

# Masonicare at Ashlar Village Helping Hands



A Publication of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut

SPRING 2010

## John Radeach: Making A Difference



WB John Radeach

The Masonic awards and certificates of appreciation that adorn the walls of WB John Radeach's apartment at Masonicare at Ashlar Village are reminders of a life devoted to helping others.

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut is among the beneficiaries of John's generosity. Increasing his gift this year to the Masonicare Annual Appeal, John is delighted to know that his support allows Masonicare to continue to provide outstanding care for those less fortunate.

The Foundation received its first charitable gift from John in 1981, and since then he has also been a loyal supporter of The Foundation's

Annual and Holiday Appeals and the memorial gift program, recognizing family and friends.

A Past Master of Connecticut Rock No. 92 (now Hiram No. 1), Momauguin No. 138, and Adelphi-Momauguin No. 63, Bro. John lists the Pyramid Shrine No. 9 A.A.O.N.M.S., The Order of the Eastern Star, and the Tall Cedars of Lebanon among the many Masonic appendant bodies to which he belongs. The common thread -- a commitment to service -- is something he traces back to his childhood in Eastern Europe.

"My father had a good heart," John said. "I learned from him."

Born Juraj Radic on August 26,

1919 in the former Yugoslavia (now Croatia), John grew up working alongside his father as a commercial fisherman. One of six children, he began to worry that his presence was putting a financial strain on the family.

So, at 18, he joined the Yugoslavian navy and soon found himself on a two-month training voyage that took him to Montenegro, Malta, Gibraltar, Madeira Island off the coast of Portugal, and Bermuda before arriving in New York City. Once in New York, Yugoslavian immigrants living in the city were permitted to board the ship every afternoon and enjoy refreshments with the crew.

**"Masonicare Health Center and Ashlar Village are open to everyone regardless of creed or color. I'm so proud of that."**

*WB John Radeach,  
Ashlar Village resident*

"Some people from my hometown came up to see me," John recalled, "and asked me if I wanted to stay in America. I said, 'Sure, if you help me.' We agreed on a time when they'd come back to pick me

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*For Ray and Muriel Moore ...*

## Work of The Foundation Inspires Charitable Gift Annuity



**Raymond and Muriel Moore**

Enjoying the good life at Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Ray and Muriel Moore have found that funding a charitable gift annuity through The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut (MCF) is both a sound financial investment and a great way to support the programs and services of Masonicare.

The Moores funded their first charitable gift annuity (CGA) in August 2009 with a cash gift to The Foundation. With this annuity, Ray and Muriel will receive fixed payments for life (current annuity rates are listed on the chart at right) as well as a charitable deduction. In honor of their gift, the Moores have been welcomed to MCF's Cleaveland Society, which recognizes individuals and organizations that have made unrestricted donations of \$10,000 or more in a 12-month period.

"We chose to fund a gift annuity," Muriel explained, "because we think The Foundation does such a tremendous job with the money they receive."

Ray agreed. "With so many charities, the money you give is used up by advertising and other costs before it even reaches the people you want to help," he said. "But The

Foundation is much more efficient."

Indeed, MCF is very proud that it spends only 13 cents to raise a dollar (the national "cost of fundraising" benchmark for non-profit organizations is 20 cents to raise a dollar\*).

As for the financial benefits that the Moores stand to gain

as a result of their annuity, Ray noted, "It's a plus after you have already made the decision to give, but it wasn't the motivating factor."

Married for 57 years, Ray and Muriel met in Schenectady, New York where Ray was working as an electrical engineer for the General Electric Co.

The couple, who have three sons and six grandchildren, came to Ashlar Village in 2003 from a condominium in Wallingford. They each have hobbies to keep them busy: Ray can often be found working on a project in the wood shop or walking the trail around the Great Pond while Muriel likes meeting with her book group, "The Bookies." Above all, they have grown to love the sense of community shared by so many Ashlar Village residents.

"People are interested in each other," Ray said. "It feels like it did when I grew up. Back then, you visited your neighbor's house whenever you wanted to and everyone said hello to one another. When someone new moved in, you brought over a meal. Society has lost some of that, but Ashlar Village hasn't. And yet, it's still modern. We get together to

do modern things. It really is the best of both worlds."

It's a way of living enhanced, the Moores say, by dedicated staff and volunteers.

"I don't know how Masonicare gets the caliber of people that they do," Ray continued. "If you call someone with a problem here, it doesn't matter who answers the phone -- they're interested in your problem."

### **American Council on Gift Annuities: Rates Effective February 1, 2009**

#### **SINGLE LIFE**

<i>Ages</i>	<i>Rates</i>
65	5.3%
70	5.7%
75	6.3%
80	7.1%
85	8.1%
90+	9.5%

#### **TWO LIVES (JOINT AND SURVIVOR)**

<i>Ages</i>	<i>Rates</i>
65-65	4.9%
65-70	5.0%
70-70	5.2%
70-75	5.3%
80-80	6.1%
80-85	6.5%
85-85	7.0%
90-90	8.3%

If you are interested in learning more about a charitable gift annuity, please call Alison Koons, Planned Giving Associate, at 203-679-5555.

# Ashlar Lodge No. 332 Happenings

*Highlighting new Lodge's support of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut*



Danielle Thibault, Special Events Coordinator at The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, accepts a check from members of Ashlar Lodge No. 332. From left are WM Bro. Robert N. Bates; MW Bro. Gus Bodin, Past Grand Master and Senior Warden; RW Bro. Ernest W. Frattini, Junior Warden; and RW Bro. Irving M. Pease, Associate Grand Marshall and Secretary.

Established in 2008 to give the Masons of Masonicare at Ashlar Village an opportunity to congregate with “brothers of the Craft” in a convenient location, Ashlar Lodge No. 332 has, in its brief history, continued the wonderful tradition of support that The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut has experienced from Ashlar Village residents.

The Lodge’s recent contributions to The Masonic Charity Foundation, which included a generous gift to its Masonicare Annual Appeal and donation of cash proceeds from a Cabaret fundraising event, will help Masonicare continue to provide the highest quality healthcare for its residents and patients.

“We recognize the good work that The Masonic Charity Foundation is doing,” said WM Robert N. Bates, “and want that work to continue.”

With its gift to the Annual Appeal, Ashlar Lodge joined the ranks of the Masonicare Society, a giving society of caring and committed individuals and organizations that have donated \$520 or more to

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**“We recognize the good work that The Masonic Charity Foundation is doing and want that work to continue.”**

*-- WM Robert N. Bates,  
Master of Ashlar Lodge No. 332  
and resident of Ashlar Village*

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the Appeal. Funds raised through this ongoing campaign help Masonicare enhance the quality of life of its residents and patients at Masonicare Health Center, Masonicare at Newtown, and Masonicare Home Health & Hospice.

“Broadway-meets-Valentine’s Day” was the theme of The Cabaret, a fundraiser sponsored by Ashlar Lodge to benefit The Foundation. Held on February 13 in the Knapp Auditorium, this fun-filled affair featured live music by Elizabeth Anderson, RW Bro. Carl Anderson, and MW Bro. George Greytak, Past Grand Master. Proceeds totaling \$1,379.25 were donated to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut.

“The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut is very grateful for the recent generosity of Ashlar Lodge No. 332,” said Jennifer A. King, President of The Foundation, “and I am thankful to all of the Lodge members for their advocacy and support. The Lodge’s generous contribution to The Masonicare Annual Appeal, as well as their recent donation of cash proceeds from the Cabaret event are much appreciated in these challenging economic times.”

The story of how the new Lodge chose the designation No. 332 dates back to the very origins of the organization now known as Masonicare.

Traditionally, Lodge numbers are assigned in order as they are formed (Hiram No. 1, St. John’s No. 2, etc.) and the next available number was 150. But at an early Ashlar Lodge meeting, Bro. Steve McPherson, President and CEO of Masonicare, suggested “332.” This number is highly symbolic.

Following the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, Connecticut Masons contributed a railcar full of hand tools and over \$1,000 in cash to

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# The 2010 Masonicare Quality of Life Walk!

Saturday, May 15, 2010 Great River Park, East Hartford

**A**fter a one-year hiatus, the 2010 Masonicare Quality of Life Walk returns on Saturday, May 15 at Great River Park in East Hartford.

In previous years, hundreds of enthusiastic walkers and volunteers – including members of the Masonic family, Masonicare employees, Masonicare residents, and other participants from across the state – donned their walking shoes for the scenic walk along the Connecticut River, raising much-needed dollars to support Masonicare’s Quality of Life Funds at Masonicare Health Center, Masonicare at Newtown, and Masonicare Home Health & Hospice.

Some examples of Quality of Life Fund pur-

chases include replacement batteries for scooters, physical therapy machines, telemonitors, recreational equipment, and large-print books.

Walkers have a choice of three distances: half-mile, mile, or three miles.

Residents interested in participating in the Walk should contact *any* of the official Masonicare at Ashlar Village Walk Captains: **Georgia Erickson** (203-265-9599), **Alyssa Pagan** (x6015), **Irving Pease** (203-265-3889), **Jason Rieger** (x6040), and **Jonathan Whitehouse**

(x6400).

As always, we hope for good weather ... and to see you there!



## Ashlar Village Appeal Results

Chaired by resident Jack Normington, The 2009 Ashlar Village Appeal was launched by The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut in September of 2009. The goal was 100% participation from Ashlar Village residents. The final result for 2009 was 65% participation totaling \$60,755.50, a notable increase as compared to 2008 results of 58% participation and \$50,077.66 raised.

The Masonic Charity Foundation deeply appreciates the generosity of Ashlar Village residents. Gifts to The Foundation provide for the greatest needs of the residents and patients of Masonicare when no other funding source is available.

### Bequests to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut deeply appreciates all bequests. 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 all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, or \_\_\_\_\_% (percentage) of my estate, or \$\_\_\_\_\_ (sum of money) 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, at 203-679-5555.



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up. So one day, I told the officer on duty that a friend of mine on shore needed to see me. He gave me permission to leave the ship, but told me to make sure I checked with him when I returned. I haven't seen him since."

John was still getting acclimated to America when he was drafted in 1942 into the U.S. Army Air Corps. After World War II, he used the G.I. Bill to go to school for photography and later found work in the advertising business. He eventually invested in real estate and operated a series of rooming houses in the New Haven area.

Prior to moving to Ashlar Village in 2003, John shared a condominium in Branford, Connecticut with his late wife, Eleanor. Two decades earlier, he and his fellow Masons helped raise funds that were used to help expand the residential and medical care facilities on Masonicare's Wallingford campus.

"Masonicare Health Center and Ashlar Village are open to everyone," he said, "regardless of creed or color. I'm so proud of that. Masonicare has probably the best facilities there are in the country, and has for many years. They are nice and clean and there are lots of activities for those who want them."

Among the many occupations that John has held over the years was cook at a Yale fraternity house. So when a man who knows his way around the kitchen praises the dining experience at Ashlar Village, you know it's sincere.

"It took me three years to get deep sea scallops on the menu," John said with a chuckle, "but it was good. They cook good meals here."

## ***Ashlar Lodge - Continued from Page 3***

aid that city's relief effort. The national outpouring of support was so great that Chicago officials ended up with a surplus and, two years later, sent \$332 back to Connecticut. That money was used to start a fund to construct a Masonic Home in Wallingford. The facility exists today as Masonicare Health Center.

"Given our close ties to Masonicare and The Masonic Charity Foundation," said RW Bro. Irving Pease, Past Master of Ashlar Lodge and its current Secretary, "naming our lodge No. 332 just made sense. Everyone thought it was a great idea."

