

# ILLUSTRIOUS BROTHER, TERRY L. DeVASSIE, 33°

2013 Chairman, The Ohio Masonic Home Foundation  
Board of Trustees

As I begin my second year as Chairman of the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation, I am honored and privileged to work with nine other Illustrious Brothers and one very special lady who serve tirelessly on the Foundation Board. Their attendance and dedication to the matters of the Ohio Masonic Home have provided a road map of support in moving this fantastic organization forward. Do they do it all alone? Certainly not. There is the Ohio Masonic Home Parent Board chaired by Most Worshipful Brother Terry W. Posey and other subsidiary boards that make up the consortium oversight of the management of the Ohio Masonic Home.



Like any structure, a wall, a building or an organization, the foundation is the basis on which great accomplishments can be achieved, and without a solid foundation everything built upon it can easily crumble and fall. I find the combined Boards and the management team have forged a cooperative and collaborative foundation to guide the Ohio Masonic Home to greater heights of achievement to better serve all those who come to us in need.

In the past three years, several changes have taken place at the Home in the management team. This has provided a fresh and positive new direction of thinking in the ability of the Ohio Masonic Home to better serve our worthy brethren, their wives, widows and orphans. We are seeing new and fresh ideas come to fruition in making our fellow brethren more comfortable in aging gracefully in their homes or in our facilities close to their area that we are involved in managing or will soon do so in the years to come.

The Ohio Masonic Home now has three campuses and a state-wide home health organization: the Springfield Masonic Community campus in Springfield, Ohio; the Western Reserve Masonic Community campus in Medina, Ohio; the Browning Masonic Community campus in Waterville, Ohio; and the state-wide Cornerstone Home Health organization.



As most Masons are aware, we currently offer independent living, assisted living, long-term acute care, dementia care and skilled/non-skilled home health programming. What does this mean to you, a Mason in the State of Ohio? It means that there is an organization that will help you to “Aspire” to age where, when and as gracefully as you wish. We are finding more and more that most folks like to age where they are most comfortable, in their own home, for as long as possible.

This is our desire as well. In doing so, we have created the Masonic Aging Resource Center to assist the approximately 96,000 Masons and their families living in Ohio in obtaining products and services that will enhance their health, their independence and provide a positive aging experience in their home. There is only one number to call, toll free, 1-877-881-1623.

For those Masons outside our current Ohio Masonic Home campuses, our Resource Center can refer you to our credentialed partners of the Ohio Masonic Home, who are our Partners in Excellence.

The Ohio Masonic Home Foundation is the basis for all these services and care through our Development Directors securing donations, in addition to wills and bequests to the Home, and the skillful and prudent management of those gifts and funds, to assure there will be funds today and tomorrow, to fulfill the needs necessary for our fellow Masons, their wives, widows and orphans. It is our goal to continue to provide improved and approved methods of care which will promote independence, longevity and healthy aging in each individual’s preferred environment.

Since our first resident entered the Springfield campus in 1895, we have come a long way and served our brother Masons with dignity and love. We will continue to do that, and expect our journey will take us beyond all expectations in the future by continuing to build on our solid foundation.

In conclusion, I will end with a direct quote from our President of the Foundation, that special Lady I mentioned earlier, Mrs. Cathy Wigton, “In 2013, our focus was to care for more people at less expense. In doing so our focus is always on the fact that the Foundation is meant to last forever.”