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Sands through

The Hour-Glass



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www.thenebraskamasonichome.org

Cornerstone Ceremony



It was an incredible day here at The Nebraska Masonic Home on August 11, 2013. Residents, family members, employees, Board of Trustees members, dignitaries and guests all gathered for the very impressive Laying of the Cornerstone Ceremony by the Grand

Lodge of Nebraska A.F. & A.M. for our new three-story addition. It was such a proud moment for everyone here at The Home because of the 2 ½ year journey we all made together from the beginning of this very complex building/renovation project to the end.

Special recognition needs to go to our Board of Trustees who made the decision years ago to move forward



with this much-needed project. During our 2 ½ year journey I definitely feel the real heroes were the residents, their families, and our employees. Everyone's patience and understanding during the constant



inconveniences was impressive.

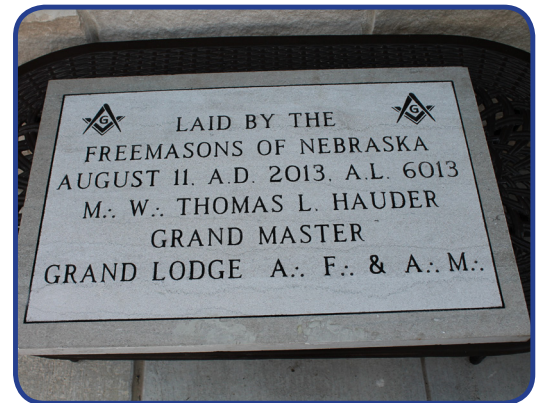
Patience was definitely easier because we knew the end of the project would result in new and updated areas that would provide beautiful spaces for the residents and their families to enjoy.

Being able to conduct tours for all of our guests on August 11 was a very proud moment for everyone. Our guests were so impressed with the overall result of

the project. . . it was a joy to show them the nine larger apartments that are a result of the total renovation of the 1924 Wing. At this time, five of the nine apartments are occupied.

A special thank you is extended to everyone who attended this long-awaited and appreciated celebration.

If you were unable to attend, please remember to call and make an appointment soon to come and tour your beautiful updated Masonic Home.



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On a very important side note, I want everyone to know how honored I am to have the new wing named after me. At the end of the Cornerstone Ceremony when John McHenry, President of the Board of Trustees, announced the Board's decision to dedicate and name the new

wing after me, I was totally shocked . . . it still seems like a dream. I feel that this honor is the highest recognition I have ever received in my 40-year career here at The Masonic Home.

It has been and will continue to be a privilege for me to serve as Executive Director of The Nebraska Masonic



Chamber of Commerce Ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 8th.

Home and care for the residents who have made The Masonic Home their home. 🏠

Mary C. Stapp

Mary C. Stapp, Executive Director

Happenings Around The Home



Platte River State Park is a wonderful place for a September outing.



Cowboys Harold and Dean sit by the fire after eating chili during our Cowboy lunch.



Hazel is ready for our Luau Party.



A Discovery Ride through Union Apple Orchard was very interesting



The race is on with Barbara and Gene during our annual boat races.



Gene baits his line while on the men's fishing trip.



"Life" organ music group gave a fantastic concert.



Catherine gets creative while painting her Halloween vase.

Meet Randy Gillott . . . Our Chief Engineer



I love working here at The Home. This is where I want to be." Randy Gillott commented, when asked about his future at The Nebraska Masonic Home.

Randy was born in Springfield, Nebraska, grew up in Rock Bluff and graduated from nearby Conestoga High School.

He enlisted in the Marine

Corps and spent his four-year stint

as an instructor in self defense at Camp Pendleton in California.

Randy returned to Nebraska and spent many years working on construction projects with his father and in a few family enterprises including a bar in Nehawka and Gillott's Lunch Bucket Café along Hwy 75 south of Plattsmouth. It was at the Lunch Bucket that Randy met his wife, Connie.

From 2004 to 2006 Randy worked on wiring the new retirement complex at Immanuel Hospital in Omaha . . .

and then he decided to follow a long-time dream.

"There is something about this place" he said, referring to The Nebraska Masonic Home. "We called it 'the castle' when I was a kid, and I always knew I would end up working here." So he applied and was hired for two days a week for outside grounds maintenance and two days a week for inside maintenance.

Eventually Randy was working full-time hours. And years later, December of last year, he was promoted to Chief Engineer. This position took on a greater significance and complexity with the building renovation project that was completed this year.

A member of Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, Randy lives with his wife Connie in Plattsmouth. They are the parents of two sons, one of whom is deceased.

When asked of hobbies or outside interests, Randy immediately replies "The Masonic Home, and I like it that way." He later allowed for interests in the Nebraska Huskers and in his wife and family, which includes two energetic grandchildren.

Here is a man who is truly happy in his life's work and in working where he always knew he would end up working. Congratulations, Randy, on your promotion to Chief Engineer. 📧

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Meet Ken and Corky Fleming . . .

from Peetz and Lorenzo to Plattsmouth



Highway 19 south of Sidney, Nebraska was about to get a lot busier.

Following a basketball game between town teams from Peetz, Colorado and Lorenzo, Nebraska (both on Highway 19), a few cars of young people went to nearby Sidney for hamburgers and Cokes.

There, Ken Fleming, a player for the Lorenzo team, met a girl named Corky, a high school freshman from Peetz who was in Pep Club. He almost immediately asked for a date! (“I was no dummy” he chuckled 64 years later while being interviewed for this article.)

And that’s how the 64-year story of Ken and Corky Fleming got started. They got married in Peetz in May of 1953, four years after their hamburger and Coke meeting, on the day after Corky graduated from Peetz High School. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary a few months ago.

Ken was drafted into the Army in November of 1952 and a month after marriage Ken was sent to Korea for 1 ½ years. Daughter Debbie was born while Ken was gone, and daughter Cynthia and son Mark arrived in following years.

Following Ken’s return to the States, they moved to the 3,000 acre wheat and cattle farm to work the operation with Ken’s father.

Ken Fleming was raised a Mason in Sidney’s Frank Welch Lodge No. 75. He then became active in Scottish Rite in Alliance, the York Rite in McCook, and the Tehama and Sesostris Shrine Units. Although the distance to travel to these various Masonic bodies adversely affected his attendance and participation, he nevertheless established himself in Masonic leadership in

Nebraska. He was to serve as Grand Marshal for six years, and then Grand Master James Eatmon appointed Ken to the Grand Line. He served a very active year as Grand Master in the 1997-1998 year.

During that year Ken and Corky were delighted and proud to meet so many Masons from near and far. While attending the North American Conference of Grand Masters they were pleased to meet Grand Masters from Iran, Iraq, and Russia. Ken says, “My year as Grand Master is a cherished memory. What an honor to be a Mason and serve this great fraternity.” There was another important event during this time – they became acquainted with The Nebraska Masonic Home and decided this was the place for them in their retirement years.

Their Caring Club plaque from The Masonic Home, dated 1998, hangs on their apartment wall.

After the death of son Mark in 1994 they decided to sell the family farm. Ken then worked for years in Sidney as a land appraiser, and Corky worked in the gift shop at Cabela’s.

They decided to move to The Nebraska Masonic Home this year as soon as the newly-renovated apartments in the 1924 Wing became available. Happily, their home in Sidney sold in short order. Daughters Debbie and Cynthia helped them make the move in July – and conveniently they were able to stay in a guest room just steps from Ken and Corky’s 4th Floor apartment.

It’s been a long time since that chance meeting over hamburgers and Cokes, and many roads and miles have been traveled since Highway 19 between Lorenzo and Peetz.

But Ken and Corky Fleming have made the best of it all. They love their life at The Nebraska Masonic Home and invite you to come for visit. 🕒



Debbie, Cindy, Mark and Petunia their sheep on the family farm in 1964.



Darold Jordan



*Grant and Peg
Keran*



*Ron and Tami
Stites*



Betty Garwood

*The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation
“An Afternoon in Tuscany”
2013 Donor Recognition Dinner*

A taste of Tuscany was enjoyed by all at our 24th annual Caring Club Donor Recognition Dinner on Sunday, October 20, 2013. This themed event is held each year to recognize those Caring Club donors who have made gifts of \$500 or more to The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation.

Marci Broyhill, poet and storyteller, capped off the afternoon with her engaging tales of growing up in rural Nebraska. Marci is the wife of board member Kent Broyhill from Dakota City, Nebraska.

We hope you will join us for next year’s Donor Recognition Dinner by becoming a supporter of The Home. We promise you won’t be disappointed. ☒



*Butch and Nancy Furse
Ruby Lancaster*



*Marci
Broyhill*



*Denny and Marian
Witt*



*Keith and Roberta
Hightree*



*Donna
Chaney*



*Dennis Mundt
Jonna Masek*

Mary C. Stapp Wing



her 40 years here. . . 15 years as a staff nurse and 25 years overseeing the operation of The Home in an administrative capacity. Seeing that The Home provides high-quality care for the residents and supporting their families is Mary's passion.

If you missed the earlier opportunities to contribute to the building fund, why not consider a contribution in Mary's honor? Many of you and your families have been blessed to have Mary and her caring staff serve your loved ones here at The Home through the years. Sending a donation for the holidays in Mary's honor will bring a smile to Mary's face. ☒

You may already know that the new three-story addition that was a big part of the \$6.5 million building/renovation project here at The Nebraska Masonic Home was named in honor of Mary C. Stapp, Executive Director. If you know Mary, you will surely agree that this is an honor well deserved.

Mary has served The Home in several capacities throughout

Address Corrections



Please contact The Foundation office at (402) 296-7336 with corrections or updates to your mailing address. With your help we can be reassured that our Masonic Home friends receive our newsletter.

2013-2014 Caring Club

Start planning now to become a Caring Club member for 2014!

Yearly Caring Club memberships are available at two levels of giving:

1. Caring Club Gifts of \$250 or more will be acknowledged with a recognition plaque with yearly date plates for each consecutive year of membership.
2. Caring Club Gifts of \$500 or more will be acknowledged with the above plaque and an invitation to the annual Donor Recognition Event.

Please mark your Caring Club gifts as Caring Club, Caring Club Memorial, or Caring Club Honorarium.

The Caring Club was established to enable people to help The Home continue its mission of providing loving, dignified care for elderly Masons and their families. A gift from you will continue that tradition. ☒

Tax Reminder



As the end of the year approaches, please remember The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your charitable gifts to The

Home can qualify as income tax deductions, so make sure you remember to provide your tax preparer with your receipt letter(s). ☒

A Caring Testimonial . . .



“Supporting The Nebraska Masonic Home was an easy decision for us. Ron's parents were very supportive of The Home. His dad served on the Board of Trustees for many years. Both Richard and Bonnie believed in The Home and all the wonderful things that it does for its residents. The new addition and remodeling projects have enhanced the facility and made it a beautiful and caring place with the best staff of people we have ever met!”

*Ronald and Connie Brasel
Omaha, NE*