



# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



Official Publication of The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina

Volume 136 Number 4

Oxford, North Carolina

July/August 2011

## Cornerstone set for WhiteStone's phase two



Visitors and residents shared the shade for the dedication of the cornerstone for the next stage in the growth of our retirement community in Greensboro.

GREENSBORO — On June 11, about 200 people gathered here at WhiteStone, a Masonic and Eastern Star Community to do a full Masonic cornerstone dedication for the newest phase of the retirement community's expansion. The ceremony was arranged, coordinated, and emceed by Past Grand Master William H. Simpson, a resident of WhiteStone. The ceremony was preceded by a hamburger and hot dog cookout on the shady grounds. It was attended by many visitors as well as residents.

The blazing hot day was too much for the planned ceremony beside the construction area. Overheated pavement at the site drove observers to the meager shade on that corner of the campus. Officials made a last minute change, moving the festivities to the picnic pavilion on the other side of the recently renovated Linville building. There, things went along nicely in the

much cooler, grassy, shaded area. Several Grand Lodge officers participated in the historic dedication. Speakers at the event included Board Member Gene T. Jernigan, PGM, Eastern Star Past Worthy Grand Matron Grace Rea, Board chairman, and WhiteStone Administrator Mark Kolada.

Participating in the ceremony were Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford, Deputy Grand Master Robert E. Gresham, Senior Grand Warden Dewey R. Preslar, Junior Grand Warden Dalton W. Mayo, Junior Grand Deacon Bryant D. Webster as architect, Grand Chaplain Paul F. Kelly, and PGM Simpson as the representative of the building authority. Ledford presided over the ceremony.

In January 2011, the renovation of the Linville Building, the first phase of WhiteStone's expansion/renovation project, was completed. The six-month renovation

see CORNERSTONE, page 5

## September 23-24 in Winston-Salem

# Annual Communication is coming soon

By Ric Carter

WINSTON-SALEM — Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford will preside as 2011 Annual Communication opens in Winston-Salem. The 224<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina is scheduled for September 23-24. The communication will be at the Twin City Quarter here, the same hotel we have used last few years. It will be the headquarters hotel, the site of all committee meetings, and Grand Lodge business sessions. The hotel is large enough to house all delegates to the communication. Participants at previous communications held here enjoyed having everything on one site. It will be a great chance to enjoy a classic convention atmosphere, with everyone spending a couple of days in close proximity. You are encouraged to bring a large delegation from your lodge, share a suite or two, and enjoy the fellowship and fun.

While every Mason in the state is invited, only the master and wardens of your lodge, or their official proxies, may vote during business sessions. They'll join the same officers of the other lodges around the state. The other votes come from committeemen and officers of the Grand Lodge and its districts.

Workshops and committee meetings held before the official sessions will be at the Twin City Quarter on Thursday, September 22. The Lodge Secretary's Workshop will be held there that Thursday afternoon at 2:00 P.M.

All voting sessions will be held in the Twin City Quarter's Grand Pavilion Friday and Saturday, September 23-24. Lodge officers are asked to bring and wear their aprons for all business sessions. Your dues card and the pass will be necessary to enter business sessions.

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## Amendment roundup

By Ric Carter

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

A lodge cannot and should not attempt to bind its delegates to a particular vote on a particular question. Very often, the amendments are changed on the floor before

see AMENDMENTS, page 4



Delegates of the lodges set Grand Lodge policy and regulations at the annual meeting.

## THE BOTTOM LINE



# Making good men better leaders

By Lewis R. Ledford  
Grand Master

On a spring Saturday in late May, it was my pleasure to attend the Wilkerson College graduation at the North Raleigh Hilton, share some comments and perspectives, and present certificates of completion to the 35 graduates for 2011. This graduation marked the tenth anniversary of North Carolina's College of Freemasonry that was founded in 2002 by our Grand Lodge and the North Carolina Scottish Rite Orient with a single mission in mind: to provide Freemasonry with the best-trained leaders possible.

It was especially enjoyable for me to attend this year's graduation along with Past Grand Master Tom Gregory. It was just over ten years ago that he and I first discussed the importance and a concept of a training session for the future leaders of local lodges. The need and benefit for the training of lodge deacons as they advance toward becoming the lodge master were obvious. We gave much thought as to how it could be structured to insure success. I had just completed a Natural Resources Leadership Institute at North Carolina State University. After a subsequent meeting with Dan Weatherington and Billy Dill, and later with Bill Brunk, Walt Clapp, and Ric Carter, the idea flourished and the "college" was formally established. The format chosen was in large part similar to that of the NRLI - bringing together students from across the state, with diverse experience, and a common interest, once a month at different locations with credentialed instructors.

This course in leadership was named in honor of an active Freemason and Past Lt. Commander of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, H. Lloyd Wilkerson, Major General, USMC (ret.). Wilkerson College held its inaugural session March 1, 2002, at a rustic camp in northern Granville County near the Masonic

Home for Children. Dan Weatherington, who became affectionately known as "Dean Dan," led the effort in a most effective manner in the formative years.

Though there have been a few changes, PGM Billy Dill, now serving as the dean, along with a Board of Regents have continued the basic format. Wilkerson College consists of three sessions. Each begins on a Friday evening and concludes the following day at 5:00 P.M. A graduation banquet is held on the Saturday evening of the last session, often with spouses in attendance.

Following an ice breaker exercise at the beginning, the following subjects are covered during the three weekends: The Master's Calling, How It Really Began, Exposé of 18<sup>th</sup> Century Masonic Ritual, sessions on the operations of the homes in Oxford and Greensboro, three sessions on Planning, two sessions on The Code, The Master's Toolbox, Public Relations, The Past Masters, two sessions on Communications, Freemasonry Beyond the Blue Lodge, Masonic Education, Mentoring, two sessions on fundraising, The Master and Secretary's Relationship, Motivation, and Rules of Order in the Lodge.

With the 2011 class, 283 members representing 88 different lodges from across the state have attended this leadership training. Greensboro 76 has the distinction of the most graduates with 12, followed by Cary 198, and Manteo 521 with nine each.

The student's immersion in North Carolina Freemasonry is enhanced by the meeting locations themselves. The first session is held at The Summit at Haw River State Park, which is in close proximity to WhiteStone - A Masonic and Eastern Star Community in Greensboro. On the other weekends, they stay close to The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina office located in Raleigh. Class participants have the opportunity for structured tours of all three facilities. We have heard from our administrators of the Masonic homes that charitable donations have increased from those lodges that have sent members to the college - just one of the benefits that can be attributed to the Wilkerson College.

The faculty of Wilkerson College is comprised of men who are important to Freemasonry in this state. Each instructor is a recognized Masonic leader in whose life Freemasonry plays a vital part. Not only do the students get to meet and spend time learning from these individuals, they also gain some sense of how Freemasonry has influenced their lives, why our fraternity holds so much value in their daily activities, and their other successes in the workplace and community.

The entire Wilkerson College experience is designed to bring the student from a level of merely "filling an officer's chair" to a point that he holds a newfound respect and honor for this fraternity and the part that he is, and will be, fulfilling as an officer and Masonic leader. It epitomizes what I have sought to share this year. We are successful because of two primary traits, passion and competence. Truly believing in what we are doing and improving our skills will advance our achievement in any area, and certainly for our beloved fraternity.

To those that will be serving as deacons next year, I commend this training for your consideration. Applications will be due in early January. Space is limited, and financial scholarships are also available. This information and much more can be found at <www.wilkersoncollege.com>. The success of the College is due to the collective and industrious efforts of many - too numerous to list in this column. The instructors, the "worker bees" that coordinate the logistics, the officers and others donate considerable efforts. For more information on the formation of Wilkerson College or the man whom the college was named for, read *Masonic Miracle* by Dan Weatherington, dean emeritus and *A Man, a College, a Lodge - All Dedicated to Future Masonic Leaders* by Walter Klein.

The idea was to provide the fraternity with the finest possible leaders, now and in the future. It has been a very positive experience during the first ten years. We have long heard the adage that Freemasonry makes good men better... it is our sense from various reports, including student feedback, that Wilkerson College makes good Masons better leaders!



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

# It's time for us to end Prohibition

America (and several other nations) learned the lessons of Prohibition in the early part of the last century. The misguided attempt to save society from inebriation ended up causing more problems than it prevented.

Freemasonry's very roots are in Britain's and Colonial America's pubs. It was in these places that the first Freemason lodges organized and met. Lodges were places for social interaction and fellowship, not sanctified substitutes for churches.

Accounts of early lodges include frequent references to the "firing of cannons." No, they were not rolling artillery around for the purpose of saluting visiting brethren. The firing cannon or glass was a small, heavy bottomed container rather like today's shot glass. They were then, and are today in many places, part of the table lodge. Filled with small amounts of alcoholic beverage, they were downed as part of a toast to the visitor or a celebrated event. They were an integral part of lodge life.

The decanter and firing glass seen here are from George Washington's own Alexandria Lodge 39 in Virginia. It was on display with other Masonic artifacts of Washington's membership in the fraternity as part of the recent Washington exhibit at the North Carolina Museum of History. Washington and his brother



Masons had the decanter filled with spirits. Freemasonry teaches early and reminds often that men should "subdue their passions." The vast majority of those who consume alcohol do so without excess and without the problems associated with alcoholism.

There is no reason to believe that today's men are more vulnerable to drink. There is no reason to believe that moderated use of such beverages in areas rented by the lodge should become a distraction or danger to a lodge. No proposal will require or even suggest the choice any lodge should make. It would merely allow those which wish to allow limited and controlled use of alcohol on their premises that possibility. Drinks would be barred from the lodge room.

Many grand lodges allow such uses. The Grand Lodge of Kansas, a rather conservative state, last year dropped their alcohol prohibition. None of these jurisdictions have reported anything more than minor, isolated problems that are not foreign to us today.

We will again consider limited use of alcohol in our facilities at our September meeting. It is time for us to give our lodges fresh tools. It is time for us to show confidence in our own teachings.

## You're invited

### Golf tournament

**August 31**  
ADVANCE — Clemmons 755's annual Charity Golf Tournament is set for Oak Valley Golf Club here August 31. Entry fee is \$300 per team covers drinks and snacks on the course and the awards ceremony that follows immediately.

For details, contact Bob Charlier at <rcharliers@triad.rr.com> or call (336) 766-5133.

### Motorcycle Ride

**September 10**  
OXFORD — The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Ride to the Masonic Children's Home is set. As usual, motorcycle riders will depart from China Grove early. Other groups will take their own routes to

Raleigh's Tower Shopping Center for the 10:00 A.M. registration, prizes, and staging the last leg of the trip to the Home. There is lunch and entertainment at the Ride culmination. For more information, call Doug Earnhart (704) 957-0346 or email <doug.earnhart@airspeedllc.com>.

**NC Mason Deadlines**

**Issue.....Deadline**

January/February..... January 1

March/April..... March 1

May/June..... May 1

July/August..... July 1

September/October..... September 1

November/December..... November 1

## WHEELER, from page 8

factory in Clayton and began to operate the mill while Ray was on the road developing markets for their meal, selling, and delivering to grocery stores around the countryside.

In 1971, the Wheelers bought the mill from the Atkinson descendants who still held the dam and mill. It is likely that the McLean sisters considered it staying in the family from the years and hard work already invested by Ray and Betty.

Today, the Wheelers have six children and a passel of grandchildren. Much of the family works in the business. But, there are also dozens of other employees. That's because Ray is a dreamer.

"I work every day like I'm going to be here a hundred years, but I won't. I can't quit, because I've got kids and grandbabies, and they'll need somewhere to work. They're in charge anyway now. They let me do enough to keep from getting bored," says Ray. Miss Betty still works in the office.

Atkinson's Mill has come a long way from the days when the miller ground corn for a percentage of the product. Over the years, Ray bought several other mills. He maintains all the brands those mills sold. "Many of these mills are 200 years old. Generations of people used only one brand of meal. I don't want them to have to switch." He believes that a child should be able to make corn bread with the same meal their grandmother used when they taught them the recipe.

Ray has expanded the business over the years. He has a large production plant which makes and packages frozen hushpuppies and corn sticks for home and restaurant use. When Ray needed a piece of equipment, he'd adapt someone else's used machine or build his own version (usually improved from what it copied).

Ray explains his growth policy, "Make what you can and get one piece at a time. Understand where you are headed."

For instance, when he needed a freezer for his pre-made hushpuppies, he bought freezer truck trailers and backed them up to a loading dock. It's a viable system that let him grow at the rate he chose. Whenever Ray adds a section to a warehouse, he includes a door suitable to enter the next addition.

Today Atkinson's Mill has 86 active products that they make and market — seafood



Ray is seen here by the millpond and inside the mill with one of his grandsons. A millstone is seen lifted from its position for repair of shaft on which the upper stone rotates.

and chicken breaders; hush puppy, biscuit, corn bread, and pancake mixes; various corn meals; grits; and his lines of frozen products are among them. All together, Ray maintains a total of 193 formulas and recipes in the business.

Are you sick of hushpuppies yet?  
"Oh, no! No," Ray laughs.

You can see Wheeler and his fascinating hushpuppy making machine at the Carolina Pig Jig every year turning out the bread for the barbecue showdown. It's one of two charity events he does every year at no charge. He likes helping the kids at the Masonic Home for Children.

Within a year, Ray plans to have a modern mill run by electricity on the grounds. He plans to continue grinding corn meal in the old water driven mill, keeping it open as a museum to the disappearing craft. Maybe he'll cook hushpuppies there or even open a little restaurant for visitors.

Don't think it won't happen. Ray's a heck of a lot more than just a dreamer.

You can order Atkinson's products by calling (800) 948-5707 or visiting <www.atkinsonmilling.com>. Check Wheeler's wonderful biography while you're at it.



Ric Carter photos



## Homecoming is in October

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. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Past Grand Master and Oxford Orphanage alumnus Dan Rice and Grand Master Lewis Ledford, we will celebrate the first annual Masonic Homecoming Festival. And there will be something for everyone from the past and to the present!

Oasis, Amran, and Sudan Shrines will again participate in North Carolina's best parade. Festivities begin on Friday, October 7 with an alumni charity golf tournament. That evening cooks from around the state can participate by setting up their grills for the First Masonic Homecoming Barbecue Pork and Chicken cook-off. There will be music on Friday evening while the cooks are getting ready.

On Saturday, October 8 the familiar Shrine parade begins in the morning. The barbecue judging and lunch follow. They are open to all for small fee. During lunch, enjoy music from nationally renowned bluegrass

artists, the Lonesome River Band. Dessert booths will be hosted by the children of the Home. The afternoon will include tours of the campus, cottages, print shop, and Cobb Center museum and archives. 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 chance to visit your Home and see the care you are supporting.

A number of Masons are turning it into a golf week by adding the Rite Voice tournament at the Washington Duke Club in Durham October 3. Call Ray Hall for details (336) 601-5015.

For information on Chipshots for Children visit the Alumni Association's website <http://www.oxfordorphanagealumni.com>. Details on entering the barbecue cook off may be obtained from John Sullivan (336) 462-7297 or Todd Ham (304) 363-9257. A detailed flyer on all events should soon be available at <http://www.mhc-oxford.org/StJohns.html>.

### Partial schedule of events

<b>Friday, October 7</b>		
6:30 A.M. to Mid-Afternoon	Chipshots For Children Golf Tourney	Kerr Lake CC - Henderson
12:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.	BBQ Registration/Teams Arrive/Set-up	The Pit at MHCO
6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.	Music - Kelly and The Cowboys	The Pit Stage
7:00 P.M.	BBQ Contest - Cooks Meeting	The Pit at MHCO
6:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.	Museum Open House	Cobb Center - Galleries
7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.	Museum Reception/Auction/Silent Auction	Cobb Center
7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.	Free Cook Period/Cooking Begins	The Pit at MHCO
7:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.	Music - The Swang Brothers	The Pit Stage
9:00 P.M.	Campus Closed/The Pit Closed/Parking Closed	
<b>Saturday, October 8</b>		
7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.	Orphans Lodge - Emergent	Masonic Center - MHCO
8:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M.	Parade Line-up	Spring Street/Belle Street
9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.	Museum Open	Cobb Center
9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.	Open House Tours	TBA
9:30 A.M.	Opening and Welcome	Main Stage at St. John's
9:45 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.	Shrine Parade	Downtown Oxford
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.	Ragland Production Inflatables	TBA
10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.	BBQ Turn-in/Judging	TBA
12:30 P.M.	Announcement Homecoming Court/Queen	Main Stage at St. John's
12:45 P.M.	Announcement of BBQ Contest Winners	Main Stage at St. John's
12:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.	Lunch Under The Oaks	MHCO Campus
1:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.	Music - The Lonesome River Band	Main Stage at St. John's
1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.	Museum Open	Cobb Center

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.

# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

(USPS 598-260) is published bimonthly by The Grand Lodge of AF & AM of North Carolina, 2921 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27608.

Third class postage paid at Oxford, NC 27565.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The North Carolina Mason*, School Of Graphic Arts, Masonic Home for Children, Oxford, NC 27565.

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# TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



## NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter

### Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 was holding their annual Hot Dog Sale July 2. They set up at United Methodist Church. — Derek Cheek

### Robbinsville

The Heritage Festival of Graham County furnished the opportunity for Robbinsville 672 to show itself in the neighborhood. They were serving smoked barbecue for the occasion. They were cooking at the lodge and feeding on the town square. — Derek Cheek

### Asheville

The 39<sup>th</sup> Masonic District held their Blood Drive April 30. The site was hosted by Nicols-West Asheville 650. — Dean Blair

Mount Hermon 118 raffled an ounce of gold (one gold Krugerrand) as a charity fundraiser. Chances were \$20 each and limited to 200 sold. — *Trestle Board*

### Benson

Relief 431 was having a July raffle for a 50-inch television. — Grover Dees

### Cherryville

Clay Thornburg received this year's Cherryville Masonic Lodge Scholarship. Representatives of Cherryville 505 got to present the award at Cherryville High School's awards night May 26.

For a second year, Cherryville Lodge contributed to the local little league. — *News Out of the Blue*

### Oak Island

On March 19, they held a gold digging contest at Oak Island 758. Members were asked to bring their own shovels. At least that's the way they advertised it. Conveniently, the prospecting area in the lodge's front yard coincided with the path of the new sewer lines which need installing. — Brent Wuchae

### Swansboro

Seaside 429 held their Grilled Chicken Dinner Fundraiser June 18. Everything went well despite their tent blowing away early in the afternoon. They brought in \$1,800 for the Masonic Home for Children. — *Trestle Board*

### Winston-Salem

Old Town 751 has had great success in the past with their Bicycles for Books program. They repeated it this year. The program gives bikes to children who show great improvement in their reading skills. They awarded eight bikes this year. The one they found most touching was the youngster who became the first person in his family literate in English.

Old Town Lodge was planning a charity raffle. Lodges may conduct raffles so long as they have permission from Special Activities Committee and all funds go to a charity. — *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

### Canton

Traci Hoglan launched and has produced Valley of the Moon, a newsletter for Sonoma 472 and several other Masonic organizations, five years ago. She recently finished her masters degree in ministry and has taken a job as chaplain with local hospice. The newsletter appears to be dying with her exit. You did a great job, Traci. Thanks! — *Valley of the Moon*

### Gastonia

King Solomon 704 Junior Warden Chris Hall has been scanning all the lodge's past master portraits. They will be storing the digital copies off-site in case some catastrophe should befall the originals. Longer term, they will likely be using the scans to restore and replace some of the damaged pictures and those which have suffered with aging. — *The Plumb Line*

At Gastonia 369's June stated meeting, Robert Biggerstaff presented a program on "Interesting Masonic Facts." — Rick Clanton

### Thomasville

Thomasville 214 was presenting service awards at a May stated communication. Scheduled to receive their Diamond Jubilees for 60 years membership were Frank Pickelsimer and Lawrence D. Hiatt. Qualifying for Veteran's Emblems honoring 50 years membership were Charles E. Stout, Ellis W. Jackson, Fred G. Morrison Jr., Fred Y. Plummer, Gus E. Plakakis Jr., and Harold R. Hilliard.

In our last issue, we misinterpreted a misspelling of Von Louya's name. We apologize for compounding the error. Louya recently earned his 50-year award.

Just as their sale of pine needles is wrapping up, Thomasville Lodge is selling tickets to the Hi-Toms games. Profits from the sales go to the Home for Children. — *Trestle Board*

### Spencer

Spencer 543's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to School Pool Party is coming up in August 20. They take a truckload of school supplies to the Masonic Home for Children and entertain the kids with a party at poolside to make the return to school reminder more palatable. Solicited supplies include binders, whiteout pens, correction tape, index cards and boxes, wireless composition books, and mechanical pencils. Junior Warden Mike Decker pledged \$25 to the supply fund for each time 25 members attend a meeting of the lodge.

Spencer Lodge continues to build their contingency fund for major, but predictable expenses of the lodge (air conditioners, roof, and the such). They use a railroad motif to honor donors. The current fund has grown to nearly \$13,000.

The lodge's annual major fundraiser at the North Carolina Transportation Museum's Rail-Days was set for June 11-12. — *On the Square*



### Rocky Mount

Corinthian 230 recently raised \$1,200 for the Relay for Life by selling 360 quarts of Brunswick stew to the community. Relay for Life is an American Cancer Society drive which fights cancer.

Corinthian Lodge member Benjamin T. Davis got his Veterans' Emblem for 50 years membership. They presented his award during the lodge's recent Past Masters' and Ladies' Night. — *The Corinthian Column*

### Warsaw

Warsaw 677 enjoyed a spaghetti lunch Memorial Day. They were putting the money in the building fund. — *Warsaw Lodge*

### Laurinburg

The members of Laurinburg 305 were having a Golf Tournament June 18. They were to play at Deercroft Golf Club in Wagram. — Ric Best



## Oxford Lodge Golden Owl Award pats kids on the back

OXFORD — Oxford 122 has wrapped up another year of partnering with the West Oxford Elementary School to sponsor the Masonic Golden Owl Awards. The Golden Owl Award recognizes those students who show exceptional character and are positive role models both in and out of the classroom. The students are nominated by their teachers and are selected by the schools administration based on criteria established by the school and the lodge. Last school year, nearly 120 children were selected for the recognition.

A member of the lodge presets each winner is

presented a special certificate, a custom bumper sticker, and pen with the school and lodge logo. This year, lodge members Danny Williford and Carl Hann were instrumental in organizing and presenting the awards to the students.

In addition, lodge member Rich Weaver was recognized by the school for his ongoing volunteer work in the school. He presents drug prevention and awareness programs to the students and faculty throughout the year. These prevention programs are also sponsored in part by the Oxford Lodge. They are looking forward to continuing the work next year. — Rich Weaver

### Greensboro

After meeting with Grand Master Lewis Ledford and Scottish Rite Sovereign Grand Inspector General William B. Brunk, the groups involved in the Greensboro Masonic Temple have dropped plans to sell or abandon the building in downtown Greensboro. Large strides in brightening the facility have been made, and resident pride is rising rapidly. We will soon have a report on their progress.

The Arthur Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament was held May 21 at Holly Ridge Golf Links in Archdale. It is sponsored by the lodges of the 23rd Masonic District. This year's tournament raised \$10,000 for scholarships for children at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. Since it was launched, the tournament honoring a past member of Gate City 694 has sent more than \$90,000 to that cause.

Several Gate City Lodge members were honored this spring with volunteer awards from WhiteStone (MESH). Greg Woodard was named WhiteStone's Volunteer of the Year for 2011.

Gate City's annual hot dog and hamburger supper was set for June 18. They were offering lodge tours and homemade ice cream. — *Trestleboard*

### Raleigh

Wilkerson College 760 hosted its June 11 meeting here in the Raleigh Masonic Temple. Michael Halleran, author of The Better Angels of Our Nature presented the program. After the meeting, they moved on to the North Raleigh Hilton for a low country buffet and entertainment by pianist and Raleigh 500 member Elmer Gibson. — Larry Thompson

Masters 754 seems to be enjoying their move to Millbrook Lodge's building. They held their pre-stated meal at the Golden Corral in May. They were holding their Lodge Family Picnic June 4 at Adrian Hatfield's home. — *The Trowel*

James B. Green 735 cooked supper for the Rainbow Girls Grand Assembly June 26. The lodge had one of their summer ice cream socials set for July 30. — Dustin Tarditi

### Jacksonville

Semper Fidelis 680 had their Family Day on a recent Saturday. More than 50 folk were on hand. There was the sound of kids playing and cracking bocce balls and horseshoes ringing in the heat. Bill Frost entertained with a magic show. Several people spoke about the joy of hearing the sounds of children around the lodge.

Semper Fi Lodge has had a busy year. As of early June, they've taken in 13 petitions and raised 11 new Masons.

On the community involvement front, they cooked 1,000 hot dogs for athletes and coaches at the Onslow County Special Olympics. They sent donations to earthquake and tornado victims. They helped with the Onslow County Scholarships which gave five \$1,200 to graduating high school seniors. Their fall barbecue fundraiser for the Masonic Homes is set for September 9. — *Trestle Board*

### Bakersville

April 21 was the date for Bakersville 357's Annual Ramp Supper. — *The Beacon*

### Dunn

Past masters filled nearly every station when Palmyra 147 held their June 28 Past Masters' Night. They raised two new members that night. Nineteen Palmyra past masters were there and four past masters from other lodges were visiting. — Jonathan S. Johnson

### Selma

Selma 320 recently held a raffle to help fund their scholarships. Five dollars got you one chance on one of three prizes: 42-inch television, and a \$50 or \$25 gift card.

They held a blood drive June 1.

— Grover Dees

### Liberty

Among the state's needy population, there is often great need for dental care. Liberty 714 hosted a dental clinic for them June 17. It was especially for residents of Liberty, Asheboro, Franklinville, and Ramseur. — Paul Bruchon

### Wilson

Mount Lebanon 117 was planning an outdoor degree for August 13. — Grover Dees

### Wallace

To celebrate their centennial, Wallace 595 has adopted a new uniform, a white button-up shirt with their lodge name. They are thinking about adding a polo shirt as well. — *Bulletin of Wallace Lodge*

### Beulaville

Beulaville 658 is planning to charter a bus for the return of the Oxford Masonic celebration in October. — [St. John's 13] *Lodge Log*

### Spruce Pine

Vesper 554 gets frequent favors from the skills of their members. Levi Hefner recently prepared a top notch meal for a lodge Third Degree. No hot dogs for his brothers; Hefner is graduate of Johnson and Wales Culinary School.

Pete Jarrett took care of some landscaping and drainage chores for the lodge. Wayne Henline handcrafted a set of columns for the lodge.

Vesper Lodge recently donated to the Spruce Pine Boy Scout troop. — *The Beacon*

### Cary

The Spring Barbecue at Cary 198 sold out 1,500 pounds of the pork by 5:30 in the afternoon. — *Trestle Board*

### Bailey

Kids are forming a new Cub Scout Pack in Bailey. Bailey Lodge stepped up to sponsor and offer a meeting place at least during their one year probationary period.

Keep your safety in mind around the lodge. Bailey 411 recently had the fire marshal remind them that their fire extinguishers needed to be serviced. — *Newsletter*

### Pilot Mountain

Pilot 493 was to present their scholarship at East Surry High School on May 27.

On May 16, just two days before his death, Elmer Holst was visited by a delegation from Pilot Lodge. They were there to present his 60-year membership award on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Oregon.

A Pilot Lodge Bike and Hotrod Ride on July 30 was to leave the temple at 11:00 a.m. and return to the local Veterans Park at 4:00 p.m. for hot dogs. Other upcoming events there include conducting the WhiteStone chapel service on September 18 and the lodge's Widows' Dinner on August 18. — *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

### Paw Creek

Not only does Steve Chachoff contribute as a primary coach at West Gate 738, he's also their go-to man when it comes to refrigeration. When their ice machine died, it was Chachoff who got the "a great price" on a replacement.

The lodge recently replaced some ceiling tiles and painted the foyer, keeping things looking nice around the building. — *News From the West*

### Charlotte

Charles M. Setzer 693 had a special ceremony June 20. They were celebrating new additions to their lodge room and honoring Russ Elliott and Doug Childress. Jack Stallings installed a new mosaic pavement in the lodge. They also have a new altar thanks to the craftsmanship of Kenny Barnette. — *Trestleboard*

### Hickory

The computer age marches on at Hickory 343. They have had a Facebook page for a while. Now they are using an Internet-based phone tree. The system sends phone notifications of upcoming lodge events. The new system has an option for sending text messages to your cell phone. The lodge is also offering electronic versions of their newsletter.

The Plez Teague Memorial Pancake Breakfast was set for May 7. They hold it to raise money for Masonic charities. It is appropriately named for the late Plez Teague, one of the state's biggest supporters of our charities.

Hickory's new DeMolay Chapter needs help getting going. James John Kuba Jr. was looking for volunteers to help out. — *Hickory Lodge*

### Salisbury

The temple trustees at the Salisbury Masonic Temple understand the need to maintain and improve their building. A recent work list included ceiling and wall plaster repair, lock changes, rain spout clearing, new frying pans for the kitchen, and fire extinguisher maintenance. They have also started a window replacement drive. Forty windows at \$600 each makes for a big sponsor search. They have pledges so far of more than \$6,000 and continue to promote the drive. Fulton 99 and Andrew Jackson 576 make their homes there. — *Master's Journal*

see STATE, page 7

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.





### 230 supports Relay

ROCKY MOUNT — Corinthian 230 helped out the Nash County Relay for Life back in March. Early on the morning of March 19, a crew turned out to cook three large pots of Brunswick stew. They were finished up by noon and were ready to serve. Seen stirring the pot are Noah Stokes, Charles Barrett IV, and William Jenkins. Behind them are Damien Wiegand and Bill Davis. From left to right at the check presentation are Lodge Master David Mosley, Tom Jenkins, and Stew Chairman Joe Fuller, Shannon Lashley, and ash County Relay for Life Co-Chairmen Crissy Moore Steve Brumfield.

— Tom Jenkins



### Lodges by the numbers

- Lodges in Massachusetts have no numbers.
- In Pennsylvania, there are 11 lodges that have numbers but no names.
- In Georgia, there are two lodges with the number 1.
- In Maryland, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania, there is no lodge with the number 1.

— Arizona Masonry

### AMENDMENTS, from page 1



Discussions of amendment items often bring new thoughts to our thinking as well as changes to the proposals.

voting. More often still, arguments not thought of in analysis or lodge debate arise at the meeting, bringing a different outlook to the proposal. Discuss the votes and suggest the thinking of the lodge. Your delegates should vote in the best interests of your lodge and all Masonry after hearing all discussion.

The first four groups of proposed amendments this year are from Judge Advocate Jimmy Stevens. They each make simple updates to the language of *The Code* and are meant to clarify interpretation.

**Group One** would more carefully define marriage as lasting until legally recognized divorce in REG 86-2.4, the regulation which deals with illegal carnal communication. Yes, the technical question does arise with some frequency.

**Group Two** would introduce some common sense language into REG 86-2.7, the regulation which forbids talking to non-Masons about things that happen in lodge. It merely adds the word "confidential" to the rule, again to prevent misunderstanding of the severity of the rule. The current rule could be read as forbidding you to tell your wife that you learned in lodge that a neighbor was in the hospital.

**Group Three** deals with Masons who claim to have quit Masonry while they have not. It removes confusing additional language from REG 86-2.17.

**Group Four** deals with serious crime convictions as mentioned in REG 86-2.27. Some court procedures, such as Alford pleas, have been added since the regulation was written. This group addresses the omission.

**Group Five**, if adopted, will bring us a major rewrite of our regulations related to Masonic funerals and burials. *The Code* sections dealing with Masonic funerals have become seriously out of touch with today's society and funeral practices. In recent years, lodges have cited *The Code* in denying services to Alzheimers victims who had lapsed in dues payments just months earlier, a man who's wife requested that her husband's Sunday School class be allowed to serve as pall bearers, demanded of ministers that the lodge have the last word at the grave rather than a prayer from the minister, and argued with veterans' groups about holding the position as last part in the burial. Further, there are holes in prescribed ceremonies due to changing burial customs in our country, i.e. memorial services, cremations, and memorial services weeks after burial.

The proposed changes would give much greater leeway to the lodge master in determining if, and how services would be granted to a Mason. Further, the grand master could grant permission to make accommodations in special circumstances.

**Group Six** would forbid any alcohol in a lodge room, but allow it to be served in other parts of lodge facilities. Lodges would make their own decisions about what to allow or not in their own facilities. This would allow such things as a table lodge which includes toasts. More important, it would allow lodges to rent

facilities to groups such as wedding parties wish to serve alcohol.

Opposition to the measure seems to center on objections to alcohol in general and see it as a violation of the "sanctity" of the lodge. Some see liability risks. Those supporting the change see safeguards protecting lodges from abuses. They also say that Masons are capable of controlling themselves around a variety of beverages.

The exact wording and changes on the amendments is in the hands of your lodge secretary and on the Grand Lodge web site at <http://grandlodge-nc.org/pdf/Amendments%202011-revised.pdf>.

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

## Know the 2011 players

By Ric Carter

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

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

Starting just inside the door is Grand Tyler Larry B. Thompson (Blackmer 127) from Locust. He'll be assisted by assistant tylers who will be posted outside the several entrances to the meeting room to check your dues card and listen to a whispered password.

At the front of the auditorium, a lodge room will be set on and before a riser. It is of much the same form as your blue lodge, but with a station or two added. Four officers will be on the stage facing the crowd. Front and center on the stage will be Grand Master (GM) Lewis R. Ledford (Statesville 27). Ledford is Director of NC State Parks and Recreation. He is the only head of State Parks to rise to that position from the job as Park Ranger. He and his wife Susan live in Raleigh.

On his right will be Deputy Grand Master (DGM) Robert E. Gresham Jr. (Albemarle 703). Gresham and his wife Carolyn live in Mount Gilead. He was president of Service Distributing Company (SERVCO) before his retirement.

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

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

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

## 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.

### ANNUAL, from page 1



The social aspect of Annual Communication is nearly as important as the voting.

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

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

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

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

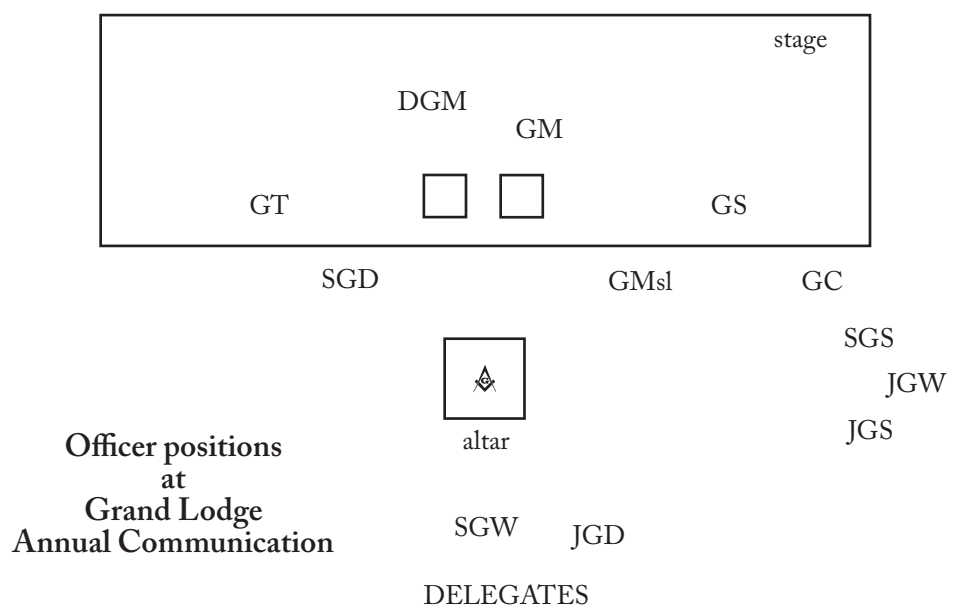
Plan to spend Friday evening with friends and Brothers. Grand Master Ledford and his wife Susan are hosting a charity fundraiser one

block from the hotel at the Millennium Center. There, you can enjoy barbecue from five-time Pig Jig People's Choice winners Big Boy BBQ and bluegrass music. Any profits from the casual event will go to the NC Masonic Foundation which supports Masonic charity in the state. For you late-night types, there are several restaurants and night spots along the streets around the hotel to spend your evening.

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

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

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



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

The rest of the officers are on the auditorium floor in front of the stage. Facing the stage, with his back to the delegates, you'll find Senior Grand Warden (SGW) Dewey R. Preslar Jr. (Andrew Jackson 576). Preslar and his wife Terrie live in Salisbury. He recently retired as a vice president of Food Lion and is now consulting for the state self-insurance service. Junior Grand Deacon (JGD) Bryant D. Webster (Nichols-West Asheville 650) sits on Preslar's right.

Webster is a lawyer and lives in Black Mountain with his wife (Janet) and daughter.

On the south side of the floor, to the delegates' right, is Junior Grand Warden (JGW) Dalton W. Mayo (Hiram 98). Mayo is retired from the faculty of Sampson Community College. He lives in Clinton.

At the meeting, Mayo is flanked by the grand stewards. Senior Grand Steward Jimmie B. Hicks Jr. (St. John's 3) is nearest the stage, and Junior Grand Steward C. Speed Hallman (Eagle 19) is nearest the delegates. Hicks is a

lawyer in New Bern. He has a 16-year-old son and 14-year-old daughter. Hallman and his wife Susan live in Hillsborough and have two teenaged sons.

Senior Grand Deacon (SGD) Douglas L. Caudle (Statesville 27) sits before the stage in front of the grand treasurer, to the grand master's right. Caudle and his wife Angela live in Taylorsville. He is president of Piedmont Fiberglass.

Another officer in the Grand Lodge line we don't have in the blue lodge progression to master is grand marshal (GMsl). Grand Marshal A. Gene Cobb (Royal White Hart 2) holds that chair beside Grand Chaplain (GC) Paul F. Kelly (Sanford 151). Cobb is minister at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Sanford where he lives with his wife Brenda. Their children are grown.

There, you have it — the starting line up for the 224<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. Don't get cocky, though. We'll elect new officers at this meeting. They'll be installed in November and take us all, once again, into a new year.



# Teen picks Home for Children as senior project

By Lela Hyde

As a rising 2012 senior at Robbinsville High School in Graham County, 17-year-old Carissa Carver found herself struggling with a decision. In order to complete her senior year, she had to conduct a project in her English IV curriculum. The project, known as the "senior project," includes a research paper, a portfolio, a physical product, and giving a public speech about her project before local civic and community leaders. She was to work on the project during her summer break. The students are graded on each of the four aspects of this requirement.

Carissa knew she would like to do a project in which she could help others, but wasn't sure what to choose. She approached friend, Lela Hyde, for suggestions. Ms. Hyde is a teacher assistant for Graham County Schools and has in the past worked with other students on choosing projects and mentoring them. Carissa explained that she wasn't sure who to help or how to go about starting such a project. Ms. Hyde, who is married to Robbinsville 672 Secretary Jim Hyde, asked her husband for ideas. He suggested turning Carissa's project into an adventure, which would not only help a Masonic charity, but teach Carissa a 300-year-old tradition which brings with it much debate and bragging rights. Jim's idea was to do a barbecue fundraiser for the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford.

Jim had visited Oxford before and had once obtained the DVDs "This Was Our Home" and "A Thousand Brothers and Sisters." After viewing the DVDs about the Home for Children, Carissa was deeply touched by the stories told by previous residents of the Home. She knew this was the project she wanted to undertake. She could research the history of the Home, adopt a cottage, organize a fundraiser, and present the proceeds to the Home. With Jim as her mentor, they started organizing the first fundraiser for this past Memorial Day weekend.



Carissa Carver barbecues for the kids and a grade.

The initial goal was to sell 24 butts, but it didn't take long before Carissa and her mother Ann exceeded that number. Quickly realizing the smoker Hyde borrowed from fellow Robbinsville 672 member Bill Bailey wouldn't hold them all, Hyde borrowed a second smoker from Montgomery 426. With Jim's guidance and expertise in cooking barbecue, Carissa prepared the meat, watched the temperature, and even fed the fire. With that weekend's first fundraiser, Carissa brought in more than \$500. Her Fourth of July sale again required two smokers and made \$600. She plans to conduct another fundraiser Labor Day.

She hopes to visit Oxford in the near future to tour the facilities, meet the staff, and gather more information for her research paper. She also hopes to make a second trip to MHCO during the Fall Homecoming Festival to present her "final product" to the Home. Carissa has no Masonic affiliation and knew nothing about the Masonic Home for Children prior to this undertaking.



Rowan scholarships went to, from left, Joshua Schiemann, Leah Perkins, and Elijah Wittum.

## Rowan County scholarships awarded to students

SALISBURY — On April 16, the Rowan County Masonic Scholarship Fund awarded its 2011 scholarships to Leah Perkins, Joshua Schiemann, and Elijah Wittum. The scholarships are for \$1,000.

Leah is the daughter of Dwight and Nancy Perkins and attended Carson High School. She plans to attend Wingate University and study education. Joshua is the son of Mark and Sarah Schiemann. He attended Salisbury High School. The Eagle Scout hopes to attend Virginia Tech as an architecture major. Elijah is the son of Cynthia Wittum and attends West Rowan High School. This Eagle Scout received the Boy Scout Medal of Honor with Cross Palms for bravery and a 2010 Carnegie Medal for saving the life of an individual who was drowning in a flooded portion of the South Yadkin River. Elijah plans to attend either College of Charleston or Catawba College to pursue a biology degree.

The Rowan County Masonic Scholarship Fund is an endowment administered by the six Rowan County lodges: Fulton 99, Andrew Jackson 576, Scotch Ireland 154, Eureka 283, Spencer 543, and Keller Memorial 657. Since its inception in 1988, the fund has awarded 67 scholarships valued at \$36,500.

— Dave Potts

## William Pitt Lodge visits a favorite historic Masonic destination



HALIFAX — Nine members of William Pitt 734 in Greenville made the trip up to Halifax on May 3 to visit Royal White Hart 2. Royal White Hart's antiquity makes it a popular destination for eastern lodges. One of the oldest lodges in North Carolina, their building dates from around 1820 and is filled with Masonic artifacts that date from its establishment in 1764-1767. They were warmly welcomed, and a great time was had by all who made the trip. Pictured here are Wayne Bryant (who coordinated the trip), Larry Lewis, Greg Roberson, Dallas Hurley, Tom Jones, Jimmy Wynne, Duane Sinquefield, Ron Buck, and Leland Tucker.

— Tom Jones

## MHCO repeating online auction

The time is quickly approaching for the 4th Annual MHCO Board of Directors Charity Auction! The auction will start on August 26, 2011 and run through November 4, 2011. Mark your calendars and get ready to bid! New items will be listed on our eBay site every three to five days. Visit eBay at www.ebay.com and look up seller name MHCO2008. We expect to have an exciting array of items like those listed in the past, including tickets to UNC, Duke, and NC State sporting events, electronics, art, coins, and Masonic memorabilia. The Board's goal is to top last year's earnings

of \$2,500. Proceeds from the auction, held courtesy of Mission Fish Charitable Auctions site, will benefit The Masonic Home for Children, caring for disadvantaged children in need of a safe, secure, and stable home. The money raised will be used for the daily operational costs, as well as special needs of the children, residing there, ages five to eighteen. For more information visit eBay.com or the Home's website at <www.mhcoxford.org> or our Facebook or Twitter pages. Thanks, in advance, for your support of The Masonic Home for Children and its mission to help children.



## CORNERSTONE, from page 1

project transformed the previous administration building into a new modern clubhouse for the residents featuring a new activity area, library, game room, resident store, lounge, staff offices, and refreshed apartments.

The next two phases of WhiteStone development began in May of this year. The second phase of construction will occur over the next four months and will see the building of two structures linked to the Linville building. The new 5,000 square feet of space will include a fellowship hall for daily and special events, a new bistro/coffee shop, and an arts and crafts room. Set for early November completion, the new fellowship hall will become the temporary dining room while the main dining room building is renovated (approximately 15,000 square-feet). The new dining room will feature three distinct dining areas (outdoor dining, restaurant style dining, and informal/buffet style dining) as well as a renovated basement with new offices and employee lounge areas.

Phase three will be the construction of a 70,000 square-foot independent living addition. It will provide 46 one- and two-bedroom living units ranging in size from 848 square-foot one-bedroom units to 1,300 square feet for the two-bedroom sunroom units. This addition will provide a total of 28 one-bedroom units and 18 two-bedroom units in a four-story complex. It will have a new state of the art spa. This building is scheduled to be open in March 2012.



Ric Carter photos





# MILEPOSTS



**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



**FAYETTEVILLE** — Creasy Proctor 679 member Charles Jordan, left, recently received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership. Ted Brinson, right, presented the award at Jordan's home. — Andrew F. McMillan



**HERTFORD** — On June 7, Perquimans 106 presented Durwood Leigh Barber Jr. his Veterans' Emblem for 50 years lodge membership. Barber was master of Perquimans Lodge in 1965 and has presided over the second section of many third degrees for a period of 35 years. First District Deputy Grand Master Phil Johnson presented the award. Seen here, from left, are Ed Lane, Perquimans Master Joe Elliott, Barber, and DDGM Johnson. — Paul Gregory



**FARMVILLE** — In May, Farmville 517 members traveled to William Amos Norman's home to present his Diamond Jubilee honoring his 60 years Masonic membership. The 89-year-old served as master of Farmville Lodge in 1965. Norman, left, was presented the award by lodge Master Randy Baldwin. — Bud Wooten



**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



**FARMVILLE** — Farmville 517 recently presented John Turner Walston, left, his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years Masonic membership. Walston, 95 years old, saw D-Day action in Normandy. Lodge Master Randy Baldwin, right, made the presentation. — Bud Wooten



**WENDELL** — Glenn Kennedy, left, and Don Nobles, right, received their Veteran's Emblems for 50 years membership on April 2. It was Past Masters Night at Wendell 565. Master James Baker III is seen here with them after the presentation. — Ray Burch



**LEXINGTON** — Lexington 473's John C. Bennett, center, got his Veterans' Emblem on June 2. Douglas T. Sink, left, presented the award recognizing 50 years lodge membership. They are seen here with Lexington Master Jonathan P. Hedrick. — Tommy Jolly

# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

- 4..... Christopher Edward Rouse
- 27.....John Brandon Kiff
- 40.....Jonathan Douglas Gilliken
- 40.....John Emmett Morefield Perdue
- 53.....Johnathan Guary Kight
- 75.....Matthew Wayne Wall
- 75.....Scott Dean Weaver
- 83.....Thor Tilmann Lucas
- 85.....David Brett Wooten
- 91.....George Lawrence Beveridge
- 91.....Scott Manning Burns
- 92.....Alex Henry Ellis
- 112.....Aaron Michael Carver
- 112.....Joshua Dale Lane
- 113.....Robert Haskell Allen
- 115.....David Franco
- 115.....James Andrew Hatley
- 118.....John Fletcher Comer
- 118.....Benjamin McLeod Sims
- 122.....Andrew David Adcock
- 123.....Zachary Grissom
- 126.....William Terry Craddock
- 126.....Kevin Douglas Morrow
- 137.....Michael Allen Bollinger
- 137.....Timothy Martin Hoggard
- 137.....Gregory Scott Reynolds
- 138.....Ronald Dean Horton
- 143.....David Eugene Phillips
- 147.....Jesse Bradley Barefoot
- 147.....James Robert Jackson
- 154.....Jamie Lewis Redding
- 167.....Michael Cecil Goings
- 172.....Lee Wayne Barrow
- 176.....Shawn David Gilmore
- 190.....Craig Shawn Davis
- 191.....Jason Glen Jones
- 198.....Steven Douglas Elkins
- 198.....Joseph Michael Gugliotti
- 202.....Ruben Shane Packer
- 205.....Steven Cole Blythe
- 205.....Charles Haywood Bush
- 205.....Bryan Thomas Miller
- 205.....Matthew Lynn Waisner
- 208.....Jordan Dean Hansen
- 208.....Graham Eugene Price
- 208.....Hunter Clark Sasser
- 214.....Richard Edwin Michael
- 218.....Benjamin Cahse Asseff
- 237.....Darrin Abraham Helton
- 244.....Clinton Harold Clute
- 249.....Cebert Winston Walls
- 253.....Dean Scott Shore

- 261.....Gregory M. Holman
- 261.....Ghassan Lebbos Lebbos
- 261.....Honore Jean Missihoun
- 261.....Stephen Brent Neal
- 261.....Ryan Christopher Phillips
- 261.....Justin Coleman Schwartz
- 265.....Jeffery Wade Weatherman
- 271.....Christopher Robert Hursey
- 271.....Jeffrey Alan Shepherd
- 276.....Richard Edwin Helms
- 276.....Darrick Christopher Philemon
- 276.....Richard Earl Wallace
- 294.....Orville Crowder Jones III
- 300.....Clifton Earl Williams
- 304.....William Rossie Gray Jr.
- 304.....Donald Glenn Robinson Jr.
- 306.....Dennis Allen Bechtel
- 306.....Cole Tanner Spillman
- 306.....Michael Richard Swinehart
- 306.....Marshall Gerard Patt Weidner
- 314.....Brett Alan Wickett
- 319.....Joseph Edwin Mintz
- 319.....Leland Ray Pearson
- 319.....Larry Hubert Thomas
- 322.....John Samuel Kidwell
- 322.....Christopher Mark Stevens
- 339.....Christian Scott Mullis
- 343.....James Kenneth Stone
- 344.....Harold Bruce Kafer
- 369.....Cody Daniel Huffstetler
- 369.....William Grier Kiser
- 369.....Travis Wayne Stowe
- 381.....Cameron Joffrey Byers
- 381.....Joseph Leon Carpenter
- 381.....Freddie Hugh Euten
- 387.....Billy Rhodes
- 387.....Richard Eric Robinson
- 387.....Jeffrey Hayes Tankersley
- 387.....Jr. Robert Bynum Works
- 388.....Bucky Dewayne Brown
- 391.....Brian Thomas Drew
- 391.....Jerry McNeill Fowler
- 391.....Woodrow Inman
- 391.....Charles Mitchell Rodriguez
- 391.....Robert John Schulte
- 395.....Stephen Len Gasque
- 395.....Harry Ford Steele Jr.
- 397.....Dearl Dean Norton
- 397.....Darryl Glenn Vess
- 407.....Anthony B. Huffman
- 408.....Walter Thomas Hamilton III

- 409.....Joshua Allen Chappell
- 409.....James Quinlon Curtis
- 420.....Richard Eugene Clark
- 428.....Nicholas Darian Southern
- 434.....Keith William Herbs
- 434.....Aaron L. Pope
- 435.....Jamie Douglas Barnes
- 444.....Raymond Leslie James
- 453.....Claude Everett Rogers
- 454.....Isaac Carl Rose
- 459.....John Lucius Glenn
- 460.....Dustin Lee Walker
- 460.....Matthew Lanier Waugh
- 461.....Jason Rufus Creel
- 461.....Michael Wayne Goodson
- 461.....Jeffery Brandon Holland
- 461.....William Riley Richardson
- 461.....Eric Clifton Ridlehoover
- 491.....Ronnie Harrison Ford
- 492.....Barry Lynn Adams
- 492.....Coy Thomas Overman
- 500.....Brandon Thomas Ambrose
- 500.....Randall Seth Benjamin
- 500.....Christopher Donald Fundaish
- 500.....Brandon Lee McPherson
- 500.....Matthew James Yesko
- 502.....Clayton Robert Tallent
- 505.....Christopher Bryce Alexander
- 505.....Andy Heath Hartman
- 505.....Wesley Thomas Lackey
- 505.....Barry Wayne Sisk
- 509.....Jason Albert Keech
- 515.....Tony Grier Cooper
- 515.....James Chester McCloskey
- 515.....Joel Todd Wolfe
- 521.....Jaime Stuart Wescott
- 527.....John Willard Wright
- 534.....Carl Arthur Ogren III
- 542.....Clemon Theron Miller III
- 552.....Jeffrey Stuart Allen
- 552.....Darrell Wayne Bush
- 552.....James Earl Taylor
- 554.....Travis Wayne Sparks
- 554.....Charles Eugene Vines
- 554.....Douglas Franklin Weathers
- 556.....Walter Stephen Aiken
- 556.....Tracy Hamilton
- 565.....Jason Alan Dimitri
- 565.....Leslie Kent Jerrell
- 565.....William Joseph Mosley
- 571.....Ronald Sylvester Browning
- 573.....Timothy Joe Laws

- 579.....Andy Grayson Mcneilly
- 584.....Kevin Tyler Kondas
- 584.....Andrew David Moomy
- 584.....Jeffrey Wayne Sawyer
- 594.....Paul Nichols Davis
- 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.....John Christopher Williams
- 618.....Thomas Lathan Nash Jr.
- 618.....Ronald Glynn Thomas
- 624.....Andrew Glenn Fuller Jr.
- 626.....Jacob Austin Merricks
- 626.....Roger Lee Millner
- 656.....Bradley Paul Cardille
- 656.....Samuel Chester Holder
- 656.....Timothy Marshall Reklau
- 656.....Scott R. Spencer
- 657.....Steven Dale Troutman
- 657.....Phillip Michael York
- 663.....Joseph Raymond Kidd
- 667.....Scott Allen Logan
- 669.....Brian Michael Anderson
- 669.....Brian Shea Goins
- 670.....Joshua David Call
- 670.....Albert Eugene Minish Jr.
- 670.....Dallas Eugene Stoudenmire Jr.
- 674.....Jeffrey Scott Wilcox
- 675.....James Franklin Evans
- 675.....John Scott Lane
- 675.....Walter Aaron Warner
- 676.....Emmett Eugene Harris III
- 676.....Christopher William Metz
- 676.....Tobey Lynn Small
- 679.....Michael Edward Flowers
- 680.....Robert Louis Arbeene
- 680.....Nicholas Wayne Byrd
- 680.....Wade Lonzel Haynes
- 680.....Jeremy Wayne McElrath
- 680.....Matthew Gene Nelson
- 683.....David Neal Lipford
- 688.....Donald Preston Collins
- 688.....Nicholas George Paul Leathers
- 691.....Richard Grayson Warden
- 692.....Jason Wesley Bryan
- 692.....Robert Timothy Hunter

- 695.....Arthur Coy Hathcock
- 695.....Tommy Eugene Moore
- 701.....Robert Shawn Godwin
- 701.....Robert Swain Wellbrook
- 702.....David Cecil Crump
- 703.....Brian Eugene Clay
- 703.....Eric Alexander Furr
- 703.....Aaron Carl Kepley
- 704.....Christopher Lawrence Euchner
- 704.....Lloyd Anderson Leatherwood III
- 704.....Travis Wayne Stuart
- 705.....Joseph William Likar
- 705.....Jason Floyd Posey
- 706.....Joseph Joshua Byrd
- 708.....Walter Lynn Gaylor
- 708.....Travis Wayne Stuart
- 708.....John Anderson Whichard
- 708.....Bobby Ray Woodard
- 712.....William Kyle Bissett
- 713.....Joey Franklin Gillelan
- 713.....John Michael Lethcoe
- 715.....Edward Anthony Divers
- 715.....Jeffrey Alan Shaw
- 717.....Ronnie James Whitehead
- 718.....Chris William Wood
- 718.....David William Hamill
- 730.....Kenneth Bradley Hancock
- 733.....Jarrod Eugene Norris
- 737.....Gallamore C. Brooks Osborne
- 737.....Michael Craig Pilecki
- 738.....Jonathan Branch Dixon
- 738.....Thurman Lee Doreauk
- 738.....Eric Gray Line
- 738.....Jonathan Matthew Tilly
- 739.....Buford Elliott Fannon
- 739.....Larry Wayne Payne
- 739.....Tommy Eugene Pressley
- 742.....Clint Joseph Cannaday
- 742.....Kevin Scott Edwards
- 742.....Kenneth Harry Owens
- 742.....Joshua Ryan Strawn
- 742.....Daryl Frederick Watson
- 744.....Richard Eugene Hough
- 749.....Zachary Andrew Cohen
- 749.....Timothy Wayne Outen
- 749.....Darrell Ray Phillips
- 755.....Aaron Spencer Brookshire
- 759.....Richard Bradley Starnes
- 763.....Charles Roy Biggs Jr.
- 763.....Joseph Bruce DeBose
- 763.....John Thomas Eatmon
- 763.....John Marcus Eldridge III



# MHCO Hayes and Neal Societies inducts new members

OXFORD — At a May 13 luncheon, the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford celebrated the life and legacy of those who gave lifetime gifts in 2010. They inducted new members into the Hayes and Neal Societies. Planned gifts executed in 2010 equaled more than 40% of the Home's donation revenue for the year.

For the past six years, the Board of Directors has gathered and hosted the luncheon honoring these givers and their families, acknowledging their gift, and announcing their induction as members of the Hayes and Neal Societies at MHCO. An area of the Home's Cobb Center Museum and Archives honors these special donors.

"Planned giving continues to provide a solid financial foundation for the Home's future," said Administrator Chris Richardson. "It's hard to imagine how this Home could have continued to serve and grow over such a long period of time without planned giving. We'll need it just as much, if not more, for our future. Naming this Home in a will, estate, trust, or other planned gift is more than a donation — it is a gift for the future and changes the lives of children forever.

It is a true gift of a lifetime."

The luncheon featured the naming of this year's recipients, a special recognition for the McGee family and their newly formed foundation, and the meaningful words of Home alumnus and keynote speaker Danny Page. The Class of 1974 resident presented the story of his experience at the Home, emphasizing the importance of the Home and its part in preparing him for life, his family, and career today.

This year's inductees were Gold Level: L. Miller Snow; Silver Level: Richard A. Morris in loving memory of his parents Bernard William Asa Morris and Mary Frances Birchfield Morris; Bronze Level: William J. Evans, Esther M. Fitzgerald, Larry W. Pilgrim; Legacy Level: Virginia J. Fox, Thelma D. Hutchens, Lloyd B. Monroe, James H. Pittman, Stanley W. Powell Jr., Ann K. Thomas in memory of daughter Deborah Ann and husband John Primm Thomas; and Benefactor Level: Walter C. Correll, Alton M. Ivey, and Marshall W. Lawrence.

The Home formed the Hayes and Neal Societies in 2005. Donors who name the Home in a will, provide a lifetime gift of stock, property, or assets with cash value, or name the Home in a trust or annuity are annually recognized. For more information on planned giving, contact MHCO at (919) 603-3901 or by visiting <www.mhc-oxford.org/Planned.html>.



Interim Administrator Chris Richardson presents Brenda McGee Bell and Kaylor Robinson recognition for the McGee Memorial Foundation's restoration and management of the Home's memorial cemetery.

# STATE, from page 3

## Gatesville

They are sprucing things up around Gatesville 126. They've just given the lodge a fresh painting inside and put down new carpeting. — Steve Stallings

## Statesville

John Brown "Red" Earle was a Mason much loved for many years in Statesville. He coached many Masons and served in many offices. A few years back, Statesville 27 started raising money for a scholarship in his honor. After awarding a couple of scholarships, they have been waiting on further disbursements until the fund grows larger. Members of Mount Moriah 690 and Statesville 27 were recently selling raffle tickets for a week's accommodations at an Oak Island Beach house. — The Joppa Informer

## Elizabeth City

Eureka 317 did the inevitable roof repair in late May. So far this year, they have brought in \$4,200 for charity with a barbecue sale, a yard sale, and a bake sale. — On the Level

second to Hiram 40, and third to Salem 289. For the not to be lightly regarded Sauce Award, Hiram 40 took first, Widow's Son 4 (PHA) was second, and Green Level 277 took third.

Besides Doric 30, Spurmont 98 from Virginia was the this year's other out-of-state entry.

According to event organizer, Mike Sterling of Raleigh 500, "Every year, the Pig Jig is the perfect opportunity for barbecue novices and aficionados alike to meet some Freemasons and try various regional interpretations of barbecue for a great price and for a great cause. Plus, because the Pig Jig always coincides with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's annual Got To Be NC Festival at the State Fairgrounds, there is always lots of great home-grown food, agriculture, and entertainment on hand for everyone to enjoy."

The contest is certainly fun for visitors, but the real fun is for the entrants. The fun and fellowship of a night on the fairgrounds with brothers from all over the state is hard to beat. Set-up and cooking begin on Friday afternoon. That's when the Masons have the chance to visit around, peek at the exotic grilling equipment and homebuilt curiosities. Then there's all the visiting while the pigs slow cook through the wee hours.

The ticket sales structure of the Pig Jig allows lodges to use the event as a lodge fundraiser as well. To learn more about the Carolina Pig Jig, visit <www.CarolinaPigJig.com>. It's not too early to be planning your assault on the championship in 2012.



Ric Carter photos



# MORE MILEPOSTS



GREENVILLE — On May 12, Crown Point 708 member Maynard Earl Porter was presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic service. Seen here, from left, are District Deputy Grand Master Benjie Heath, Porter, Crown Point Master Rufus Walston, and District Deputy Grand Lecturer Dennis Campbell — Stephen Natale



CASAR — Casar 579 presented service awards June 2. Veterans' Emblems for 50-years membership went to Hal Cooke Yates Warlick, Ralph Sain, and Larry Costner. Paul Houser and Bob Braswell presented the awards at Casar Lodge's Past Masters' Night. Seen here, from left seated, are Sain and Warlick. Standing are Warlick, Cooke, Braswell, Past Master Paul Houser, Mrs. Warlick, and Costner. — Eric Newton



ELIZABETH CITY — Henry Wilson Eason, left, was presented his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years membership at the grand master's June 6 First Masonic District meeting. The New Lebanon 314 past master (1964) is seen here with Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford.



ELIZABETH CITY — Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford, right, recently presented Cecil E. Winslow, left, his Diamond Jubilee Award celebrating his 60 years as a Mason. The Perquimans 106 member served as master of the lodge three times, and was lodge secretary for 40 years. The award was presented during the Grand Masters District Meeting June 6.



ELIZABETH CITY — Gerald Willford Jones, left, was presented his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years membership at the grand master's June 6 First Masonic District meeting on June 6. The New Lebanon 314 past master (1976) is seen here with Grand Master Lewis R. Ledford.





Kids of all ages enjoyed the Carolina Pig Jig.

## Pig Jig has most entries ever, and maybe the most fun

By Mike Sterling

RALEIGH — Raleigh 500 hosted the sixth annual Carolina Pig Jig barbecue festival and charity fundraiser at the NC State Fairgrounds on May 21. The festival is the largest Masonic-only barbecue competition of its kind in North America.

This year, 33 Masonic organizations from as far away as Delaware (Doric 30 in Millville, Delaware) joined together and competed for the title of Barbecue Grand Champions. The contest attracted more than 3,000 attendees and helped raise more than \$5,000 for the Masonic Home For Children and Central Children's Home, both in Oxford.

Created in 2006, the Carolina Pig Jig is a friendly barbecue competition among Freemasons where the public is also invited to sample a wide variety of regional barbecue for only ten dollars per person. The competition also coincides with the NC Department of Agriculture's annual Got To Be NC Festival. The Pig Jig is one of the chief attractions of the Festival.

This year's Grand Champion award went to Raleigh's Hiram 40. Salem 289 again took the People's Choice award. Mentor 55 (PHA) took the Team Spirit prize.

In the Barbecue Pork Division, first place went to Orphans 761, second to J. J. Crowder 743, and third to Hiram 40. First place in the barbecue chicken division went to Spurlmont 98 (Virginia),

see PIG JIG, page 7



Pig Jig lines were manageable this year.



Corn Bread Man Ray Wheeler serves up his specialty at the Pig Jig.

## Corn Bread Man is a Tar Heel entrepreneur

By Ric Carter

SELMA — Let Wall Street rave as it will about their entrepreneur sweethearts with their MBA educations from high-powered universities. Let them run up their stock prices and deploy their golden parachutes after dumping hundreds of local employee neighbors. You can have them every one. Give me a real American entrepreneur like The Corn Bread Man — Ray Wheeler.

"I'm a dreamer, always dreaming something up," smiles Kenly 257 member Ray Wheeler. Ray joined the lodge in 1961.

Born to tenant farmers, Ray and his wife Betty were newlyweds when he went to work at Atkinson's Mill in 1958. The grist mill had been in the same family since it first opened in 1757, grinding corn with power supplied by the currents and a dam on the New River on Highway 42 east of Clayton. Ray didn't know anything about the business, but he was quick to learn and not ashamed to ask advice of those who did know the business.

Soon, Ray was running the mill and catching on. Miss Betty soon had one child and then a second. Before long, she had followed Ray in learning to run the Mill. She quit her job at the shirt

see WHEELER, page 2

## In this issue of The NC Mason



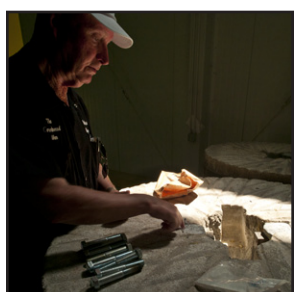
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Annual Communication coming September 23-24



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Cornerstone dedicated on WhiteStone expansion



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Corn Bread Man Ray Wheeler



page 8

Sixth annual Pig Jig attracts big, hungry crowd

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

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# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



Volume 136 Number 4

July/August 2011



Another good time was had by all when they held the Sixth Annual Masonic Pig Jig AgFest in May. Check out the news and views of the event in this issue of *The North Carolina Mason*.