



NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



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September 24–25 in Winston-Salem

Grand Lodge set to open annual meeting

By Ric Carter

WINSTON-SALEM — Grand Master William L. Dill will preside as 2010 Annual Communication opens in Winston-Salem. The 223rd annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina is scheduled for September 24–25. The meeting will be at the Twin City Quarter here, the same hotel we used last year. It will be the headquarters hotel, the site of all committee meetings, and Grand Lodge business sessions. The hotel is large enough to house all delegates to the communication. Participants at previous communications held here enjoyed having everything on one site. It will be a great chance to enjoy a classic convention atmosphere, with everyone spending a couple of days in close proximity.

While every Mason in the state is invited, only the master and wardens of your lodge, or their official proxies, may vote during business sessions. They'll join the same officers of the other lodges around the state. The other voters are committeemen and officers of the Grand Lodge and its districts. Workshops and committee meetings held before the official sessions will be at the Twin City Quarter on Thursday, September 23. The Lodge Secretary's Workshop will be held there that Thursday afternoon at 2:00 P.M. and will again feature a training session on the new lodge software — MORI, Masonic Online Registry Interface.

All voting sessions will be held in the Twin City Quarter's Grand Pavilion Friday and Saturday, September 24–25. Lodge officers are asked to bring and wear their aprons for all business sessions.

Please do not mail your credentials to the



Ric Carter photo

Things are gearing up for Annual Communication.

Grand Lodge office. You must present them at the registration desk to receive ballots and other essential information. You may register at the main lobby on Thursday and outside the Grand Pavilion on Friday and Saturday mornings. In order to vote, you must have your credentials, and you must register. Again, do not return your credentials to the Grand Lodge office.

Grand Master Dill will open the first session at 10:00 A.M. on Friday morning. That's when you'll see the formal opening and welcoming of special guests. Grand Orator Thomas W. Gregory, past grand master, will make the keynote address. The rest of the morning, a number of reports will be read and others submitted for the record without reading.

Downtown Winston-Salem has lots of restaurants, so you can find a place you like for the lunch break within easy walking distance

of the hall.

A memorial service for those Masons who died in the past year will follow the call from refreshment to labor. The Grand Master's Report is next. Other reports will also be received. Some voting will take place on Friday afternoon.

Plan to spend Friday evening with friends and Brothers. There are several restaurants and night spots along the streets around the hotel to spend your evening.

Business resumes on Saturday morning at 9:00 A.M. when the last day of the session opens. That's when more proposed amendments and resolutions will be considered. An analysis of those proposals starts on page one of this issue of *The North Carolina Mason*. We will also adopt a budget for the year. We will

see MEETING, page 4

Code changes we will consider

By Ric Carter

Here we go with our annual recap of the year's proposed amendments to *The Code*. This is an effort to put the proposals in plain language and share some of the arguments commonly expressed on the amendments. The discussion is far from exhaustive, but intends to give you a better understanding of the changes offered and their possible repercussions.

A lodge cannot and should not attempt to bind its delegates to a particular vote on a particular question. Very often, the amendments are changed on the floor before voting. More often still, arguments not thought of in analysis or lodge debate arise at the meeting, bringing a different outlook to the proposal. Discuss the votes and suggest the thinking of the lodge. Your delegates should vote in the best interests of your lodge and all Masonry after hearing all discussion.

Group I

You are not allowed to use the *Official Standard of the Work (OSW)* in coaching a candidate. It is in the rules set by the Board of Custodians. Apparently so many people have challenged lecturers about the rule,

see AMENDMENTS, page 5

Fifth Annual Pig Jig continues growing tradition

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — May 22 marked the fifth year for the Masonic Carolina Pig Jig and the second year it's been held in conjunction with Got to Be NC AgFest. Raleigh 500 sponsors the Pig Jig which crowns the best Masonic barbecue in the North Carolina. This year they had their largest field of contenders ever with 28 teams from various Masonic groups from around the state. There were teams from AF & AM lodges, Prince Hall lodges, and several Masonically related organizations. There was even one team from Ohio. The team from Hiram 40 in Raleigh won this year's title of Grand Champion as well as taking the People's Choice award.

More than 3,000 tickets were sold, the most ever. Those sales, sponsorships, and profits made more than \$9,000 to be sent to the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, this year's target charity.

AgFest is a spring-time State Fair-like festival held on the State Fairgrounds. Thousands visit to enjoy the sights, tastes, and rides. Many of them are now attending to sample Masonic barbecue as well. Pig Jig ticket holders are invited to sample all the entries and cast their votes for "Peoples Choice" award. The Grand Champion is named by trained barbecue judges.

Some report that the most fun is in the hours before the food

see PIG JIG, page 4



Ric Carter photo

Demand was steady for the entire Pig Jig serving schedule.

THE BOTTOM LINE



Of your own free will and accord

By William L. Dill
Grand Master

Freemasonry is what it denotes — "Free Man," of his own free will and accord.

But someone may say that times and conditions change, and this is bound to materially affect institutions. That may be correct to a certain degree, but if the tenets of the craft are unchangeable and are strictly adhered to, there will not be any great difficulty if men are worthy and unusually well-qualified on the occasion of their initiation. If then, why not all through the Masonic journey simply because, some person who has already been admitted, has either forgotten, or never learned the lesson; that basic principles of the Masonic system are not political, financial, or even numerical. The rock bottom foundation on which the structure is built is character, and he who has lost sight of that attribute, has signally failed, not alone for himself, but for his own lodge and the fraternity at large.

We believe that, through the decades, a man had to be a good man before he became even a petitioner for the degrees. No member would take in the petition of a man unless he could vouch for his honesty and integrity, his moral character and general fitness. Today it is different. Too many are glad to accept the petition and present it to the secretary to be placed before the lodge for action regardless of his habits, character, and standing in the community.

We oftentimes hear of those who say that the Masonic institution is secret, therefore it is not tolerant. How absurd! Has it never been brought to your attention that those who usually shout the loudest for toleration are, generally speaking, the ones who would give you the least consideration when it is their turn to be tolerant? It is, however, a well-defined rule, which calls for Masonic obedience.

"Masonry asks of its members obedience to certain defined principles and well-established lines of action that are in agreement with honor, justice, and humanity; but it requires no blind allegiance to itself nor any performance of service contrary to the

individual conscience, or in conflict with the duty and responsibility of good citizenship.

"Nothing can be demanded of any member of the Craft that is in violation of those fundamental obligations; indeed, his personal independence is recognized in many ways, and all along the line of his Masonic advancement he is told that his primary duty consists in his being faithful to himself, his country and his God.

"He finds laws and principles clearly laid down, definite courses of social and moral obligations marked out and he promises an observance thereto; he promises to obey the common law, to be a loyal citizen and an honest, upright man and Mason. But that is not 'blind', unreasoning obedience, which, overthrows personal dependence and threatens the good order and welfare of the state.

"Masonry has no class or group that rules it with an iron rod; it is governed by leaders chosen by the members themselves, to serve for definite periods. Only, and when that time has expired, these temporary leaders fall back into the ranks and become workers in the quarries with the others, having only the honor of past services to their credit.

"Masonry demands obedience to those laws, edicts, and regulations not only of its own, but also demands honest obedience to the law of the state. It excludes no one from its benign influence, and does not dictate to its followers to what other orders or societies he may or may not belong.

"Masonry enforces obedience, but it is an obedience with a freer conscience, the obedience of a free man. Masonry stands for law and order; stands above all for universal truth and universal charity."

It can safely be said: that if men can see no difference in the moral standard of the members of an Institution, and those outside its gates; whether that institution be named a church or a lodge, there is time for reflection on the part of those within, and serious thought for those who would otherwise seek its portals. Their standards, in each case, to be worthy of emulation must embody sterling qualities of mind and heart, and these rarely predominate, when character is lacking. Institutions and men never

build so effectively as when they build on that basis.

So that when men learn, of their own free will, the principles of the brotherhood of man and the eternal fitness of things and respect the rights of others, they will then be free. They will enjoy the fellowship of others and whether or not they have realized their ambition, of having been enrolled somewhere in the Masonic firmament, they will still discover that Freemasonry is a veritable storehouse of information and knowledge, which can only be comprehended by continually searching, and even then, there will be something more.

Indeed there is! The greater the honors conferred, the more the obligation and responsibility increases, but does not most of it find its emphasis in the proud title of a Master Mason?

It would be of interest to consider that in receiving the degree of Master Mason you entered into a contract. It is a contract with men to be a man. You have taken upon yourself pledges and obligations, which, in the world of business, you would never think of breaking because you know it, would spell your financial ruin. No more should you think of breaking this contract for it spells your moral ruin to do so. Every contract breaker has less regard for contracts thereafter. So every deliberate breaker of a moral contract has less regard for morality thereafter. It is inevitable; you cannot afford to get into such a habit. To be sure a contract must be mutual to be binding, and the failure of one party to maintain his part of a contract may legally and morally free the other party from its conditions. But you cannot work out of this contract because some Brother Mason falls short in his duty. Your contract is not with one Mason, it is with every Mason, and it is individual with each. So even though one Brother may fall by the wayside, yet there are hundreds of others who are living up to the precepts of the institution — the terms of the contract — and to them you are irrevocably bound.

When every member honors to the fullest extent his Masonic obligations, what the Fraternity will be then, will speak so loudly, that its members will have no occasion even for the sign of an urge, much less, a query why not, to those who remark "I have never been asked to join."

See the trends

By Adrian P. Hatfield

Do you know what nation dominated the world in watchmaking in 1967? The Swiss, of course. For centuries, Swiss watchmakers were world renowned for the detail and accuracy of quality time pieces.

Do you know what nation, in less than two years, became the dominant watchmaker in the world market after 1967? Of course, it was Japan. The introduction of the electric quartz watch changed the world of timekeeping, and the Swiss saw their market share reduced in geometric proportions in less than two years.

Do you know who invented the electric quartz watch? The Swiss did. The Swiss were so firmly entrenched in the world of fine quality jewel movement watches that in 1967, at the world watch trade show, they introduced their electric quartz watch with little or no fanfare. So sure that the future of watchmaking could not possibly rest in this strange innovation, the Swiss did not even protect the patent. Seiko and Texas Instruments walked by, looked at the watch, and the rest is history.

How is it that the Swiss could not see it coming? What had been successful for them for all those years could not possibly fail them now. Why should they embrace the new technology? Sometimes we get so firmly entrenched in

the way we expect things to be, we're blinded to the possibilities of change. There are even those who resist change!

Interest in Masonry is on the rise now. It has been for several years. Along with new interest come new members. New members bring new ideas. New ideas can stimulate change and, when properly understood and implemented, preserve the "most ancient society" for generations to come.

Masonry can embrace the future without compromising the ideals of our ancient legacy. All it takes is involvement, observing, listening, and action. We need to challenge ourselves to think and act innovatively.

How? Participate in a golf tournament or a blood drive, volunteer for Meals on Wheels or some other local volunteer agency, renew contacts with other lodges or the children in Oxford or the residents of WhiteStone. The possibilities are endless, and we might just be lucky enough to hit on something that generates renewed interest in enticing older members back as well as new members to join.

All we have to do is listen, think outside the box, and act. Otherwise, we could see our "market share" disappear, just like the Swiss.

Adrian Hatfield is master of Masters 754. From *The Trowel*.

Cerneauism

Cerneauism, named after Joseph Cerneau (1763-1840), was a rival and illegitimate form of Scottish Rite Masonry that challenged both the Southern and Northern Jurisdictions of the Scottish Rite. Cerneau, a Frenchman and resident of Havana, Cuba, was a secretary of a Pennsylvania Lodge. He was appointed inspector of the 25-degree Order of the Royal Secret (Lodge of Perfection) with authority in Cuba. In 1807, he moved to New York City and affiliated with a lodge there.

In New York, he formed a Sovereign Grand Consistory of the 25° attracting many prominent members. After the Mother Supreme Council created the Northern Jurisdiction in 1813, Cerneau's Consistory put forth a Supreme Council of 33° claiming territory over the "United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies." In due course, Cerneau's Supreme

Council limited its jurisdictional claims, but in 1853 it chartered two blue lodges in New York.

Despite its many ups and downs, Cerneau's Supreme Council became a strong rival to the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The conflict between the two supreme councils spilled over into the blue lodges. Grand lodges declared the Cerneauists illegitimate and threatened expulsion of Masons continuing membership in the Cerneau Supreme Council. After a court ruling upholding the right of a grand lodge to control its membership, Cerneauism ceased to exist.

S. Brent Morris, authored *The Folger Manuscript* (published by the Masonic Book Club in 1992), which provides a detailed account of Cerneauism. This is a Southern California Research Lodge abridgement of an article appearing in the *Scottish Rite Journal*, July/August 2009.

Future of the craft

By R. S. Sagar

Editor's note: The following is the conclusion of a paper, entitled Liars Can Figure - But Figures Can't Lie, regarding the pessimistic reports of some of our statistics over the last few years.

My Paper ended originally with that short question about being simple, but a close friend thought I should discuss "whither" as well as "whence". I'm sorry; I am not Nostradamus, and I don't know the answer. If I could foretell it, I might end up as General Grand Master of the USA, which is a miserable thought for all of us!

I have given that question much reflection and read many prognostications. I think we will still receive candidates, though numbers will drop drastically but never fully die off. There will always be men seeking our moral standards. But, so long as we quibble about pennies and pointless ritual interpretations and arguments and overlook the higher meanings of our lessons, the world will not be beating a path to our door.

There's one other thing. I don't know how much negative influence the dreadful trash on the Internet will have on our future, but it could be extensive. I believe in free speech as much as any reasonable person, but enough is enough. We must guard our backs in this area; it might exert greater influence and affect us more than we have yet realized.

Let me close finally with another of my

NC Mason recognized by journalists

RALEIGH — The North Carolina Press Club awarded *The North Carolina Mason* three prizes in their 2009 Communications Contest. *The Mason* received both first and second place awards in the editorials division for specialized publications. "Is Any Moment Trivial?" was judged the best editorial in its division for 2009. *The Mason* also got a second place in editing for a specialized publication. Editor Ric Carter accepted the awards at the organization's April 24 Awards Luncheon here. He also received first and second place awards in photography divisions not associated with *The NC Mason*.

The winning editorial went on to take a national first place in the same division of the National Federation of Press Women's annual communication contest. Carter brought in a third place for a photo published in the Internet web category. Those awards will be presented in Chicago at the Federation's national convention in September.

squawks. I'm sick and tired of hearing so many say, "Let's elect so-and-so as presiding officer; he's a great ritualist." We don't need him; we're up to our you-know-what in ritualists. What we need are original thinkers and sharp administrators, not wordsmiths. Don't we?

R. S. Sagar is a member of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. From *Masonic Messenger* by way of *Southern California Research Lodge Fraternal Review*, June 2006.

Know the 2010 players

By Ric Carter

Most Masons don't think too much about Grand Lodge officers until Annual Communication rolls around. Can't tell the players without a program?

Now you'll be able to identify those guys opening and closing the meeting. Here's your program.

Starting just inside the door is Grand Tyler Johnny Surles (Zion 81) from Pollockville. He'll be assisted by assistant tylers who will be posted outside the several entrances to the meeting room to check your dues card and listen to a whispered password.

At the front of the auditorium, a lodge room will be set on and before a riser. It is of much the same form as your blue lodge, but with a station or two added. Four officers will be on the stage facing the crowd. Front and center on the stage will be Grand Master (GM) William L. Dill (St. John's 3). Dill is a retired school principal who lives in New Bern with his wife Margaret. He is secretary of New Bern's Scottish Rite bodies.

On his right will be Deputy Grand Master (DGM) Lewis R. Ledford (Statesville 27). Ledford is superintendent of North Carolina State Parks. He is the only head of State Parks to rise to that position from the job as Park Ranger. He and his wife Susan live in Raleigh.

On the left side of the stage is Grand Treasurer (GT) Clifton W. Everett Jr. (Crown Point 708). Everett, who was grand master in 1995, has been grand treasurer since 1996. Everett, a Superior Court judge, lives in Greenville with his wife Mary.

At the right on the stage is Grand Secretary (GS) T. Walton Clapp III (Mystic Tie 237) who has served in the office since 1997. Clapp resides in Raleigh with his wife Betty (a Presbyterian minister) and daughter Anh.

Seated at the back of the stage in neat rows are special guests and past grand masters. The special guests include officers from state appen-



Commander Glover, left, with Trooper Daniel at recognition.

Daniel gets state awards

By Michael Abramowitz

GREENVILLE — Trooper Beau Daniel was on patrol about 11:30 p.m. December 12 when he was dispatched to a house fire in a rural part of Tyrrell County.

He was the first to arrive at the residence, and a woman was still inside. The Highway Patrol officer gathered residents standing outside to safety as flames and smoke billowed from the home.

Tyrrell County volunteer firefighters who arrived moments later pulled the unresponsive woman out. Daniel helped perform CPR on her for 30 minutes, but the woman did not survive.

"Despite being unable to save her life, his vigilance and quick actions saved many other lives," Ruben F. Young, NC Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety, told visitors and dignitaries at the State Highway Patrol Troop A headquarters in Greenville May 12.

They were there to watch Daniel receive several awards in connection with his recent life-saving efforts, outstanding judgment and courage: the Department Commendation Award; The Secretary's Gold Circle Award; and the State Highway Patrol's Samaritan Award. Daniel is senior deacon of Perseverance 59 in Plymouth.

Patrol Commander Col. Randy Glover (a Mason in Doric 568) also saluted Daniel's bravery. "It's an honor to recognize Trooper Daniel. You've gone beyond the call of duty to provide assistance to our citizens," he told Daniel.

Daniel's acts were extraordinary, but represent what troopers do every day, even when they're

just out there patrolling the roads, Young said.

"The fact of the matter is they're out there saving lives," the secretary said.

"Here at Troop A, we have people that are really committed to the community. They see themselves not just as troopers but as citizens and they carry themselves in a way that reflects positively on the community and not just the SHP," Young said.

Daniel thanked his commanders for their recognition and told the guests that he simply did what is expected of a law enforcement officer.

"I didn't expect this award, and didn't know why I was being considered for it because the lady did pass away despite our efforts. I think any law enforcement officer would do the same," the trooper said.

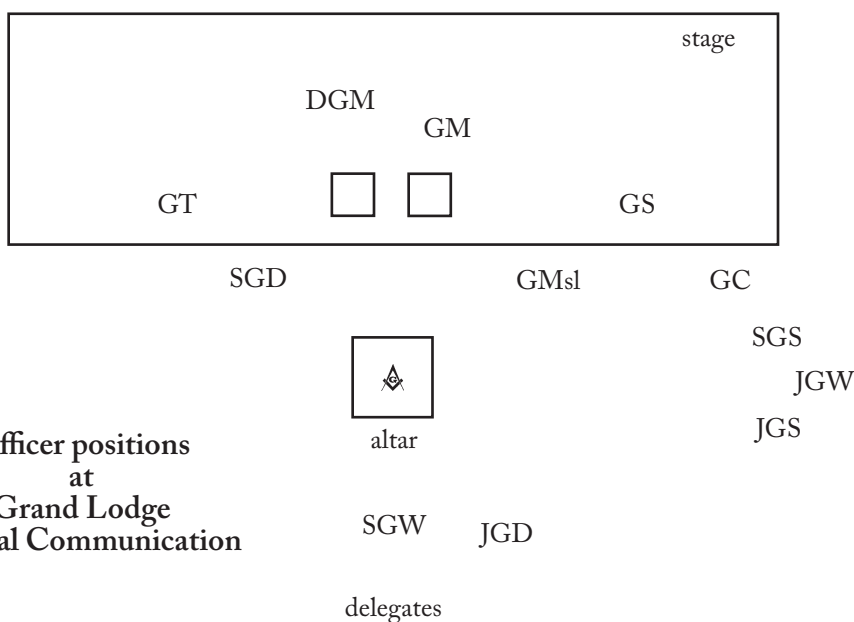
The trooper's parents, Susan and Ron Daniel of Elizabethtown, said their son's destiny seemed set at a young age.

"He always wanted to be a trooper. He collected trooper cars from all the states. His dad and I always made sure he worked hard at everything he did, even on our farm," Susan Daniel said.

"I couldn't be more proud than I am today," his father said.

Daniel's wife, Amy, was not surprised by her husband's actions. "This is an everyday thing for Beau. He's all heart," she said.

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dant bodies and officers from other grand lodges and Masonic organizations.

The rest of the officers are on the auditorium floor in front of the stage. Facing the stage, with his back to the delegates, you'll find Senior Grand Warden (SGW) Robert E. Gresham Jr. (Albemarle 703). Gresham and his wife Carolyn live in Mount Gilead. He was president of Service Distributing Company (SERVCO) before his retirement. Junior Grand Deacon (JGD) Douglas L. Caudle (Statesville 27) sits on Gresham's right. Caudle and his wife Angela live in Taylorsville. He is president of Piedmont Fiberglass.

On the south side of the floor, to the delegates' right, is Junior Grand Warden (JGW) Dewey R. Preslar Jr. (Andrew Jackson 576). Preslar and his wife Terrie live in Salisbury. He recently retired as a vice president of Food Lion and is now consulting for the state self-insurance service.

At the meeting, Preslar is flanked by the grand stewards. Senior Grand Steward A. Gene Cobb (Royal White Hart 2) is nearest the stage and Junior Grand Steward Jimmie B. Hicks Jr. (St. John's 3) is nearest the delegates. Cobb is

minister at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Sanford where he lives with his wife Brenda. Their children are grown. Hicks is a lawyer in New Bern. He has a 16-year-old son and 14-year-old daughter.

Senior Grand Deacon (SGD) Dalton W. Mayo (Hiram 98) sits before the stage in front of the grand treasurer, to the grand master's right. Mayo is retired from the faculty of Sampson Community College. He lives in Clinton.

Another officer in the Grand Lodge line we don't have in the blue lodge progression to master is grand marshal (GMsl). Grand Marshal Bryant D. Webster (Nichols-West Asheville 650) holds that chair beside Grand Chaplain (GC) Dennis R. Sheppard (Mill Creek 125). Webster is a lawyer and lives in Black Mountain with his wife (Janet) and daughter.

There, you have it — the starting line up for the 223rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. Don't get cocky, though. We'll elect new officers at the meeting. They'll be installed in November and take us all, once again, into a new year.

THE MISSION OF FREEMASONRY IN NORTH CAROLINA IS TO RAISE THE MORAL, SOCIAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND SPIRITUAL CONSCIENCE OF SOCIETY BY TEACHING THE ANCIENT AND ENDURING PHILOSOPHICAL TENETS OF BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH, WHICH ARE EXPRESSED OUTWARDLY THROUGH SERVICE TO GOD, FAMILY, COUNTRY, AND SELF UNDER THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD WITHIN THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

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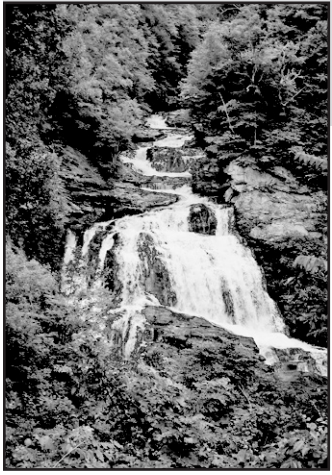
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TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter



Jacksonville

Challenges to other lodges may be forthcoming from Semper Fidelis 680. Beau Brown has built two horseshoe pits behind the lodge. Call Beau if you're game to play.

Semper Fi joined their neighbors at the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in April. They also helped out with the local Special Olympics by providing bag lunches for the kids.

Eight members of the lodge cooked more than 80 pounds of hot dogs for the event.

In other happenings at Semper Fidelis Lodge, a trip to a Kinston Indians minor league baseball game was planned for June 12, the lodge adopted two residents at WhiteStone, and they announced their September 10 barbecue fundraiser. — *Trestle Board*

Canton

Sonoma 472, Clyde 453, and Waynesville 259, all in the 40th Masonic District, fielded a float in the Canton Memorial Day parade.

Sonoma Lodge participated in the Second Annual Ted Darrell Inman Benefit on May 15. The lodge cooked barbecue and fed more than 400 in the community charity fundraiser held at Lake Logan Fire Department.

It's amazing how much lodge life centers around eating. Sonoma 472 held their Poor Man's Lunch fundraiser May 22. The menu included pinto beans, cornbread, fried potatoes, and coleslaw. The lodge's annual family picnic was set for July 17.

Sonoma 472 presented the Scotty Canter Sportsmanship Awards to Billy Mills March 7. — *Valley of the Moon*

Charlotte

John Gregory was raised on May 10 at Excelsior 261. Perhaps his first act as a Master Mason was to sign his father's petition for the degrees. Hmmm, does time knowing the candidate start with birth or first memory? — *Max Smith*

Excelsior Lodge is taking donations to replace their old sign with colored aluminum lettering. Letters cost \$75 each.

Johnny Moser was honored by Excelsior Lodge on April 12 when they held a dinner to salute his work for the lodge. He was master in 1984 and 2003. He was long-time lodge treasurer and a candidate coach for more than 20 years. At the time of the party, Excelsior had 12 candidates working with five coaches.

Excelsior's June 10 lodge social was featuring go-carts at the NASCAR Speed Zone. — *Trestle Board*

Charles M. Setzer 693 is working on a minor facelift for their building. New paint and carpet in the dining hall were first on the list. They are running workdays every Monday evening to spruce up.

Setzer Lodge's barbecue fundraiser was set for June 12. They sold chopped barbecue by the pound and several whole barbecued butts. — *Trestleboard*

Temple 676 has hosted several visitors lately. School of Graphic Arts Manager Eddie Dickerson at the Home for Children was there in April. Dickerson, who was raised at the Home for Children, shared his story of "great loss, sadness, triumph, and achievement."

Gray Dogherty and his family also visited. Gray suffers from spinal musculature atrophy. His mom, Abbie, established an organization dedicated to finding a cure for the crippling genetic disease. Temple Lodge signed on as a sponsor in the Gray's Gang Walk and Roll Fundraiser.

Grand Historian Michael Brantley visited in May and shared a program on the evolution of the Master Mason's degree. — *Temple Tales*

Plymouth

In April, members of Perseverance 59 led a Masonic field trip to Maryland. They were joined by Masons from the First and Third Masonic Districts. They visited the grand lodge and Scottish Rite Temple in Baltimore, and participated in a Master Mason Degree in Esdraelan 176 in Cardiff.

Perseverance Lodge held a pancake breakfast June 12. — *Trestleboard*

Statesville

Statesville 27 helped out with the local Relay for Life May 21-22. Members were presented several options for aiding the effort. They could buy luminaries, Masonic walking sticks were available, members could join the Masonic Marchers team, or they could help cook and sell hot dogs and lemonade at the event held at the Iredell County fairgrounds.

Statesville Lodge sponsored a Friendship Breakfast on the last Saturday in May. Members were urged to bring friends who might be interested in joining Masonry.

Statesville 27's Homecoming is set for October 19 at the lodge. — *The Joppa Informer*

Asheville

Nichols-West Asheville 650 held the Masonic Light Classic, their annual charity golf tournament, at Broadmoor Golf Links May 28. The entry fee was \$75 per player and hole sponsorships were available for \$100. Players got a box lunch and a goody bag. Jeff Bowman's team took first place. Trophies were awarded for longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt.

The lodge raised money for their building fund in February. Project number one for the fund was wall repair and new paint for the lodge room. The new color scheme is reported to be "fantastic." — *The Cornerstone*

Spencer

Spencer is an old railroad town, so when Spencer 543 Master Cecil Keith started a contingency fundraiser back in 2006, they adopted a train theme to salute donors — Engineer, \$2,000; Conductor, \$1,500; Fireman, \$1,000; and Brakeman, \$500. Donors were given ten years to complete their pledges. The fund for emergency lodge needs now stands at more than \$11,000.

Spencer Lodge's Annual Back to School Pool Party at the Masonic Home for Children will celebrate its tenth anniversary this summer. — *On the Square*



Seen from left with Garner 703's new display cabinet are Stevens, Purser, Williams, and Maxfield.

There's a new shine on history at Garner Lodge

By Ric Carter

GARNER — On one of his cross state trips, Jimmy Stevens spotted a cabinet that really struck his fancy. With its integral two columns, he thought it perfect for a lodge display case. He asked some questions and drove on. It kept working on him until he finally broke down and bought it for Garner 701. Lodge Master John Maxfield volunteered to get a team up to transport the cabinet and get it set up in lodge.

They placed the cabinet by the tyler's station in the lodge lobby. Next came the gathering of artifacts to display. They made displays listing

their members who served as district deputy grand master or lecturer and those who are life members of the lodge. There are other salutes to men who have been important to Garner Lodge's history.

Two well-known and dedicated members of the lodge, Earle Purser and Delmas Williams, stepped up to offer personal Masonic mementoes of great importance — their own Montfort Medals. The Montfort is awarded to those who have made the greatest contributions to Masonry in North Carolina.

Stedman

Stedman 730 enjoyed their spring Ladies' Night in April—no big thing, a night at Salem Pizza.

June 19 was their date for the Third Annual Jack Forbes Golf Tournament. They held it at Lakewood Country Club in Roseboro. — *The Blueprint*

Salisbury

The Rowan County Masonic Scholarship Fund has awarded 64 scholarships worth \$33,500 since its inception in 1988. This year's grants went to Jon Robertson, Luke Miller, and Lauren Brown. Robertson is headed for NC State, Miller to UNC-Chapel Hill, and Brown to UNC-Asheville.

The lobby and tyler's room at the lodge in Salisbury have a new coat of paint. The kitchen is getting a motion sensor light. — *Master's Journal*

Mount Airy

The lodges in the Masonic Temple here are holding a Bike and Hot Rod Ride August 21. — *Gary McMillian*

Hookerton

Jerusalem 95 and Radiance 132 are discussing creating a joint Third Degree team. They are hoping for an improvement in efficiency and quality of ritual.

The Hispanic church which rented Jerusalem Lodge's building for several years has left. But, the lodge reports that, "They sure left us a much nicer facility than the one they moved into." They hope they have finally beaten a chronic leaky roof. — *The Jerusalem Journal*

Kannapolis

The Masonic Center in Kannapolis had one of their air conditioners stolen in May. The entire five-ton unit was stripped, leaving only the sheet metal sides of the machine. — *Randy Crainshaw*

Ranger

Montgomery 426 had their annual picnic/open house set for May 29. They enjoy the hamburgers and hot dogs each year during Labor Day weekend. — *Derek Cheek and Jim Hyde*

Marble

The Butt Roast fundraiser at Marble Springs 439 was held Memorial Day weekend. — *Jim Hyde*

Thomasville

Dues may be going up at Thomasville 214. They were faced with going substantially into the red on their budget for the last ten years. They have proposed upping dues to \$100. They are also considering the alternative procedure for balloting on candidates.

Several members of Thomasville Lodge got service awards at their May 4 meeting. Veteran's Emblem awardees Murphy Bates, Kennard Frazier, Hubert Leonard, Reitzel Von Louya, and William Blakeley Mills were honored for being members for 50 years. — *Trestle Board*

Pilot Mountain

Four members of Pilot 493 visited Mountain Home Lodge in Stuart, Virginia on May 13. The lodge was hosting Virginia's grand master that night. — *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

Washington

Orr 104 was hosting the Third District's June 12 supper gathering. It was the second such meeting this year. — *Trestleboard*

Chapel Hill

Mosaic 762, University 408, and Mt. Olive 36 (PHA) held Operation Clean Sweep May 8. The Masons picked up trash along their adopted stretch of road along Franklin Street. — *Will Towne*

Greensboro

Partly because they share a community, Gate City 694 has an intimate relationship with WhiteStone (MESH). They make lots of effort to help out. There are frequent donations to the Home. Already this year, they have given residents there pillows, games, ladies cosmetics, and 200 rolls of Christmas wrapping supplies. They delivered an electric wheelchair donated to WhiteStone. The lodge also sends their Deconstruction Crew to help clear out the old Bass building on campus. Recently, they've removed more than 100 doors, 20 old bed parts, and more than 50 cast iron sinks. They even clean a stretch of street near WhiteStone in Greensboro's adopt-a-street program.

They don't forget the Masonic Home for Children though. They have the Arthur Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament that they held May 15 at Holly Ridge Golf Links in Archdale. Johnson was a past master of the lodge. Money earned from the tournament goes to the scholarship program at the Home for Children.

Gate City Lodge held its annual hot dog and hamburger get together June 12. Home-made ice cream was also on the summertime menu.

Lodge member Gene Godsoe's son Eugene was named PAC 10 swimmer of the year. The Stanford student won the NCAA 100-meter backstroke championship and finished second in several other events. He served as Stanford University's swim team captain. — *Trestleboard*

Winston-Salem

Old Town 751 took part in the Bikes for Books program again this year. They gave bicycles to students at Old Town, Old Richmond, Rural Hall, and Julian Gibson schools. The kids earned the bikes for reading improvement.

The Spring Pancake Fundraiser at Old Town Lodge made \$500 this year.

Newsletter editor Joseph Wages recently got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership. — *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Cliffside

June 19 was the night to celebrate Cliffside 460's centennial. The party included hamburgers, hot dogs, French fries, and homemade ice cream. Commemorative souvenirs were also handed out. — *Cliffside Lodge*

Wallace

Wallace 595's golf tournament was set for June 26. The fundraiser for the Masonic Home for Children had a \$50 per player entry fee and a sponsorship rate of \$100. — *Bulletin of Wallace Lodge*

Kenansville

St. John's 13 participated in the Duplin County Relay for Life May 21-22. The Stroud brothers (Herbert and Harvey) barbecued a pig for the event. The lodge turned the barbecue into sandwiches at the Relay. They had cakes and other goodies as well. They raised more than \$400. The Relay for Life celebrates survivorship and raises money for research and programs of the American Cancer Society.

St. John's Lodge celebrated Independence Day at their first stated communication in July. They had hot dogs and hamburgers. — *Lodge Log*

Benson

Relief 431 is collecting donations to help a brother who has had a terrible run of luck. He was undergoing a pre-op exam preparing for a spinal fusion when doctors discovered blocked arteries around his heart. He had to have bypass surgery. While recovering from that, he suffered a stroke. This required that he be on his back in the hospital. While visiting him, his wife became entangled in the cords around his room, fell, and broke her knee cap. — *Grover Dees*

Spruce Pine

Wayne Henline handcrafted a set of Masonic working tools for Vesper 554. They are made of cherry wood and in a special presentation case made of cherry with walnut inlay.

Vesper Lodge enjoyed their annual ramp supper with Bakersville 357 on April 15.

Recent programs at the lodge include Ted McEntire's presentation on Masonic leadership and our need to personify our Masonic ideals and Ron Lough's on free thinking. — *The Beacon*

see STATE, page 5

If your lodge has a newsletter for its members, make sure *The North Carolina Mason* is on your mailing list. Lodge newsletters are a major source of news for Masons around the state. If you don't have one, think about starting one. Newsletters are a good way to keep your members active, happy, and informed.

PIG JIG, from page 1

is offered to the diners. The all-night cooking is said to be an attraction in itself, and perhaps, the best reason to enter a team in the competition. Talk about fun fellowship!

"Next year," Sterling said, "We would like to sell even more tickets and open up the contest to even more of our fellow Masons from all over the country. It's huge fun and it's all for a great cause!"

For more information about the Carolina Pig Jig BBQ competition, please visit <http://www.carolinapigjig.com/> or call Mike Sterling at (919) 272-1353.

The double-crowned champion this year was the team from Hiram 40 with, from left, Page Skelton, Adam Page, Tom Imler, Tom Price, Bruce Mulheim, and Josh Lippy. Not pictured was Stephen Speight.



Ric Carter photos

You're invited

Bike and Hot Rod Ride

August 21
MOUNT AIRY — Bring your hot rod or motorcycle to the Masonic Temple here August 21. Register at 10:00 A.M. and take off at 11:00 o'clock for the ride over to Veteran's Park, returning to the lodge at 4:00. Hot dogs will be served. — Gary McMillian

Golf Tournament

August 29
CLEMMONS — Clemmons 755's annual golf tournament is coming to Salem Glen Golf and Country Club August 29. The entry fee is \$300 per team. To learn more, contact Bob Charlier at (336) 766-5133 or <rcharliers@triad.rr.com> or visit the lodge website at <www.clemmonsmasoniclodge.com>

Barn Degree

September 11
HAYESVILLE — Clay 301 is holding the 41st Masonic District's second Barn Degree September 11. They will meet in a barn, seating will be hay bales. Officers will be in bib overalls. You get the picture. Lodge is set to open at 7:00 P.M., but the hickory-smoked barbecued chicken fundraiser is starting at 4:00. For details, contact Chad Hall at (828) 389-3500 or <chadhall1@verizon.net>. — Jim Hyde

Motorcycle Ride

September 11
OXFORD — The 13th Annual Charity Ride to the Masonic Children's Home is set. As usual, motorcycle riders will depart from China Grove early. Other groups will take their own routes to Raleigh for registration, prizes, and staging the last leg of the trip to the Home. There will be a Hot Sauce Festival at the Ride culmination. For more information, call Doug Earnhart (704) 957-0346 or Jerry Edwards (704) 857-8162.

Wilkerson College Lodge

October 2
OXFORD — Orphans Lodge 761 will host the lodge at 11:00 A.M., with the program to be announced later.

December 11

GREENSBORO — The lodge will hold its annual election and installation at the Greensboro Masonic Temple. The 4:00 P.M. meeting and installation will be followed by their semi-annual dinning out meal.

Quitting expectations?

A Master Mason approached Peter Gower and said, "I am not getting from Masonry what I expected. I am thinking of quitting." Peter Gower responded, "The ash can never again be firewood." —Zenmasonry

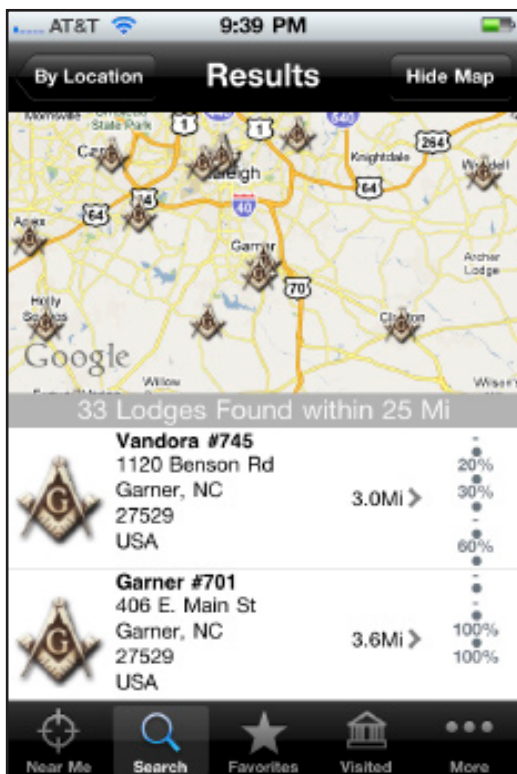
The Tarheel Mason email discussion list is a great place to discuss lodge topics as well as Masonic philosophy. You can use it to promote things happening in your lodge. To subscribe visit <http://lists.grandlodge-nc.org/mailman/listinfo/tarheel-mason> and follow the instructions.

MEETING, from page 1

elect Grand Lodge officers. Business is generally concluded around lunch time.

To reach the Twin City Quarter take the Cherry Street exit off I-40 Business and go four blocks north. The hotel is taking reservations now. Their toll-free reservation number is (800) 320-0934. Be sure to specify that you are with the Masonic Grand Lodge so you may get our special rate.

Come to Annual Communication this year for the fun of it. Bring a Masonic buddy with you. See you there!



My results when searching from home.

An app for finding lodges

By Ric Carter

Do you like to visit lodges in new places? Do you travel frequently? Have trouble finding local lodges?

There's an app for that. Masonic Traveler USA puts a national Masonic directory in your pocket, if you have an iPhone or iPod Touch in that pocket. You can type in a town or zip code you plan to visit or search by your current location. The meeting times and locations of lodges are listed. Some have contact information. Give it a location, a distance you're willing to travel, and a range of dates. It pops

Brother Franz Joseph Haydn

By Robert Eugene Juthner

It has been more than 230 years since Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) was initiated in the Viennese "elite" Lodge Zur Wahren Eintracht (True Concord). Their lodge secretary, David Heinrich Gottfried von Pilgram then recorded in the minutes of their 354th meeting as follows:

"In the year (AL) 5785, on the 11th of the second month, the petitioner Joseph Haydn, son of Mathias, was introduced, at age 51 years, born the 1st of May [actually 31st March] 1732, of the Catholic Religion, of the middle class, in Rohrau, Austria, now a Freemason, by occupation the Prince Eszterhazy's orchestra director, thus far not received in any known Order, soliciting of sincere fervour and his own accord to be received into our anciently honored knightly Freemasons Order, without having been driven by curiosity nor having been solicited, enticed or tempted by Anyone, wherefore he was, accord-

ing to the Statutes of our Honourable Order, balloted on and elected to be introduced into this St. John's Lodge, named True Concord, and has been accepted as a Freemason Knight, Apprentice and Brother."

It was during that year that Emperor Joseph II, who had been favorably inclined towards the Freemasons, in order to stem the multiplication of pseudo-Masonic lodges, decreed that the number of Masonic lodges in his realm be drastically reduced, limiting them to one lodge per provincial capital, except that the eight lodges of Vienna should combine in two lodges. This affected Haydn's Lodge Zur Wahren Eintracht which ceased labor on December 28, 1785 and amalgamated with Lodge Zur Wahrheit (Truth). In 1786 his name was erased from the membership roster. Other sources, however, indicate that Haydn, accompanied by his friend and brother Mozart, visited the Viennese Lodge Zur Neugekronen Hoffnung (Hope Recrowned) during the years 1786 to 1790. He may also have visited a lodge in Pressburg (Bratislava, Slovakia), and in 1785-86 he wrote his symphonies No. 85-87, the so-called Parisian Symphonies, for the Paris Loge Olympique de la Parfaite Estime (Olympic Lodge of Perfect Esteem).



Haydn was also a champion of the Enlightenment. His compositions were no longer "sermons," as the music of the High Baroque; they opened up a discourse with the real world, as evidenced by such compositions as the oratorios "The Creation" and "The Seasons." He composed 107 symphonies, 24 operas, 83 string quartets, 163 piano sonatas, and the hymn "God Save Franz the Emperor" which later became the national anthem of Austria and was also adopted as the German anthem. In Austria, following World War II, this was replaced by Mozart's music for "Maurergesang" ("Masons' Song") K 623a, rather ironically.

Joseph Haydn died May 31, 1809, aged 77 years.

Brother Avo Kouyoumdjian, Hayden author, says: Haydn's character, marked by honesty, humility, cheerfulness, loving kindness, humor, creative power, and world-openness, shall be our model to emulate, and it shows us those spiritual tools which help us, as Freemasons, to work indefatigably on the Temple of Humanity, which is based on wisdom, strength, and beauty.

April 2006, The Alberta Freemason

Preservation group salutes Mt. Hermon Lodge

By Ric Carter

ASHEVILLE — On May 18, the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County presented Mount Hermon 118 its Griffin Award. It is given “for stewardship in recognition of outstanding contributions to historic preservation.” The Society held the presentation, attended by more than 100 people, at the lodge. Lee Hamrick, Tyce Lewis, and J. R. Yarnall conducted tours of the building. The event included a buffet and a string quartet performance organized by Ron Lambe.

The lodge building is a landmark in Asheville’s historic downtown, a place thriving with an art, business, and tourist community. The Masonic Temple, built 1913–1915, was designed by Richard Sharp Smith, the man hired to supervise the construction of the Biltmore House. He was a Mason who remained in Asheville the rest of his life, designing several structures there, including a home for William Jennings Bryan.

Not many months ago, some were predicting the demise of the Masonic Temple in downtown Asheville. When the Scottish Rite abandoned the historic landmark in late 2009, even more predicted the closing. Instead of going into a death spiral, the members of Mount Hermon 118 stepped up their game, got more creative, and have more than replaced the lost income by bringing the community into their home.

They dove into refurbishing their surround-

ings, fixing up things that had been let slide during the period when some wanted to leave the history behind. They began telling their story to the townspeople who shared their concept of artistic community.

For income, they instituted a concert series featuring classical music and small jazz ensembles well suited for their spruced-up, spit-shined auditorium. They also made meeting areas available to rent for community groups.

The Montford Park Players are a Shakespearean theater group well-known for their outdoor performances. Mount Hermon Lodge has signed a long-term contract with the Players to become their winter home. The Players called the auditorium “a lovely gem of a performance space.” The permanent home status allows them to expand their winter season to three productions, adding what they are calling Montford on Broadway. They are even talking about creating a dinner series. All this means better visibility in the community for the lodge and serious income which will maintain their viability.

All this is about being good stewards of the gem that is their home. They are re-energizing the gymnasium/exercise room. There are even murmurings about the old bowling alley in the basement. The old white elephant is again becoming the active center of Asheville life that it was in its youth.



A Shrine/blue lodge first

HAMLET — History was made April 17 when Oasis Shrine held a Ceremonial at Hamlet 532. They made 22 new Shriners. This is the first Shrine Ceremonial ever held at a Masonic lodge in North Carolina. In the front, on left, is Sam Ballard, president of Sandhills Shrine Club and master of Hamlet Lodge. On his left is Oasis Potentate Wayne King. Six of the newly made Shriners are members of Hamlet 532, Jason Root, Jim Barbee, Bill Pate, Steve Mercer, Tim Franklin, and Bill Dennis. — Bill Dennis



Dalton Brad Garner photo

Grand master visits VA Med Center

FAYETTEVILLE — Grand Master William Dill visited the Fayetteville VA Medical Center May 19 where he was greeted by hospital staff, volunteers, and friends of the Masonic Service Association’s Hospital Visitation Program. Seen here, from left to right, are MSA Representative Claude Capps (Clifford 756), Senior Grand Deacon Dalton Mayo, Director of Volunteer Services Norma Fraser, Grand Master Dill, retired MSA Representative John Lynch (Phoenix 8), and Jim Hay (Stedman 730). The Masonic Service Association operates a program offering personal services and attention to patients in Veterans Administration centers across the country. — Dalton Mayo

AMENDMENTS, from page 1

that Custodians are suggesting adding the rule to *The Code* itself.

The Code gives Custodians authority over the allowed use of the *OSW*. Some say the lecturers need the rules put in *The Code* to enforce them. Others say it’s already there, and that *The Code* is already burdened with too many redundant regulations and needs no more.

Group 2

This change would allow a certified instructor to provide lecture service for a lodge. Certified instructors are qualified at a level below that of certified lecturers.

Group 3

Grand Lodge regulations currently forbid performing a Masonic funeral for a Mason whose is cremated if his ashes are not buried. It is one of several severe rules governing our funeral services, rules that many believe need to be brought into line with modern practices.

Group 4

Garland 664 believes the requirement that lodge line officers be proficient in, that is have passed off the catechism of, the Master Mason Degree is unreasonable. They say that it makes it difficult for them to find officers to serve their lodge. They suggest that we keep the catechism requirement for only wardens and master of our lodges. Others say that the requirement is far from onerous and indicates an ability and willingness of a Mason to serve the lodge.

Group 5

We will revisit the use of alcohol in lodge facilities. A number of urban lodges have requested that they be allowed to rent facilities to events and groups which allow alcoholic beverages. Numerous safeguards have been put in this legislation that should assure reasonably risk-free implementation. Lodges wishing to make such rentals would be required to amend their bylaws, get permission from the grand master, and meet stringent liability requirements.

When alcohol is mentioned, some imaginations jump immediately to raucous partying.

But, use in Masonic rentals actually points to other realities. One lodge has a pizza restaurant as a tenant. If their town begins allowing beer sales in restaurants as is being considered, their lodge may lose their significant rental income. Recent required rejections of rentals by lodges include wedding receptions and a church which uses actual wine in communion.

Nothing in the regulation would make any lodge make rentals they did not wish to make.

Group 6

Applications for membership in lodge have long required an investigation of the candidate. An increasingly mobile society has made those investigations more involved and less complete. Law enforcement officers are not allowed to use their systems to make checks for personal or lodge purposes. Commercial criminal background checks are available, but variable in cost and quality. This *Code* change, introduced by Stokes 32, would run all petitions and applications through a commercial service, allowing a set and reduced rate for such investigations. The cost would be added to lodge fees for applications and petitions.

Group 7

When a Mason wants to move his membership to a North Carolina lodge from outside the state, it takes some time for all the paperwork to run through the systems involved. Applications tendered near the end of the year can overlap with new dues card requirements across jurisdictions. Changes in the requirements for those time allowances should make such transfers easier and more efficient.

The exact wording and changes on the amendments is in the hands of your lodge secretary and on the Grand Lodge web site at <http://grandlodge-nc.org/pdf/Amendments%202010a-revised.pdf>.

If you have questions about any of the proposed changes to *The Code*, contact the grand secretary’s office at <grandsecretary@grandlodge-nc.org> or (919) 787-2021.

NC Mason Deadlines

Issue	Deadline	Approximate Publication Date
January/February.....	January 1	February 1
March/April	March 1	April 1
May/June	May 1	June 1
July/August.....	July 1	August 1
September/October.....	September 1	October 1
November/December.....	November 1	December 1

STATE, from page 3

South Mills

New Lebanon 314 held a Fish Fry April 24. This one was a fundraiser for the Masonic Home for Children. — *The Plumb Line*

Swansboro

Seaside 429 made Rona Bell Riggs a Life Member March 8. The lodge held its grilled chicken fundraiser May 15. — *Trestle Board*

Apex

Apex 584 celebrated their centennial June 5. A parade through downtown was planned. The lodge is raffling a shotgun to raise charity donations. — *Trestle Board*

Cherryville

Cherryville 505’s scholarship this year went to Cody Allen Spiker. It is given in honor of James Everett Ellington. The lodge held a clean-up day May 22. — *New Out of the Blue*

Southport

Pythagoras 249 held their Annual Fish Fry June 4. They made \$2,400, one plate at a time, six dollars a pop. That money went to the Masonic Home for Children. Pythagoras Lodge is holding a golf tournament September 18. — *Newsletter*

Hayesville

Clay 301 member Bob Wolfersteig passed away in June. The goateed musician gave us background music at several Annual Communications with his skills on the keyboards. — *Sonoma News*

Kenly

The 16th Masonic District is now holding quarterly meetings of their masters and secretaries. They will be discussing “issues of mutual interest.” The first meeting was scheduled for July 14 at Kenly 257. — Grover Dees

Fayetteville

Make the best of what you’ve got. Phoenix 8 is very near Fayetteville’s Festival Park. As with so many towns now, there is an emphasis on events to attract people to the town’s center. That makes the lodge a convenient parking place. There’s the Dogwood Festival, Alive at Five, the Blues and Brews Festival, and numerous other excuses to come to town. Now, you can fight something like that, or make the best of it.

Rather than worrying about all the cars using their property, Phoenix Lodge decided to turn a profit. They have volunteer crews who assemble on those dates and sell parking at the lodge. It keeps the parking orderly and minimizes property damage. It also proves a good extra income for the lodge. They made more than \$1,600 during Dogwood Festival this spring.

Phoenix Masons take full advantage of it. They enjoy each others company. They field questions from visitors, get to show off the lodge, and answer questions about the fraternity. They even use the time to coach candidates. — *Lodge Newsletter*

Raleigh

Masters 754 recently hosted a visit from their neighboring Prince Hall lodge, Wake 717. — *The Trowel*

Kernersville

They need a new roof on the lodge at Kernersville 669. They were holding a pancake supper on June 12 to help fund the work. — *The Kernersville Masonic News*

Cary

Cary 198 is well known for its regular barbecue fundraisers. Their spring barbecue raised almost \$4,000 by moving 1,500 pounds of hams and shoulders. They were headed up to Oxford June 5 for their regular cookout there.

Cary Lodge has installed a new metal roof on their lodge. — *Trestle Board*



Archers Lodge enjoys its traditional fish fry

ARCHERS LODGE — Archers 165 held their annual fish fry June 5. It is said that the event has been held at the lodge on the first Saturday in June for more than 100 years. Despite the hot summer day, the breeze was cool under the large oaks, and the fish, fixings, and home-made desserts were delicious, and the fellowship was enjoyed by all. — Bill Chancellor

LEGISLATORS, from page 8



ate include Bob Atwater, Marc Basnight, Harris Blake, Dan Blue, Andrew Brock, Harry Brown, A. B. Swindell, and Donald Vaughan. Masons in the House of Representatives include Bill Faison, Mitch Gillespie, Dewey L. Hill, David Hoyle, Dan Ingle, Darron Jackson, Johnny Love, Efton Sager, Mitchell S. Setzer, Cullie Tarlton, Douglas Yongue, and Linda Johnson (who is an Eastern Star and married to a Mason).

Senators Dan Blue and Harry Brown talk about some of the fun working on the state budget.

BENEATH THE OAKS



Getting the right focus

By Allen Hughes
Administrator
Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

I don't remember when I first heard it and don't know who to credit for saying it, but when things tend to get chaotic, and it is hard to maintain proper focus, I often recall the phrase: "When you're up to your neck in water with 'gators snapping all around you, it is hard to remember that you're there to drain the swamp."

When we have to take a different approach to get things done, we may tend to generalize rather than cite specifics, and it is easy to be misinterpreted. It is critical that we understand each other if we are to maintain a bond of trust, and I want you to feel that you can trust me to act in the best interests of the children and our Home.

Let me help Masonry's charities

- The North Carolina Masonic Foundation
○ WhiteStone (MESH)
○ The Masonic Home for Children
○ Send information about wills and bequests.
○ Please have someone contact me.

My name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ My lodge _____
In memory of (optional) _____
Address _____

To assure that your gift is properly credited to the fund of your choice, please make the check payable to that charity.

Mail to The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, PO Box 6506, Raleigh, NC 27628.

if others of you also felt I misspoke then I offer sincere apology. The Social Services system employs thousands of wonderful, caring people who work diligently, often in a thankless environment, to protect children from abuse and neglect.

My plea to the Craft is to offer struggling families an affordable alternative of help for their children in which they have more control, not to avert the system set up to protect the children. Often, children end up in neglectful situations when their parents are unemployed and focus more on finding the means to care for their family than on the care and supervision of the children.

With the continued high unemployment rates and the pessimistic outlook for new jobs, we hear reports that there are many struggling families who need help for their children. Major cuts in the state budget make it even harder for social services agencies to assist families in need.

will care for the children and work with their families, with the goal that they can be reunified when a safe family environment has been restored. It is a hard decision for parents to let their children go, even for a little while, but knowing the difference it made for me and so many other children, we should encourage struggling parents to seek help in caring for their children while they resolve their problems and get the family refocused.

Our children's home was established during one of the lowest economic periods in our nation's history when there were thousands of orphans needing safe haven. It became a reality only after much debate of who had the responsibility to care for the orphans. Occasionally, we still hear reluctance to help care for someone else's children. In 1872 the Masons of North Carolina made a commitment to help provide needy children with a home and training so they might have a better chance to succeed in life.

Please know that all your efforts, great or small, to help the children can be life-changing. If we focus on that, we can indeed make a difference. Thank you for caring.



Zion helps the Home

OXFORD — On St. John's Day, Zion 81 donated \$500 to the Masonic Home for Children. Seen here at the presentation were, from left, Brent Meadows, Bobby Meadows, Grand Master William L. Dill, Home Administrator Allen Hughes, Johnny Surles, and Billy MacIntosh. — Bobby Meadows

WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

- 1.....Charles David Baer
1.....Randall Lynn Munday
3.....Alan Ned Chapman
3.....David Alex Daniels
3.....Mark Douglas Daniels
3.....Robert Elwood Derby Jr.
3.....Billy Jack Golden
3.....William Henry Herndon
3.....Robert Michael Horner
3.....Thomas Andrew Morgan
8.....Brent Edwin Crowell
8.....Mark Danny Sands
19.....James Carl Rafferty
27.....Jack Glenn O'Neal
27.....Duane Richard Smyth
31.....Robert Timothy Aycock
31.....Martin Dewayne Ball
31.....William Arthur Clark
31.....Stephen Michael Taylor
31.....Jeff Michael Walters
32.....Ted NMN Cisine
53.....Otey Theodore Driggs
58.....Frank Elliott Etheridge
59.....Matthew Alan Noles
64.....Parker Colson Dunlap
75.....Brian Keith McPherson
75.....Roger Needham Morgan
76.....Christopher William Malloy
76.....Barry Franklin Perdew
76.....Thomas Michael Saitta
76.....Timothy Ray Sizemore
76.....Jeremy Russell Williams
83.....Abraham Stacey Polaski
83.....Charles Thomas Ritchie
84.....Michael Lee McLamb
97.....Anthony David Deel
97.....Michael Eugene Dolan
97.....Joshua Robert Sanders
106.....Ersal Overton III
109.....John Stephon Gaskill
109.....James Glenn Willis
114.....Gregory Allen Lane
114.....James Kristopher Thoman
117.....Kenneth Wayne Strickland
118.....Michael Wayne Begley
118.....Mark-Ellis Bennett
118.....Stephen Ferris Camp
118.....Carey Harnash
118.....Martin Wirth Houghtaling
118.....Eric Edward Rainey
122.....Dennis Ray Dilda
123.....Andrew Allan Dudash
126.....Steven Ray Stallings
127.....Henry Joseph Antos III
132.....Mark Allwin Donoway
134.....Randy Dean McDaniel Jr.
136.....Benjamin Stewart Hamilton
137.....Andrew Joseph Chance
138.....Danny Richard Buck
138.....Justin Thomas Freeman
138.....Cornelius Bryan Whitehurst
143.....Charlie Michael Brown
145.....Allen Paul Knopp
145.....Andrew Parker Norton
146.....William Anthony Vespasian III
149.....Jeremy William Vargo
167.....Michael Scott Fahey
167.....Seth Alexander Haymore
167.....Matthew Wayne Shelton
172.....James Ralph Riddick
191.....Thomas Scott Winslow
198.....Myndret Charles Busack III
198.....Jeffrey Arnauld Colas
198.....Douglas Reid Dorney Jr.
198.....Anthony Joseph Mercury
198.....Andrew Lee Rickett
198.....John Gregory Wallace
205.....David Clark Blake
205.....David Lloyd Whalen
214.....Chad Jason Bryant
218.....Donald Travis Bryson
218.....David Bennett Glass
218.....Damon Lawrence Williamson
230.....John Damian Whitley
230.....Michael Damien Wiegand
237.....John Mason Morrow III
237.....Jack Everette Reid
249.....Melvin Lee Watkins Jr.
253.....Jonathan Paul Goodnight
257.....Joshua Paul Gibson
261.....Jamie Dean Curlee
261.....Ian Strickland DeMallie
261.....Paul Louis Digiacomio Jr.
261.....John Michael Gregory
261.....William Nicholas Iuliano Jr.
261.....Lee Colter P. McDermott
261.....Derek Lee McKelvey
262.....Ryan Christopher Appleby
262.....Michael Wesley Jacobs
262.....Travis Brett Turner
263.....Michael Lee Agerton
263.....Max Bryan Davis
263.....Kevin Michael Lail
263.....Jason Matthew Long
263.....Mickey Charles Sanford
265.....Michael Shane Hodges
283.....Claude Darrell Dillard
289.....Stephen Carter Anderson
289.....Nicholas Lee Broome
289.....Richard Mark Miller
292.....Alan Wayne Radcliff
296.....Russell Heath Harrell
296.....Donnie Lee Moore
304.....William Michael Gray
304.....Mark McCrea Keene
304.....Daniel Elvin MCLawhorn
304.....Samuel Elton McLawhorn
306.....Matthew Aaron Hodges
306.....Tobin Anthony Johnson
306.....Paul Andrew Richie
314.....Harry Randall Anderson II
314.....Mark Allen Hurley
317.....William Jeffrey Mitchell
319.....David Michael Russ
340.....Jeffrey Roger Brogneaux
356.....Nicholas Ryan Childers
363.....John Lawrence Moore
363.....Jerry Hugh Moretz II
363.....Toby Dean Ragan
375.....James Robert Philbeck
375.....Bryon Colton White
377.....David John Force
377.....John Alden Force
377.....Ronald Casey Pearce
379.....Clint Austin Boney
379.....Richard Franklin Bryan Jr.
379.....Kimbrell Clark Williams
391.....Fred Reese Adkins
391.....Matthew Emil Fairfield
391.....Michael Frank Gardner
391.....David Sean VonHagen
395.....Jason Byerly Jeffries
395.....Eugene Ridley
397.....Frederick Ernest Ellis Loomis
405.....Charles Hubert Armentrout
405.....Jeffrey Wayne Shultz
405.....Chase Alexander Templeton
408.....Blake Austen Burklin
409.....Joseph Michiel Burgess
409.....Timothy Wayne Isley
409.....Gregory Lynn Stutts
420.....Christopher Lee Eugene Triplett
429.....Scott Alan Merritt
446.....Walter Flave Hart III
446.....Christopher Devon Liedtke
446.....Chad Lee Presley
446.....John Arthur Ward
453.....Travis Charles Williamson
454.....Richard Carrol Harris
454.....Jason Lee Stokes
459.....Justin Rahn Brown
459.....Michael Lee Brown
461.....Grant Lee Holmes
461.....William Blake Holmes
461.....Sonnie Boy McRae
461.....Ricky Marvin Rosenbalm
461.....Cameron Mitchell Schrecengost
482.....David Evan Guice
482.....Norman Benjamin Moore
482.....Richard James Wade Jr.
484.....Gino William Lamolli
484.....Newton Farragut McCurdy Jr.
492.....Timothy Brad Johnson
492.....Marcus Samuel Orr
497.....Mark Brian Forrest
498.....Robert Lee Creech
498.....Nicholas Michael Kalapos
498.....Bradley Earl White
499.....David Brandon Haskins
499.....Sean Reid McNally
499.....Eric Bruce Royster
500.....Eric Michael Wilson Boone
500.....Anthony Justin Eldreth
502.....Benjamin Scott Black
502.....Joshua Michael Schronce
502.....Jeremi David Stamey
515.....Joseph Edmond Brackett
515.....David Andrew Crow
515.....Martin Shawn Lingerfelt
515.....Jason Berlin Simonds
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532.....Richard Wesley Blake
532.....James Edward Boone Jr.
534.....Donald Gene Church
534.....Ronald James Mauney
534.....Adam Steven Whisnant
535.....Roger Ward Hellard
542.....Taylor Ryan MacPherson
543.....Kenneth Mark Bean
543.....Andrew Thomas Head III
544.....William Dolph Barton III
556.....James Edward Reagan
565.....Timothy DeWayne Reese
576.....Donald Gary Kaufman
576.....Justin Curtis Steger
584.....Roy Edwin Medlin
594.....Andrew Seth May
596.....Nicholas Wright Roberts
624.....Matthew Wayne Grissom
624.....Philip Thomas Grissom Jr.
626.....Michael Eugene Gaaney
626.....James Staphens Jordan
629.....Norman Thomas Scott II
629.....Tommy Mitchell Simmons Jr.
629.....Edward Andrew Sipes
654.....Larry Alan Hogan
656.....Jetze Gerben Bouma
656.....Marcus Dale Kindley
657.....David Ryan Morris
657.....Wilbur Todd Peeler
657.....Jason Michael Shive
657.....Matt Preston Station
663.....Timothy Glenn Buckner
663.....Thomas Aron Sammons
667.....David Vincent Alicea
667.....Jonathan Dean West Jr.
670.....Alan Fowler Jacks
670.....Chadd Allen Powell
672.....Matthew Cullin Buchanan
675.....Norman Eugene Hiatt
676.....Alfred Charles Holden
679.....David Alan Hammond
679.....Kyle Fredrick Jentink
679.....Patrick Matthew Mynes
679.....Bradley Dow Zaha
680.....Ethan James Johnston
688.....Christopher Brian Fuller
688.....Travis Lee Gilmore
690.....Walter Lind Coline
690.....Dow Blaylock Hawkins
692.....Larry Stephen Nester
694.....Myron Stanley Herron Jr.
694.....Payton Ryan Lingle
694.....William Alteria Napper Jr.
694.....Jacob Thomas Nichols
694.....William Charles Rush Jr.
695.....William Martin Glick III
699.....Matthew Frank Altamura
699.....William Taylor Browne
699.....Taylor Brooks Callicutt
701.....Thomas Elliott Gantt
702.....Charles Ray Bradford
703.....Adam Jose Torres
703.....John George Valentine
703.....Mario Francisco Zepeda Jr.
704.....Joshua Scott Wade Chandler
706.....Jose Nicolas Aispuro
706.....Robert Lee Stephenson
707.....Jason Bryan Krecklow
707.....John Jackson Shipton
712.....William Fredrick Boykin
712.....Adam Baird Thomas
722.....Kem Graymon Byrd
722.....James Edward Miller
722.....Joshua William Edward Miller
723.....William Michael Askew
723.....Christopher Alan Blackburn
724.....Stephen Nicholas Burkell
724.....James Brian Lupton
724.....Rudy Austin Riggs
725.....Samuel Allen Heath
730.....George Wallace Frazee
732.....David Randall Kennedy
732.....Christopher William Morris
732.....William Morris Jr.
732.....Todd Allen Schmaus
736.....Nathan Dale O'Maley
737.....Charles Bennett Ratliff Jr.
737.....Michael George Tsoulos
738.....Jeffrey Wayne Murphy
738.....Stephen Christian Tilson
739.....Steven Lee Wallace
746.....David Wade Cook
746.....Robert Miller McGuire Jr.
750.....Jonathan Brian Duke
750.....David Ward Mitchell
751.....Brian Christopher Boyenger
751.....Dwayne Andrew Hutchens
751.....James Thomas Matthews II
751.....Thomas Kenneth Noetzel Jr.
751.....Robert Gray Reavis
753.....Justin William Lanasa
754.....Robert Curtis Coombs
756.....Larry Jackson Trotter
757.....Shane Thomas Curtis
757.....Mark Douglas Kincaid
757.....Derek Brenden Pfaff
759.....Melvin Jesus Correa
762.....Richard Paul Lee

SENIOR MOMENTS



A mid-year report

By Mark Kolada
Administrator
WhiteStone

It doesn't seem that long ago at the start of the New Year that we were all abuzz on campus about the snow falling on the front lawn. As we make the mid-year turn into the hot summer season, 2010 is shaping up to be one of the busiest, most exciting, and successful years in recent history.

First, we continue to be very blessed at WhiteStone to have consistently high occupancy through the first six months of 2010. The key to any successful retirement community starts with maintaining high occupancy. Despite the economic recession and a less than ideal real estate market, WhiteStone has continued to maintain a high census so far this year: 97% in the Care and Wellness Center (CWC), 100% in Independent Living, and 90% in Residential Living. By September, WhiteStone will be welcoming over 12 new residents to our campus in both the Independent and Residential areas. These new residents are a strong sign that after 97 years, WhiteStone continues to be the "hot spot" to retire in North Carolina. In addition to our consistent occupancy, WhiteStone's staff continues to find ways to main-

tain expense control and be prudent with our funds. Compared to this time last year, we have improved our bottom line by over \$280,000 (and by over \$600,000 the similar period in 2008).

Our charity also continues to be very productive. Through mid-year, over \$700,000 in financial assistance was provided to over 65 individuals at WhiteStone. This assistance helped pay for the cost of room and board and medical expenses that these residents could otherwise not afford to pay on their own. In addition to support provided on campus, 14 fraternal members were loaned 15 pieces of medical equipment through WhiteStone's new program as well as 22 fraternal members received more than 21 hours of staff support through our information hotline program. Finally, thanks to Grand Master William Dills project of "adopt a resident" in 2010, over 40 residents were adopted by lodges and districts throughout the state and are now receiving cards, gifts, and money directly to help make their daily lives a little brighter.

In addition to our charitable program, WhiteStone's staff is working hard to improve the services and amenities we offer our residents. In April, a new state of the art fitness center was completed in the Care and Wellness Center and is being well utilized by residents and staff. In late May, the Bennett Building received a fresh look, with new carpet and paint in its common areas, as well as several rooms being combined to create one bedroom suites. In June, White-

Stone's main dining room began offering a full restaurant style service whereby residents order off the menu rather than "going through the line" and being served buffet style. Looking forward, by summer's end six new Independent Living houses and duplexes will be completed on campus. In early July, extensive renovation work will begin on the Linville Administration building to create an exciting new clubhouse for our residents and up-to-date office space for WhiteStone staff. By the end of the year, residents will be enjoying a new library, new game room, lounge, arts and crafts area, as well as resident store. Join us Saturday August 14 for the ground breaking ceremony of the Linville renovation at WhiteStone.

Finally, the development plans continue to make steady progress. WhiteStone has 27 apartments currently presold of the 46 available and needs only six more in the coming months in order to line up financing. If all goes according to plan, we will reach our sales goal by fall and secure financing by the end of the year for an early 2011 construction start.

As you can see, the remainder of 2010 will be an extremely busy but an exciting time in WhiteStone's ongoing commitment to progress and innovation. As always, if you have questions, concerns, or comments, please don't hesitate to give me a call at (336) 547-2992 or email me at mkolada@liveatwhitestone.org. Enjoy the rest of 2010!



J. H. Anderson Lodge holds Masonic Car Show

By R. Eric Frazee

FAYETTEVILLE — John Huske Anderson 731 hosted the 2010 Masonic Lodge Car Show here on May 22. With the help of their local Eastern Star Chapter, they provided a day of great music, good food, and family fun to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project on Ft. Bragg. The Wounded Warrior Project provides unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of severely injured service members.

They offered several raffles, including a gun raffle, and lots of activities for the kids, including face painting and a castle jumping house. Five celebrities judged the car show, Col. Johnny Johnston (Ft. Bragg), Col. Wil-

lie Cooper (Pope AFB), Superior Court Judge Jim Ammons (Cumberland County), former NWA wrestler The Barbarian (Siene Vahaili), and former NWA World Wrestling Champion "Rugged" Ronnie Garvin.

The event had several side effects besides helping a great cause. Members that normally don't attend the stated meetings came to have some fun and fellowship. Information on joining Masonry was given to curious men, and Masonic awareness was raised locally. The lodge hopes to repeat the event in the future.

R. Eric Frazee is master of John Huske Anderson 731.

Tarheel is Tennessee grand marshal

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE — Tennessee Grand Master Tom Boduch has appointed a North Carolina Mason as his grand marshal. Nathan R. James is a member of Junaluskee 145 in Franklin, NC as well as Corinthian 414 in his current home state of Tennessee. Nathan is seen here, left, with GM Boduch. They plan to visit North Carolina during Boduch's term as grand master.

MILEPOSTS



STEDMAN — On June 24, Jesse W. Hall, seated, received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership from Grand Master William L. Dill. Hall was Stedman 730's first secretary when the lodge was formed in 1964. Seen here, from left are Hall's sister-in-law Barbara Layton, his niece Sylvia Gilmore, wife Ellen, son Jesse Jr., Dill, and daughter Nina Margaret.

— Thomas Pope



SEABOARD — Several members of Seaboard 378 recently received service awards during the lodge awards banquet. Robert Gray Bowers and Henry Russel Ricks got their Veteran's Awards for 50 years membership. Fifth District Deputy Grand Master John Wood made the presentations. Seen here, from left, are Wood, Bowers, and Ricks.

— Al Wentzy



MOREHEAD CITY — At Ocean Lodge 405's May 22 Awards Banquet, Harry Hardy was honored with a special award for his 70 years as a member of the lodge. Hardy is seen here, seated, receiving the recognition from Grand Master William L. Dill. Ed Judd got his Veteran's Emblem the same night for his 50 years membership.

— Mike Pargeter



TRENTON — Joseph Ray Nobles, seated, a member of Heartland 576 in El Cajon, California, received his 50-year award from the Grand Lodge of California May 6. Grand Master William Dill is seen here presenting the award at a stated meeting of Zion 81.

— Ricky L. Hawkins



PENDELTON — Clay Martin only became a Mason in 2008. But, he jumped right in and excelled. Pendleton 418 chose him as their Mason of the Year for 2009.

— Johnny Reynolds



MOUNT HOLLY — On June 7, the 36th Masonic District hosted a visit from neighboring Prince Hall Masons. The meeting was held at Mount Holly 544.

— Allan Mann



DUNN — Palmyra 147 recently presented service awards. William Stockton "Tittle" Tart, left, received his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. He is also known as Slim, the last original Sudan Clown still active. William P. "Abe" Elmore, right, got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership. Elmore is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Greenville Shriners Children's Hospital. Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan, center, presented the awards. — W. P. Barfield



CHERRYVILLE — Several members of Horse Creek 719 received service awards when Grand Master Dill held his district meeting here earlier this year. Seen here are, from left, Paul Zeese (Diamond Jubilee 60-year award), John Hubbs (Service Award), Grand Master Dill, Bob Vance (Veteran's Emblem 50-year award), and Jim Joiner (Veteran's Emblem 50-year award).

— Marty Fischer



CULLOWHEE — When Western Carolina University students dropped by to find out about fraternities during Rush Week, one of the groups they found was the Shrine. Oasis Shrine Potentate Wayne King said, "We were absolutely thrilled to be allowed to participate. There is no more natural a fit than the world's greatest fraternity joining with other fraternal organizations to showcase our attributes, our charities, and our firm belief in the fraternal bond we get from being Masons and Shriners." The students didn't just find older men at the booth. At least two WCU students are members of Oasis Shrine and were there to talk about their appreciation of the organization. Several fraternities and sororities had Shriners back for later presentations on the Children's Hospital. — Harvey Burgess

H. C. Meador Photography photo

NC legislator/Masons thanked by the fraternity

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH—A number of members of North Carolina's legislature are Masons. Whenever the legislature is in session, our Grand Lodge and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge hold a reception for them. During this year's short session, the reception was held June 16. They were hosted in a restaurant near the legislative offices. Other governmental leaders who are Masons were also invited.

The reason for the get-together is twofold and simple. First, we thank them for their service to the citizens of North Carolina. Second, we give them the opportunity to recognize their fellow Masons in the legislature.

While they talked a little politics (after all, that is what they are doing in town), most of the conversation was much more social. They smiled and chatted. Officers from both grand lodges were there to personally say, "Thank you."

Our Grand Lodge Annual Communication was linked to meetings of the state legislature in our early history. When our Grand Lodge was formed in 1787, it was in Tarboro during the legislative session.

Our members in the North Carolina Senate see LEGISLATORS, page 5



Eastern Star Linda Johnson chats with Grand Master Billy Dill. Her husband Ronnie (a Mason) is approaching.



Senator A. B. Swindell talks with Deputy Grand Master Lew Ledford.

Bike lodge kick started

CHARLOTTE — Masonic motorcycle enthusiasts now have a North Carolina lodge which shares their interest. On June 29, Grand Master William L. Dill signed and presented a dispensation creating Knights of Solomon Lodge, UD. As may be obvious from the lodge's focus, while based officially in Charlotte, Knights of Solomon will be a travelling lodge, meeting at various locations around the state. For bikers, getting to meetings will be half the fun.

Allan Mann, of Charles M. Setzer 693, was the organizing force behind the creation of the new lodge. More than 30 Masons from all across the state were named on the dispensation to form the lodge. They include men from Charlotte, Wilmington, Hickory,

Statesville, Conover, and New Bern. Grand Master Dill is a member.

Their principle officers are Master Michael Ray Davis (Setzer 693), Senior Warden Dennis Eugene Woolery (James K. Polk 759), and Junior Warden Kendrick Greene Barnette Jr. (Setzer 693). They hope to complete all the requirements to ask for a full fledged charter at our Annual Communication in September.

The lodge is expected to be very popular and attract many bike fans. Officials anticipate that it will become several regionally based lodges as it grows over time. If you'd like to learn more about Knights of Solomon UD, contact Lodge Secretary Allan Mann at <amann@compodium.net> or (704) 617-5749.

In this issue of The NC Mason



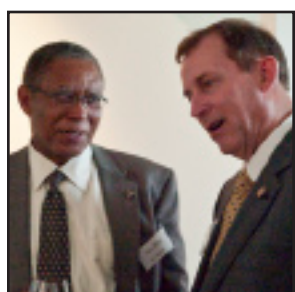
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Annual Communication is coming in September.



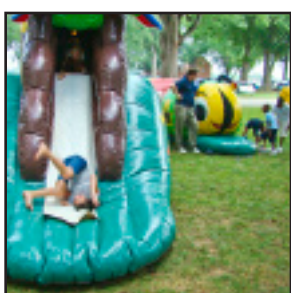
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The Masonic Pig Jig set record attendance in May.



page 8

Masons thanked their brothers in the legislature.



pages 8

The Home for Children holds St. John's Day.



Friends enjoy refreshments at the Home's chapel.

400 gather for St. John's Day

By Chris Richardson

OXFORD — Thunder echoed in the distance to signal the close of St. John's Day June 26. An estimated 400 friends visited campus that day. The Masonic Home for Children, one of five remaining Masonic children's homes in the United States, held the annual open house for the 33rd year in a row. It featured a St. John's Day service, children's activities, museum and campus tours, a picnic lunch for supporters to see for themselves the great work being done at the Home.

The day began with an early breakfast served by the staff and residents of Williams and Gray Cottages. Masons attended the quarterly stated communication of Orphans 761. Tommy and Jeanie Eller hosted their "St. John's Day Shuttle" carrying friends and family to Oxford on a comfortable charter bus ride for a second year.

Grand Master William L. Dill opened the event, and orphanage advocate Richard McKenzie addressed the 250 people in the campus chapel. Members of McKenzie's "family" from Barium Springs Children's Home to reiterate the advantages of children's homes today. He applauded the work of the Home and asked alumni to promote the Home and its successes by recognizing what it provided in their lives that benefits them today. The ceremony concluded with musical selections from resident of MHCO Jordan and Little Miss Majestic Queen Victoria VanDyke.

A barbecue and fried chicken lunch followed the program. Later, there were guided tours of the Home by the staff and residents. Alumni gathered earlier in the day for a board meeting



Richard McKenzie was the featured speaker at St. John's Day.

and met again to honor two very special members of their family name as the Cobb Center Museum and Archives officially dedicated the Allen and Pat Colenda Gallery. The Colenda name is synonymous with the Home as alumni and as important members of the staff for several decades in the Home's history. Administrator Allen Hughes and School of Graphic Arts Director Eddie Dickerson, both alumni, emphasized the importance and impact of the Colenda name and family on the history of the Home.

Chris Richardson is director of financial development and business manager of the Masonic Home for Children.

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The Carolina Masonic Pig Jig has become the largest Masonic event in the state. Thousands of citizens join the fun when Masonic barbecue cooking teams vie for the title of the best barbecue in North Carolina. Details are on page one.

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