with Masonicare’s Connecticut VNA, which recently provided home care to his late wife, Rosemarie. “Connecticut VNA was fantastic,” he recalls. “The main reason I give to Masonicare is that I know the people I am helping. I have friends at Ashlar Village who are so happy, and it makes a difference. My father always said that anything you give will return to

“I’ve seen the care at Masonic Healthcare Center, and it’s the best.”

lodges. When dual membership was opened up to plural membership, he even affiliated with his father’s lodge, Rising Star Lodge No. 47 in New Market, NH. He is active in the Order of the Amaranth, and in April of 2006, will become their Grand Royal Patron. His support does not end there. His loyalty extends to the entire Masonicare organization. Skip has been a

you one way or another.” Skip Sharples has taken the advice to heart. He understands that every last dollar makes a difference. “That little extra we give means a little extra for the patients and residents,” he explains. “Like the icing on the cake, so to speak.” Thanks to generous individuals like Skip, we can all look forward to a little frosting.

*Donor for Over Two Decades:
Solomon Chapter No. 3, R.A.M.*

Twenty-one years and they haven’t missed a beat. The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut would like to thank Solomon Chapter No. 3 of the Royal Arch Masons, who have been generously supporting the Masonicare Annual Appeal for twenty-one years! “The Masons preach philanthropic support,” explains Arthur Maybeck, secretary for Solomon Chapter No. 3. “This is our philanthropic endeavor.”

*Father and Son...
continued from page 1*

equipment. Just as the name implies, the Quality of Life Funds provide for the unique needs of residents in their daily lives such as easy to read digital clocks and wristwatches, newspaper subscriptions, trips to the movies, and tickets to the annual Wallingford Rotary barbeque. As we all know, a small touch can make a big difference. Obviously, the Smiths have taken this to heart.

If you would prefer not to receive any future fundraising communications from The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, please write to us at MCF of CT, P.O. Box 70, Wallingford, CT 06492. In order to ensure that we accurately reflect your request, please provide your full name and street address. Please note that it may take six to eight weeks to make your request fully effective.

Masonicare Employee Proud to Support The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut



Connecticut VNA's Tammy Riley

Tammy Riley believes wholeheartedly in Masonicare. As Vice President of Clinical Services for Region 1 at Masonicare's Connecticut VNA, she has certainly seen the good works of Masonicare firsthand. In her six years with Connecticut VNA, first as a Director of Patient Services, and later in her Vice President position, she has had many years on the job to observe the organization's exceptional operation. But Masonicare is more than an employer for Tammy. Her experiences reach deeply into her personal life as well, in the form of family members who have received care from the Masonicare continuum.

It begins with Tammy's grandfather, a 32nd degree Mason and his wife, a member of Eastern Star and Amaranth. Masonry was a big part of their lives, and when the need for care arose, the couple moved to the Wallingford Masonicare campus, first into an apartment and subsequently into Masonic

Healthcare Center where they both lived the remainder of their lives. Tammy's aunt and father-in-law were both residents of Masonic Healthcare Center as well, experiencing several programs of care, including the Alzheimer's unit, Geriatric Assessment Program (GAP) and Hospice.

"I saw the care they received, and it was second to none," Tammy raves. "It is absolutely exceptional care." She remembers her brother-in-law saying with conviction, "They hire really well here. There isn't anyone here who doesn't go above and beyond." During her previous fourteen years of employment with the Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven, Tammy became very

"There is a cost to providing this exceptional quality of care, and that is why I give to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut."

familiar with the various nursing homes in Connecticut. "We have a tremendous amount of resources here compared to the other nursing homes," she explains. "You really can't compare it. But there is a cost to providing this exceptional quality of care, and that is why I give to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut."

She is referring to her very generous decision to have an elective \$20 per week payroll

deduction go to the Masonicare Annual Appeal conducted each year by The Masonic Charity Foundation. Tammy's \$1,040.00 annual contribution places her in the new Masonicare Society, a giving level of the Annual Appeal designed to recognize individuals who contribute a total of \$520 or more in a one-year period. "Masonicare's healthcare reimbursement is decreasing," explains Tammy. "Unless we have support from employees and the community, we can't continue to provide the level of care patients need and deserve. I feel I have a responsibility to give." She encourages other employees to follow her example. "I know asking for money is sensitive, but a lot of

people are comfortable giving to a place where they can see their money put to good use. Clearly, the commitment employees show when they care for a resident has a profound effect on the families. I think people want to give for that reason." Tammy's generosity is heartfelt and her love for Masonicare evident. "I believe we are dedicated to the mission of serving exceptionally well," concludes Tammy. "It's not all talk." ☆



Holiday Appeal Wraps Up

Supporters of The Newtown. In addition, Masonic Charity caregivers from our Masonic Foundation of homes carefully select and Connecticut spread plenty hand-wrap a gift for every of holiday cheer this past resident. winter with their generous donations to The Foundation's Holiday Appeal. This very special seasonal fund is used for holiday decorations, baked goods and festive parties for the residents of Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford and Ashlar of

During the 2005 Holiday Appeal, **1,851** gifts were made to the Holiday Appeal totaling **\$60,891!** Thank you for your help in making this holiday season shine for the residents of Masonicare.★

Contact The Foundation
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Donate Online!

The Masonic Charity Foundation has recently introduced a new way to give. Donors may make gifts directly on the Masonicare website at www.masonicare.org. Just log on, click on "make a donation" and supply the necessary information. Online donations may be designated for the Annual Appeal or for Connecticut VNA's Hospice program.

The Foundation's Bequest Language

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut deeply appreciates gifts of all kinds. Should you wish to remember The Foundation in your Will, we encourage you to provide the following bequest language to your attorney:

"I give, devise, and bequeath \$_____ (sum of money), or _____% (percentage) of my estate, or all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, Inc., located in Wallingford, CT."

Bequests provide important revenue in support of the mission of Masonicare, enabling us to provide the highest quality healthcare programs and services to our residents and patients regardless of their ability to pay. If you wish to discuss a bequest to The Foundation, please contact Jennifer King, President of The Foundation, at 203-679-5570.