



NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



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Hiram 40 Treasurer Ron Page and his granddaughters cut the ribbon to launch the 2011 Triangle Walk to Defeat ALS.

ALS Walk with a Masonic friend

By Ric Carter

MORRISVILLE — Ron Page was the classic worker Mason. He served Hiram 40 as master and later as treasurer. Whenever the lodge barbecued to raise money for charity, he was there lending a hand. When Grand Secretary Walt Clapp asked Ron to chair Annual Communication, Ron promised him ten years. He gave 15.

Just last year, Ron had the barest hint that something was amiss with his body — maybe a little carpal tunnel problem or some aggravation of aging. But, the problems didn't level off, they got worse. After much testing and deliberation, doctors told him he had a motor neuron disease. Finally, they said, "Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis" — Lou Gehrig's disease.

ALS is a disease of the motor neurons, the connectors between the brain and the muscles. When the disease strikes, the victim's muscles no longer respond to the orders of the brain. Eventually, the unresponsiveness extends all the way to breathing.

Ron and his family stepped up to fight the fight. They did what they could to find people who could help them cope with their new burden. One of the places they found help was with

the ALS Association. To help make sure that others got the same assistance they did, Ron and Sue Page gave back by organizing a team for the annual Walk to Defeat ALS.

Reaching out to Hiram 40 to participate brought a big response. It was such a big response that Ron's Jam'n Jellys and Jams (his

see WALK, page 4

At right, Page was very proud as he claimed the prize for Most Walkers. Below, a portion of the more than 2,000 people who walked April 2 to help defeat the dread killer ALS.

Ric Carter photos



Masons host their legislative brothers

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — A number of members of North Carolina's legislature are Masons. Our Grand Lodge and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge hold a reception for them annually. For this year's session, the reception was held April 5. They were hosted in a restaurant near the legislative offices. A few 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

see LEGISLATORS, page 4



Senator Bob Atwater, retired Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake, and State Geologist Jim Simons chat at the reception.



Grand Master Ledford and Senator Andrew Brock discuss the matters of the day.

THE BOTTOM LINE



Historical Facts About Our Ritual

By Lewis R. Ledford
Grand Master

Brethren, It has been very enriching and enjoyable meeting many of you at the district meetings this spring as we have spoken about being passionate and competent as Freemasons. We have spoken

often of our heritage. In that regard, I thought you would find the following article of interest:

Developments in the second quarter of the eighteenth-century

By Kent Brinkley

A large gap exists today in our historical knowledge of what was transpiring with English Masonic ritual development during the critical period between 1730 and 1760. During this thirty-year interval, apparently lodge practices and ritualistic conventions changed dramatically; slowly coalescing into the more modern ritualistic forms that would be more recognizable today. These changes can be discovered by making a comparison between the published English Masonic ritual exposures by Samuel Pritchard in 1730, and those that came after 1760; a close examination of which clearly indicates that some significant and dramatic changes had taken place over the preceding three decades.

The most glaring and obvious changes during that period in-

cluded changes in the placement of the wardens within the lodge room (i.e., from having both wardens seated together in the west to the junior warden being placed in the south), changes in the placement within the lodge room of what we refer to as "the Three Great Lights" and "the Three Lesser Lights" (which, up until then, were simply thought of as "candles"), the differences in the placement of a candidate's hands as he was taking his obligations in all three degrees, different ways the apron was worn for each of the three degrees, and the appearance of the deacons as lodge officers.

The formation of the two rival Grand Lodges in London had, in fact, created two distinctly different ways of interpreting speculative Freemasonry; ritualistic trends and practices that, in fact, still remain a part of our common Masonic heritage throughout much of the world today. A major English exposure was called *The Three Distinct Knocks*. It purported to portray how most Antient Lodges practiced the Masonic ritual of the three degrees during the second half of the eighteenth-century, and was probably imported into England by Irish Brethren.

It is in this particular ritual exposure that we find the first appearance and descriptions for the raising and lowering of the wardens' columns, the first indication of the different arrangements of the compasses and square in the different degrees, the earliest description of the procedure for "Calling Off" from labor to refreshment and "Calling On," as well as the earliest description of an installation ceremony of a new master.

The next English ritual exposure to appear, Jachin and Boaz,

published in London in 1762 by Goodall, was representative of what was then the predominant style of ritual workings by a large majority of Modern lodges. By then, many, if not most, of the Modern lodges had started to include deacons in their ritual workings. It was perhaps even more significant in that Jachin and Boaz was the first exposure to introduce the following elements that were, by then, present within the Moderns' ritual working. It listed the necessary qualifications for a candidate, the inclusion of formal opening and closing ceremonies as we know them today, the inclusion of ceremonies for going from labor to refreshment and refreshment to labor, a description of proper methods of preparing candidates for all three degrees, different obligations for each of the three degrees, the first appearance of passwords, circumambulations, and working tools being symbolized, the first mention of lessons on Charity, a description of methods of apron wear in each degree, and the traditional history of the third degree was given for the first time.

From an examination of this particular exposure, it is clear that the first section degree ceremonies had evolved considerably between 1730 and 1760. The intellectuals in both rival grand lodges began to have more of an impact on the philosophy and symbolism being taught in the Masonic ritual. This was done by the formal lecturers publishing their respective, interpretive, versions of the Masonic lectures; the first of them being Rev. Wellins Cal-

see BOTTOM LINE, page 2

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The subtle knot of the mystic tie

You can never know for sure what a person values simply from their behavior. Perhaps we cannot even be confident of our own values.

Burnie Batchelor died in late January of this year at age 85. I knew Burnie only for the last few years of his life. Burnie was arguably Raleigh's foremost photographer in the second half of the last century. Of the skilled portraitist, *News & Observer* columnist A. C. Snow said, "You couldn't get married in Raleigh unless Burnie took your picture."

Burnie was born in Nashville, NC and joined Morning Star 85 there when he turned 21. Just a few years later, he moved to Raleigh to open his studio, and he moved his lodge membership to Hiram 40 in 1952.

All the reports we hear are that Burnie was never active in the lodge. He was what Masons call (sometimes derisively) a "card carrier." From the outside, one might think that he held his membership in low esteem. But, are we sure?

He suffered dementia in his later years, but continued to get around well and enjoyed riding around and going out for meals. His nurse would drive him about and do what she could to satisfy his whims. The Grand Lodge office, not far from his home, was a regular stop for them.

Burnie would come in the building as his nurse explained that he was concerned about his membership status. We would reassure him that everything was fine and that his lodge secretary was a good one who would make sure he was in good standing. He was always smiling and was appreciative when we told him he was

in good standing.

Though Burnie may never have been active in the lodge, it was clear that while more and more things were taken from him as his dementia advanced, Freemasonry clung to a place of importance. No matter if he fully understood his concerns, there was frequent evidence that his membership in the lodge was special.

There are Masons every year in North Carolina who get their 50-year membership awards who have hardly attended lodge since their raising. Some offer that this says something bad about Masonry — that it offers nothing of sufficient interest to get the member back.

But, what other organization do we know which would see such faith. What club has men pay dues for years when they never cross the threshold again after joining. What it says is that there is something extraordinary going on with our fraternity. There is something so striking about joining and being associated with Freemasonry and the other Freemasons in our communities, that we feel the need to carry it with us even in the face of inactivity. We feel that need even when others do not know our association. The nearly subconscious connection to the Craft can be strong, perhaps stronger than we know.

I often wondered if Burnie's insistent visits to the office told more than even he knew himself in his younger, cogent years.

Do each of us carry some stronger tie of which we are seldom conscious? Does it lie there waiting for awakening if only we dwell upon it for a few moments more?



Ric Carter photo

Coming up next issue

The North Carolina Pig Jig entered its sixth year in May. More people ate pig cooked by more teams than ever before. In our next issue, we'll have a look around the Pig Jig and find out how things turned out for the teams and for the charities the event supports.

What's a Christian to do?

By George P. Weister

I am occasionally asked questions about Freemasonry and Christianity. I had an interesting series of email visits with a brother.

He couldn't understand how I, as an evangelical born again Christian, could pray and not invoke the name of Christ. The fact is, I do in my personal prayers, or when I know that all of those who hear my voice are Christians, or when leading in a Christian worship service.

Using general terms like "Grand Architect of the Universe" helps transport the hearer into the arms of his/her own deity. I do not pray in the name of the deity of another religion.

It seems obvious to me that Freemasonry was established by Christians, but it was created with a view toward tolerance that exceeds the bounds of Christian belief.

While the scriptures we use in our degree work are from the Old Testament, which we share with those of the Jewish faith, there are also scriptural allusions in our work to the New Testament as well. Hearing the Master's voice proclaim, "Well done good and faithful servant" is a New Testament concept, but the notion of an afterlife is common to most world religions. Members of the Knights Templar take an oath to Jesus Christ, and are the only truly Christian organization in Freemasonry.

There seems to be a parallel between the founding of Freemasonry and the founding of our nation.

Just as it is clear that our nation was founded primarily by Christians and upon Christian principles, it was open to people of all manner of religious belief or unbelief. Religious tolerance was not experienced by most of the colonists in

their homeland, but it was to be a founding principle of the new nation.

In this same way those early fathers of our fraternity also saw the advantage of creating an organization of men based upon morality and a belief in deity without requiring a belief in one particular faith. They wanted to reach across the divides that often separate and compartmentalize us and create an organization that unites men of high standards.

A unique view of this can be found in Jim McNabney's *Born In Brotherhood*, a well researched book that takes the facts of Freemasonry's involvement in the creation of our country and brings them to life.

If every Freemason you know is a Christian, it doesn't mean that Freemasonry is a Christian organization. If all of the members of your lodge are Christians, it doesn't make your lodge a Christian lodge — it is simply a lodge made up of Christians.

Your lodge, the grand lodge, the Lions Club and the United States Senate all have chaplains and prayers, but they aren't Christian groups. They are simply groups that have chaplains and prayer.

A Christian Mason is a Mason who also happens to be a Christian, as is a Jewish Mason or a Muslim Mason. A Masonic Christian is one who in his Masonic degrees makes a specific oath to Jesus Christ, as do members of the Knights Templar. Freemasons are measured by the square, the level, and the plumb, not by the Cross!

Previously published in Indiana Freemason by Indiana Grand Chaplain George P. Weister, 2010.



Ric Carter photo

Waste not

GREENSBORO — P.P. Turner 746 brought disposable aprons when they hosted Grand Master Ledford's district meeting in April. They were leaving when Master Ross Geller noticed that the aprons seemed to still be in pretty good shape. Waste not, want not. They couldn't resist stopping and saving the aprons for another occasion. Green and thrift are Masonic virtues.

The 60-degree compass

By Jack L. Abrams

Do you know why the compass is opened at 60 degrees on the volume of the Sacred Law and Masonic emblem?

The reason is the equilateral triangle always has been sacred.

The sum of all angles of any triangle is equal to two right angles or 180 degrees. Each of the equal angles of any equilateral triangle is equal to one-third of the two right angles (180 divided by 3 equals 60) which is 60 degrees. The compass thus set at 60 degrees alludes to the equilateral triangle and if the two points were united by a straight line, it would form one.

Our ancient brethren placed the equilateral triangle itself on the altar. The compass opened at 60 degrees has been substituted.

Furthermore, if a circle of any size be drawn,

a chord (a line segment that joins two points on a curve) of 60 degrees of that circle will be equal to its radius and the compass so set will divide the circle into six equal parts. The points thus made, with the one in the center, constitute the mystic number seven.

The six external points if joined by six straight lines, will form the hexagon within the circle, one of the perfect circles.

Or, if we unite these six points in another way, we have union with the point within the circle. This is the most sacred emblem of Pythagoras, known in all ages as the seal of Solomon by which he bound the Genii that rebelled against God.

From the February 2006 Trestle Board of Ionic Composite 520, by way of The Southern California Research Lodge.

BOTTOM LINE, from page 1

cott (1726-after 1779). Calcott was the first "roving" or traveling Masonic lecturer. In 1769, he published the first book which purported to explain the purpose and character of Freemasonry, that is, its composition and substance, as distinguished from the older, printed constitutions and various ritual exposures.

His book, published in London, was titled, *A Candid Disquisition of the Principles and Practices of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, together with some Strictures on the Origin, Nature, and Design of the Institution*. The contents of the book, while not written in a lively nor easily understood style of prose, even for that comparatively formal time period, nevertheless helped to illustrate the somewhat dry and rather sparse character of Masonic philosophy that existed within the rituals at that point in time. Calcott's book was extremely popular in its time, and was reprinted several times; both in England, and in what was soon to become the United States.

It is interesting to note that Calcott was the first author to

include the phrase, "every moral and social virtue" in the Master's closing prayer. He was the first to discuss the story of the Ephramites at the River Jordan, the world of Pythagoras and the Egyptian philosophers, it was he who was the first to point out "that in all ages the right hand has been deemed the seat of fidelity," and added the language of "the two right hands joining." Calcott also was the first to relate the custom of removing the shoe in the book of Ruth as being testimony in Israel, the charge to the lodge that there should be no discussion of religion or politics, that Masons are to subdue their passions and improve in useful knowledge, and was the first to mention that it was, "the internal, and not the external, qualifications" that make a man a Mason. All of these varied aspects of our current ritual's language came out of Calcott's book, although he probably borrowed some phrases from one or more versions of the *Old Charges* and *Anderson's Constitutions*.

Brother Calcott traveled widely and lectured throughout the entire British Isles, and even came to the American colonies for a

short period of time to teach and lecture. It is not widely known today that Rev. Brother Calcott even taught his versions of the three degree lectures to several prominent early American Masons, including: Joseph Warren, Paul Revere, and Robert Livingston.

Just three years after the publication of Calcott's book, another notable treatise was published by a London Masonic lecturer and avid Freemason; one who was, perhaps, the most influential of all the eighteenth-century English lecturers: William Preston (1742-1818). Preston was born in Scotland, came to London in 1760 as a young man, while serving as a printer's apprentice. He eventually became a very active and well-known Freemason there; being involved in both the Grand Lodge, as well as quite a large number of London Lodges working in both Modern and Antient ritual — and serving as a master in some of these. In time, he determined to take the best of all of the various ritual styles of working and expository lectures that he had heard and compile these into a book.

The Virginia Masonic Herald, Fall 2008 by way of *Fraternal Review*

Your articles and NC Mason Deadlines

Got something you want to say? Have an announcement to make or invitation to get out? If your lodge never gets mentioned here, appoint yourself lodge reporter, and keep us posted on what you guys are doing. Got suggestions for features? Requests for information? We don't have the space for everything, but we'll make every effort to take care of those things with the broadest interest across the state. The dates below will give you an idea of when you need to get timely matters to us.

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

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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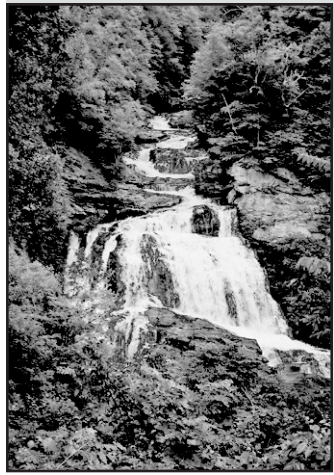
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TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter



Kenly

Kenly 257 was hosting their barbecue chicken plate lunch fundraiser on Sunday, April 17. Drive through service was available. Money from the project was to go to Masonic charities and the lodge's scholarship to a North Johnston High School student.

At the 16th Masonic District's meeting here January 12, attendees decided to push a few points around the district. They will emphasize appointing a mentor for each new Mason and encouraging newly raised Masons to learn their third degree catechism. On the growing front, they were urging lodges to invite good prospects to visit their lodges on meal nights to become familiar with the lodge. They also wanted to put the push on the district's traveling gavel, SAMON. Their next district meeting was to be held April 13. — Grover Dees

Robbinsville

Awards Night at Robbinsville 672 was set for April 16. They had 60-, 50-, and 25-year awards set for presentation. — Derek Cheek

Charlotte

When Kenny Barnette made new cabinets for Charles M. Setzer 693, he added a more important piece of lodge furniture — a new altar. It's an elegant piece of woodwork complete with kneeling benches.

Setzer Lodge was visiting Unique 85 PHA for a first degree on April 11. — *Trestleboard*

Temple 676 delayed the raising of Jeffery Berlin until March 10 to allow his uncle from Virginia to attend. His uncle is Colonel Ed Shames, a WWII vet who is one of the eight surviving members of Easy Company made famous in the William Ambrose/HBO series *Band of Brothers*. — *Trestle Board*

Warsaw

The Student Council at James Kenan High School was recently having a relief drive for victims of the Japanese earthquakes. Warsaw 677 chipped in to help the drive.

Warsaw Lodge has a plan to put flags in place on their front columns by Memorial Day. They will install United States, North Carolina, and two Masonic flags. — *Warsaw Lodge*

Gastonia

Steve Willis is turning out informational pamphlets for King Solomon 704. The flyers cover a number of subjects related to travel, safety, and similar public service topics. They are distributed to the public and help educate. They also bring attention the lodge's way.

On February 26, a crew of seven members of the lodge performed their Adopt-A-Highway responsibilities. They gathered nine bags of trash and one of recyclables along Gaston Day School Road. They were hitting it again April 23.

The lodge participated in the local Relay for Life effort May 6. The event helps fight cancer.

There were a couple of fun outings for the lodge also. They were having a Dinner With Our Ladies at a local restaurant May 5. Also in May, they planned to attend as a group Gastonia Little Theater's production of "Always Patsy Cline."

King Solomon Master James W. Howell has promised to donate \$25 to charity every time 25 or more members of the lodge attend a meeting. — *The Plumb Line*

Gastonia 369 had Gaston County Sheriff Alan Cloninger as a guest speaker for one of their recent meetings. Cloninger is a member of Gaston 263. — Rick Clanton

Winston-Salem

Old Town 751 is investing some time in their history, gathering and borrowing things to share with all. Tom Hauser loaned them a number of photos and other memorabilia. You should soon be able to see some of these things on their website: <www.oldtownlodge.org>.

After a very good response to their Bikes for Books program last year, Old Town Lodge is sponsoring it again this year. They are finding continued strong interest in the program which encourages reading among young students.

OTL's Spring Pancake Supper was set for April 8. They were expecting to bring in about \$500 for charity.

The lodge is sponsoring a Rainbow Girl to Rainbow Camp this summer. — *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Mount Gilead

Blackmer 127 took a field trip to Richmond, Virginia in April. They were visiting the grave of Major Edmund Christian who served as their master in 1859. He was buried in Richmond after being killed at the Civil War's Battle of Seven Pines. We will have a more complete report in a later issue of *The North Carolina Mason*. — *Blackmer Buzz*

Salisbury

Fulton 99 and Andrew Jackson 576 are preparing to replace the windows in their shared building. There are 40 windows to replace at an estimated cost of \$600 each. They are currently taking pledges and will place a plate on windows in honor of those who donated enough to place one window. — *Master's Journal*

Asheville

Inza Lance, Masonic Service Association representative to the VA Medical Center in Asheville died March 22. So far as we know, Ms. Inza is the only woman to hold the position in North Carolina. The MSA coordinates many volunteers in the nation's VA system. Lance was credited with more than 15,000 volunteer hours with the program. — *Asheville Citizen-Times*

Greensboro

Corinthian 542 was holding the Corinthian Lodge Golf Classic April 9. They were holding it at the Country Hills Golf Course in Greensboro. Besides trophies for first and second place teams, there were to be awards for longest drive and closest to pin. Proceeds were going to the North Carolina Masonic charities. — Ed Marsh

Paw Creek

West Gate 738 is working with Cell Phones for Soldiers collecting old cell phones. The group recycles the phones and uses the proceeds to buy calling cards for servicemen and women deployed overseas.

West Gate held their Ladies' Night Banquet February 19 at the Metroliner Shrine Club. — *News From the West*



P. P. Turner meets at WhiteStone

GREENSBORO — On March 17, P. P. Turner 746 held a meeting in the new activity room of the recently refurbished Linville Building at WhiteStone (MESH). Mark Kolada, WhiteStone administrator, was there to tell them about the home. He noted that it was the first use of the new activity area by a lodge. The Greensboro lodge held an emergent communication for the purpose of Masonic education. They received their district deputy grand master and district deputy grand lecturer on their

official visits at the same meeting. Local lodges often have special relationships with the Homes.

Turner Lodge was to hold a similar emergent meeting at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford May 14 at 11:00 A.M. Assistant Administrator Chris Richardson was to speak about the Home for Children. The presentation was to be open to non-Masons. Friends and wives were encouraged to attend. They planned to have lunch with some of the children at noon, then finish with a tour of the campus. — J. Ross Geller

Hillsborough

Eagle 19 refurbished the shutters on the east side of the lodge last fall. Since it was a piece of historically authentic restoration, it was pricey at \$7,500. They did the job aided by grants from foundations and organizations interested in maintaining the historical tourism of the town. The lodge added labor and screens and paint.

Next they are going for the shutters on the west side. They are also getting estimates on gutter and fascia boards. Painting of the roof is on the horizon in a couple of years.

Contributions to the building are tax deductible due to their historic status and corporate foundation, the Historic Eagle Lodge Foundation. — The Historic Eagle Lodge Foundation

Pilot Mountain

Pilot 492 held their Spring Barbecue Fundraiser April 9. — Homer Dearmin

Pilot Lodge member Mark Dearmin recently received the Daniel Carter Beard Scouter Award. It goes to Masons who have made outstanding contributions to scouting. Dearmin is assistant scout master of Troop 400 in Pinnacle. Old Hickory Council Scout Executive Steve Wilburn and 25th District Deputy Grand Master Jim Rutledge made the presentation January 8. — Aaron Whitener

Statesville

Mt. Moriah 690 and Statesville 27 held their annual Masonic Home for Children Pancake Jamboree April 15-16. Business was steady, and the dining room was full for two hours on Friday night and two-and-a-half hours on Saturday morning.

Statesville Lodge was participating in Relay for Life for the second consecutive year May 21-22.

Joe Link was named Secretary of Distinction February 15. Link served as Statesville Lodge's secretary from 2002 through 2010. — *The Joppa Informer*

Raleigh

Millbrook 97 held its Spring Barbecue April 29. The Fall Barbecue is set for October 7. — *Millbrook Messenger*

Hendersonville

Kedron 387 presented service awards February 24. Donald Arthur McAllister received his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. 50-year Veteran's Emblems went to Ronald Allen McKnight, Gerald Henry Martin, and Sam Stanley Settle. — Martin Osteen

Columbus

On the second Saturday of each month, Horse Creek 719 hosts a social breakfast at the Saluda Truck Stop. If you want to drop by, they meet there at 8:30 A.M.

Horse Creek Lodge has increased their dues to \$30 plus per capita (currently \$17). — *Horse Creek Lodge*

Green Level

For many years Green Level 277 was the Masonic home to the Ferrell Brothers. The several brothers were jokingly referred to as the Green Level Mafia. They were much loved by Masons across the state. The last of the batch died March 6. Bruce Ferrell was 95 years old.

Kinston

Richard Caswell 705 recently held a basic instruction session aimed at men raised in the last five years. Everyone was invited though. The district deputy grand master and lecturer were to be on hand to answer questions. What they were interested in was all those little day-to-day questions which often get missed in Masonic education. Coffee, drink, and doughnuts were offered. — Tony Gordon

Enka

Hominy 491 had their Poor Man's Supper set for April 16. A five-dollar ticket would get you a plate of pinto beans, cornbread, cole slaw, onions, and iced tea. Proceeds were going to the Masonic Home for Children. — *Hominy Lodge*

Thomasville

Thomasville 214 member Von Louya recently received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership. On May 3, they gave Frank Picklesimer his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. Gus Plakakis Jr. got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years service. — Frank Muscatello

The pine needle sale at Thomasville Loge is moving along. At last report, they had sold 500 bales at five dollars each. There were 500 yet to sell. — *Trestle Board*

Garner

The two lodges here, Garner 701 and Vandora 745, joined together for a fundraiser for the Masonic Home for Children. The policed the grounds after the Triangle Beach Music Festival collecting discarded aluminum cans. They sold the cans to a recycler for \$495. The cash went to the Home. — Ronnie Lee

Jacksonville

The last Onslow County Scholarship meeting of the year was held at New River 736. They raised \$1,312 that night. — *Trestle Board*

Semper Fidelis 680 has their Ladies' Night Out scheduled for June 11. The cooks will be grilling. Brother Bill Frost will bring his magic show. — *Trestle Board*

Laurinburg

Laurinburg 305 is holding a golf tournament June 18 at Deercroft Golf and Country Club. Entry fee is \$50 per person or \$200 per team. For those who want an edge, Muligans are five dollars, or you can use one red tee for five dollars. Door prizes will be awarded as will trophies for longest drive, closest to pin, and hole-in-one. For more information call Rick Best at (910) 280-6576 or Mike Nobles at (910) 369-2744. — *Laurinburg Lodge*

Oak Island

Want your name on a lodge chair? Oak Island 758 is selling plates for their existing chairs. Prices are \$100 or \$200 for a chair "in the East." They were starting with 30 vacancies. No word on how many are already gone. — Brent Wuchae

Manteo

Manteo 521's annual Pancake Breakfast was set for April 23.

Their Past Masters'/Widows' and Awards Night is scheduled for June 13. — *More Light*

Hope Mills

Lebanon 391 has been working for the Masonic Home for Children this year. In the first quarter, they filled piggy banks for the Home. They delivered a check for \$650 at the end of March. The lodge held their second golf tournament March 12 and made another \$400 for the Home. — Andrew F. McMillan

Cary

Cary 198 held their Spring Barbecue on April 8. — *Trestle Board*

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.

WALK, from page 1

Walk team) won the title for most walkers in the Triangle Walk to Defeat ALS.

The Walk was held April 2 at Credit Suisse's campus in Morrisville. More than 2,200 people participated on several teams. Nearly \$250,000 was raised for the cause. Goals of the Walk are threefold: awareness, education, and raising money.

The large crowd of Ron's friends had a great time visiting together and meeting other members of his extended family. Ron had a fine time and spoke about how touched and thankful he was for all his friends who took part. Just three days before his May 19 death, he asked the editor to pass along his thanks to his brothers for their participation in the walk and their continuous reaching out to him and his family.

Another member of the Masonic family some of you may know, Brenda Wilkins, also suffers from the disease. Brenda was for some years the first voice you heard when you called or visited the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford.

Ron and Brenda ask you to continue your support in the fight to beat ALS. You may contribute to ALS Association, Jim Catfish Hunter Chapter, 120-101 Penmarc Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603. Feel free to add Ron's name to your donation.

Remembering Ron

By Ric Carter

Ron Page was a great friend to our Grand Lodge. For 15 years, he was general chairman of Annual Communication. He was widely recognized by Masons from around the state. If something was not working right at our annual meeting, Ron was the man to talk to. He had the connections and the plan to make the problem go away. He was also a social host for the meeting. His laughing face and supply of snacks and drinks kept many a worker charged up during an unrelenting schedule.

Fewer know his other place in the history of Tarheel Masonry. Ron was master of Hiram 40 in 1992. It was then that he became the first master (so far as is known) to seat a black Ma-

son in one of our lodges.

A Nigerian tourist was visiting the Triangle. He brought his credentials from the Grand Lodge of England and wanted to visit a local lodge. He was very dark complected. Ron thought through the issue. He knew that seating a good Mason from a recognized lodge was the right thing to do. Ron also knew that there would be back pressure from some elements. What to do became clear to him. How to do was the question.

After consulting several authorities and others he respected, Ron had his plan. The visitor had verified Masonic credentials from our mother grand lodge. Objection to visitors was a matter of opinion at the time. Some thought that a member had an unchallengeable right to object to a visitor and prevent his being admitted. Not all agreed.

Ron announced to his lodge what was going to happen at their next assembly. He was going to seat a visiting black Mason in his lodge. Knowing this was the Mason's first visit to the country, it was not possible that anyone in the lodge knew anything about the man personally. Therefore, no one could have any objection to his seating that was Masonically defensible. His color, or reaction to his color, would have been the only objection anyone could have. Ron, as master, announced that he therefore would not entertain any objections to seating the visitor. If anyone had problems with the visit, it would be proper for them to skip the meeting.

The meeting was held. The Mason of color had a pleasant visit. Members of Hiram 40 enjoyed his visit. The world did not spin off its axis. Masonry in North Carolina had taken one giant step with the help and courage of Ron Page.

Top, Vicki and Justin Lam came from the Grand Lodge office to walk. Bottom, Ron with sons Adam and David and some of his brothers from Hiram 40.



From the Outside Looking In

A Mason was having trouble with his ritual, and was telling a fellow Mason in a pub about it.

His friend said, "I know a bloke down the road who sells parrots who know the ritual and prompt you when you have any trouble."

His next day off, he went to the shop. "Yes," the man said, "I have three." He pulled a back a curtain, and there were three parrots, one with a Mason's apron on, one with a master's apron, and one with a past master's apron.

The man asked, "How much is the one with the master's apron?" "\$2,000, and he knows all the ritual, including the inner workings. He will always prompt you when you get stuck."

"No," he said, "He's too expensive. What about the one with the Master Mason's apron on?"

"Well, that one is \$1,000, and he knows all the ritual, but not the inner workings, but he will always prompt you while you are learning it."

"No, he's too much, too. What about the one with the past master's apron?"

"You can have him for ten dollars."

"Why so cheap, he must not know all the ritual and the inner workings?"

"Oh yes, he knows all the ritual, but when you make a mistake all he does is sit there and go, 'Tut! Tut! Tut!'"

— From *Blackmer Buzz*, 2004.



McLawhorn 50-Year

HOOKERTON — In January, J. B. McLawhorn, center, was presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years as a Mason. He is a member of Jerusalem 95 and Ayden 495. Bennie Heath, 11th District Deputy Grand Master presented the award. Seen here are, from left, Shea McLawhorn, Bernice McLawhorn, J. B., Johnny McLawhorn, and Heath. His sons Johnny and Shea are past masters. — Charlie Hall

STATE, from page 3

Selma

Past Masters' and Ladies' Night at Selma 320 was set for April 16. — Grover Dees

Smithfield

Fellowship 84 held their Annual Pancake Breakfast March 26. — Harvey Evans

Princeton

St. Patrick's 617 was having their Past Masters' and Ladies' Night April 9. — Grover Dees

LEGISLATORS, from page 1



Representatives Mitchell Setzer and Efton Sagar greet each other at the reception.

legislative session.

Our members in the North Carolina Senate include Bob Atwater, Harris Blake, Dan Blue, Andrew Brock, Harry Brown, and Donald Vaughan. Masons in the House of Representatives include Bill Faison, Mitch Gillespie, Dan Ingle, Efton Sager, Mitchell S. Setzer, and Linda Johnson (who is an Eastern Star and married to a Mason). Other guests at this year's reception were retired Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake Jr. and State Geologist James D. Simons.



Friday interviews GM Ledford for NC People

By Ric Carter

CHAPEL HILL — Any grown-up in North Carolina knows of Bill Friday, the long-time president (1956–1986) of our university system. For more than 30 years, Friday has hosted North Carolina People on UNC-TV in which he interviews prominent North Carolina citizens. His style is relaxed and conversational. When Grand Master Ledford (thanks to his status as head of NC State Parks.) was invited to be a guest, I was excited to see the taping for myself.

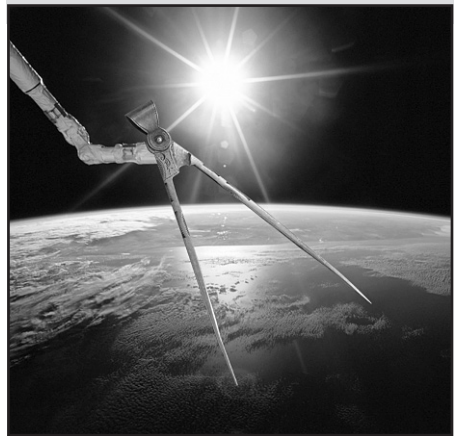
Ledford was to arrive 30–45 minutes before taping. That allowed time for some simple makeup to knock down the glare and shadows created by studio lighting. Friday arrived as Ledford's makeup was mostly finished and made small talk about shared experience and their upcoming conversation. Friday had just a few handwritten notes.

Taping was done straight through and without edits. Intros, questions, answers, and summaries were done in real time without retakes. Before rolling tape, producer Bobby Dobbs gives the guest a summary of what to expect, and then retires to his place operating one of the two cameras used on the show. Dobbs faces Friday (you can see him at right in the photo above) and keeps Friday apprised of remaining time as the show progresses. Less than 30 minutes after the signal to start, the guest is done and free to head home.

Clockwise, from top, The width of the studio is seen here just before taping starts. Ledford gets a little touching up for the harsh lights of the studio. Friday arrives at work entering through a back door and workshop of Swain Hall.



ENCOMPASSING THE WORLD



Power struggle in Nebraska results in two claiming to be grand master

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA — The Grand Lodge of Nebraska has recently pulled through a serious crisis in leadership. Grand Master John T. Parsons refused to relinquish his office after their annual communication. Deputy Grand Master E. David Watts held an unapproved ceremony in February and had himself installed as grand master. How did they come to the point of having two men claim to be grand master at the same time?

In Nebraska, when a man is elected deputy grand master, he is also elected grand master elect. He does not face another ballot before becoming grand master the following year.

Shortly before their annual communication in 2010, Grand Master Elect Watts was arrested on multiple felony charges in a domestic disturbance at the home of an ex-girlfriend.

Officers of the grand lodge brought charges against Watts and refused to allow his installation until such time as the charges were heard. Their Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence concurred as Grand Master Parsons ordered that a man could not be installed in office while under Masonic charges. While Parsons continued in office due to the circumstances, Watts organized his own installation ceremony. The grand lodge had Watts' name removed from all financial authority of the grand lodge.

On April 6, 2011, Watts was found guilty in his Masonic trial and sentenced to a one year suspension from the fraternity. Grand Master Parsons, having seen the trial through to its conclusion, then issued his resignation. Effective April 16, by way of the line of succession, Senior Grand Warden Bruce Baker became grand master of Nebraska.

Canadian lodge in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN — Canada Lodge UD held its first meeting March 4, 2010. Masons from the United States and Canada attended. The lodge's purpose is "providing a place for Masons from any of the jurisdictions recognized by the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario to meet." Canada Lodge held its first two initiations July 1. Wayne Fraser, a civilian worker at Kandahar Airfield is the lodge's first master. — *EMESSAYNotes*

DC charters Filipino lodge

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Maynilad Lodge has been chartered in Washington, DC by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. Its purpose is to furnish a home lodge for 300 Filipino Masons in the District. They began operating under dispensation in 2009. A number of lodges there are set up for nationals from around the world. Several of the lodges in the District work in languages other than English. Maynilad is the original name for Manila. — *The Voice of Freemasonry*

River degree in Idaho

SOMEWHERE ON THE BOISE RIVER, IDAHO — Hagerman 78 was planning quite an outdoor degree June 11. They are calling it a River Lodge because they are rafting 16 miles down the middle fork of the Boise River. Partway, they will stop and do their degree work. They are expecting a large flotilla. Fourteen passenger vans were lined up to bring everyone home after the ten-hour outing. — *The Idaho Freemason*

Lodge owns a ferry

CLEARWATER, MINNESOTA — Many towns on the Mississippi River began as ferry crossings. Clearwater Lodge 28's historic building is built near the site of the old ferry landing. Back in 2008, the lodge built a replica ferry to celebrate their local heritage. They use it for display or as a parade float. Last year they launched it onto the river and ferried folk back and forth across the river to raise money for charity. They brought in \$450 from sales of food and tee shirts at the celebration. More than 250 people rode.

When they finished, the crew cut their lines and drifted eight miles down river to further enjoy a weekend of great weather and fellowship. — *The Minnesota Mason*

Notes

RIVERTON, ILLINOIS — The 28th Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl was to be held here March 8. The Masons of Illinois sponsor the event to promote "academic excellence and recognition of the same." Lodges sponsor local school teams for \$150. The top four teams in each Sectional and the top four teams in the State Tournament are awarded scholarships ranging from \$100-\$1,500. — *Illinois Freemasonry*

BARRE, VERMONT — Young Masons 111 is just what you would guess. It is a traveling lodge especially for young Masons and meets six times a year. Lodge officers (except the treasurer and secretary) must be under 45 years old. They insist that they have the same emphasis of any other lodge in Vermont: "Vermont Masonic ritual, Masonic education, and fellowship." Older Masons may be associate members. — *The Green Mountain Freemason*

MADISON, WISCONSIN — At their June Annual Communication, the Masons of Wisconsin will be voting on raising their per capita from \$31 to \$37. — *The Wisconsin Masonic Journal*

NEW ZEALAND — The Freemasons Charity of New Zealand spent nearly \$100,000 (US) on placing GPS units in 500 ambulances and support vehicles for St. John. St. John provides ambulance, emergency care, and community care in New Zealand. — *Fraternal Review*

The Freemasons of New Zealand and the Arts Foundation continue to fund the New Generation Awards. The \$25,000 awards go to "artists in the early stage of career, with significant achievements, and an exciting future." — *New Zealand Freemason*

CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND — In October, Daylight 48 Master Thomas Blacke claimed two Guinness World Records. The Rhode Island Mason, who is also president of the International Association of Escape Artists, now owns six records. On October 27, he took the record for escape from chains (his 7.83 seconds is the new mark completely overshadowing the previous 49.67 seconds) and escape from handcuffs while underwater (8.34 seconds, besting the old 10.66). — *Rhode Island Freemason*

Jersey heads into annual communication

BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY — Some interesting measures were being debated at this spring's Grand Lodge of New Jersey annual communication. They were to consider lowering the minimum age to petition from 21 to 18 years old. They were also voting on charging two assessments of the membership: two dollars per member for two years for restoration of a ballroom in their headquarters and 50¢ per member for three years for digitizing historic grand lodge proceedings.

New Jersey Grand Lodge is again presenting Scout of the Year awards. They will recognize one Scout in each council with a \$100 Saving Bond. A Scout of the Year will be honored at annual communication with a check for \$1,000. — *The New Jersey Freemason*



Hiram 40 selling Secret Sauce

RALEIGH — Hiram 40 is now brewing and selling its award-winning "Original Secret Sauce" to help raise funds for charity.

The Original Secret Sauce helped Hiram 40 win Grand Champion and People's Choice titles at the 2010 Carolina Pig Jig barbecue competition. And, according to the lodge's pit masters, the traditional eastern style spicy "vinnie" finishing sauce goes especially well with grilled and baked chicken, pork, and fish.

Chartered in 1799 and self-described as "The Barbecue Brotherhood," Hiram 40 has earned a reputation for great barbecue and extraordinary sauce. The lodge currently plans to only brew their Original Secret Sauce in limited small-batches and sell the sauce exclusively during their spring and fall barbecue fundraising drives.

The Original Secret Sauce was first sold to the public at Hiram 40's annual chicken barbecue event on April 29. It will be available directly from Hiram 40 members and online via PayPal donations at <www.Hiram40.org> in the days leading up to events. All proceeds from the sales of the sauce and barbecue go directly to charity.

To learn more about Hiram 40, the Original Secret Sauce, and the annual chicken barbecue fundraising event go to <www.Hiram40.org> or email <Info@Hiram40.org>.



Masonic Homecoming set of October

OXFORD — The Masonic Home for Children and its family of alumni are proud to bring back memories of St. John's Day, October 7-8, 2011 when we will celebrate the first annual Masonic Homecoming Festival. And there will be something for everyone from the past and the present. Oasis, Amran, and Sudan Shrines will again create North Carolina's best parade.

We will be combining the Masonic celebration with the Home's Alumni Homecoming. The new timing should give us better weather and will minimize the campus disruption.

Festivities begin on Friday, October 7 with the alumni charity golf tournament. Cooks from around the state can participate by setting up their grills for the First Masonic Homecoming Barbecue Cook-Off.

On Saturday, October 8, the old Shrine parade begins anew in the morning, followed by barbecue judging and lunch, open to all for small fee. There'll be outstanding bluegrass music. There'll be plenty of activities on campus. Homecoming activities such as the alumni volleyball game, memorial service, and crowning of the MHCO Homecoming Queen will be held later in the afternoon or the following day. Take this opportunity to visit your Home and see the care you are supporting.

In the next issue of *The NC Mason*, we will be bringing you a full schedule and details of the festivities. Until then, be sure to mark your calendar to save the weekend. The big time beneath the oaks is coming back.

Be sure to be part of it!

BENEATH THE OAKS



Please keep the light on

By Allen Hughes
Administrator
Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

Fifty-nine years ago this month, I walked out the front gate of Oxford Orphanage with suitcase in hand, ready to take on the world. Youth of today cannot conceive the fact that when I graduated high school all my worldly possessions could fit in a single suitcase.

As I walked the campus recently and heard the chapel carillon chiming hymns of praise, I was reminded once more of the grandeur of our Home. The magnificence is not only in its physical beauty but also in the beauty of life and the positive difference it has made for so many children from desperate situations, mine included.

Let me help Masonry's charities

- The North Carolina Masonic Foundation
WhiteStone, a Masonic & Eastern Star Community (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.

County had not been a Mason who was aware of the opportunities provided by Oxford Orphanage? What if Brother Andy Padgett and other members of Clay 301 had not convinced my father that the Orphanage could give his children a chance in life he couldn't provide?

In echoing the thoughts of Grand Master Ledford, we should contemplate what others are thinking when they make the comment, "He is a Mason." If through our actions we are associated with contributions to our society, such as the success of Masonry in caring for the children and elderly who are in need, the perception of a Mason will be positive.

The wonderful legacy of our children's home began in the desolate aftermath of one of the worst periods in our nation's history. Success of the Home flourished because Masons spread the word to those who needed help. We now are in another period of need, especially for those families who are struggling through the weakened economy and the devastation of recent tornados.

With my concluding remarks as administrator of this wonderful Home, I find it fitting to share comments of the first superintendent of Oxford

Orphan Asylum following its inaugural year of operations. In the conclusion of his annual report to the Grand Lodge, John H. Mills wrote:

"Having stated what has been done, and suggested what may be done, it now remains to return hearty thanks to many citizens not Masons... to many officers and members of subordinate lodges, and especially to the officers of the Grand Lodge, for their liberal contributions and cordial co-operation.

Founded at a time when our state government could not step forward to provide needed care for orphaned and homeless children, North Carolina Masons opened our children's home and seized the opportunity to help those in need. Now at a time when the federal, state, and local budgets are drastically reduced and more demands are being placed on available resources, we have the opportunity to again offer our help when need is increasing.

What does it mean to each of us to be a Mason? What do we tell others? We can demonstrate the meaning of Masonry simply by doing the right things to help others in our communities. I have an easy answer in explaining what Masonry is about by sharing that my life was changed by the charity of Masons who cared for a stranger in need and sought nothing in return.

In closing, I will again quote Brother Winston Churchill, who once said, "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Through our children's home many lives have been made as result of the generosity and caring actions of Masons and other donors. We have a responsibility to help within our communities. Now we have increased opportunities to demonstrate the meaning of Masonry because many of us live in areas where families with children have been left homeless and almost helpless by the recent storms.

Thank you, and may God bless you for the good you do for others.



WASHINGTON — Allen Hughes, Masonic Home for Children administrator, talks about the mission of the Home during Grand Master Ledford's visit to the Third Masonic District.

WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

- 1.....Jason C. Harris
3.....Luke Andrew Dalton
3.....James Frederick Schneller
7.....Christopher Gilmer Williams
13.....Rollie Stewart Dutton
19.....Rickey Lane Ashby
19.....Joseph Edward Major
27.....Dwayne Steven Christian
27.....Timothy Paul Craver
27.....John Brandon Kiff
27.....Justin Dean LaCount
27.....Troy Dean Miller
32.....Lucas Tomlinson Baker
53.....Johnathan Guary Kight
76.....Nathaniel Antonio Alvarez
83.....Daniel Eric Jackson
83.....Andrew Mark Oquendo
85.....Phillip Lynn Briggs
85.....David Brett Wooten
91.....George Lawrence Beveridge
91.....Scott Manning Burns
92.....Alex Henry Ellis
102.....Robert Baskin Cooper
102.....Brett Parker Moraes
109.....Donovan Heath Willis
112.....Joshua Dale Lane
115.....Glenn Anthony Chua
115.....William Timothy Elderdice
115.....David Franco
115.....James Andrew Hatley
115.....Bobby Dayle Price
122.....Andrew David Adcock
125.....Remus Dale Dunn
126.....Kevin Douglas Morrow
134.....Travis Matthew Bradey
137.....Michael Allen Bollinger
137.....Richard Darrell Gettys
137.....Timothy Martin Hoggard
137.....Gregory Scott Reynolds
138.....Teddy Marten Croom
138.....Lynwood Graham
143.....David Eugene Phillips
147.....Dean Roy Wilkins
154.....Derek Eugene Mowry
154.....Jamie Lewis Redding
165.....Stephen Vernon Driver
165.....Richard Owen Pack
172.....Lee Wayne Barrow
176.....Shawn David Gilmore
181.....Billy Dean Leonard
190.....Craig Shawn Davis
191.....Richard Alan Haag
191.....Walter Arnold Schmidlin III
191.....David John Weaver
198.....Steven Douglas Elkins
198.....Joseph Michael Gugliotti
198.....Andrews High Parker
202.....Ruben Shane Packer
205.....Steven Cole Blythe
205.....Charles Haywood Bush
205.....Bryan Thomas Miller
205.....Matthew Lynn Waisner
208.....Johnson David Ryan McSween
217.....Jon Andrew Dominique
217.....Cory James Kilby
217.....Timothy Bryan Kincaid
217.....Chad Phillip Robinson
217.....David Brian Whisnant
218.....Benjamin Cahse Asseff
244.....Clinton Harold Clute
249.....Mitchel Alan Lane
249.....Kevin Dale Ransom
249.....Cebert Winston Walls
253.....Bobby Lee Call
259.....Jeremy Tre Ledbetter
261.....Ghassan Lebbo Lebbo
261.....Stephen Brent Neal
261.....Ryan Christopher Phillips
261.....Justin Coleman Schwartz
262.....Derek Jordan Dellinger
262.....Wesley Adam Teague
271.....Jason Luther Coleman
271.....Gentry Lee Dean
271.....Alex Thomas McCollum
271.....Paul Eugene Sipe
271.....Justin Wade Thompson
272.....Nichols Wayne Martin
282.....Justin Brown
282.....Christopher Neal Connelly
282.....Charles Nicholas Falk
282.....Randy Mitchell Privette II
289.....Johnathon Andrew Beddard
289.....Joseph Gray Davis
289.....Billy Jack Weber Morgan
289.....Keith Bolling Franke
289.....Benton Walter Williams
294.....Orville Crowder Jones III
300.....Clifton Earl Williams
301.....Jeremy Brandon Davenport
301.....Johnathan Scroggs
304.....William Rossie Gray Jr.
304.....Donald Glenn Robinson Jr.
306.....Dennis Allen Bechtel
306.....Joseph Manny McGraw
317.....Douglas Heath Brickhouse
317.....Scott Allen Gurganus
322.....Christopher Mark Stevens
339.....Marvin Lee Biddix
339.....Christian Scott Mullis
344.....Harold Bruce Kafer
359.....William Glenn Patton
381.....Cameron Jeffrey Byers
381.....Joseph Leon Carpenter
381.....Freddie Hugh Euten
384.....Heath Lynn VerHoeven
388.....Christopher Scott Gantt
388.....Darrell Keith Green
388.....Wayne Bailey Jones
391.....Travis Lee Blundell
391.....Woodrow Inman
395.....Gene Kelly Parker
404.....Charles Dave Sofinowski
404.....James Edward Thomas
407.....Matthew Blake Carlton
407.....Anthony B. Huffman
407.....Matthew Lee Stealey
407.....Patrick Allen Taylor
408.....Theodore Smith Ebner
408.....James Preston Lilley
408.....Peter Adam Schad
413.....Jeremiah Eugene Swann
420.....Richard Eugene Clark
429.....Rickie Clemwood Riley
431.....Jerry Octavius Lee Blackmon
433.....Raymond Anthony Arrington
435.....Brian John Stiehler
437.....Kevin Lane McNeill
454.....Anthony Christopher Pometto
454.....Isaac Carl Rose
459.....John Lucius Glenn
459.....Steven James Lashbrooks
459.....Steven Jason Rice
460.....Ronnie Dale Martin
460.....Dustin Lee Walker
492.....Barry Lynn Adams
492.....Coy Thomas Overman
493.....Jesse Wade White
498.....Mark Anthony Howery
499.....Thomas Randolph Compton
499.....Ronald Gary Rhoden
502.....Clayton Robert Tallent
509.....Christopher Daniel Lamb
515.....Jarrod Scott Tyson
515.....Joel Todd Wolfe
521.....David Andrew Deel
521.....James Lloyd Farlow
521.....George William Holcomb
521.....Ronald Joseph Seidman II
521.....Jaime Stuart Wescott
527.....John Willard Wright
534.....Carl Arthur Ogren
542.....Clemon Theron Miller III
544.....Winslow Hubert Cannon
552.....Zakary Donald Berckman
552.....Terry Silas Gauldin
552.....Brandon Edward Lee
552.....Bryant Allen Lee
554.....Tracy Lee McIntyre
554.....Joseph Michael Street
556.....Walter Stephen Aiken
565.....Jason Alan Dimitri
565.....Leslie Kent Jerrell
565.....William Joseph Mosley
568.....Andy Earl Lee
568.....marvin Eugene Thomas
571.....Ronald Sylvester Browning
579.....Andy Grayson Mcneilly
584.....Kevin Tyler Kondas
584.....Andrew David Moomy
585.....Ronnie Charles Blackburn
589.....Gregory Scott Giles
598.....Robert William Calloway
598.....Michael Bruce Halus
598.....Roy Leonard Maltba
598.....Richard Rathmell Sheppard
602.....Richard Kent Anderson
602.....Alexander Derek Gibson
602.....Robert Gene Hitt
602.....Mark Gregory Mosley
602.....Michael Craig Tisdale
602.....Ernest William Tyska
602.....Paul Wayne Winstead
607.....Craig Shawn Davis
616.....Robert Stanley Brintle
616.....John Christopher Williams
617.....Craig Johnson Lee
617.....James Allison Walker
618.....Jeffrey Mark Bradley
618.....Augustus Newberry James
618.....Ronald Glynn Thomas
624.....Andrew Glenn Fuller Jr.
626.....Roger Lee Millner
646.....Michael Thomas Aycock
646.....Scott Wayne Malone
656.....Timothy Marshall Reklau
657.....Joshua Matthew Brady
657.....Ronald Tracy Lundy
657.....Steven Dale Troutman
657.....William Michael York
663.....James Farrell Austin
663.....Dennis Ray Bishop
663.....Joseph Raymond Kidd
663.....Ronald Ward Shelton
669.....Billy Ray Donathan
676.....Jeffrey Martin Berlin
676.....Emmett Eugene Harris III
676.....Christopher William Metz
676.....Tobby Lynn Small
679.....Michael Edward Flowers
679.....Lonnie Felix Griffin III
680.....Christopher Michael Brisentine
680.....Erik Jason Copp
680.....Pena Christopher Dollente Dela
680.....Bill Anthony Frost
680.....Joseph Allen Murray
686.....Roy Delane King
688.....Donald Preston Collins
688.....Jeffrey Eugene Jones Jr.
688.....Nicholas George Paul Leathers
690.....Jason Coy Reid
692.....Robert Timothy Hunter
694.....Austin Bernard Campbell
694.....Justin William Kay
699.....Michael Shaun Johnston
701.....Robert Swain Wellbrook
712.....William Kyle Bissett
713.....Ricky Lee Wilson
717.....Ronnie James Whitehead
719.....Danny Joe Bullman
720.....James Michael Barrow
720.....Randy Emerson Cauthen II
723.....Steven Robert Harris
725.....Peter Christopher Gartin
727.....Joshua Daren Hopkins
727.....Norman Gene Horne
727.....Harold Dave Tripp
731.....Howard Steven Kahn
732.....Robert Christopher Lockhart
732.....Shannon Kyle Sink
737.....Leslie Howard Flanagan
737.....Richard Allen Morris
737.....Paul Clayton Watkins
739.....Buford Elliott Fannon
749.....Zachary Andrew Cohen
749.....Timothy Wayne Outen
749.....Darrell Ray Phillips
750.....Timothy Andrew Leese
751.....Nathan Daniel Long
753.....Christopher Matthew Rhodes
758.....Joseph Shelton Myers
759.....Richard Bradley Starnes
762.....Albert Fleming Bell
763.....Joseph Dean Buchanan
683.....Steven Allan Acord

SENIOR MOMENTS



Expansion construction begins

By Mark Kolada
Administrator
WhiteStone

Spring is in the air, and nowhere is the season of change more evident than at WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community. WhiteStone will be celebrating its 100 year anniversary in 2012-2013, but the future, not the past, is the focus of a series of recent improvements, upgrades, and expansion of the Greensboro community.

Currently, WhiteStone has 260 residents living at its retirement community in various levels of care including Independent Living, Residential Living, Nursing Home, and Special Care unit. However, like a lot of other historic Masonic retirement communities across the country, one of the challenges facing WhiteStone over the past several years, was how to stay competitive by providing modern amenities and services, as well as dealing with aging buildings and infrastructure.

In 2010, WhiteStone began its exciting renovation by transforming a multipurpose room in its Wellness Center into a state

of the art fitness complex featuring air compressed weight and cardio machines for residents and staff to enjoy. Shortly after completing the fitness center, WhiteStone began a \$2.5M renovation of its Linville Administration building (built in 1975) into a modern day clubhouse for residents. The new clubhouse which was finished in January 2011, features a brand new building facade, game room, library, resident store, activity area, and lounge for its residents to enjoy, as well as new administrative offices for staff to work in.

The next phase of the community's expansion which began in April of 2011, is the construction of a \$30M, 46-unit one- and two-bedroom independent living apartment building on its campus which is currently 80% pre-sold. The project is financed through a recent successful sale of tax exempt bonds through the North Carolina Medical Care Commission. To make way for the new apartment building, the vacated Setzer building as well as the old Bass nursing home will be demolished. In addition to the new apartment complex, WhiteStone will also be adding a fellowship hall to be able to host Masonic events such as Wilkerson College and lodge/chapter meetings, coffee shop bistro, arts and crafts area, full service beauty salon and spa, as well as completely renovating its main dining room and adding an outdoor dining area. Life Care Services, based in Des Moines Iowa, who has managed the community since 2006, is also the developer of the renovation and expansion project. It is expected that the expansion will be completed during the first quarter of 2012, just in time for the

communities centennial anniversary celebration.

If you would like more information or would like to schedule a tour to check out all of the changes at WhiteStone, please call at (336) 547-2947 or visit us online at <www.liveatwhitestone.org>. As always if you have any questions, feel free to call me at (336) 547-2992 or email me at <mkolada@liveatwhitestone.org>.



Bass Care Center is now gone.



The landscape by the chapel at WhiteStone is changing drastically as construction nears.



ROANOKE RAPIDS — Gene Todd, right, leads the closing charge at GM Ledford's May meeting in the Eighth District.

MILEPOSTS



NEW BERN — Saint John's 3 recently presented Eric Polese his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years Masonic membership. He was raised in Brooklyn, NY and moved his membership to Saint John's Lodge in 1983. They presented the award at his home as he is unable to attend meetings due to his health. — David Sawyer



WILSON — Mount Lebanon 117 raised a third generation member in January. Eighteen-year-old Aaron Ellis had both his dad and granddad on hand when he joined the lodge. Seen here, from left, are Mt. Lebanon Master Alan Winstead, Ralph Ellis, Aaron Ellis, and David Ellis. Both the senior Ellises are past master of the lodge. — Alan Winstead



RALEIGH — The Grand Lodge's annual legislative reception had an added attraction this year. Harris D. Blake received his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years Masonic membership. Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford made the presentation to the Elberta 654 Mason.



HERTFORD — On April 5, Perquimans 106 presented Zack D. Robertson his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership. DDGM Phil Johnson made the presentation. Pictured here, from left are Zack's brother Jim Robertson, Zack D. Robertson, Johnson, and Perquimans Lodge Master Joe Elliott. — Paul Gregory



HENDERSONVILLE — Kedron 387 member Ben Sims received his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years membership on March 17. He is seen here seated receiving the award from Lodge Master Martin Osteen. Sims was master of Kedron Lodge in 1958. — Martin Osteen



BREVARD — Dunn's Rock 267 and Hominy 491 did a joint third degree here January 22. They raised Daniel Eugene Prince (267) and Marvin Jeffrey Keener (491). Several past masters from Hominy Lodge visited and helped with the raising. Four of the five past masters plus the current master from Hominy are relatives of Prince. Seen here back, from left, are Dean Blair, cousin-in-law; Tildon Whiteside, second cousin; James Whiteside, first cousin; Taft Coward; and Tony Waldrop, cousin-in-law. Front, from left, are Daniel Prince, Jeffrey Keener, and Hominy Master Steve Prince, Daniel's brother. — Dean Blair



GREENSBORO — At the April 7 Grand Master's District Meeting here, the Board of Custodians had a special award for Dewey W. Shelton, left. Grand Lecturer Mack Sigmon was on hand, and Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford, right, personally presented Shelton the recognition for 50-years as a Class "A" certified lecturer. Shelton, a member of Numa F. Reid 344 in High Point, is the 12th certified lecturer to achieve this mark. North Carolina currently has six certified lecturers on the active role with fifty or more years of service. — Mack Sigmon

Richardson named MHCO administrator

OXFORD — The Board of Directors of the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford has appointed Chris Richardson as the interim administrator effective July 1, 2011. Current Administrator Allen Hughes last year announced his retirement effective June 30. Chris has been employed by the Masonic Home for Children for ten years and has served as development director and assistant administrator. Chris has a bachelor of science degree from James Madison University and a masters of business administration from Elon University.



Chris Richardson

many years of good health and good fortune in his retirement. They thanked Hughes for his dedication, hard work, and unwavering loyalty to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. They promised Richardson the support of all North Carolina's Masons as he takes the lead at our home in Oxford.

The Masons of North Carolina already know and respect Chris Richardson for the love he has shown for the Home. The transition is expected to be smooth, and lovers of the Home look forward to Richardson putting his stamp on the history of our great institution.

The Board wished Allen Hughes

Appeal for Alabama and Tennessee

Many areas were struck by monstrous tornadoes recently. In contacting several Grand Lodges who suffered loss of life and enormous property damage, it was felt those who suffered the worst were Alabama and Tennessee. This appeal is being issued by the Masonic Service Association for those two grand lodges.

You may define which state gets your help by writing it on your check. If you do not specify

otherwise, your donation will be divided equally between Alabama and Tennessee.

You may help our devastated Brethren and their families in these stricken jurisdictions. One hundred percent of donations go directly to the needy, there is no administrative deduction. Please make checks payable to the MSA Disaster Relief Fund and send to: 8120 Fenton Street, Ste. 203, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4785.

Statesville 27 named Twain Lodge

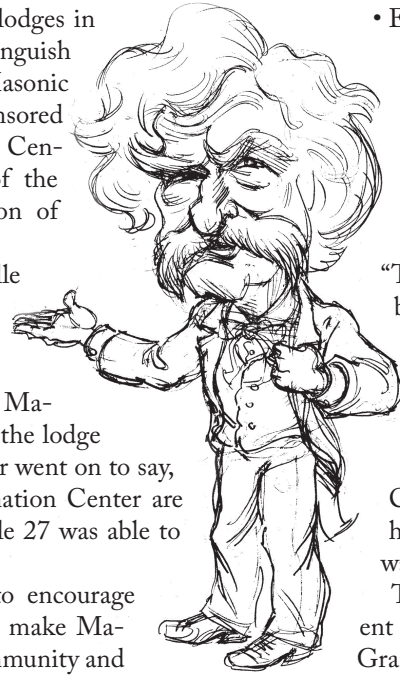
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND — Statesville 27 has been named a 2010 Twain Award winner by the Masonic Information Center. The award is presented to those lodges in North America which distinguish themselves in displaying Masonic awareness. The award is sponsored by the Masonic Information Center (MIC) which is part of the Masonic Services Association of North America (MSANA).

When informing Statesville 27 of the award, MSANA Executive Secretary Richard Fletcher, said, "[the] lodge clearly demonstrated Masonic awareness both within the lodge and the community." Fletcher went on to say, "We at the Masonic Information Center are very proud of what Statesville 27 was able to accomplish."

The award was created to encourage lodges in North America to make Masonry more visible in the community and more vital in the lives of Masons.

In 2010, Statesville 27 took up a number of projects to increase Masonic awareness in their lodge and community. Those projects included:

- Quarterly friendship breakfasts
- First participation in Relay for Life
- Homecoming
- Emergency services night
- Outreach to local Prince Hall lodge
- Increased use of existing lodge resources such as Pancake Jamboree and Family Night.



Kevin Combs, master of Statesville 27 in 2010 said, "The lodge officers and members worked hard to raise public awareness of Masonry and to make the Craft more meaningful in the lives of each Brother. I am very pleased that the Masonic Information Center recognized the lodge's hard work. The key to our success was positive energy."

The MIC is scheduled to present the award at the North Carolina Grand Lodge Annual Communication in September. The MIC announced the winners in February at the annual Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America. — *The Joppa Informer*



On a closed site, destruction often must precede construction. By the time you receive this newspaper, the Bass Care Center, (the three-story building seen in the background) will have disappeared from the WhiteStone campus. Fresh, modern construction is on the way. You can read more about it in Administrator Mark Kolada's column on page seven.

In this issue of The NC Mason

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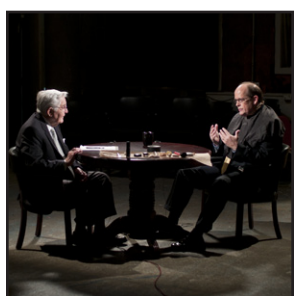
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Rally to fight ALS with Ron Page



page 1

Legislators are thanked for their service



page 4

Grand Master Ledford interviewed by Bill Friday



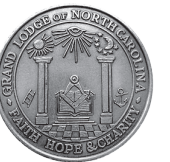
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Destruction precedes construction at WhiteStone

The North Carolina Mason
The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, AF&AM
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Oxford, North Carolina 27565

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Hiram 40 member Ronald Page had the largest turnout of walkers at the April 5 Walk to Defeat ALS sponsored by the Catfish Hunter Chapter of the ALS Association. A large Masonic turnout helped fund research and help for sufferers of Lou Gehrig's Disease. Ron died just six weeks after the event.