



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Our nation witnessed a challenging 2008 with the collapse of the housing market and the crisis on Wall Street and Main Street. The Ohio Masonic Home was not immune to challenges either. We saw an unprecedented decline in our investment portfolio. But the good news is we saw donations to the Home increase from \$2.7 to \$4.3 million.

For an organization that has been around since 1890, economic uncertainty is not new to The Ohio Masonic Home. We have witnessed the Great Depression and numerous recessions; two World Wars, wars in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But during these times of struggle, we rise up to the challenge and push forward to meet the needs of our residents and clients. And 2008 was no different.

As I have written to you over the past several years, our mission is to provide quality adult healthcare in both retirement community settings and community-based services in a dignified and supportive environment in the name of Ohio Freemasonry. We do this not only for our Brother Masons and their families but also for the communities we serve. That is who we are and that is what we are known for.

As stewards of the charitable resources which have been entrusted to us by our benefactors, we are committed to enhance the lives of those we care for by striving to provide services beyond that which would otherwise be available. The theme of this year's annual report is "Answers to Questions and Solutions to Problems." As you review this report, you will read about residents and clients whose lives were helped by the care and compassion of the employees of our subsidiary organizations.

Your interest in the work we do and the support you have entrusted to us makes it possible for us to carry out our mission.

On behalf of the board of trustees, the management team and the employees of our entire organization thank you for making it possible to "answer questions and find solutions to problems" to those we serve in the name of Ohio Freemasonry.

**Most Excellent Companion Dale G. Ray, Jr.**

*Chairman of the Board of Trustees*

The Ohio Masonic Home



## CEO MESSAGE



It was a remarkable year. We ended the year better than we expected in this economy. Our services expanded, more people were served and your generosity was up significantly, all in a year that may be remembered as the start of generational change.

In difficult times, our stories still inspire. Our employees touch lives and help others by the thousands. Charity has two faces, the gathering of gifts and the provision of service to those who are distressed.

Tim Strawn, the president of The Ohio Masonic Home Benevolent Endowment Foundation, describes our success in the first face of charity, gathering the gifts.

The second face of charity is found in the relief of distress. In the Congressional Declaration of Objectives for the Older Americans Act of 1965, Congress recognized that the aged, apart from considerations of financial distress alone, are also highly susceptible to other forms of distress in that they have special needs because of their advanced years. Those needs include suitable housing; physical and mental health care; civic; cultural; and recreational activities; and an overall environment conducive to dignity and independence, all specially designed to meet the needs of the aged. This concept was reaffirmed in the IRS ruling 72-124. We are in the business of that relief.

In the following pages, you will find success stories of the improved quality of life several of our residents and clients and have experienced through our services. These are stories we hope to add many more chapters to each year.

The communities, the residents and the clients benefit from our existence. Charity is found in the fulfillment of a life well spent, or in the ear of an attentive listener.

Enjoy our journey in a difficult year. Our employees and trustees are dedicated to our mission and our vision.

**Worshipful Brother William David Bannerman**

*Chief Executive Officer*

