



Supporting a Worthwhile Cause with a Charitable Gift Annuity



Jack and Marilyn Edwards funded a charitable gift annuity to help support the work of The Masonic Charity Foundation of CT.

For more than thirty years, Jack and Marilyn Edwards made their home in Orange, Connecticut. Following a tour of Ashlar Village seven years ago, they decided to make an Ashlar Village cottage their new residence. Today, the Edwards are happy, active residents who speak highly of the Ashlar Village community and the Masonicare continuum of care.

“What has impressed us most is the staff here at Ashlar Village and down the hill at Masonic Healthcare Center,” says Marilyn. “Jack’s brother spent five years in the various levels of the continuum of care, and his caregivers were upbeat and helpful, patient and caring. I once saw a nurse singing a

gospel tune to him at his bedside. That’s the kind of people they are.”

Jack, a 50-year Mason raised in Somerville Lodge in Massachusetts, and now a member of Compass Lodge No. 9 in Wallingford, couldn’t agree more. “We like it here,” he says. The couple regularly attends Masonic Charity Foundation functions at the Village, and as a result of the excellent care they

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—Jack Edwards

have observed, and their life at Ashlar Village, they recently decided to support The Foundation in the form of a charitable gift annuity.

“We wanted to give to a cause we felt deserved it,” says Jack. “The Masonic Charity Foundation stands for the principles of Masonry. You can see the results of your donation to The Foundation down

the hill at Masonic Healthcare Center, and we benefit from The Foundation up here at Ashlar Village as well.”

The Edwards used some stock they had purchased early in their marriage to fund the annuity, a simple contract with The Foundation in which they will receive a fixed income stream for life at an attractive rate. By gifting stock to The Foundation, a tax-exempt, non-profit entity, the Edwards were able to avoid capital gains taxes they would have incurred had they sold the stock themselves. “Setting up this annuity was so easy,” recalls Marilyn. “The Masonic Charity Foundation staff were a big help to us.”

Jack encourages others to explore the benefits of a charitable gift annuity. “If you want to donate to a good cause and still get something back, it’s a good deal!”

American Council on Gift Annuities Current Gift Annuity Rates

SINGLE LIFE		TWO LIVES	
Ages	Rates	JOINT AND SURVIVOR	
		Ages	Rates
65	6.0 %	65 - 65	5.6 %
75	7.1 %	70 - 70	5.9 %
85	9.5 %	80 - 80	6.9 %
90+	11.3 %	90 - 90	9.3 %

Living the Good Life at Ashlar Village



Ted and Phyllis Wellerson were the first couple to occupy one of the new villas at Ashlar Village.

Perhaps you have seen them snuggled in a hammock or spinning on the dance floor in the new Masonicare commercial spot. Or, maybe you have joined them at dinner in the Waterside Dining room. Ted and Phyllis Wellerson have only been Ashlar Village residents a year and a half, but they already have made a place for themselves in the retirement community.

The Wellersons -- the first couple to occupy one of the new villas -- came to Ashlar Village after selling their unit in Heritage Village in Southbury. They spent their first six weeks in one of the apartments, waiting for their villa to be completed and are pleased it happened that way. "It really worked out well," says Phyllis. "We became acquainted with folks during that six weeks and felt right at home here. They felt like old friends in such a short time."

After raising their children on Long Island, Ted and Phyllis retired to a house in the mountains of Pennsylvania where they skied, golfed, played tennis and traveled. From there, they moved to Heritage Village in Southbury, but ultimately decided that they wanted to be part of a healthcare continuum and began looking into the new villas at Ashlar Village.

"We really wanted the continuum of care," says Ted, "and the expansion plans appealed to us too. The Hartog Activities Center, the dining room expansion, the new Notch Hill apartments, and the new agreement with the Farms Country Club -- these different offerings make Ashlar Village not just a good facility, but also the best retirement community in the state. All of the employees are absolutely wonderful," Ted adds. "It starts with the President, JP Venoit. He is very kind and generous."

Phyllis would agree. She witnessed the fine care firsthand during her first weeks in the villa, when a medical condition left her on the floor and calling for help. Ashlar Village staff arrived immediately, which she believes saved her life. She found the staff at Masonic

Healthcare Center to be just as impressive. "The treatment could best be described as if you were one of the family," she enthuses. "There was nothing they wouldn't do to make your stay comfortable and pleasant."

"We were well aware of the great work that The Masonic Charity Foundation provided, but we were never quite as appreciative until it impacted our lives," says Ted. As a result, the Wellersons have begun

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donating to The Masonic Charity Foundation through the Masonicare Annual Appeal. They also attend The Foundation's educational events and are looking forward to the spring gala. Ted now serves as vice president of the Ashlar Village Association and as chairman of the Ashlar Village Finance Committee.

Phyllis enjoys entertaining in their new home. "The villa is a lovely place to have guests," she says. "And we have great neighbors!"

Some Enchanted Evening

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut and The Ashlar Village



It's time to mark your calendars for the annual Ashlar Village event! Once again, The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut and The Ashlar Village Association co-present a spectacular spring evening party, full of food, entertainment and good times. "Some Enchanted Evening" will take place on Sunday, June 3, 2007, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Waterside Dining Room.

The ticket price of \$45 per person provides guests with hearty hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, and entertainment by the Galvanized Jazz Band. But that's not all! Between sets we are pleased to offer an eclectic mix of performers, including belly dancer Gia Khalsa, lip syncing by Jean Kaas, fiddling by Ashlar Village residents Herb Nallinger and Sterling Jewett, with pianist Lydia Magnani. As in years past, an exciting array of door prizes will be on display, with winners drawn at the end of the evening. Everyone will have a chance to win.

The evening promises to be one to remember! Most importantly, proceeds from this event will benefit The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, enabling Masonicare to continue providing the highest quality facilities and services to the many residents and patients it serves.

2006 Masonicare Annual Appeal Results

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut would like to thank co-chairs Barbara Colby and Margaret Porter for their hard work on the Ashlar Village Appeal of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut. The goal of this appeal was an increased percentage of participation in the Masonicare Annual Appeal by Ashlar Village residents.

At the launch of this appeal in August, Ashlar Village residents were at 11% participation in the Masonicare Annual Appeal. By December 31st, Ashlar Village resident participation was up to 53%! Total donations by residents increased by 12% from 2005 for a total of \$28,364.60 raised for the 2006 Masonicare Annual Appeal.

Overall, the 2006 Masonicare Annual Appeal raised \$352,117.62, exceeding the \$334,000.00 goal. Beneficiaries of the Annual Appeal are the Quality of Life Funds at Masonic Healthcare Center, Ashlar of Newtown and Connecticut VNA.

We thank you for your enduring support and look forward to working with you in 2007!

Goodwill For Sale!

Op Shop Supports Masonic Charity Foundation

The Op Shop, nestled among the resident storage cages on the basement level at Ashlar Village, is a spotless assembly of items generously donated by residents and others, offered for sale at very reasonable prices. Thanks to the incredible dedication of Jean Kaas, who has run the Op Shop since September 2000, it is the perfect place for residents to find household goods, dishes, accessories, and countless other items. From light bulbs to oil lamps, vinyl records to dishware, the Ashlar Village Op Shop has everything you need on a shoestring budget.

Jean volunteers countless hours operating the shop and preparing the items for sale. She prices items off the top of her head, keeping them reasonable so that the merchandise moves well. Ashlar Village and Masonic Charity Foundation staff often donate additional items, and some of the Op Shop's best customers are actually the employees of Ashlar Village. In addition, holiday items such as Halloween and fall decorations, ornaments and fine dishes are saved each year for the Holiday Bazaar.

One Friday and Saturday in October, Jean and 60 volunteers fill the Ashlar Village Activity Room with merchandise for the Holiday Bazaar.

Of the Op Shop and Holiday Bazaar proceeds, 100% are given to the Ashlar Village Association. In turn, 80% of this amount is donated to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, supporting the care and well-being of residents and patients of Masonicare. In 2006, The Masonic Charity Foundation received \$6,760.00 from the Op Shop as well as an additional \$1,300.00 from the Holiday Bazaar. "I'm excited that the Op Shop continues to be successful after all of these years," says Jean. "People say I work too hard, but I am just proud to be able to contribute to The Foundation."

Thank you, Jean, for your amazing dedication and support of the Op Shop and The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut!



Bequests



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 The Foundation at 203-679-5555.