



# IMPACT REPORT

# 2025



Nurturing Ideas, People, and Communities

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This year, our story is one of remembrance, resilience, and renewed purpose.

With the completion of the Memorial Garden and Scatter Garden, we have created more than a beautiful physical space—we have created a sanctuary. These gardens now stand as places of reflection, healing, and honor, thoughtfully designed to acknowledge lives well lived and bonds that endure beyond a lifetime. For residents, families, and the wider Masonic community, they offer a setting to pause, to remember, and to find peace. They remind us that philanthropy is not only about meeting needs but about honoring dignity, legacy, and love.



**KELLY THOMPSON**  
Director of Philanthropy

This meaningful milestone coincides with another profound moment: the 200th anniversary of Michigan Masonry. Two centuries ago, Michigan Masons practiced philanthropy in ways shaped by their time—neighbors caring for neighbors, Lodges responding to immediate hardship, and brethren stepping forward when no other safety nets existed. The tools were simple, but the values were unwavering: compassion, responsibility, and the belief that together, we are stronger.

Today, those same values guide us, even as philanthropy has evolved. We now have the ability to plan strategically, measure impact, and address complex needs across healthcare, aging, and quality of life. We invest not only in urgent support, but in innovative programs that enhance daily living, foster connection, and ensure that no one is forgotten. Our work has grown in scale and sophistication, yet its heart remains unchanged.

As we honor 200 years of service, we must also ask ourselves what will inspire the next 200.

The answer lies in all of us—in our willingness to look ahead with courage and imagination. It lies in recognizing that philanthropy is not static; it must grow alongside the needs of those we serve. It lies in listening deeply, partnering boldly, and ensuring that our charitable mission continues to reflect both timeless Masonic principles and the realities of a changing world.

Most importantly, our future impact will be shaped by the power of “together.” No garden is built by one hand alone. No legacy is sustained without shared commitment. When donors, volunteers, staff, residents, and Masons unite around a common purpose, the result is extraordinary.

As you read this report and reflect on the lives touched this year, I invite you to see yourself as part of this enduring story. Whether through remembrance, generosity, service, or advocacy, your role matters. Together, we honor the past, enrich the present, and lay the foundation for a future defined by compassion, dignity, and hope.

With gratitude and vision,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional yet personal style.

# LEADERSHIP

The Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation Board led by Blair Schadler

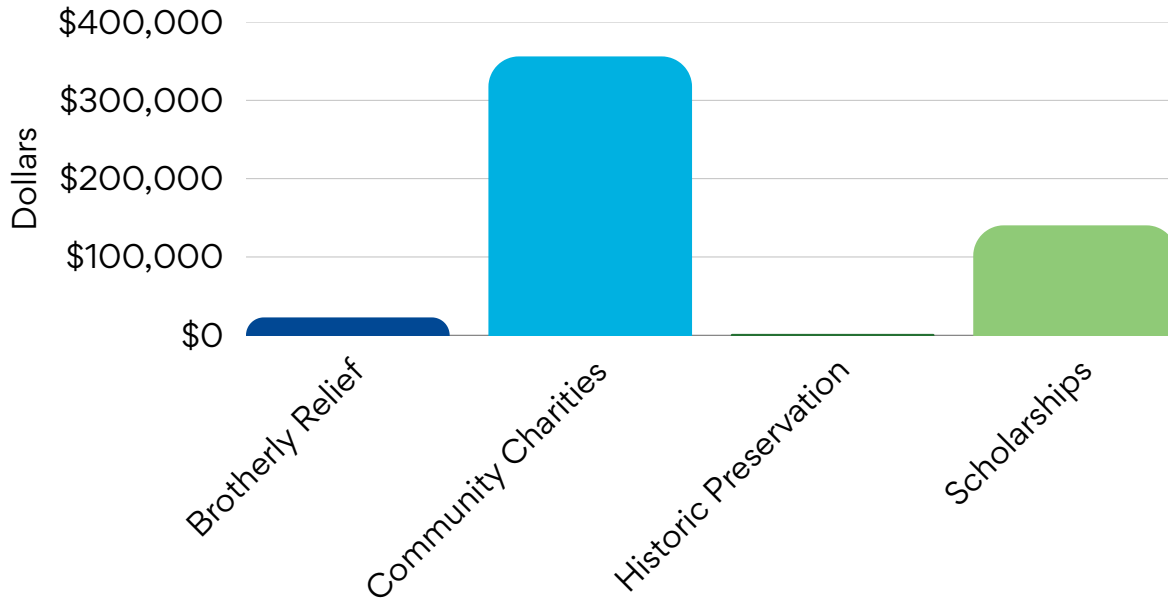
- Blair Schadler - President
- Jan Cross - Vice President
- Tom Black - Trustee
- Todd Schmitz - Trustee
- Jeff Downing - Trustee
- John Osborn - Trustee
- William Sauget - Most Worshipful Grand Master
- Mike Roberts - Deputy Grand Master
- Craig Lehrke - Senior Grand Warden
- Gary Paquet - Junior Grand Warden
- Larry Inscho - Grand Treasurer
- William Finkel - Grand Secretary



# CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

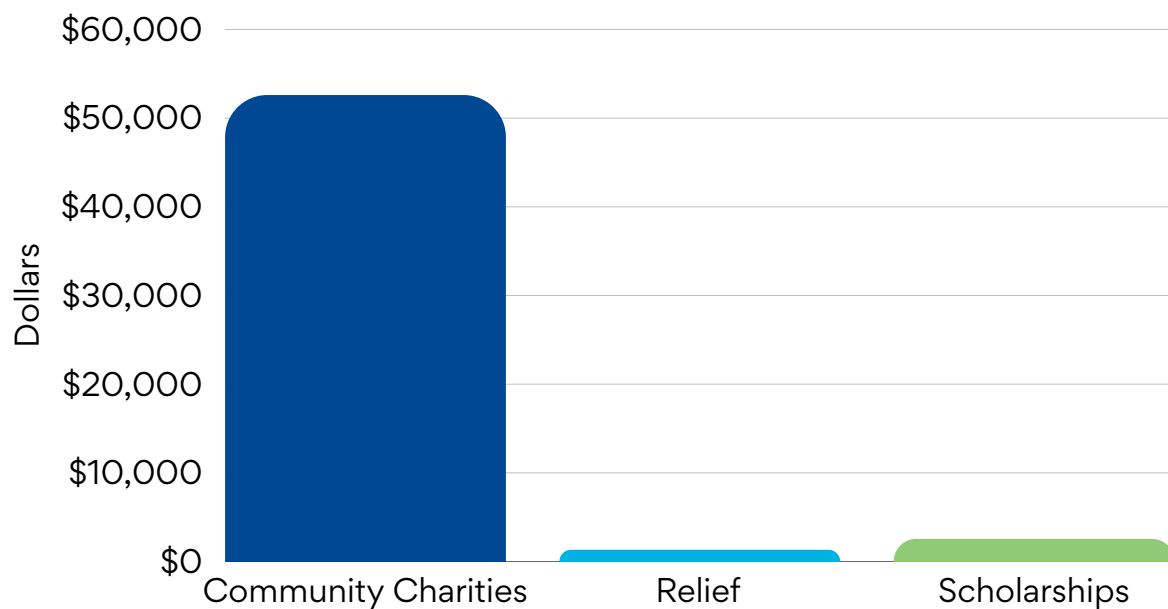
## Lodge Charity Account Usage (FY26):

- Brotherly Relief: \$22,806.22
- Community Charities: \$356,067.36
- Historic Preservation: \$1,800.00
- Scholarships: \$140,359.29



## Chapter Charity Account Usage (FY26):

- Community Charities: \$52,607.85
- Relief: \$1,327.00
- Scholarships: \$2,550.00



# PROGRAM UPDATES

Lodge & Chapter Charity Account Highlights



**96% of Lodges** and **84% of Chapters** are utilizing their **Charity Account** to make an outstanding impact in their local communities. We applaud your commitment to philanthropy and extend our gratitude to all the generous donors who make this possible.

In 2025, this exciting program contributed a total of **\$521,032.97** to the Masonic Family and communities across Michigan.

## LANSING LODGE #33



Lansing Lodge #33 made a generous donation to **Sleep in Heavenly Peace**, an organization that builds and delivers beds to children who do not have one. The Brothers of Lansing #33 have volunteered at bed builds and wanted to do even more. Their donation will help provide materials, mattresses, sheets, blankets, and pillows, giving children the comfort they deserve. Thank you, Lansing Lodge #33, for making a real difference.

## MYSTIC STAR CHAPTER #354



Mystic Star Chapter #354 supported **Teen Share**, located in Branch County. Teen Share provides safe housing for homeless teens, offering them an opportunity to live independently while continuing their education. The organization operates two homes, one for boys and one for girls, each with the capacity to house six residents. Teen Share also provides assistance and counseling.

## DELTA LODGE #195



Using their LCA, Delta Lodge #195 provided funding to the **Mid-Peninsula Schools Robotics teams**, benefiting both elementary and high school participants. This support helps equip young innovators with the tools, resources, and experiences needed to build skills in teamwork, problem-solving, and technology.

## SALINE CHAPTER #311



Saline Chapter #311 made a generous donation of 130 copies of the book *Doug the Pug and the Kindness Crew* for first-grade classrooms in the **Milan Michigan School District**. This book encourages kindness and compassion, values that resonate deeply.

## PORTAGE-BRADY LODGE #340



Portage-Brady Lodge #340 donated to the **Kalamazoo Housing Advocates**, an organization that supports vulnerable populations by preventing homelessness and helping individuals secure stable housing. They also provide counseling and ongoing support to ensure long-term success.




## PONTIAC CHAPTER #228



Chapter members visited the **Oakland University Center for Autism Outreach** (now known as the **Joanne and Ted Lindsay Foundation Autism Outreach Services**). Chapter members visited the center back in May to present their donation. They met with the manager and two employees, who introduced them to three young men benefiting from the center's services. These individuals graciously agreed to meet with the chapter and share some of their experiences.

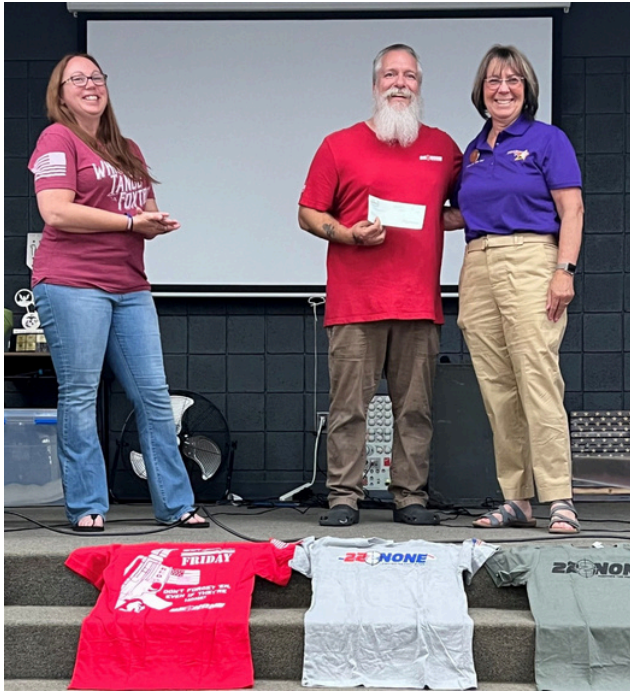


## GOLDEN ARK LODGE #595



Golden Ark Lodge #595 continues its long-standing **Boots & Coats Program**, now in its 19th year. The program provides new winter boots and coats to students at Taylor Parks Elementary School and Johnson Early Education Center. Photos were taken at both schools, including the check presentation to the program chair and recognition at a school board meeting.

## TRAVERSE BAY AREA CHAPTER #147



Traverse Bay Area Chapter #147 donated to **22-2-None**, a veterans organization dedicated to supporting veterans struggling with mental health challenges. With 22 veterans a day lost to suicide, this group raises funds through community events to provide assistance and work toward ending veteran suicide. The funds will help remodel the organization's kitchen to bring it up to code, enabling them to host meals as a fundraising effort.

## SAUGATUCK LODGE #328



Saugatuck Lodge #328, in cooperation with LCA funds, proudly donated to the **Saugatuck Public Schools Industrial Arts Program**. The contribution allowed the class to purchase a new band saw equipped with advanced safety features, creating a safer learning environment and enabling students to take on more intricate woodworking projects.



## COLEMAN CHAPTER #281

Shout-out to Coleman Chapter #281 for their generous donation to **Sanford Youth Sports** through their Chapter Charity Account. Their support helps fund community soccer and Little League teams, and their name proudly appears on banners at the ball fields. Coleman Chapter #281 has supported several youth initiatives this year, and we are grateful for their continued commitment to local children.



## CHARLEVOIX LODGE #282 & PELLSTON LODGE #440



Charlevoix Lodge #282 & Pellston Lodge #440 partnered to purchase 47 **LifeVac Choking Rescue Units** for distribution to local restaurants and EMS teams.



# OUTREACH & MEMBER CARE

**800-321-9357**

Your Masonic Resource Center  
Supports affiliated members  
and employees.

## FY 2025-2026 Year

*Because impact isn't just measured in dollars spent, it's measured in lives steadied, families supported, and futures protected.*

### By the Numbers

Individuals Served: **758**      Lodges Engaged Statewide: **189**

\* OMC served primarily Masons and widows, while expanding outreach to orphans and employees experiencing financial, housing, and caregiving challenges. Needs increasingly required coordinated, multi-step solutions rather than one-time assistance.

## Outside Relief (OSR): Stabilizing Lives in Crisis

Total Distributed: **\$54,153**      Average Support: **\$3,000 - \$4,000 per case**

\* Outside Relief provided \$54,153 in emergency assistance to members facing sudden financial crises, with support averaging \$3,000 to \$4,000 per case.

## Orphans Assistance: Investing in the Next Generation

Total Distributed:  
**\$5,300**

\* OMC saw a notable increase in the number of minor and college-aged orphans served. Support focused on education, stability, and long-term success, helping young people remain connected to opportunity during critical stages of life.





# OUTREACH & MEMBER CARE

## Child ID Program: When Every Second Matters

Events:	Children Served:	Lodges:
<b>128</b>	<b>25,652</b>	<b>76</b>

- \* A strong statewide program led by lodges, providing not only child identification kits but also critical safety information and resources directly into the hands of parents and families. Following the use of donated inventory, the program transitioned to purchased kits (~\$3 per child), sustaining continued growth.

## Member Care: Meeting Members Where They Are

- \* Members sought help for critical life needs, including housing, utilities, transportation, financial planning, and aging or caregiving support. In the second half of the year, OMC also responded to a rise in weather-related emergencies (ice storms, tornadoes, floods), ensuring timely relief during moments of crisis.

## Future Focus

- \* The future focus for Outreach & Member Care includes expanding the current Child ID program through parent education and youth safety initiatives.



# THE HEART OF BROTHERHOOD: HOW OUTREACH & MEMBER CARE CHANGES LIVES

Across Michigan, Masons and their families face moments of uncertainty, illness, loss, financial strain, or unexpected crisis. In those moments, Outreach & Member Care stands as a steady hand, offering guidance, resources, and compassion when it's needed most. The program exists for one purpose: to ensure that no Mason, widow, or family walks through hardship alone.

For one widow, that promise became real after the passing of her husband. He had always told her, *"If anything ever happens, the Masons will take care of you."* When her finances spiraled and utilities were shut off, she felt overwhelmed and isolated. Her lodge connected her with Outreach & Member Care, and together with community partners, her bills were brought current, and she was able to remain safely in her home. What could have been a crisis became a moment of reassurance—proof that her husband's words were true.

Another member's life changed overnight when chronic illness forced him to stop working. With no income and a long wait for disability benefits, he struggled to navigate a maze of applications, agencies, and mounting bills. Outreach & Member Care stepped in to help him understand his options, connect with resources, and receive Outside Relief assistance to bridge the gap until long-term stability was possible.

For a family facing job loss, first the member, then unexpectedly his spouse, the fear of losing their home became very real. Outreach & Member Care coordinated with local agencies, provided immediate financial support, and connected them with GreenPath Financial Wellness. With a plan in place, they moved from crisis to stability.

Sometimes the need is not financial, but deeply personal. After losing his wife, a member found daily life increasingly difficult. Cooking, cleaning, transportation, and home upkeep became overwhelming, and he withdrew from friends and lodge brothers. When he finally reached out, Outreach & Member Care listened and helped him build a support network, connecting him with in-home services, transportation programs, and community resources. With the right help, he regained independence and remained in the home he loved.

When disasters strike, floods, fires, or structural damage, Outreach & Member Care helps members navigate insurance challenges, secure temporary housing, access financial counseling, and coordinate next steps. Even when recovery is long, members know they are not facing it alone.

And beyond crisis response, the program strengthens communities through prevention and preparedness. The Michigan Child ID Program, supported by lodges statewide, reached more than 25,000 children last year, its highest impact yet. By giving parents the tools they need to protect their children, Masons are helping build safer, more resilient communities.

Across every story, one truth stands out: Outreach & Member Care is the living expression of Masonic values. It is compassion in action, relief made real, and brotherly love extended to families across Michigan. Whether through financial assistance, emotional support, resource navigation, or community programs, the goal remains the same: ensuring that every member and widow feels supported, valued, and never alone.

# MICHIGAN MASONIC MUSEUM & LIBRARY

It has been an exciting year for the Michigan Masonic Museum and Library (MMML). With the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Michigan in 2026, the MMML has been instrumental in preparing for such an auspicious occasion by gathering prominent artifacts and documents for photographing and reference, as well as participating in interviews and coordinating audio recording used in the new documentary and supporting book to commemorate the event. We are confident our efforts to assist the creative teams for those projects will be appreciated by the jurisdiction and the general public for years to come.



**DIRK HUGHES**  
Director

The MMML staff are still hard at work accommodating walk-in visitors at the Grand Rapids location (50% of which are non-masons interested in learning more about the fraternity) and satisfying information requests, along with giving educational presentations on-site and traveling to lodges throughout the jurisdiction, creating/posting social media to reach a wider audience, and working with other historical organizations to network and promote our proud fraternal heritage. Our “Museum On The Road” at a number of festivals around the state are well-attended by the general public and offer great opportunities to show artifacts and talk about Freemasonry to people who often have limited access to reliable information and stop by our display tent to learn more. In addition, our monthly visits to bring various artifacts to the residents of Masonic Pathways are enthusiastically appreciated and often evolve into residents sharing the stories of their own Masonic journeys.

Our director of the MMML, Dirk Hughes had the honor of being elected President of the Masonic Museum and Library Association (MLMA) this past September 2025 for a two-year term and proudly represents the MMML in leading a reputable international association that includes other well-known facilities such as the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, and Iowa Masonic Museum & Library, to name just three. The MLMA has many other institutional and individual members spread across the United States, Canada, and Australia – all working together to make the preservation, conservation, and education of our Masonic legacy more effective.

The MMML has also made progress in organizing, developing, and facilitating the Michigan Council on Research & Education (MiCORE), the Grand Lodge educational initiative designed to increase Masonic education throughout the jurisdiction by coordinating Michigan Research Lodges, making educational resources more accessible to general membership, and to guide and assist Lodge Education Officers and mentors.

The MMML has been busy, but even with all of its successes, we are continuing to explore better ways to serve the Craft through responsible custodianship, integrating traditional methods with innovation, and capitalizing on every opportunity to increase our impact to preserve and promote our fraternal legacy.

# EVENTS

## FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION DONOR APPRECIATION DINNER - ENGLISH INN - EATON RAPIDS

Each year, the Foundation hosts a Donor Appreciation Dinner at various locations across the state. This year's gathering at the English Inn in Eaton Rapids featured a wonderful meal and meaningful updates from Philanthropy Director Kelly Thompson, Director of Admissions and Business Development William Mitchell, and Director of Life Enrichment, Tarah Holliman.



## LEWIS CASS LEGACY SOCIETY GALA

The 2025 Lewis Cass Legacy Society Gala was held in September at the H Hotel in Midland. This annual celebration honors donors who have pledged a gift through their will or estate plan - whether as members of the Lewis Cass Legacy Society, as FreeWill legacy donors, or as individuals who have made an expectancy commitment. No matter how *YOU* chose to give, we were thrilled to celebrate *YOU*.



Guests heard remarks from Robert Conley, System CEO; Blair Schadler, MMCF Board President; and Kelly Thompson, Philanthropy Director. The evening featured a wonderful dinner followed by lively, laugh-filled entertainment from comedy magician **Trino**, making the night memorable for all who attended.



# EVENTS

## EMPLOYEE SUPPORT FUNDRAISER & LUNCHEON

We were honored to once again host the annual Employee Support Fundraiser & Luncheon at the Michigan Masonic Home. This event remains one of our favorite traditions, bringing our community together to support the Employee Support Fund and the dedicated staff members who give so much every day.

Thank you to everyone who joined us, contributed, and helped make the day such a success. We are grateful for the opportunity to uplift employees during times of need, and we extend congratulations to all the raffle winners who added even more excitement to the celebration.

An impressive **\$13,856.94** was raised to support employees experiencing hardships. Thank you to all who donated and participated.

## LADIES TEA

We hosted our Annual Ladies Tea in the beautiful Doig Chapel at the Michigan Masonic Home in April of 2025. This special event welcomed our cherished lady residents, OES members, and beloved Masonic widows for an afternoon filled with tea, delicious finger foods, fancy fascinators, and the lovely live music of the band *Generations*. We are incredibly appreciative of everyone who attended, and we look forward to gathering each and every year to come.



# SHELIA'S GARDEN



We celebrated the official ribbon-cutting of the new **Memorial Garden at the Michigan Masonic Home**. We were honored to welcome donors, residents, staff, and friends to share in this meaningful occasion. Tom and Shelia Huis, proud lead donors, took part in the ribbon-cutting as guests enjoyed refreshing fall beverages, delicious treats, and wonderful conversation.

Additional lead donors who deserve recognition include Donna Kushion, the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, the Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation, and the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation.

A heartfelt thank you to our generous donors, Green Side Up, General Contractors, and to everyone who helped bring this beautiful new garden to life. We look forward to seeing it enjoyed by our community for many years to come. If you haven't taken the time to meander through the garden, make sure to plan a visit.



# EMMA DEVICE

## THANK YOU TO OUR OES CHAPTERS!

We are deeply grateful to each Chapter that supported the Emma device campaign for the Ventilator Dependent Care Unit. Your generosity is helping bring this vital CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring tool into our communities—ensuring residents ventilation status can be accurately assessed and their health better protected.

The Emma device is more than just technology—it's a safeguard for those we serve. Together, we're making a measurable difference.



# ROCK GARDEN

## EVERY STONE HOLDS A STORY

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the Rock of Ages Garden has become a meaningful and creative space for our community. It is a place where residents and staff can leave hand-painted rocks and where visiting guests are invited to take a rock and leave a rock of their own. The garden encourages friendship, creativity, reflection, and connection among everyone who visits.

The garden serves as a quiet reminder that small acts of creativity can brighten someone's day and strengthen the bonds within our community.



# BINGO



Bingo is a big deal here at the Michigan Masonic Home, and our residents were thrilled with this recent Bingo haul! Thank you to the generous donors who made it possible. Your gift made an ordinary afternoon into a celebration of fun, friendship, and community

# MADE WITH LOVE

Okemos Chapter #267 does it again! These amazing ladies dropped off a huge amount of donations for our residents here at the Michigan Masonic Home. Bingo prizes, yarn, art supplies, and 24 beautiful quilts, made with love and talent! Thank you so much, Okemos Chapter #267!



# 2025 GRAND MASTER DONOR CLUB AWARDS

- Donna Kushion  
(pictured)
- Clyde & Jean Wright
- Richard Moore



## 2025 FREEWILL ESTATE PLAN DONORS

- Annajeanelle McInnis
- Chris Parfeniuk
- Kendall Tabor
- Mark & Lira Palen
- Ryan Binkley

## 2025 LODGE'S IN THE GRAND MASTER'S DONOR CLUB

### TUSCAN SOCIETY

- Alma Lodge #244
- Ashlar Lodge #91

## 2025 GRAND MASTER'S DONOR CLUB PILLAR AWARDS

### TUSCAN SOCIETY

- Bruce McCann
- Donna Kushion
- Ryan Clay

### DORIC SOCIETY

- Randall Fretz

### CORINTHIAN SOCIETY

- Thomas & Shelia Huis

## 2025 BUILDER'S CIRCLE DONOR CLUB MEMBERS

### ASHLAR CIRCLE

- Thomas Rossman

# OTHER AWARDS

**Robert Fraker** and **Donna Borders**, generous donors, proudly wear their newly presented donor club pins. Robert is sporting a Gold Craftsman Donor Club pin, while Donna wears a Silver Craftsman Donor Club pin. Thank you both for your generosity!




We're excited to celebrate **Alma Lodge #244** for achieving the Tuscan Society Award in our Giving Clubs. This recognition reflects their generosity and dedication to making a lasting impact in our communities.

We were also honored to recognize **Worshipful Master Darren Thompson** for reaching Platinum Craftsman status. His leadership shows what Masonry is all about by setting a strong example of generosity, service, and brotherly love. Congratulations to Alma Lodge #244 and WM Thompson on these well-deserved achievements!



**PGM Leonard Davis** received his Platinum Craftsman donor club pin from the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation. As a dedicated monthly donor, Leonard's contributions are directed to his Lodge's Charity Account, supporting community involvement and making a positive impact. Congratulations Leonard!





# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2026-27

## MOMENTS THAT MATTER: CARING FOR LIFE'S MOST MEANINGFUL CHAPTERS

*Moments That Matter* is a dedicated initiative created to enrich daily life for the residents of the **Michigan Masonic Home**—men and women who represent the living legacy of Michigan Masonry. This program is rooted in the understanding that quality of life is shaped not only by care, but by connection, comfort, memory, and meaningful moments.

Through *Moments That Matter*, donor generosity supports experiences that bring joy, dignity, and a sense of belonging to residents—celebrating milestones, honoring life stories, fostering personal choice, and creating moments of beauty, reflection, and human connection. These moments affirm that every resident is seen, valued, and deeply respected as part of our Masonic family.

As we celebrate 200 years of Michigan Masonry, *Moments That Matter* reflects our promise to those who built this legacy and now call the Michigan Masonic Home their own: that their lives, their stories, and their days together truly matter. Through compassionate giving, we transform ordinary moments into lasting memories—and ensure the Home remains a place not only of care, but of purpose, warmth, and heart.

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## HONORING THE HANDS THAT BUILT US: THE SWEETHEARTS INITIATIVE

As we celebrate the **200th Anniversary of Michigan Masonry**, we pause to honor not only those who stand with us today but those whose hands, hearts, and lives built the foundation we now cherish. *Honoring the Hands That Built Us* is a widow-centered initiative created especially for the Sweethearts of Michigan Masons—the women who stood beside their husbands in service, sacrifice, and steadfast support.

Many of these devoted Masons are not with us to celebrate this historic milestone, yet their legacy lives on through the love, strength, and remembrance carried by their Sweethearts. This initiative offers widows a meaningful way to honor their husbands' memories, to be seen and embraced by the Masonic family they helped build, and to know that their loved ones' contributions are neither forgotten nor diminished by time.

Through donor generosity, *Honoring the Hands That Built Us* affirms a profound truth: Michigan Masonry stands where it does today because of these men—and because of the women who walked beside them. In uplifting our Sweethearts, we ensure that this bicentennial celebration is one of gratitude, reverence, and shared legacy—honoring those who built us, even though they cannot stand among us today.



*IN LOVING MEMORY OF LEWIS CASS  
LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS*

C. Peter Grimm

Carolyn Zilch

David Florida, Sr.

Donald Crawford

Jayne Peters

Jean Dietrich

John Himmelspach

John Klumpp

Patricia Hester

Patricia Rossman

Stanley Bieker

Terry Troutt

**2025 LEGACY GIFTS**

Andrew Vander Molen Foundation

Arthur & Eleanor Distler CRUT

ASA & Evelyn H. Scarborough Trust

Carrie & Alex Reid Trust

Daniel Bargy

Elsie Taylor Frank

Estate of Horace Ruggles

Faye Myers

Harry & Marjorie Perks Fund

Joachim E. Lay Charitable Trust

John Himmelspach

John Klumpp

Pansy Lee Reeder Trust

Robert Knizdil

Rosemary Cochrane

Samson Rymer Trust

Sayer Family CRT

TE & Kittie Tuttrup Trust

Thomas Crane

William C. Frank Foundation



# FOUNDATION STAFF



**KELLY THOMPSON**  
Director of Philanthropy



**THERESA QUEZADA**  
Major Gifts Officer



**KRISTINA OSTRANDER**  
Development Officer



**AMANDA BASS**  
Operations Coordinator &  
Charity Account Coordinator



**GRANT LAFAVE**  
Digital Fundraising &  
Engagement Manager