



# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



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The night before Annual Communication starts, a quiet, empty hall awaits the opening gavel.

## 223<sup>rd</sup> Annual Communication concludes



Ric Carter photos

Dill opens Grand Lodge.

*By Ric Carter*  
WINSTON-SALEM — The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina held their 223<sup>rd</sup> Annual Communication here September 24–25. Grand Master William L. Dill presided over a quiet, cooperative communication attended by more than 1,000 voting delegates. Deputy Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford was elected to become our next grand master.

Grand Lodge officials began arriving at the headquarters hotels on Wednesday, September 22 to be present and ready for the board and committee meetings that were to begin early Thursday morning. The Committee on Finance and Board of General Purposes had their final meetings before bringing business before the membership. The Board of General Purposes voted on various nominations and appointments

of Deputy Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford. It was BGP's next to last meeting with Grand Master Dill, the last being just before Grand Lodge officer installation in December. Jurisprudence had their last conference before bringing amendments to the delegates. The Committee on Appeals met to review all actions and trials by the judge advocate in the last year and held hearings for men asking for permission to return to the fraternity after losing their membership. The Board of Custodians and Committee on Miscellaneous Publications and other committees met before the general session. There were two training sessions for lodge secretaries on Thursday teaching them more about MORI, our computer database for tracking membership information and lodge finances.

Thursday night, Grand Master Dill hosted a banquet for his guests at the Annual Communication.

The formal opening began at 10:00 a.m. on Friday morning when Grand Master Dill's twin brother Hal G. Dill called the hall to order. The opening procession was led by the United States and North Carolina flags and the banner of the Grand Lodge carried to their places by



A full hall votes on issues of the day.

■ see GRAND LODGE, page 4

## Old beacon regains luster

*By Ric Carter*

RALEIGH — There were far fewer treasurers than hoped for tucked away in a storage locker the Grand Lodge sat on for several years. Most of the interesting stuff had been pulled out years ago. There was, however, an old, five-foot tall square and compasses sign.

It is thought to be the sign that hung on the old Masonic Temple on the corner of Fayetteville and Hargett streets in downtown Raleigh. The facility was the home of several of Raleigh's lodges as well as the Grand Lodge. We left the building when we built our current headquarters on Raleigh's Glenwood Avenue in the mid-1950s.

Now, thanks to the labors of Wilmington's experienced restoration artist and Mason Don Floyd, we again have the sign on display. It joins the cornerstone from our first headquarters in the developing museum area of our Grand Lodge building.

Floyd did the restoration of the metalwork and wiring in the 100-year-old sign. He even made replacement ceramic bulb sockets for the lights. An anonymous Brother donated the gold leaf restoration.

The Grand Lodge has had three homes in its 200-plus year history, all in Raleigh. The first was two blocks west of the State Capitol at the corner of Morgan and Dawson streets, the current site of Campbell University's Law School. It served as our home from 1813 until about 1870.

The second was the building that likely held this sign. We moved into the seven-story temple near the end of the

first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was the first reinforced concrete skyscraper built in North Carolina. That building still stands and

■ see SIGN, page 4



Don Floyd, above, is seen at work on the old sign. At right, is the sign's new outpost in the Grand Lodge museum area.



### THE BOTTOM LINE



## Living Masonry or not?

*By William L. Dill  
Grand Master*

Of all the humanly ordained institutions, none compare in beauty, nobility, strength, and endurance with the valiant, magnanimous order of Freemasonry.

There is no accepted record of the date when the order was instituted, and it may be well for us to be content with simply saying of it — in the beginning was Masonry.

It is ancient, and it is accepted. It is old because it is noble, and it is old because it is old. The older member, who has not much future to dwell among us, delights often in the past; while the youngest member, who has little past to reminisce, delights in imagining the bright opportunities the future holds. But men, freeborn, of lawful age, acting in the present, dealing with the burning questions of the moment, this glorious heritage of our fathers, which has so grandly withstood the onslaughts of ignorance and the ravages of time: are we doing everything to keep its luster bright? Are we raising or lowering the standard of proficiency established by our stalwart predecessors? Is it considered now to be as much of an honor to belong to a Masonic lodge as it was in the times past? Is it amiss to inquire whether the excellent tenets of our institution are maintained as unsullied and transmitted as unimpaired as in former times? Is there as much time devoted

to the study of its underlying and enduring principles as there should be? Is this institution, which has so gloriously withstood the ravages of time, in danger of suffering from the lack of time, on the part of its members to devote to it? Is there any danger of our becoming so absorbed in the service of domineering money and of tyrannical business that we will not have the allotted time for the service of God and a distressed worthy brother?

How many of us divide our time in accordance with its teachings? I have some idea of what the service of a distressed brother is. It consists, in part at least, in ministering to his wants. But, this service of God, which is something additional and distinct, what is it? What does it consist of in Masonry? Can it be simply a meaningless ritual, or is it intended to be put in practice Masonically? This has never been explained. This instance is noted simply as tending to establish the claim that, in this grand jurisdiction and elsewhere, the transactions of the lodge have a tendency to become simply monetary in the receiving of fees and the paying of dues and bills, and monotonously ritualistic in the conferring of degrees. The consequence is reluctance to attend the meetings unless some particular friend is receiving his degrees, or some new officer is filling his place for the first time, and a tendency to become non-affiliates. The candidate, when he has learned the catechism of the three degrees, supposes that he has learned all there is of Masonry as he sees no systematic effort at further research or instruction, counts the cost, feels disappointed, and is apt to place

our glorious institution on a level with the other mercenary, beneficial fraternities which he has joined, whose rituals also contain moral and religious teaching. Surely, if a candidate is duly and truly prepared for each and all of the three degrees, and is properly conducted from station to station, at which preside officers duly and truly prepared in their hearts to receive him, he cannot but be deeply impressed with the grandeur and magnificence of our beloved order.

The great danger is that the ritual learned by rote memorization will be delivered by rote, and will not be felt by the candidate any more than it is felt by the coach. When we take a man's money and do not do our very best to impress upon him the sublimity of the great principles of our order, and at each step of his journey endeavor to burn into his soul, heated with continuing brotherly love and affection, the beautiful veiled moral teachings of our order, we have not given him value received. The impressions that he may have received will vanish as the shadow of a fleeting cloud. So our impressive ceremonies, gone through in a cold and matter-of-fact way, will have but a vanishing effect; but burn our inspiring lessons into the receptive and inhabiting candidate, in the white heat of enthusiasm, solicitude, and brotherly love, exemplified in noble words and noble actions, and the impression will be upon that soul when it at last appears before the great white throne.

■ see BOTTOM LINE, page 2

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Orr 104's dining hall served as a storm shelter during Nicole's rains.

## Lodges are a place of quiet in a storm

Let's hear it for the Brothers at Orr 104 in Washington. When Tropical Storm/Depression Nicole slowly slogged through Eastern North Carolina in late September, she didn't provide the usual storm and drang associated with nature's nastiest slaps at our coastal communities. But, her slow stroll dropped nearly 20 inches of rain on Beaufort County causing much highway and some home flooding.

The Red Cross, of course, lept into action to provide shelter for a relatively small number of displaced people. There was not sufficient need to open an entire school gymnasium with its associated cost overhead and inconvenience to school schedules. What they needed was a smaller, open, easily maintained hall.

The perfect answer? A lodge dining hall.

A few phone calls found the necessary people to get the lodge offered and opened. Fewer than a dozen people had to spend the night, but to them, the place was a God-send. It was a clean, dry haven when fetid floods invaded their homes.

All the lodge had to do was open the door, turn on the power, and supply one lodge member to be present. The Masons worked shifts during which they had only to represent the interest of the lodge.

This is a perfect example of how lodges across our state can reach out to their communities. It is a simple thing, without risk, to make facilities available in case of emergency. Develop your

lodge's emergency plan now. As a lodge, make your decision NOW to help.

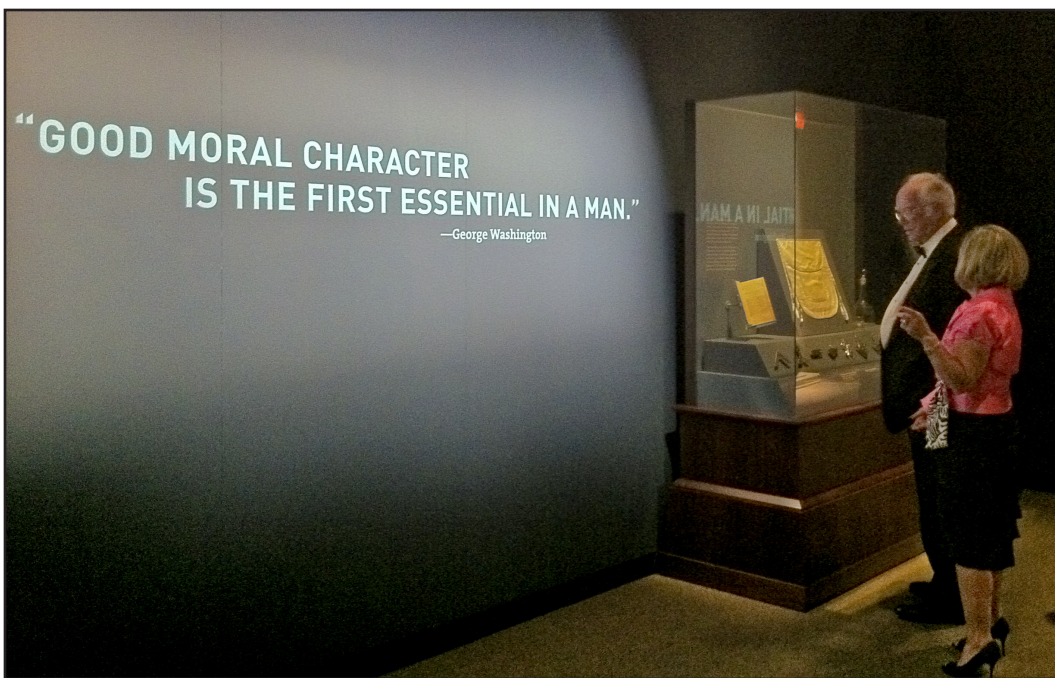
When your lodge says, "Of course we would help," contact your local Emergency Management office (call your county government offices to find out how). Tell them you are there to help if they need you, and give them contact numbers for getting the lodge opened without delay should need arise.

It's not just the people finding shelter in your lodge who will see your generosity and civic mindedness. It's local leaders and law enforcement officers and public health and Red Cross professionals and volunteers. And you may even get a chance to see for yourself that lodges can make a difference for their neighbors.

### Corrections

In our last issue, we mistakenly credited one lodge with sponsorship of the Arthur Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament. It is, in fact, supported by the lodges of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Masonic District and is its own charitable corporation.

Also in our last issue, it was said that the April 17 Shrine Ceremonial in Hamlet was the first in a blue lodge in North Carolina. Sudan Recorder Benny Smith reports that Sudan Shrine performed a shortened ceremony in conjunction with the York Rite at the Fayetteville Masonic Temple in 1993.



Museum patrons study Masonic artifacts.

## Washington launches new Southern Tour

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — George Washington stars this winter at the North Carolina Museum of History. They are hosting the special traveling exhibit "Discover the Real George Washington, New Views from Mount Vernon." This is a wonderful opportunity to see some of the most exceptional artifacts of our first president, Brother George Washington.

The showing features many of Washington's personal effects, including his only surviving full set of dentures (no they're not wooden), his surveying tools, his family Bible, and many other remembrances of his life. Special forensic studies were done to produce several life-size figures of important phases of his life. Washington's most famous portrait, Gilbert Stuart's rendering, is there in the original.

There is a special section dedicated to his Masonic life. In another area, Washington's connection with North Carolina is emphasized, including his tour route and the story of his ownership and surveying of a portion of the Great Dismal Swamp. There are many special programs related to the exhibit being presented throughout the four-month run.

The exhibit was developed in cooperation with Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens. "Although over a million people come to walk in Washington's footsteps at Mount Vernon each year, we know that not everyone will have a chance to visit his home," said Jim Rees, president of Mount Vernon. "We wanted to bring the fascinating story of Washington's life to people around the country by showing a wide variety of compelling personal belongings and some intriguing elements from our new Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center." The show is currently booked to run at several sites around the country through May 2013.

The show opened in September and runs until January 21, 2011. The admission fee for the show is ten dollars, but there are various reduced rates available. Visit the Museum's website for details of the run: <<http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/Washington/index.html>>.

Don't miss this opportunity to be closer to your most famous Brother Mason and the father of our country. You will not be disappointed. Our Grand Lodge is one of several sponsors of the show.



Figures of President Washington's swearing in ceremony.



## A letter from a serviceman

IRAQ— We recently received this message and a photo from one of our Brothers serving overseas.

WB Ric Carter

Pictured is Senior Master Sergeant Randy Benoy (Lowell 590). I am in the North Carolina Air National Guard and currently deployed to Iraq. My wife mailed me a "goodie" box and inside the box, as you can see, was my copy of the May/June 2010 *The Mason*. It is good to be able to receive a little North Carolina news so far from home.

I would like to send a big thank you to all of the brethren at home for all of their thoughts and prayers. I am scheduled to rotate back home soon. God bless and keep all of our troops safe.

Fraternally  
SMSgt Randy Benoy  
Past Master Lowell 590

Benoy helps us remember to remind you that if you are sent overseas in our military, let us know your new mailing address. We will be happy to make sure your *North Carolina Mason* follows you there.

## Wardens and coaches, improve your skills

"Take control of your own Masonic development!" advertises the Boot Camp presented by the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education and Wilkerson College. It's continuing education in Freemasonry. Last year's training for senior wardens was very popular. They return this year to help those who will serve as master in 2011.

Three sessions will be held this year: October 31 in New Bern's Scottish Rite Temple, November 7 at the Greensboro Masonic Temple, and November 14 at the Asheville Masonic Temple. The schools will run from 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. on those Saturdays. Each will feature the same faculty who will help you develop an ef-

fective plan for your lodge and tell you how to stay on that plan. It's free, and reservations are NOT necessary. You do not have to be a graduate of Wilkerson College, and it's open to all senior wardens.

Want to be a catechism coach, or improve your coaching skills? The Board of Custodians is trotting out help for you this year. They'll cover common mistakes, and definitions, and give you tips to improve your coaching skills. The 9:00 A.M.—NOON sessions will be held at the Charlotte Scottish Rite Temple November 6, Wilmington Scottish Rite Temple November 13, and the Asheville Masonic Temple November 20.

It's free. Come dressed casually.

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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Grand Master  
William L. Dill  
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Ric Carter

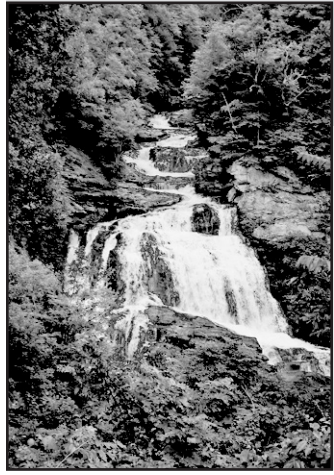
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# TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



## NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter



### Thomasville

Everybody's Day in Thomasville is one of the oldest street festivals in North Carolina. Thomasville 214 was manning a tent at the September 25 event.

The lodge had several summer outings this year. They had a late Independence Day celebration when they had a cookout before their July 6 meeting. They also had another visit to see the Hi Toms minor league baseball game. The July 28 game raised money for WhiteStone and gave the lodge a chance to be seen by the community.

— *Trestle Board*

### Hookerton

The July 20 work day at Jerusalem 95 saw lots of chores accomplished. They replaced the back door and the small air conditioner. They installed a new ceiling fan and did some other minor repairs. He had lots of helpers, but the key was having Charles Chapman there. He's an accomplished carpenter.

— *The Jerusalem Journal*

### Hickory

The Annual Family Day at Hickory Masonic Center was set for August 14. Hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream, games, and activities for kids were on the program.

The guys at Hickory 343 are looking at taking a group trip to Scream Time Zip Line Tours. The trip will feature a zip line ride of more than 2,000 feet through the Blue Ridge Mountains.

— *Hickory Lodge*

### Pilot Mountain

Pilot 493 and King 722 volunteers helped serve more than 500 hot dogs during National Police Night Out. Dickie Crump hosted it at his famous Sandwich Shop.

Pilot Lodge Masons also served hot dogs for the local library Summer Time Reading Time.

Their Dinner for Widows of Masons was set for August 12. They were traveling over to 13 Bones restaurant in Mount Airy for steaks.

The guys at Pilot recently enjoyed a program on vexillology, the study of flags as taught by J. T. Shelton, Jim Nicholson, and Don Isaacs. They learned about proper usages and procedures for our national flag. They got a demonstration on the proper method of ceremonial folding of the flag at military funerals.

— *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

### Charlotte

Temple 676 Junior Steward Josh Rimany participated in a bicycle ride June 5 to raise money for the fight against leukemia. The 100+ mile ride was held in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. Rimany raised more than \$5,000.

— *Trestle Board*

Steele Creek 737 raised more than \$6,000 with their recent Fish Fry and Car Show. They divided the money among four charities.

Steele Creek Lodge elected Ray Smith to life membership in May.

— *Trestleboard*

Excelsior 261 ran a ritual review class every Monday night in July. David Carricker was helping men prepare for the Class B Certified Lecturer Exam.

— *Trestle Board*

Charles M. Setzer 693 is having a School Tools Drive again this year. They were collecting back-to-school items for kids at the Masonic Home for Children. They were urging donation of mechanical pencils, binders, calculators, felt-tip pens, highlighters, and flash drives.

Renovations in the dining room at Setzer Lodge are pretty much complete now. They've got new paint and new carpet. They've added accent tile at the entrance, the kitchen counter, and the drink corner thanks to Entered Apprentice Jack Stallings' skilled tile work. J.J. Yates donated six round tables for the room.

On the food front, they were planning a hamburger and hot dog cookout at their July meeting. Their spring barbecue brought in \$1,200 for charity. The fall fundraiser is set for October 16.

— *Charles M. Setzer Lodge*

### Wilson

Wilson 712 again presented four \$1,000 college scholarships this year. Three went to college bound high school students and one to a student at Wilson Community College. The grants are financed by the lodge's annual golf tournament and honor Bruce Boyette, the lodge's founding master.

Wilson Lodge has a spaghetti supper fundraiser scheduled for November 5.

— *Bill Nichols*

### Kenansville

St. John's 13 had their annual picnic set for September 2. They have it at Maxwell Mill every year. The lodge provides chicken-and-pastry and attendees bring a covered dish each.

Longtime lodge secretary Snodie Wilson was to get his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership at the picnic.

— *Lodge Log*

### Jacksonville

As of early September, preliminary sales for Semper Fidelis 680's barbecue fundraiser had already topped \$2,000. The event was scheduled for September 10.

Lafayette 83 hosted a scholarship visit with Semper Fi Lodge recently. They raised \$1,200.

— *Trestle Board*

### Wilmington

St. John's 1 is replacing the fire extinguisher system in their kitchen. The chemical used in the previous system is no longer maintained, so replacement is the only option to closing to kitchen. They are taking collections for the job.

— *St. John's Lodge*

### Salisbury

A contingent of kids from the Masonic Home for Children visited here July 29. They were entertained by Andrew Jackson 576 at Dan Nicholas Park. Grilling hot dogs was featured.

Motion sensor controlled lights have been installed at the Masonic center here.

— *Master's Journal*

### Statesville

Statesville 27 joined Mooresville 496 to host an information booth at Mooresville's Independence Day celebration.

Statesville Lodge's quarterly friendship breakfast was set for July 31.

— *The Joppa Informer*



## 35<sup>th</sup> District hosts picnic

By Rodney Paulson

KINGS MOUNTAIN — More than 125 Masons and family members gathered at Patriot Park here May 29 for a district picnic. Fairview 339 hosted the lodges in the 35<sup>th</sup> Masonic District including Grover 375, Cleveland 202, Boiling Springs 388, Shelby 744, Casar 579, Camp Call 534, Fallston 356, and Lawndale 486.

Festivities began with a chili cook off judged by Kings Mountain Mayor Brother Rick Moore, Kings Mountain Special Events Coordinator Ellis Noell, and Gaston Gazette Food Critic Cathey Noell. Donnie Morgan from Shelby 744 claimed the Best Chili title. The championship plaque, made by Darryl Blanton, will hang in Shelby 744 until a new winner is declared next year.

The children enjoyed a day of fun in the sun and cooling off in the water. Some played on the

10-foot high water slide, others enjoyed the water park at Patriot Park. Brother Rocky Pack and Brother Eric Carroll (city firemen) brought over a fire truck for the children to tour. Games were played. The favorite of the children was the all-you-can-eat ice cream provided by Don Morgan's Homemade Cream.

Fairview 339 provided BBQ ribs cooked by Chuckie Dover and John Scism and a few other Brother's from the lodge. Families brought potato salads, baked beans, cole slaws, and other picnic foods. Desserts included banana pudding, pineapple upside down cake, coconut cake, and other goodies.

The 35<sup>th</sup> District lodges are looking forward to the making the picnic and chili cook-off an annual affair.

*Rodney Paulson is a member of Fairview 339.*

### Winston-Salem

Old Town 751 continues their support for the Bikes for Books program in local elementary schools. They recently got a thank you note from the principal of Old Richmond School. They awarded two bikes there during the last school year to kids with improved reading skills.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

### Canton

Sonoma 472 is keeping a busy schedule. July 17: Annual Family Picnic, August 5: Past Masters' Night, August 14: dinner honoring the Eastern Star and ladies of the lodge, and October 7: Veterans' Dinner.

Sonoma Lodge is raffling a Marlin 243 rifle and scope. The drawing is set for October 9 during their spaghetti supper. Proceeds go to the Masonic Homes.

— *Valley of the Moon*

### Southport

Pythagoras 249 was having their golf tournament September 18. There was plenty to do getting sponsors, golfers, door prizes, signs made, and more.

— *Newsletter*

### Valdese

Lovelady 670 had their annual lodge picnic planned for October 2.

— *The Light of Lovelady*

### Mount Gilead

Over the past few years, Blackmer 127 has spent lots of time and a bit of money to get their lodge in tiptop shape. Following the discovery of termite damage under the kitchen, the floor no longer sags and is now covered in new vinyl. The front exterior has a fresh coat of paint and a new sign. Landscaping has also been looked after. What they are most proud of is the job they've done on the lodge room floor where carpet has been discarded and the hardwood floors given special decoration.

— *Blackmer Buzz*

### Raleigh

James B. Green 735 held three ice cream socials this summer. During the August 12 gathering, they enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs (98 served), watermelon, slaw, and chips. The featured homemade ice cream flavors included chocolate, strawberry, banana, vanilla, and peppermint.

Green Lodge raised their dues from \$100 to \$130 for 2011.

Green Lodge events coming up later this year include their barbecue fundraiser October 8 and Past Masters' and Awards Night October 16.

— *The James B. Green Scene*

Millbrook 97's Spring Barbecue cleared more than \$4,300. Everything went well except for Max Bloodworth's new hush puppy cooker. Word is that he will have to do some redesign before the fall fundraiser.

Steak Night at Millbrook Lodge was enjoyed by all. Special praise went out to Steven Dieckhaus for his mushrooms and to TC for his antique Jeep rides.

Millbrook Lodge is sponsoring several families for The Ride Home, an organization which helps POW/MIAs and their families.

A work weekend at the lodge got some painting, cleaning, fixing, and throwing out done. They've used some rental income to replace gutters, fix sidewalks, add stainless steel tables in the kitchen, and replace half the tables in the dining hall.

— *Millbrook Messenger*

### Kenly

Officers of the 16<sup>th</sup> Masonic District met here in July to help the senior wardens of the district plan their upcoming year.

— *Grover Dees*

### Stantonsburg

Joseph Warren 92 is in possession of the 16<sup>th</sup> District's traveling gavel known as SAMON.

— *Grover Dees*

### Black Mountain

At their September stated meeting, Black Mountain 663 celebrated Past Masters' Night. Charlie Stafford was set to sit in the master's chair for the occasion. His first stint in the chair came in 1978.

— *The Traveling Trowel*

### Hayesville

Clay 301 was cooking Boston butts on July 23. It was to be an all-day job calling for lots of help and fun.

— *Dean Waldroup*

### Cary

Eat breakfast at O'Charley's in Cary on December 11 and help support our charities. The guys from Cary 198 are selling tickets for the breakfast, serving plates, and busing tables to earn the money. Talk to a member for details.

Cary Lodge's officers got to show their abilities and get an early practice on their stations for next year at a meeting in August.

— *Trestle Board*

### Green Level

A Red Cross blood drive was to be held at Green Level 277 August 1.

— *Trestle Board*

### Apex

Shooting is a focus of Apex 584 these days. They recently raffled a shotgun. On August 21, they were planning to host a sporting clays fundraiser at Deep River.

— *Trestle Board*

### Conover

There was a new location this year for Conover 709's annual hamburger and hot dog charity sale. They held the May 8 event at Tractor Supply on Highway 70.

— *The Conover Connection*

### Kernersville

The Kernersville Chamber of Commerce hosts a regular Business Before Hour event in which local leaders get together for breakfast. Kernersville 669 was hosting it at their lodge September 14. Lodge volunteers cooked and served breakfast, helped park cars, and conducted tours of their lodge.

— *The Kernersville Masonic News*

### Warsaw

Warsaw 677 was to get a new coat of exterior paint this summer.

— *Warsaw Lodge*

### Asheville

Nichols-West Asheville 650 is supporting Manna Food Bank. They have a food barrel at the lodge and urge members to drop canned food in at each meeting.

The lodge is also raising money to replace the chairs in the lodge room. They're expected to cost \$200 each.

Nichols-West Asheville members are being asked to wear their uniforms to degree work in the lodge. That includes blue lodge shirt, khaki pants, and dress shoes. They are giving directions for buying the shirts from a Masonic supply house.

— *The Cornerstone*

The Montford Park Players are making the Asheville Masonic Temple the home for their winter Shakespeare and Dickens series. They will start with three major productions a year and perhaps add others.

— *Trestle Board*

### Robbins

Elise 555 was holding a fish fry on July 30 to help our Masonic Homes.

— *Rick Best*

### Greensboro

Gate City 694's trips to Grasshopper baseball games seem to always draw good attendance. Forty lodge members and friends showed up for their latest trip to the Greensboro ballpark. It was 93° behind home plate where they sat. The game nearly slipped from the Grasshoppers' grasp, but they managed to eke out a one run win with a ninth inning comeback.

Gate City's annual hot dog, hamburger, and ice cream event drew the biggest crowd ever. More than 150 folks were served.

The lodge fish fry was set for July 31.

Lodge license plates and caps are still available at \$20 each.

— *Trestleboard*

### Franklin

The big weekend at Junaluskee 145 this summer was in the middle of July. On July 17, they had their Poor Man's Meal featuring plenty of food and bluegrass music. The next morning they were making their regular church visit together.

— *Trestleboard*

### Spruce Pine

Vesper 554 is holding its golf tournament October 2. They'll be playing at Grassy Creek Golf and Country Club.

— *The Beacon*

### Swansboro

Seaside 429 termed their recent grilled chicken fundraiser "a resounding success."

— *Trestle Board*

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.

GRAND LODGE, from page 1



Filing for per diem may feel like begging.



Harkers Island Nikes help the Homes.



Washington Masons study before the voting starts.



Hanging.



Stedman delegates at GM Dill's reception.



Motorcycle lodge is granted charter.



The Dills sharing the stage has us seeing double.



Tom Gregory



Toby Fitch

Amendment Scoreboard	
Group 1	OSW use limit to Code..... Withdrawn
Group 2	Allow instructors Lecture Service..... Passed
Group 3	Allow funerals for unburied cremations .. Passed
Group 4	Alter officer's catechism requirements.... Tabled
Group 5	Limited alcohol usage .....Failed
Group 6	Criminal background petition checks ..... Passed
Group 7	Change affiliation deadlines ..... Passed



Lew Ledford



Speed Hallman

members of the National Sojourners Spirit of '76ers. The officers of the Grand Lodge entered and opened the Annual Communication in a ceremony very much like the one you use in every meeting. District deputy grand masters and grand lecturers were seated on either side of the ceremonial lodge floor. Grand Lodge officers from the grand lodges of Prince Hall North Carolina, Alabama, District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Virginia, and West Virginia, and sitting officers from state appendant bodies were escorted to the stage which held the podium and the symbolic East. Finally, our past grand masters were brought to the stage. Each group was welcomed and accorded private grand honors.

Grand Orator Thomas W. Gregory, past grand master, delivered the keynote urging Masons to give special consideration to their vows of toleration in this time of rampant intolerance and hate.

Through the rest of the morning, recognitions were presented, and a number of reports were introduced before breaking for lunch. Immediate Past Grand Master Dan C. Rice presented a supplement to his preliminary report of last year, finishing the business of his term.

Immediately after lunch, and before resealing the lodge, representatives of North Carolina's Masonic youth groups, Rainbow for Girls and DeMolay, spoke to the gathering.

After the non-Masons were escorted from the lodge hall, we resumed labor. A ceremony was conducted to honor our members who died this past year.

At the conclusion of the Necrology, Grand Master Dill presented his preliminary report on his year thus far.

There was business requiring voting on Friday afternoon including the Report of the Committee on Appeals. Appeals' recommendations were adopted by the delegates. Several less controversial amendments were discussed and voted on.

Grand Master Dill called us from labor to refreshment around 4:00 P.M., then supplied refreshments at a reception for Masons. On Friday evening, Masons were seen in groups all over downtown Winston-Salem. They enjoyed the entertainment and many restaurants around the center of the city.

On Saturday morning at 9:00 A.M., the final business session of the Annual Communication began. The first business before us on the second day was the budget for 2011. Finance Committee Chairman Sam Lee presented the budget in sections, calling for discussion before asking for approval of the delegates for that section. Interspersed between those parts, delegates marked ballots to elect Grand Lodge officers for next year. The budget, with a small surplus projected, was approved as presented.

Elections proceeded without any surprises. Raleigh resident Lewis R. Ledford of Statesville 27 was elected to become our next grand master. Ledford is director of North Carolina State Parks.

The Grand Lodge voted to grant a charter to Knights of Solomon Lodge No. 764, a lodge for motorcycle enthusiasts.

We adopted a resolution supporting our Masonic forefathers who signed the Mecklenburg Declaration in 1775 and our Charlotte members who signed a resolution of support for them in 1999 at the dedication of the American Freedom Bell.

We were expecting to vote on seven issues during the meeting. Amendment Group 1 would have moved some rules regarding use of the *Official Standard of the Work (OSW)* into *The Code*. The proposal was withdrawn by the Board of Custodians before a vote. Group 2 was to allow certified instructors to conduct Lecture Service. It passed easily. Group 3, allowing Masonic funeral services for unburied cremations, also passed by a very wide margin.

Group 4 drew several speakers concerning the need for doing away with the Third Degree catechism requirements for lodge officers other than the wardens and master. After several suggestions of possible changes to the amendment, Grand Master Dill tabled the amendment for further consideration by the committee.

Group 5 allowing lodge facility renters to serve alcohol was the subject of much floor debate. The vote was close with perhaps a small majority voting in favor of allowing. It was, however, short of the two-thirds majority needed to pass a change to *The Code*. We will likely hear from this one again.

Group 6 was to have the grand secretary's office to conduct a criminal background check on all petitioners for the degrees. One law enforcement officer rose to remind delegates that asking

him or other officers to run checks was, with current professional restrictions, tantamount to asking him to quit his job. The chief objections expressed during the lively discussion were the added expense and removal of the investigation from the lodge. Delegates were reminded that the cost of the background check was to be borne by the petitioner and that the report was to be only a piece of information to be used by the lodge's investigating committee. The amendment passed readily.

Group 7, redefining deadlines for membership transfers, passed easily. All changes to *The Code* take effect January 1, 2011.

Others elected to Grand Lodge offices were Robert E. Gresham Jr. (Albemarle 703), deputy grand master; Dewey R. Preslar Jr. (Andrew Jackson 576), senior grand warden; Dalton W. Mayo (Hiram 98), junior grand warden; Clifton W. Everett Jr. (Crown Point 708), grand treasurer; and T. Walton Clapp III (Mystic Tie 237), grand secretary.

This year's appointed officers include Douglas L. Caudle (Statesville 27), senior grand deacon; Bryant D. Webster (Nichols-West Asheville), junior grand deacon; A. Gene Cobb (Royal White Hart 2), grand marshal; Jimmie B. Hicks Jr. (St. John's 3), grand steward; C. Speed Hallman (Eagle 19) and Larry Thompson (Blackmer 127), grand tyler; Paul F. Kelly (Sanford 151), grand chaplain; Michael W. Brantley (Raleigh 500), grand historian; D. W. "Mack" Sigmon (Catawba 248), grand lecturer; A. B. Swindell IV (Oxford 122), grand orator; and James R. Stevens (Garner 701), judge advocate.

The most awaited appointment each year is the new grand steward, the man who will join the line of men advancing toward the office of grand master. The new steward is C. Speed Hallman of Eagle 19 and Mosaic 762. Hallman is associate dean for development and alumni affairs for the Journalism School at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Annual Communication was adjourned shortly before noon on Saturday.

Installation of Grand Lodge officers is set for Saturday, December 4 at 10:00 A.M. in old House chamber at the State Capitol in Raleigh. You are all invited.i



Senior past master honored

DOBSON — On August 12, Copeland 390 honored one of their most senior members, Pete Carroll. Carroll was being presented his Veteran's Emblem celebrating his 50 years in the lodge. They further honored the past master by having him preside as master for the evening.

Carroll was praised for his "vigor of mind and spirit" and his skill opening the lodge. When the 94-year-old was asked the secret to such longevity, Carroll retorted, "You have to be born a long time ago."  
— Dempsey Brewer



Lodge 115 on Register

HOLLY SPRINGS — The Masonic lodge building here, Holly Springs 115, has been added to the National Register of Historic Places. In his letter from the NC Department of Cultural Resources, State Preservation Officer Jeffrey Crow says, "You are most fortunate to own and preserve a property that justly deserves this honor." The Register has been called "a roll call of the tangible reminders of the history of the United States."

Holly Springs 115 was chartered in 1847 and has seen unbroken service since. They completed and moved into their current home on Raleigh Street in early 1853. It is termed "a utilitarian Greek Revival-influenced side-gable roofed building." The report cites the officers' pine podiums and the wide-plank pine floor of the lodge room as original to the facility. It also mentions the carved wooden G given to the lodge before the Civil War. The building is praised for its "excellent architectural integrity, retaining most of its original materials and spare detailing at the exterior."

The building has served as a home for Baptist Missionary Society, the Women's Society of the Methodist Church, the Home Demonstration Club, and the Wake County Health Department. A major supporter of education, Holly Springs Lodge participated in the operation in its building of Holly Springs Academy and Holly Springs Institute at the lodge in the 1800s.

SIGN, from page 1

carries a historical plaque, at the corner of Fayetteville and Hargett streets, one block south of the State Capitol.

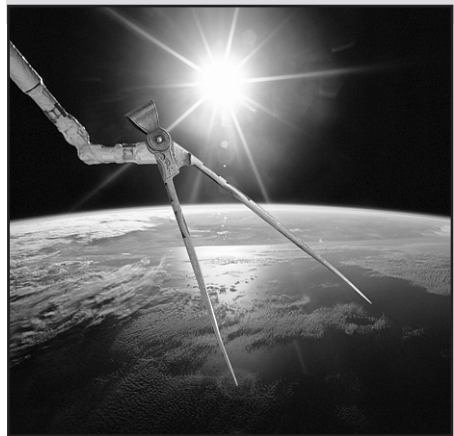
According to the National Park Service "growing membership, lack of parking and the desire for greater autonomy by the local lodges led to the sale of the building and the relocation" to our current home.

You are urged to visit the Grand Lodge offices to see the growing number of historic artifacts on display. If you have some Masonic memento which needs protecting and preserving, or just needs a good home, the Grand Lodge would be happy to receive and share it with the world.



Above is the sign in its found rough and broken condition. At right, Grand Secretary Walt Clapp prepares a hanging bracket for the museum area's newest addition.

# ENCOMPASSING THE WORLD



By Ric Carter

## Notes

**SIOUX CITY, IOWA** — Iowa is one of several grand lodges which offer one-day Masonry. Trial 532 hosted a Grand Master's One-Day Class at the Scottish Rite Temple here in February. Twenty-five men joined 11 lodges on one Saturday. During the morning, they were shown the first degree, had a break, and then saw the second degree. After lunch, they were raised. The grand master and grand lodge officers demonstrated the second section of the third degree for the candidates. — *Grand Lodge Bulletin*

**SPRINGFIELD, OHIO** — Masons here, on June 6, were dedicating two new granite war memorials at the Ohio Masonic Home. They will honor Ohio Masons who served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The markers were placed near the ones honoring the veterans of the First and Second World Wars. — *Beacon*

**ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO** — More than 50 families attended the Fourth Annual Masonic Olympics here at the Shrine center last summer. Competitions were held in bowling, Texas hold'em, basketball, darts, Bocci, dominoes, horseshoes, and cribbage. Child care was supplied, and there was a shoe drive for homeless men. — *The New Mexico Freemason*

**WARICK, RHODE ISLAND** — It started last year as a bunch of Masons playing pickup softball games. This year they were organizing and coming up with set teams. Lodges and other Masonic organizations were urged to form teams, not just for members, but to add Rainbow Girls and DeMolay boys. They were going co-ed, and all ages for a fun approach to playing ball. The Shrine Clowns have already challenged the Rainbow Girls. — *Rhode Island Freemason*

**LINCOLN, NEBRASKA** — Nebraska's first statewide Masonic blood drive was declared a "success" by Grand Master Russell Reno when they held their awards luncheon at the Governor's Mansion in November. Sixty lodges participated and collected more than 1,100 units of blood. — *The Nebraska Mason*

## West Virginia and Ohio grand lodges withdraw recognition of each other

**STEUBENVILLE, OHIO** — Back in 2006 West Virginia Grand Master Frank J. Haas piloted a number of changes through his grand lodge. The changes, sometimes called the Wheeling Reforms, included among others allowing the previously and again now forbidden Pledge of Allegiance in the lodge, Masonic youth groups to use lodge facilities, materials and media not directly associated with blue lodge Masonry, Masonic funerals for cremated Masons, and donations to charities not specifically Masonically affiliated. West Virginia's next grand master quickly reversed all the changes. When Past Grand Master Haas, a West Virginia judge, voiced his objection in lodges and media accessible to non-Masons, he was summarily expelled from membership, without trial by the then grand master.

Haas sued in court, contending that he was not given proper treatment according to the grand lodge's procedures. As is often the case, the suit

was delayed and has yet to be heard. Past findings seem to show that the courts tend to stay out of disputes on voluntary organizations so long as the organization acts within its own bylaws.

Haas moved to Ohio. After satisfying the Ohio Grand Lodge's residency requirement, he petitioned, and was voted into an Ohio Masonic lodge. With the knowledge and approval of the Ohio Grand Lodge, they conferred all three degrees. While customary courtesy has jurisdictions honoring expulsions and suspensions in other states, in Ohio (as in North Carolina) there is nothing in Masonic law to require such considerations.

West Virginia objected to Ohio's action and exercised the only authority they had — they withdrew recognition. In response, Ohio withdrew recognition of West Virginia. That is where they stand still. We can find no report on further action by the courts which were to hear the case this summer.

**WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND** — In cooperation with the Royal Society of New Zealand, the grand lodge here has formed the Freemasons Reel Science Film Festival. The Festival features short science films made by high school students. In addition to the film contest, the organizations will sponsor workshops teaching kids how to make a great science film. — *New Zealand Freemason*

**STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSOURI** — On May 30, the Grand Lodge of Missouri dedicated a marker commemorating the first Masonic lodge west of the Mississippi River. Louisiana 109 was chartered November 14, 1807 in the newly bought Louisiana Territory. Thirteen Masons, with the permission of Western Star 105 in Kaskaskia, Illinois, petitioned the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to establish a lodge.

At the time, Ste. Genevieve was a unique mix of Spanish, French, English, and Native American cultures. The lodge met in what would later be known as the Green Tree Inn. — *EMESSAY Notes*

**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA** — The Indiana Grand Lodge Scholarship Board awarded more than 300 graduating seniors scholarships this year. The total value of the awards was more than \$400,000. Over the years, they have given \$7.5 million to college bound students. — *Indiana Freemason*

## History celebrations in New Mexico

**NEW MEXICO** — History has been a cause of celebration among New Mexico Freemasons recently.

The four founding lodges of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico were to hold their Second Annual Rendezvous at Fort Union National Monument, June 26. Masonry came into the territory down the Santa Fe Trail with soldiers, settlers, and traders. Several of the lodges were from Missouri. Four of those lodges (Montezuma 1, Chapman 2, Aztec 3, and Union 4) came together in 1878 to form the Grand Lodge of New Mexico.

Many cultural events were planned including a chuck wagon meal.

Last fall, a procession of Masons visited the grave of Kit Carson in Taos. They laid a wreath in honor of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. It was also the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bent Lodge 42 there.

The procession was led by a color guard from Fort Carson, Colorado. Many Masonic groups were represented in the several blocks long parade. A Distinguished Service medal for Carson from Governor Bill Richardson was presented. More than 330 people attended a barbecue at the lodge. A portrait of Brother Kit Carson in his Masonic regalia was commissioned for the occasions. — *The New Mexico Freemason*



Henson, Canter, Davis, and Putnam are seen here on Independence Rock.

## Tar Heels visit Wyoming

**INDEPENDENCE ROCK, WYOMING** — The first known Masonic meeting in Wyoming took place at Independence Rock on July 4, 1862. Asa Brown, who served as Master of that first communication, later presented the Grand Lodge of Wyoming with the Bible and cardboard square and

compasses used on that first altar.

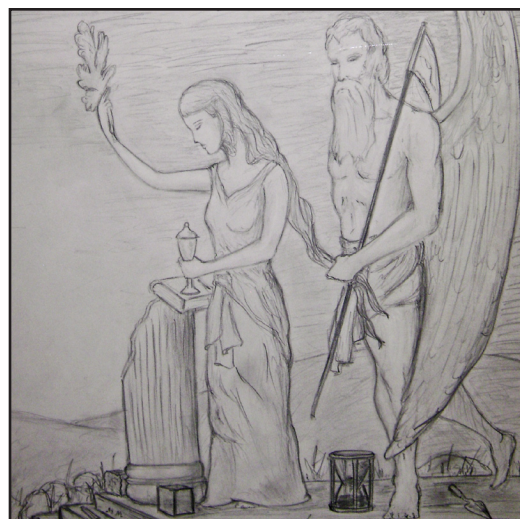
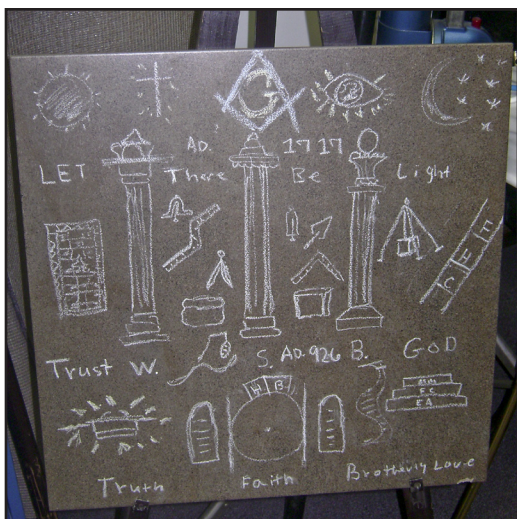
Those treasurers are brought out every ten years to celebrate the occasion and once again open a lodge atop the same outcrop.

Four members of Sonoma 472, Stanley Henson, Gene Canter, Clyde Davis, and Ronnie Putnam attended this year. — *Mike Hooper*



## 8<sup>th</sup> District vets get awards

**LITTLETON** — Several Masons got their 50-year Veteran's Emblems earlier this year when Grand Master William L. Dill visited the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. Getting their awards were Harvey Frank Harris (Royal Hart 497), Gene Worth Todd (Scotland Neck 689), and Wallace Eaton Brown (Royal Hart 497). Seen here, from left, are Grand Master Dill, Harris, Todd, Brown, and Royal Hart Master Michael Enroughty. — *James Drake*



## Ritual art given to Selma Lodge

**SELMA** — Selma 320 has recently added some original art work to make their degree work more memorable to its candidates. Will Barham's drawing of the virgin weeping over the broken column has been framed for use in the Third Degree.

Robby Evans restored the tripod from the old lodge and had David Davis donate a piece of granite to place on it. It will be used as a trestle board to display in the lodge during lectures. — *David Browning*

## FISH TALE, from page 8



## Grand Secretary Clapp returns Browning's ring.

in. Only the paddles and our backpacks floated. It was maybe ten feet deep. That may have been where I lost it."

Here, we must enter speculation to some extent, though the evidence is there. Pike are known to hit flashy metal lures, those which capture the glint of a high sun and reflect it from a fresh angle like the scales of a tasty minnow. This northern pike, years later dubbed Albert, caught glimpse of the flash of gold and reflexively sucked in the gold band and swallowed it.

We know not how long Albert carried the ring in his gut, but his fondness for shiny geegaws proved his undoing and the end of his roll in this story. A fisherman named Armstrong, in a year lost in the murk of retold tales, caught our Albert Pike. He apparently made an appealing breakfast picture. Armstrong cleaned Albert, and in cleaning the fish made the remarkable find of the (to him) mystery ring.

Not being a Mason, Armstrong did not recognize the ring. After some searching, Armstrong tossed the ring in a jewelry box and forgot it. The ring passed along to his son Jake Armstrong. Jake tossed it in his wife's jewelry box where it sat for several more years.

One day, Jake's wife showed the ring to her brother John Emrick and turned it over to him

to try to find the owner. Emrick was a Mason and recognized the ring for what it was. Emrick, now Masonic district secretary of Nipissing East District in North Bay, Ontario, began his search in 1994. He later enlisted the help of Grand Secretary Terence Shand at the Grand Lodge of Canada in the province of Ontario.

The search was not simple. Don Browning has lived in several states, moving nine times in the years since he last saw his ring. Earlier this year, the trail ended in Shallotte, North Carolina where the 92-year-old Browning now lives. Browning is still a member of the lodge he joined in 1955, Washington 58 in St. Albans, West Virginia.

During the summer, Grand Secretary Walt Clapp received the ring in a package from the Grand Lodge of Ontario. Clapp drove to Browning's home in Shallotte to deliver the ring in person.

There, along with Browning to greet the ring were several friends and neighbors. Some were Masons, and all marvelled at the finding and return of the Masonic ring.

The ring is finally home, very little the worse for wear, bearing a few scratches easily imagined to be the engraving of Albert the Northern Pike's teeth; a mark of the ring's long and marvelous journey.



The lost and found ring.

## 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

BENEATH THE OAKS



Home away from home

By Allen Hughes
Administrator
Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

It's that time of year again when I reminisce about my youth. September 12 is the anniversary of my admission to Oxford Orphanage, and that event marks a momentous turning point in my life. I can say without reservation that the care and training I received here in my youth has positively influenced my actions and decisions throughout my adult life.

During the second weekend in October each year, the Masonic Home for Children/Oxford Orphanage holds its annual homecoming. Homecoming weekend, like no other, will bring the past into focus. Seeing former classmates, teammates, "partners in crime," or other "brothers and sisters" often triggers events we haven't thought of for many years.

How can we call this home and family when children often are far removed from familiar surroundings and the people they know? It is what the Home gives that makes the difference. I think of "home" as

a combination of the people and the relations they share. What we had when I lived here were the adults around us who had a sincere interest in our well-being and our future.

The care is expressed through material gifts and loving concern, and that care is extended through college education if the youth remain that long. One has only to visit with the children to see that the living conditions we provide are better than what many families have.

Some of the passion, interest, and support for the Masonic Home for Children has dwindled in recent years. Many supporters and alumni say the Home is not the same, as it used to be. True, but it has changed to adapt to meet changing needs of the children.

The number of children in care is much lower than years ago, but parents now have many more options for assistance to keep their family together. On average, the children do not stay here as long because we make a more concerted effort to work with them and the parents or custodians to reunify the families when appropriate.

Whether children live at the Masonic Home for Children at Ox-

ford only a few months or until they finish college, the time they spend here gives the children a safe and caring home while the adults in their lives seek to resolve the problems which led to family separation. Rarely will any child admit being better off living here than with their parents, regardless of the conditions with their family.

Having lived through being separated from family, I pray that all children are able to live safely with their families. However, I realize that will not happen, and in far too many cases it is better and safer for children that they are not left with their family.

Tools of the IT Mason

By Lon Thomas

The grand lodges of the world are discussing modifying the tools of the craft to reflect the 21st century reality. As software design and the Internet are the admired monuments of today, so too they feel that their tools should be used as allegory for men of this millennium.

An example of what is being proposed is presented here: The laptop is an instrument made use of by operative webguys to write code and design websites while sitting in Starbucks, the browser to view their work, and the spell checker to prove syntax; but we as speculating webguys make use of them for more global and entertaining purposes.

The laptop admonishes us to never be far from email, lest we miss something unbelievable about a public personality, verifying email claims using the browser to get to Snopes.com, ever remembering that spell checker isn't always riot.

Lon Thomas is junior warden of Payson 70 in Arizona.

WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

- 1.....Michael A. Faulkenbury
1.....Adam Blake Jennings
1.....Ben Sorensen
3.....David Alex Daniels
3.....Mark Douglas Daniels
3.....Michael Allen Gerlach
3.....Billy Jack Golden
3.....William Henry Herndon
3.....Behren Mark Allen Allen Von
4.....Joseph Christopher Gates
4.....Kermit Lynn Hill
4.....Danny Lee Webb
7.....Darren Trevor Hilsenbeck
7.....Stephen Earl White
8.....Michael Brian Johnson Pruitt
8.....Gustavo Ritschl IV
8.....William Paul Seifert Jr.
13.....Gerald Bond Wilson
27.....Ronald Martin Henion Jr.
27.....Jack Glenn O'Neal
27.....Duane Richard Smyth
27.....Jeffrey Alvin Young
31.....Robert Timothy Aycock
32.....Ted NMN Cisine
45.....Mark Robert Thompson
53.....Gene Austry Jewell
64.....Parker Colson Dunlap
75.....Brian Keith McPherson
75.....Roger Needham Morgan
76.....Justin Mathew Brown
76.....Blake Anthony Collins
76.....Thomas Michael Saitta
76.....Jerry Paul Shropshire II
76.....David Rash Thomas Jr.
76.....Jeremy Russell Williams
81.....Dan Eugene King
81.....Myron Page Meadows
81.....Brent Robert Whitford
83.....Daniel Corrales
83.....Ronald Leroy Graham
83.....Abraham Stacey Polaski
83.....Joseph Emanuel Sharif Polingo
106.....Ersal Overton III
109.....Mason Leslie Ellis
109.....Steven Bryan Marsh
109.....Thomas Carl McArthur III
109.....Ryan Artley Pepperman
109.....Eddie Dale Reynolds
117.....Barrett Daniel Ellis
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 Wood Ray Dilda
122.....John-Caleb Woodlief Sadler
123.....Andrew Allan Dudash
126.....Timothy Young Earley
126.....Johnny Ray Gunnell
127.....John Riley Beaman
128.....Carlos Manuel Morales
128.....Matthew Thomas Rector
129.....Edgar William Barker Jr.
129.....Darrell Wallace Brumfield
129.....Eric Dean Davis
129.....Michael Jan Knight
129.....Adam Michael Ramey
129.....David Lee Stanley
132.....Joseph Carlton Braxton
134.....Cecil Todd Corvin
134.....Joseph Daniel Crotts
134.....Kevin Delano Hendrix
134.....Randy Dean McDaniel Jr.
136.....Benjamin Stewart Hamilton
136.....Samuel Allen Pearman
136.....Armpstead Ned Walker
143.....Charlie Michael Brown
143.....Jerry Lee Cook
143.....Martin Wayne Pinnock
145.....Allen Paul Knopp
149.....Jeremy William Vargo
162.....Marion Shermer Jones
170.....Joey Allen Hammond
170.....Jeffrey Scott Tracz
172.....John Robinson Morton
172.....James Ralph Riddick
172.....Crafton Bishop Warren Jr.
176.....Edward Morgan Watkins
181.....Billy Ray Freeland Jr.
188.....Jody Michael Ferree
188.....Derrick Philip Hill
191.....Thomas Scott Winslow
198.....Marc Andrew Belle-Isle
198.....Andrew Lee Rickett
202.....Steven Travis DeMetro
202.....William Clayton Greene Jr.
207.....Shaun Chadwick Eason
207.....Paul Hamilton Jones
207.....William Pinkney Sellers
207.....Brent Simmons
218.....Donald Travis Bryson
218.....David Bennett Glass
218.....Damon Lawrence Williamson
230.....William Ashley Woolard
231.....Jr. Howard Nelson Brewer
244.....Michael Ray Flanner
244.....Adam Kendall McCain
244.....Mark Robert Potts
248.....Brent Arthur Fidler
248.....Charles Bennett Munday
249.....Melvin Lee Watkins Jr.
253.....Jonathan Paul Goodnight
259.....Steven Lee Hord
259.....Julius Felmet Morrow
259.....David Anil Wijewickrama
261.....Paul Louis Digiacomo Jr.
261 Lee Colter Pemberton McDermott
261.....Derek Lee McKelvey
262.....Bennie Joe Bradshaw
262.....Joe Wilson Bradshaw
262.....Joshua Aaron Bristol
262.....Mark Christian Bryant
262.....Benjamin Paul Reese
262.....Daniel Scott Whisnant
271.....Thomas Leon Bass
271.....Adam John Riley Inman
272.....Steven Duain Moss
272.....Michael Glenn Stuart
277.....Daniel Sexton Jenkins
282.....Albert Daniel Denniston
282.....Harold Lee Duncan Jr.
282.....Charles Edward McGhee Jr.
282.....Jeffrey Arthur Sank
289.....Derek Geoffrey Frosh
289.....Austin Lawrence Schaner
289.....Stephen Ray Wood
293.....Christopher Alden Gurr
294.....Keith Webster Harris
300.....Christopher Patrick Grose
301.....Jerry Dustan Buckner
301.....Joseph Madison Buckner
301.....James Christopher Thurmond
304.....Donald Louis Bland Jr.
304.....Edward Earl Eubanks Jr.
304.....William Michael Gray
304.....Daniel Elvin McLawhorn
304.....Samuel Elton McLawhorn
304.....Rickie Allen Pearson
306.....Matthew Aaron Hodges
306.....Paul Andrew Richie
314.....Mark Allen Hurley
317.....William Arnett Bryant
343.....Andrew Ryan Haas
343.....Timothy Wayne Valko
352.....David Eugene Hartzmet
352.....Ronald William Morra
352.....Christopher Haynes Noyes
363.....John Lawrence Moore
363.....Jerry Hugh Moretz II
363.....Toby Dean Ragan
377.....David John Force
377.....John Alden Force
377.....Jeffrey Chester Forehand
377.....Matthew Eugene Paschal
387.....Edward Day Flocken
387.....Gary Maurice Pace
387.....Paul Edward Westin
388.....Preston Lance Hinson
388.....John Franklin Robbins II
388.....John Henry Smart III
390.....Bruce Gerald Shore
391.....Michael Frank Gardner
391.....Edward Manuel Morales
391.....David Sean VonHagen
397.....Frederick Ernest Ellis Loomis
405.....Jeffrey Wayne Shultz
405.....Chase Alexander Templeton
407.....Keith Clonch
408.....Blake Austen Burkin
408.....Edmond J. Byrnes III
409.....Joseph Michiel Burgess
409.....Timothy Wayne Isley
409.....Gregory Lynn Stutts
423.....Kenneth Waddell
426.....Jeffrey Alexander Liakos
426.....Jewel Dorsey Rushing
428.....David Corbett Everidge
428.....Donald Wayne Hill
428.....Jesse Blanton Joyce Jr.
429.....Scott Alan Merritt
439.....Christopher James Revis
446.....Walter Flave Hart III
446.....Steven Kelly Knapp
446.....Christopher Devon Liedtke
446.....John Spruill Paschall
446.....Chad Lee Presley
446.....John Arthur Ward
453.....Travis Charles Williamson
454.....Jason Lee Stokes
461.....Grant Lee Holmes
461.....William Blake Holmes
461.....Sonnie Boy McRae
461.....Ricky Marvin Rosenbalm
461.....Cameron Mitchell Schreengost
462.....Justin Billy Ray Carpenter
462.....Sean Paul Dudley
462.....James Edward Martin
462.....Clarence Mingus Martin Jr.
482.....David Evan Guice
482.....Norman Benjamin Moore
482.....Richard James Wade Jr.
484.....Gino William Lamolli
484.....Newton Farragut McCurdy Jr.
491.....Robert Turner Phillips
498.....Erik Leon Barbee
499.....David Brandon Haskins
499.....Sean Reid McNally
499.....Eric Bruce Royster
500.....Eric Michael Wilson Boone Jr.
500.....Anthony Justin Eldreth
505.....Robert Nathan Bowman
505.....Tony Jeryl Brittain
505.....Matthew Stephen Craig
515.....Chranson Todd Beam
515.....Joshua Brandon Capps
515.....Adrian Certain
515.....William Edgar Farnsworth
515.....Todd Jeffrey Gantt
515.....Peter Kyle Watson
517.....Cameron Worsley Moore
517.....Joseph Michael Vandiford
517.....Lawrence Vandiford III
521.....Robert Duane Korb
528.....John Edgar Elam III
532.....James Edward Boone Jr.
534.....Robert Abram Clark
534.....Blake Anthony McNeilly
534.....Adam Steven Whisnant
535.....Buford Garmon Chapman
535.....Roger Ward Hellard
543.....Kenneth Mark Bean
543.....Kenneth Wayne Dietz
554.....Aaron Dean Smith
556.....James Edward Reagan
565.....Timothy DeWayne Reese
568.....Cleaters Jeffrey Hart Jr.
568.....Carroll Glenwood Ipoek Jr.
571.....Tyler Dale Furr
576.....Max Alan Crawford
576.....Timothy Van Mauldin
576.....Joel Eugene Young
590.....James Benjamin Freeman
590.....Jeffrey Dale Roberts
592.....Jason Steven Cloninger
594.....John Samuel Brabson
594.....Terry Joshua Jordan
594.....Andrew Seth May
594.....Joseph Samuel Testerman
602.....Daniel Stephenson Pridgen
602.....Derek James Robinson
602.....Phillip Andrew Wells
616.....Roy Christopher Thomas
618.....Vincent Joseph D'Andrea
618.....Mitchell Allen Elliott
618.....Rodney Blake Sehen
624.....Matthew Wayne Grissom
624.....Philip Thomas Grissom Jr.
629.....Norman Thomas Scott II
629.....Edward Andrew Sipes
634.....Justin Thomas Stone
637.....Matthew Alan Bolen
643.....Ronald Marcus Surles
650.....Joseph Dewayne Payne
650.....Thomas Arthur Smith
654.....Larry Alan Hogan
657.....John Matthew Rowland
663.....Timothy Glenn Buckner
663.....Thomas Aron Sammons
663.....Scottie Tyler Wynne
667.....Jory Dillon Mathis
669.....Marcus Greer Bundy
669.....Shawn Jerry Lowe
669.....Ralph Wadkins
670.....Alan Fowler Jacks
670.....Chadd Allen Powell
672.....Matthew Cullin Buchanan
672.....Gregory Clifton Grindstaff
672.....Carie Jarrod Sellers
673.....Jason Russell Crowe
673.....William Paul Crowe
673.....Kevin Charles Dills
673.....Michael Joe Sisk Jr.
674.....Joshua Michael Blackburn
674.....Nick Ryan Wall
675.....Norman Eugene Hiatt
676.....Joshua David Blake
676.....Alfred Charles Holden Jr.
676.....John Stewart Knoy
680.....Shawn Christopher Hughes
680.....Jeffrey William Hurt
680.....Ryan John Keith
680.....John Morgan Little
680.....Richard James Lydick
680.....Daniel Norman McDermott
680.....Richard Earl Near
680.....Anthony Jiravasin Pamintuan
680.....Steven Benjamin Slaughter
680.....John Bruce Lee St.
680.....Timothy Alan Tolfree
690.....Walter Lind Conine
692.....Larry Stephen Nester
694.....John Russell Fields III
694.....Myron Stanley Herron Jr.
694.....Chauncey Eugene Lambeth
694.....Jacob Thomas Nichols
694.....William Charles Rush Jr.
694.....Calvin Franklin Summers
699.....William Taylor Browne
699.....Taylor Brooks Callicutt
699.....Matthew Frank Altamura
701.....Thomas Elliott Gantt
701.....Billy Ray Mitchell
704.....Joshua Scott Wade Chandler
706.....Jose Nicolas Aispuro
708.....James Bailey Britt
708.....Lance Robert Collette
708.....Jonathan Taylor Keith
708.....Michael Charles Rogister
708.....Daniel Allen Turner
709.....Gregory Lee Ream
709.....Brandon James Shoemaker
709.....Lance Wayne Teague
712.....William Fredrick Boykin
712.....Adam Baird Thomas
713.....Ashley Dale Price
713.....Jonathan Michael Todd
722.....James Edward Miller
722.....Joshua William Edward Miller
724.....David Mark Rose Jr.
725.....Chester Eric Dolph Gartin
725.....Samuel Allen Heath
727.....John Fletcher Frink
727.....Christopher George Raynor
727.....Aaron Glen Stanley
734.....Dallas Patrick Hurley
736.....Nathan Dale O'Maley
738.....Stephen Christian Tilson
739.....Walter Webster Ballard
739.....Steven Lee Wallace
741.....Eric Dean Floyd
741.....Charles Milton Taylor
749.....Michael Edward Lanier
749.....Jeffrey Scott Sturgis
749.....John Pressley Watts
749.....Douglas Olen Yarbrough
751.....Brian Christopher Boyenger
751.....Dwayne Andrew Hutchens
751.....James Thomas Matthews II
751.....Thomas Kenneth Noetzel Jr.
751.....Robert Gray Reavis
751.....Robert Wesley Whitaker
754.....Robert Curtis Coombs
755.....David Edward Allen
755.....Angelo Caprilli
755.....Richard Cress Pulliam
755.....Wesley Grayson Walker
757.....Shane Thomas Curtis
757.....Mark Douglas Kincaid
757.....Derek Brenden Pfaff
759.....Melvin Jesus Correa
762.....Adam Thomas Tucker
763.....William Chanford Wright

SENIOR MOMENTS



# A mid-year report

By Mark Kolada  
Administrator  
WhiteStone

Annual Communication is always one of the highlights of my year, and this year was no exception. I appreciate the opportunity to give WhiteStone's report to the Grand Lodge and to meet Brothers from all across the state and enjoy fellowship. As has been the case the past few years, I have taken the liberty of publishing my Grand Lodge report in this column to those of you who were not able to attend Grand Lodge or will not have had a chance to read the proceedings, can get an update on how we did this past year:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:  
It is my honor to submit this report on WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community to the Grand Lodge.

I am pleased to report that our 98-year-old community in Greensboro continues to make steady progress in its fiscal health, operations, and quality of care and services. In 2009, our efforts to stabilize the community's finances have been productive, with WhiteStone, for the second straight year, being in the black and having positive cash flow. The operating income of the community increased from \$82,000 in 2008 to over \$1.5M in 2009. These improving results were achieved primarily due to consistently high occupancy, higher investment income, lowering expenses, and bringing the cost of charity in line with donations received. Thus far in 2010, these positive fiscal trends have continued and we are on track to meet our budgeted goals.

As our financial situation improves, it has allowed our charitable mission at WhiteStone to remain strong and generous. WhiteStone currently serves more than 270 residents, of which about 68 require

financial assistance. In 2009, the cost of our charity remained stable and was approximately \$1.5M and WhiteStone collected close to \$1.4M in contributions, of which donations from Masonic sources totaled over \$460,000. We are extremely grateful to the members of Grand Lodge and its foundation for its continued financial support. Please know that 100% of your contributions go directly to support our Brothers and their families, which help pay for their room and board, medical supplies, medications, and other medical bills they otherwise could not afford to pay on their own. Going forward the level of charity the community continues to provide will be dependent on the donations it receives. In other words, the more donations we receive the more charity we can give.

In 2009, we also expanded our charity program to include a new toll-free hotline to help Brothers and their families access benefits through Medicaid, Medicare, Home Health, and Veteran Affairs. We know how tough accessing these bureaucratic systems can be, and our experienced staff can help navigate these systems, and get people the benefits they are entitled to in order to make their lives a little more comfortable. So far this year we have assisted 22 people and provided over 21 hours of staff support.

Our outreach program also introduced a medical equipment loan program which makes equipment such as scooters, motorized wheelchairs, hospital beds, walkers, and so on available for loan to Brothers and family members from anywhere in the state who needed them. When those people are done using the equipment, it is returned to WhiteStone and given to another person for reuse. WhiteStone already has in its storage numerous pieces of equipment available, and is always looking to receive more. As an example of this program in action, we recently were able to help a Brother in the eastern part of the state who was the victim of a serious motorcycle accident. As a result of a call we received from his lodge, we were able to provide him with a new motorized scooter and other needed equipment at no charge to him, and it was delivered to his door by WhiteStone staff. So far this year we have provided more than 15 pieces of medical equipment to 14 fraternally related people throughout the state.

Finally, special thanks to Grand Master William Dill for initiating the "adopt a resident" project. More than 40 residents receiving financial assistance from WhiteStone were "adopted" by a Brother, lodge, or district through out the state and are now directly receiving cards, gifts, and money to help make their lives a little brighter.

In addition to our charity program, we are also working hard to continue to make improvements in the services, amenities offered, as well as capital improvements to our community. At the end of 2009, work was completed to redo an elevator in Bennett residential building as well as install a new chiller that was needed in the Linville administration building. Also in December, thanks to the a generous contribution of Cary 198, the Care and Wellness Center began the Snoezelin room program, which is a multi-sensory room designed to stimulate those with severe cognitive disabilities. In April, a new state of the art fitness center was completed in the Care and Wellness Center featuring air-compressed weigh machines as well as cardio machines, which are being well utilized by residents and staff. In late May, the Bennett Building received a fresh look, with replacement carpet and paint in its common areas, as well as several rooms being combined to create one bedroom suites. In June, WhiteStone's main dining room began offering a

full restaurant-style service whereby residents can order off the menu rather than going through the line and being served buffet style. In early July, extensive renovation work began on the Linville administration building to create an exciting new clubhouse for our residents and modern office space for WhiteStone staff. By the end of the year, the renovated space will have residents enjoying a new library, new game room, lounge, arts and crafts area, as well as resident store. In August, the CWC was designated with a five-star ranking by the CMS as being one of the top nursing homes in North Carolina for quality. In September, work was completed on six new independent living houses and duplexes.

Our expansion project continues to make steady progress on our new construction plans. In May, WhiteStone's board of directors approved the reducing the number of independent living units from the original 76 to 46, as well as agreeing to proceed with renovation of the main dining room, rotunda, and addition of a multipurpose room and bistro area. Reducing the number of units in phase one will allow the development to proceed sooner and take advantage of historically low interest rates and construction costs. During this past summer, WhiteStone's executive director and marketing director conducted fraternal workshops in Raleigh, Statesville, Charlotte, and Southern Pines area for Masonic members and their families who wanted to learn more about retirement living and the WhiteStone campus in Greensboro. If all goes according to plan, the 70% pre-sales needed to obtain financing will be achieved in late 2010, construction will begin in 2011, and be completed by 2012 in time for our centennial anniversary.

In conclusion, on behalf of the residents at WhiteStone we extend sincere gratitude to all of the members of the Grand Lodge for your hard work fundraising, the continued financial support of the Masonic foundation, and Grand Master, Grand Secretary and the other 12 Masonic Board Members, for their continued support. May God continue to bless all of you and our community in Greensboro.

As always if you have any questions or need more information about the home, feel free to call me at (336) 547-2992 or email me at <mkolada@liveatwhitestone.org>.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ My lodge \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

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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.

## EXPANSION, from page 8

this fall with occupancy planned to begin in July 2011.

New residences will range from 844 square feet for one-bedroom deluxe to 1,299 square feet for the two-bedroom with sun-room. Residences are designed to ensure plenty of natural light – with large windows, as well as spacious closets, the latest kitchens and bathrooms, and other current amenities. In keeping with its commitment to a social and family-like community, WhiteStone is rebuilding all common areas. Located at the heart of the campus, the newly renovated Linville Clubhouse will include 12,000 square feet of renovated space and 4,820 square feet of new space. In addition to the Clubhouse, a 360-degree rotunda with all glass walls, invites residents to socialize and enjoy refreshments before proceeding to the newly renovated 4,900 square foot dining room, private dining, and outdoor dining.

It is also notable that the rebuild and expansion are moving forward despite the challenging economic times, due largely to WhiteStone's conservative approach and debt-free operations.

# MILEPOSTS



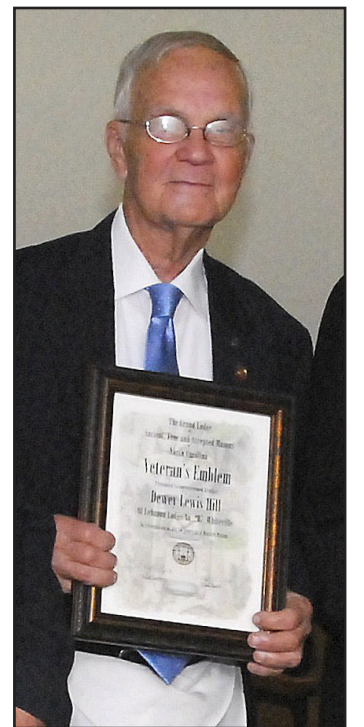
WALNUT COVE — John Willis, seen here with his wife Janie, was recently presented his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years Masonic membership. Willis is a member of Walnut Cove 629. — Billy Joe Joyce



Beaufort — Earlier this year, members of Prince Hall's Hero 248 visited Franklin 109. Both lodges enjoyed their visit so much that Hero invited members of our local lodges for a return visit just a couple of weeks later. More than 20 members of Ocean 405, Crissie Wright 741, and Franklin 109 made the trip. Past Grand Master Leonard Safrif spoke at the later gathering.



WHITEVILLE — Lebanon 207 presented service awards July 15 during their Past Masters' and Awards Night. Herman Williams was presented his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years Masonic membership. Master Andy Leggette made the presentation. — John Norosky



WHITEVILLE — Lebanon 207 presented service awards July 15 during their Past Masters' and Awards Night. Dewey Hill was presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership. Master Andy Leggette made the presentation. — John Norosky



WHITEVILLE — Whiteville Eastern Star Chapter 211 hosted Past Masters' and Awards Night at Lebanon 207 on July 15. Past masters present were, front from left, Donald Currie, Terry Miller, Pete Huggins, Richard Davis, and John Norosky. Back row: Kenneth Dowless, Gary Bass, Doug Buffkin, Edward Davis, and K. M. Simmons. Edwin Russ was not available for the photo. — Billy Joe Joyce



WALNUT COVE — Two members of Walnut Cove 629, P.W. (Buck) Johnson and Billy R. Holbrook, recently got their Veteran's Emblems for 50 years in the lodge. Seen here after the presentation are, from left, Walnut Cove Master Gary Handy, Johnson, Holbrook, and Grand Master William L. Dill. — Billy Joe Joyce

# WhiteStone begins expansion

GREENSBORO — WhiteStone (MESH) held a groundbreaking August 14 to celebrate the launch of a building project which will add 52 new residences and make improvements to the common areas at the retirement home. The units are already 65% sold. The expansion of the popular WhiteStone retirement



community will help meet a critical need in Greensboro, as a growing population of seniors pursues active lifestyles in communities known for outstanding wellness and continuing care. On hand to celebrate the community's milestone were local dignitaries, WhiteStone current and future residents, Board members, and staff, as well as representatives from its managing company, Life Care Services.



The additional residences include six houses and 46 one- and two-bedroom apartment homes, as well all new common areas and amenities. Phase One of the expansion includes 46 of the 52 total new residences and is expected to be complete in 2011. Construction on this \$35 million expansion is slated to begin

■ see EXPANSION, page 7



Don Browning shows his newly regained ring.

# It's a Rite fishy tale

By Ric Carter

SHALLOTTE — This fish tale does not involve size exaggerations about the one that got away. This fish tale is about many years and a thousands-of-lakes, millions-of-fish long shot. It's a tale of Albert, the Northern Pike, the one who didn't get away.

Back in the 1950s, Don Browning and a buddy Mason who lived three doors down went fishing every summer. They did it the rugged way, backpacking in canoes through the myriad wilderness lakes around Parry Sound in Canada's Ontario province. They made the trip every year for ten or more years. Exact dates are today hazy.

Browning's not quite sure what year it happened, but one of those years in the late '50s, after the trip, he realized he had lost his Scottish Rite ring. The ring was the standard issue gold band Scottish Rite Masons get for completing the 14<sup>th</sup> Degree. He had gotten the ring in 1956 when he joined the Rite in Cincinnati.

"I had no idea where it went," says Browning. "One of those lakes, we overturned the canoe when we put it up on a big rock. Everything went



Browning talks about capsizing his canoe in a cold Canadian lake.

■ see FISH TALE, page 5

## In this issue of The NC Mason

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**Grand Lodge holds Annual Communication.**



page 1

**Old sign finds a new shine in Grand Lodge museum.**



page 2

**Orr Lodge volunteers as emergency shelter.**



pages 8

**A Masonic ring takes a fishy journey home.**

**The North Carolina Mason**  
The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, AF&AM  
600 College Street  
Oxford, North Carolina 27565

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



Volume 135 Number 5

September/October 2010



The Grand Lodge held its 223<sup>rd</sup> Annual Communication September 24–25. It was a pleasant meeting with plenty of good fellowship and little friction. Learn more about what happened on page one of this issue.

Ric Carter photos

Ric Carter photo