



NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



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Ric Carter photos

Unanimity visits its historic home

By Ric Carter

EDENTON — The port of Edenton was one of the early bastions of Freemasonry in North Carolina. Unanimity 7 has held chartered meetings since 1775. They still meet on the shore of that port town.

At last year's Annual Communication, members of Lodge 7 first heard about the 21st District Colonial Degree Team. Talk down east started immediately about getting the team to visit one of the state's colonial centers.

Before long, imaginations soared. How about holding it at the courthouse? How about breaking out the replica Washington chair?

In 1771, the Grand Lodge of England named North Carolina patriot Joseph Montfort "provincial grand master of and for America." Between then and

his death in the spring of 1776, Montfort chartered less than ten lodges. One of them was Unanimity Lodge in Edenton.

They held their first meeting November 8, 1775 at Kings Arms Tavern also known as Horniblow's. They met there for three years before moving to the Chowan County Courthouse. They met in the courthouse until the early 1950s.

The night they held their first meeting in the courthouse, ship's captain George Russell gave them a master's chair said to have been entrusted to him by a Virginia lodge for safekeeping during the Revolution. For the next 200 years, Unanimity Lodge used what

see EDENTON, page 4



Grand Lodge scholarships awarded

RALEIGH — The Grand Lodge awarded eight scholarships this year. The \$1,000 scholarships go to North Carolina high school seniors who are college bound.

This year's recipients are Toniqua L. Taylor, Garner Magnet High School, Garner; Kathleen Marie Reed, North Duplin High School, Mount Olive; Erin T. Brackett, Camden County High School, Camden; Dakota L. Sneed, Hiwassee Dam High, Hiwassee; Jacob E. Reavis, Davie High, Mocksville; Morgan Keri Grooms, Clyde A. Erwin High, Asheville; Chad D. Smith, West Lincoln High, Lincolnton; and Benjamin T. Wilde, North Buncombe High, Weaverville.

If you know a graduating senior who could use some college help, applications for the scholarship are posted on the Grand Lodge website early each year. They are usually due in mid-March.

Gather artifacts for GL restoration's time capsules

By Ric Carter

On November 3, 2012, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina will celebrate its 225th anniversary. Watch for details concerning the schedule of the ceremonies which will include the grand opening of the restoration of the Grand Lodge headquarters building in Raleigh. There will be lunch and music and historical presentations.

The newly restored deck will include six time capsules for placement of artifacts of our lodges. Lodges are urged to participate. Collect books or pins or coins or remembrances that have marked occasions in your lodge. Additionally, the 225th Committee wishes to collect photos as well as histories of your blue lodge. The capsules will be opened in 25 years at the celebration of our 250th. Items should be collected and delivered by September to assure they get a place in the program.

New attention is being paid to the museum and library area downstairs in the building. Old papers and books are being organized and cataloged. Each lodge is getting its own spot for history and notes and special recognitions and mentions.

We would like for you to send us a history of your lodge to be placed in those records. Please include photos of the interior and exterior of your building. Make notes and photographs of any special possessions such as furniture, antiques, or art. Have a special painting or fancy woodwork in your lodge? Share it through photos and explanations. These materials will find their way into the archives and annals of the Grand Lodge to be shared with future generations. Some will be placed in the time capsules.

Has your lodge digitized any old minutes of the lodge? Do you have digitized photos of your past masters? Other electronic bits of history? Download your website to a CD. We'd love to have digital copies here in the library. It will allow researchers now and in the future recover Masonic history that might otherwise be lost in the mists of time.

Not sure if what you choose will work? Just give the Grand Lodge office a call at (919) 787-2021 or send them an email <rcarter@glnc.us>. They'll be happy to help you decide.

THE BOTTOM LINE



Take responsibility seriously

By Robert E. Gresham Jr.
Grand Master

As you read this edition of "The Bottom Line," I will have finished my 26 announced district meetings. The last one was at my home lodge, Albemarle Lodge 703 on May 30. The experience has been more than fulfilling. I could have never expected the warmth, courtesies, and brotherly love that have been extended to me as I have traveled across this great state of ours. From some of the smallest to some of the largest lodges, the receptions which I have received have been great. Food continues to be wonderful. Through 25 meetings, slaw still leads with 14 servings. Masonic green beans run a close second with 12 servings. Barbecue leads the meats with seven servings and fried chicken close behind with six servings. The varied assortment of foods has been very enjoyable and appreciated. As I said last time, keeping the list has been for fun and I have enjoyed the comments that I have received from you.

In a few short days, my year will be half over. How time flies. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as your grand master. The comments and warm regards which you have extended to me will always be remembered. I have been welcomed all over this state. One can't express the appreciation that I have to you for the way that I have been received and welcomed.

The Funeral Manual has been received from the printer. A copy will be mailed to each lodge in the near future. See a related article in this edition of *The North Carolina Mason*. The manual

has been priced at ten dollars per copy. I recommend it to you, especially those who perform Masonic funerals. You will find it to be a valuable resource for offering suggestions on ways to handle different situations surrounding funerals.

I continue to emphasize the importance of Lodge finance records being audited by the Lodge Finance and Budget Committee. Reg. 61-3.1 of *The Code* states as follows:

It shall be the duty of the Committee on Finance and Budget to examine the books, vouchers, and records of the trustees, Treasurer, and the Secretary and make a detailed report in writing at the first stated communication in February each year. The committee shall audit all bills, accounts, and claims that may be referred to it and report upon the same in writing to the lodge.

This is a most serious duty and must be performed each year. Some say that "you don't trust the Treasurer or Secretary." This is not the case at all. Good business says that you should verify the books and records of the lodge. Trust is not the issue. We are handling someone else's money, and we have a fiduciary duty to make sure that it is properly accounted for. It should be considered necessary so that there is no doubt or question on anyone's part that everything is correct. If I were the treasurer or secretary, a condition of my keeping the job would be that there was to be a thorough review of my records annually.

As I write this, the Grand Lodge has a subordinate lodge that appears to be missing a very large sum of money. I have insisted that an extremely thorough review be performed. It is currently under way at this writing. The initial indication is that this short-

age of funds has occurred over the last 11 years. Just think if the annual audit had been performed as required by *The Code*, this apparent shortage would at least be much smaller. Please, don't serve on a Finance and Budget Committee and sign the form that everything was verified as required and not have performed the verification. The results could be very disastrous to the offending brother(s). If the committee can't get the needed records or information, they should go to the master, if he has trouble he should go the district deputy grand master, if the DDGM has trouble he should contact the grand master. I assure you that this grand master will get the information needed. I can't over emphasize the importance of this *Code* provision.

I hope that you are planning to attend the MHCO Homecoming/Festival on October 12-14. Plans are coming together for a great and enjoyable weekend. The entertainment, food, and activities announced will provide fun and entertainment for all.

Remember that on November 3, the Grand Lodge will be celebrating its 225th anniversary at the Grand Lodge office in Raleigh. Lunch will be served by reservation only. Tours of the recently renovated building will be available. Please plan to be with us for this celebration.

In closing, let me share with you the following Irish friendship wish:

- May there always be work for your hands to do;
- May your purse always hold a coin or two;
- May the sun always shine on your window pane;
- May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
- May the hand of a friend always be near you;
- May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Freemasonry is Different

By Martin Faulks

Freemasonry is something different for each and every Mason. The wonderful thing about Masonic ritual is that it acts like an ink-blot test for the human mind. Each Freemason sees something slightly different in the workings of the Craft, depending on his situation in life, his personal background, and his level of development. I often wonder if a lack of firm knowledge of our origins isn't one of the greatest gifts Freemasonry has. The ambiguity allows the ritual to speak directly without preconceptions.

To me, Freemasonry is a path of self-development and self-improvement, and Masonry provides a system of moral and spiritual transformations. It inspired men to look at themselves and change the way they interact with the world. It is a system of mental control and self-development comparable to Buddhism, yoga, and many other paths of self-improvement to be found around the world, but packaged in a unique western tradition.

The special thing about Freemasonry is that it is free of dogma and open to all religious persuasions. The rituals of Freemasonry are stories that play into the basic human urge to improve one's self and make the world a better place. Freemasonry teaches that our personal characteristics are neither random nor immutable. We

can change ourselves just as a builder changes his surroundings.

The wisdom and inspiration contained in Masonic ceremonies allow us to reflect on ourselves and adjust our behavior and way of thinking. It's a hard path that involves the constant chipping away of our negative qualities and the cultivation of our virtues. To do this we use contemplation, speculation, ritual memorization, and constant adjustments and correction of our thoughts in daily life. A stonemason builds buildings, a Freemason builds himself into someone better and more virtuous. It is a way of becoming the best man you can be, and of having the best effect you can on the world.

Martin Faulks is marketing director of Lewis Masonic Publishing, appeared in Arizona Masonry.



Toleration, holding that every other man has the same right to his opinion and faith that we have to ours; and liberality, holding that as no human being can with certainty say, in the clash and conflict of hostile faiths and creeds, what is truth, or that he is surely in possession of it, so every one should feel that it is quite possible that another equally honest and sincere with himself, and yet holding the contrary opinion, may himself be in possession of the truth." — Albert Pike

Funeral Manual released

By Speed Hallman

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina *Masonic Funeral Manual* is a new guide for lodges that offers additional rituals to meet contemporary funeral needs and respond to changes in our Code. The manual also offers advice to help ensure we do all we can to comfort families and work well alongside clergy in the performances of services.

In addition to three variations of the traditional burial service, the manual offers ceremonies for Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons, a memorial service held in the lodge (useful if a lodge wishes to commemorate the life of a brother who did not have Masonic funeral rites), a ritual for spreading ashes, a lodge necrology ceremony, and a ritual for opening and closing the Lodge of Sorrow. The appendix has inspirational messages and poems that can be incorporated into services.

The manual supplements the ceremonies published in the *North Carolina Lodge Manual*, commonly referred to as the *Babnson Manual*, which dates to 1892. These ceremonies have served the Craft well and are in no way being replaced.

The new manual provides a comprehensive plan for Masonic funeral and memorial services, suggests ways to comfort families in distress and helps the Craft build bridges with clergy. By being proactive and flexible with families and religious leaders, we can respect the integrity of our ceremonies and those of the household of the faithful. We can express our compassion for bereaved families, and conduct our ritual in a variety of settings, as we plan and carry out ceremonies and pay appropriate honor to brothers who have died. For the first time,

we have ceremonies for remembering our deceased Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft.

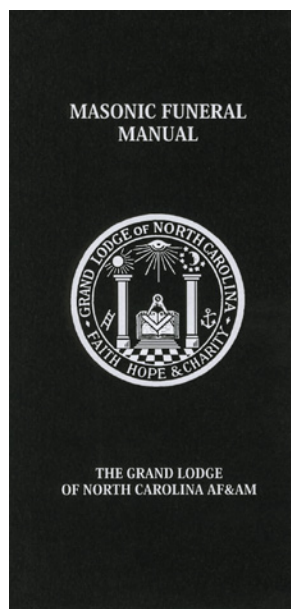
New ceremonies are included beside the old ones because the practices surrounding funerals and memorial services have dramatically changed since the *Babnson Manual* was first published. Like all good Masonic work, these ceremonies are to be accomplished in a way and manner conducive to who can best work and best agree.

These ceremonies, like all Masonic ritual, are best committed to memory. However, since there are such a variety of circumstances, reading from the manual is permitted. If it is read, it should be done with expression and dignity. If it is memorized, the expression of genuine compassion for the family overcomes the stress of letter-perfect-accuracy. Because Freemasonry is a fraternity of diverse religious affiliations, and the fact that these rituals are conducted in the public eye, the manual encourages lodge leaders to discuss the ceremony with the officiating religious leader prior to the use of this new resource.

As we conduct these rituals across the state as a public witness to our commitment to honor our deceased brethren, we believe the design on the trestle board will enable the Grand Architect of the Universe to say what we all desire to hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

The funeral manual now available in limited quantities from the Grand Lodge at ten dollars plus shipping and handling.

Speed Hallman is grand steward and a member of Eagle 19.



From left are Mazie Smith, Gray Swindell, Hal Swindell, Dan Smith, and Swindell's nephew Tom Harris.

Swindell hangs up his quill

By Ric Carter

SWANQUARTER — March 15 was a historic night for Atlantic 294. Hal Swindell retired as lodge secretary, a job he has held since 1968. Since his raising in 1948, he has served the lodge in this Hyde County fishing village in many ways, including as master three times. He spent the 44 years as secretary.

To salute his stepping down, the lodge held a special celebration of his years of service. They began with grilling steaks at the Fire Department across the street. Lodge members were joined by family members including Swindell's daughter, Mazie, who is Hyde County manager.

Mazie and Hal's son Gray and son-in-law Dan Smith, both members of Atlantic Lodge, spoke of his love for the lodge and his joy in his years of service. Atlantic Master Ken Collier saluted Swindell and presented him a plaque from the lodge thanking him for his good care of the lodge. A certificate of appreciation was presented from the Grand Lodge by Assistant Grand Secretary Ric Carter. Swindell was a long-time fa-

vorite of the staff in the Grand Secretary's office.

After supper, they went over to the lodge and opened their stated communication. It was a lengthy meeting which the members and Swindell spent reminiscing over stories from the lodge's past and the good times they had together over the years. There was a good deal of laughing and a little tearing up as they shared their joys and memories. Now, that's real salute to a good career.



Richard Dunbar presents Swindell a cake saluting 44 years as secretary.

Friends working for the kids at MHCO

For a second straight year, the "Chili Guys" from J.J. Crowder 743 in Raleigh held their annual chili cooking competition — and the kids were the judges! The first place winner was presented a pink trophy for his efforts. They enjoyed a delicious lunch on a "chilly" February Day. Kudos to the Cheese Table Team, who finished a close second.

The Masons of Shelby 744 are using taxes as a way to help MHCO. Through the efforts of Ed Burk, any person having taxes prepared through H&R Block can mention the Home as a charity and a donation will be forwarded in their name. The program is in its second year and more information can be found by visiting the H&R Block website or your local H&R Block tax office.

North Carolina State Employees can again give to the Home through the North Carolina State Employees' Combined Campaign, for which the Home is approved for in 2012. Thanks to those employees, MHCO received a total of \$8,141.18 from the 2011 campaign. State employees are encouraged to learn more about the program at <www.ncsecc.org>.

Two simple rules for life:

- 1. Know Thyself
2. Take nothing in Excess.

— Socrates (469–399 BC)



ROBBINSONVILLE — Carissa Carver, a senior at Robbinston High School, recently received special recognition at the school's award day program. Carissa was chosen by the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority as the recipient of their Humanitarian Award in recognition for her project which benefited the Masonic Home for Children. As part of Carissa's project, she raised more than \$2,000 for the Home. She personally presented the check to Past Grand Master Dan Rice at the 2011 MHCO Homecoming. For more on Carissa and her story, please see the July/August 2011 edition of The North Carolina Mason. — Jim Hyde



Eure celebrated in Gatesville

GATESVILLE — Gatesville 126 recently hosted the First District Masonic quarterly meeting. DDGM Phil Johnson presented Raeford Eure, second from right, with his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership. They are seen here with Raeford's uncles Delton, left, and Luther, right, both also long-time members of Gatesville Lodge.

Back in December, Eure was saluted in a Norfolk newspaper, the *Virginian-Pilot*. They spoke of the 75-year-old's 150 round trip flights to the Shriners Children's Hospital in Greenville, South Carolina. After becoming a pilot in 1965, Eure helped found Kedive (Shrine) Air Wing which transports children to their hospital appointments. Eure remembers back to his childhood when his neighbors gave him rides to doctor's appointments to treat his club feet. He now repays the favors as he can. He has been a member of the Board of the Greenville Hospital for nine years.

— Steve Stallings

Eure returns the community's favor

By Scott Mathews

PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA — Raeford Eure has made 150 round trips carrying children and their families to the Shriners Hospitals for Children in Greenville, SC.

"Truth be told," the 75-year-old said, "It's a total of 219 to the various Shriners hospitals around the East. And, 98 percent of those were trips by air. We pilots keep meticulous flight logs."

Eure, who became a pilot in 1965, helped form the Kedive Air Wing. He and his fellow Shriner aviators began volunteering to make what they describe as "Angel Flights" in 1987. [Ray Eure joined Gatesville 126 in 1959.]

Whether they transported patients by plane or vehicle to Shriner hospitals, Eure's group of volunteers became known as "Road Runners."

"What with recurring doctor appointments, I guess I've transported at least 100 different children and families to Greenville alone over the years," said Eure, who lives in Linkhorn Park.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a health system that provides specialty care to children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate.

"No child is turned away because of their inability to pay," Eure said.

Melissa Bayles, a spokeswoman for Shriners Hospitals for Children-Greenville, said Eure has a special connection with the children.

"During his 150th trip here," Bayles said, "Mr. Eure not only transported a child with club feet to her appointment, but he attended the monthly Board of Governors meeting at the hospital."

Eure has been a member of the hospital's Board of Governors, also a volunteer position, for nine years. [Eure recently completed his term.]

A native of Gates County, NC, Eure was born with club feet. "My folks were tenant farmers who couldn't afford a car," he

said. "Thanks to the kindness of a neighbor with a car, I was able to travel to a Suffolk hospital for treatment."

He and his parents never forgot that kindness.

"One reason I've volunteered to carry these children to the Shriners hospitals for over 20 years is a result of that neighbor carrying me for treatment," he said.

When asked who his most memorable patient was, Eure tells of an 11-year-old girl who was severely burned in a house fire.

"She had no ears, no lips, nose, or fingers," he said. "I flew her to numerous operations and skin grafts. The last time I carried her she was a teen, and I saw a remarkable transformation. Today, she's a nurse in Elizabeth City. She's come so far."

Eure is the president of Hoggard-Eure Associates, an engineering, surveying and planning firm.

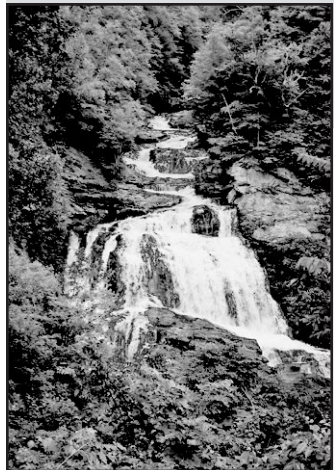
"There are so many people in this world who are less fortunate than I am," Eure said.

He maintained he will continue transporting patients to Shriner hospitals "by plane or car for as long as I'm physically, mentally and spiritually able to do so."

This article first appeared in the *Virginian Pilot*, December 1, 2011.

Table with 2 columns: Issue, Deadline. Rows include January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, November/December.

TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter



Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 made a donation this year to their local Macon County Special Olympics.

— *Trestleboard*

Mount Holly

Mount Holly 544 was to hold one of their fundraisers May 5 during the town's Annual Mount Holly Springfest. They bring in some money for charity, and they get to talk to people about Freemasonry and their lodge.

— Dewayne Gore

Winston-Salem

For the last several years, Old Town 751 has been sponsoring Bikes for Books at a neighboring elementary school. The program encourages kids to read. As soon as the bikes were delivered to the school library April 17, the traffic at the checkout desk in the library began to boom. Terry Wooten is coordinating.

In another outreach project, Old Town Lodge is collecting non-perishable food for the World Academy Backpack program.

Tom Hauser recently unearthed a supply of pictures of the original Old Town Lodge. The pictures are copies of a pencil drawing of the building loaned to them by Bethania Moravian Church. It served them for several years as they saved for and planned their own building. They are selling them for five dollars.

James "Mac" Guill of Old Town Lodge got his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. He is a charter member of the lodge. DDGM John Craven made the presentation.

The lodge was holding a pancake supper fundraiser April 27. The Youth Committee of the lodge was sponsoring a steak supper April 15. The supper was just the start with a silent auction and bluegrass music also part of the festivities.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Salem 289 ran their Adopt-A-Street on March 17. Their territory runs along Miller Street in front of the Masonic Temple there.

Members of Salem Lodge were taking in a Dash baseball game April 19. Everyone who went was to get a team cap. It's hard to beat minor league baseball for a nice afternoon.

— *The Salem Sentinel*

Sneads Ferry

Stump Sound 733 was hosting a Master of Reliance Degree April 21. They were serving a spaghetti dinner beforehand.

— Sean Hughes

Raleigh

The results of James B. Green 735's February 14 Chili Cookoff are in! Emily Russell won the fourth annual event by popular vote with a recipe handed down to her by her grandmother.

Twenty people showed up for the Green Lodge workday in March. They demolished the old shed and laid the foundation for the new one. They edged the sidewalks and fence, and policed the grounds. They tightened the seats in the lodge and cleaned them. They straightened up the prop and cloak rooms, and they installed hanger pegs in the preparation room. They did a good cleaning and vacuuming of the lodge room and kitchen. That's a productive Saturday!

The lodge's spring Annual Chicken Barbecue Fundraiser was set for April 18. Six-dollar plates held half a chicken, green beans, potatoes, and a roll.

The lodge adopted two WhiteStone residents and participated in Great Landscape Day at the Home for Children.

— *The James B. Green Scene*

Hiram 40 held their barbecue chicken fundraiser April 27.

— Page Skelton

Want to eat together before each lodge meeting? You don't have to muss the kitchen. The guys from Masters 754 meet at Golden Corral before each stated meeting.

Masters Lodge is holding their Family Picnic June 9. Adrian Hatfield will host them at his home where they will play badminton, volleyball, and croquet.

— *The Trowel*

Wilmington

Chuck Baer was named 2011 Master Mason of the Year in St. John's 1. He is senior steward in the lodge and one of their most active coaches.

On March 24, St. John's Lodge held a Fellow Craft Degree with all the stations filled by their lodge coaches. Head Coach Terry Kuhn sat in the East. They passed four during the festivities.

A new section in the St. John's newsletter offers a section for personal thank yous and salutes to members of the lodge.

— *Trestle Board*

Swansboro

Seaside 429 was having a fish fry March 24. The location was the Piggly Wiggly parking lot in Swansboro. The Masonic Home for Children in Oxford was the recipient of the money raised.

— Greg Padgett

Spencer

They are raffling a vintage Howard Miller grandfather clock at Spencer 543. Tickets are ten dollars, and the drawing is June 23. Proceeds will go to Masonic and local charities including the Rowan Masonic Scholarship Fund.

Plans are already in the works for Spencer Lodge's 12th Back to School Party at the Masonic Home for Children. They are collecting school supplies to deliver at the party.

Tom Gregory was presenting an educational program at Spencer Lodge April 10. They were serving a country style steak dinner. The ten-dollar plates were feeding the Rowan County Masonic Scholarship Fund as well as the purchasers.

— *On the Square*

Concord

Cabarrus 720 members Billy Raymer and Phil Hudson were made life members of the lodge in March. Life memberships permanently exempt a particularly hard working and dedicated lodge member from paying lodge dues.

Cabarrus Lodge was holding a yard sale in May for the benefit of the Masonic Homes. They were selling in the lodge parking lot.

— *Newsletter*

Kernersville

Kernersville 669 is soon replacing their air conditioning system. At last word, they were in the estimate phase. They were also planning a clean up day March 31.

— *Masonic Lodge News*



The old train station in Murphy is a great location to reach the community.

Ramping up the fun in Murphy

MURPHY — Cherokee 146 celebrated their annual Ramp Fest April 14. As usual, they held it at the historic L&N Railway Depot. A box car at the station served as a stage for two musical acts.

For those of you who don't know, a ramp is a wild onion which requires tender loving care to prepare. Some say it also requires a strong stomach and lots of breath mints to

survive consumption.

The guys in the lodge did all the handling of the dangerous tubers, digging up and cleaning and trimming pounds of them. They also smoked 25 hams for the supporting portion of the menu and chopped the meat. The Eastern Star baked 42 cakes and served as hostesses.

— John Schnellbach

Statesville

Mount Moriah 690 and Statesville 27 held their annual Pancake Jamboree April 20–21. They served supper and breakfast back-to-back at the temple.

Statesville 27 has their Homecoming set for September 18.

— *The Joppa Informer*

Gibsonville

Tabasco 271 members Aaron Jackson and Frank Welch got their Diamond Jubilee awards for 60 years Masonic membership on April 17. Henry Young was named a Secretary of Distinction.

The lodge's first pork cooking of the year was a "big success." Another of their fundraisers, their golf tournament at the Brookwood Course, was set for April 28.

— *Trestle Board*

Greensboro

The 23rd Masonic District was urging support for the Rainbow Girls (one of our Masonic youth groups). The girls were working a car wash near Guilford College May 5.

— Diana Schreiber

P. P. Turner 746 reported that all the member bodies of the Greensboro Masonic Temple had announced that they are staying in the Temple. They indicated that the Scottish Rite was interested in selling off some of its ownership in the property.

— *P. P. Turner Lodge*

Gate City 694 ran their first quarter Adopt-A-Street cleaning March 10.

— Gary Ballance

Creedmoor

Creedmoor 499 was holding its Third Annual Car Show May 5. As with most car shows, they charged entry cars, but spectators got to come in for nothing. They were holding it at Ellington-Brim Chevy lot.

— Rick Haskins

Kinston

St. John's 4 took advantage of the crowd at the May 5 Festival on the Neuse to gather players in their Corn Hole Tournament at Pearson Park. It was \$40 per team to play. Cash prizes from \$50 to \$300 were awarded. They also raffled a custom corn hole set.

— Lynn Hill

Mount Gilead

Blackmer 127 has changed their meeting time to 7:00 P.M. Don't be late the next time you visit.

Old minutes and selected records and papers of Blackmer Lodge have been collected into a book. The \$40 hardbound volume covers the period 1850–1876.

— *Blackmer Buzz*

Pineville

James K. Polk 759 raised \$1,250 for charity with a recent breakfast fundraiser.

Polk Lodge's Red Cross Blood Drive collected 21 units.

Polk Lodge named as Secretary of Distinction both French Harvey and Randy Richardson. Johnny McCoy and Roger Burba have lately received their Veteran's Emblems for 50 years membership.

— Randy Richardson

Charlotte

A failed building project at Temple 676 a few years ago resulted in a sizable trust account for the lodge. They've given away nearly \$100,000 to charity over the last five years from the interest on the account.

Temple Lodge is selling lodge polo shirts. The brand name cotton shirts have a square and compasses of the left breast and the lodge name on the sleeve. A portion of the \$37 cost goes to Masonic charity. Custom lapel pins will soon be available also.

— *Trestle Board*

Derita 715 has moved their meeting place to St. Andrew 702 at 4630 Tuckasegee Road in Charlotte. The arrangement is called temporary.

— *Derita Lodge*

Excelsior 261 hosted a Public Safety and Heroes Day April 14. They held a long lunch barbecue to say thank you to local emergency personnel (police, fire, medics, and deputies). In addition, they honored veterans of our armed services. They held it at their lodge. Jim Ringley cranked up his Pig-Zilla to prepare the chow.

Kitchen renovations at Excelsior were near complete when last we heard. They've done much of the work themselves with crews of five to ten Masons at a time working. They are now largely at the punch card list phase of finishing construction.

— *Trestle Board*

Mint Hill 742 is updating and improving things around the lodge. They've replaced many of the member aprons and the candidate uniforms. There's a new visitor register, and the secretary's office is sporting a new laptop and wireless Internet. A two-rail fence had been installed in the back parking lot.

Mint Hill Lodge held their Spring Fish Fry March 17. Proceeds were for the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. The lodge was picking up the tab for their May 3 steak dinner before stated meeting.

— *Mint Hill Lodge*

Smithfield

Fellowship 84 had their annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast March 31. They said it was the most successful breakfast they've held. They use it to raise money for their scholarships. They annually award scholarships to a college bound senior from Smithfield Selma High, South Johnston High, and West Johnston High schools.

Service awards recently earned by Fellowship members included a Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership to William I. Talton and a Veteran's Emblem to John E. Cayton for his 50 years membership.

— *The Trestleboard*

Gastonia

There's one less lodge in Gastonia now. A consolidation has had Gastonia 369 incorporate Holland Memorial 668. They were merged May 1.

Gastonia Lodge has recently become acquainted with the Gaston County Women's Shelter. Cathy Cloninger presented the lodge a program about the organization in March. Since then, one member donated a Boston butt from the lodge's recent fundraiser to the shelter. They are also talking about having lodge workday for them.

King Solomon 704 teamed with Gastonia 369 to participate in the April 27–28 local Relay for Life. Gastonia Lodge voted to contribute \$200 to the cause.

Gastonia 369 earned nearly \$1,000 selling and smoking Boston butts. They offered delivery.

Gastonia Lodge held their Charity Breakfast April 21. They declare it the "best breakfast in town."

— Randy C. Crainshaw

Jacksonville

Semper Fidelis 680 continues to enjoy their monthly Ladies' Night Out. They visit local restaurants as a group. In April they went to Hakata, and in May they were going to Pezzutti's.

Semper Fi Lodge is again participating in both Relay for Life and Special Olympics this year. They fix lunches for both coaches and athletes at the Onslow County Special Olympics.

— *Trestle Board*

Kannapolis

Allen Graham 695 members can "let their flag fly" these days. Lodge clothing is available. There's a barbecue apron (\$12) and a cap (\$15) which are decorated with a square and compasses and name of the lodge embroidered on them. Profits from sales go to charities.

— Doug Osborne

Cannon Memorial 626 was taking part in the local Relay for Life, fighting cancer and its effects. The Relay was being held at A. L. Brown High School on April 20. Lodge members were urged to donate or join the team.

Terry Cox, of Guilford Lodge in Greensboro, presented his popular program, "The Secrets of Masonry Examined," at Cannon Memorial Lodge March 27.

— Thomas Van Etten

Hendersonville

Kedron 387 was planning their Past Masters' Banquet for May 17.

— Spence Campbell

see STATE, page 4

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.

EDENTON, from page 1

came to be known as the Washington Chair. It was, in fact, the only signed piece of furniture by Williamsburg's famed cabinet maker Benjamin Bucktrout. In 1983, Colonial Williamsburg offered the lodge more than \$200,000 for the chair. They also gave them an exact copy of the original. The copy has remained in a plexiglas display just outside the entrance to the lodge room ever since.

This was the history charging through these Tidewater Masons as they contemplated modern possibilities. Authorities at Historic Edenton State Historic Site (which maintains the Chowan County Courthouse) were cooperative in letting the Masons celebrate a temporary return to their old home. Unanimity's Masons opened the plexiglas case at the top of their stairs to let the light of the historic master's chair again shine on the second floor of the courthouse.

Saturday morning, April 14 was the big day. Nearly all the 80 available seats for the gathering were filled. They were in the assembly room above the courtroom. The pine-paneled room, 35X45 feet, was one of the largest of its sort in the colonies. In its 200 years, it has hosted dances, socials, church events, and a multitude of other functions. The original lodge room was lost in a 1990s renovation which added rest-rooms, an elevator, and stairway. The assembly room overlooks the old town commons with its view of the Albemarle Sound and monument to Joseph Hewes, Declaration of Independence signer and Mason. Walls of the room are decorated with paintings of Hewes, Queen Anne, and the Duke of Albemarle. The degree started promptly at 10:00 A.M.

The officers (with both archaic and modern terms included) for the degree were: enthroned on the seat of Solomon, King of Israel (master), Robert Street; attender of the Craft whilst at labor (senior warden), Johnny McDiarmid; attender of the Craft whilst at refreshment (junior warden), Tommy Green; keeper of the lodge funds (treasurer), Wes McIntyre; recorder of the lodge activities whilst in session (secretary), Frank Wanko; conductor of the candidate (senior deacon), Larry Golay; preparer of the candidate (junior deacon), Steve McIver; preparers of the feast (stewards), Wally Adcock and Bill Brown; keeper of the holy writings (chaplain), Eugene Myrick; guardian of the portal (tyler), Roy Timbs; presenter of the lambskin, Tommy Green; presenter of the tools of the Entered Apprentice, Steve McIver; Entered Apprentice Lecture rendered by Wes McIntyre and Frank Wanko; and Entered Apprentice charge and seeker of the answers of the initial questions Bill Brown.

The candidates were Unanimity 7's John Barnes Dunn and Perquimans 106's Daren Ray Arnold, James Dennis Robertson, and Kevin Robert Chase. It was a bright, sunny, perfect spring day. The Colonial costumes were bright in the large-windowed lodge room. The blossoming trees popped fresh green, and the unclouded sky lit



Ric Carter photos



unfettered blue outside the uncovered windows. So many of our degrees today are held in florescent lit, windowless rooms, it's hard to describe how it felt to have so much fresh, natural light for Masonic ritual.

It was also refreshing to see our first degree the focus of a special event. Perhaps too often, we reserve special occasions for raisings. Our initiation degree is as impressive as the third and marks the first impression our candidates get of

the lodge workings. It was the first work the 21st District's team has performed outside their district. It was also the oldest lodge in which they had performed. The antiquity of the language of our ritual was comfortable in the historic setting and with the attire of the degree team. Members of all eight lodges of the First District were on hand to see the celebration. There were also visitors from other parts of North Carolina as well as Virginia and New York.

Soon after charging and congratulating the new Entered Apprentices, the Masons retired to Unanimity's nearby dining hall for barbecue lunch. The last degree Unanimity Lodge performed in the old courthouse is thought to have been in 1953. That was about the time they were building their new lodge just down the street. Perquimans Lodge, on the other hand, still meets on the second floor of the courthouse in neighboring Perquimans County Seat Hertford.



Egg hunt preparations

WHITEVILLE — The town of Whiteville has an Easter Egg Hunt each year. Members of Lebanon 207 volunteered this year to help pick up the litter downtown to make the place more presentable for the town Easter Festival. — John Norosky



Spillers family affair

GREENSBORO — In Revolution 552 on February 16, Raymond Spillers raised his brother Robert. About 20 minutes later, Robert raised his son Robert II. Raymond was raised September 2011 and coached his brother and nephew through the degrees after they were initiated just a month after his raising. The family patriarch, Ray Leo Spillers (Raymond and Robert's father, Robert II grandfather) was a Mason for thirty-seven years and is credited with inspiring their interest in Masonry. — Casey Landreth



Tail wagging for the dogs

UNION GROVE — Phil Keller personally sponsored a raffle at the 30th District School of Instruction at Grassy Knob 471. The prize was an unusual one — a ponytail — Keller's own ponytail; as a matter of fact, Junior Grand Warden Doug Caudle won the raffle for the privilege of cutting off Keller's queue. The clipping raised \$350 for the Iredell Humane Society. — Tom W. Gregory

STATE, from page 3

Fayetteville

Fayetteville's Festival Park is the site for many special events during the warm months. Luckily for Phoenix 8, they have lots of space to park cars near the Park. They rent out spaces to attendees to raise needed money for lodge maintenance. They brought in more than \$5,000 last year.

Recent maintenance needs included a new water heater and repairs to the elevator. On March 25, volunteers descended on the building to do other work. They cleaned lights and replaced bulbs on the porch and did some yard work. They hung some pictures and even got a little painting done.

The lodge was soliciting members for donations of a laser printer, laptop computer, and fax machine for the new secretary's office. They were also looking for a television, DVD player, and desktop computer for use of the newly reactivated Marquis deLafayette Chapter DeMolay.

Members of Phoenix Lodge collect pocket change for the Masonic Home for Children in what they call their Change A Life campaign. A little here and a little there can add up to a sizeable amount when men work together.

In March, Phoenix initiated a dozen men. — Trestleboard

Members of Creasy Proctor 679 were talking about visiting Florence, South Carolina to see a Master Mason Degree there. — Derek Willmott

Salisbury

Rowan County Masons award several scholarships each year. One of their scholarship fundraisers this year was a turkey shoot/skeet shoot. They held it April 28 at the Rowan County Wildlife Association. Five dollars got you in the Turkey Shoot — they loaned you a gun and furnished shells. For the Skeet Shoot (ten dollars entry), you had to bring your own gun and shells. — Dewey Preslar

Southport

Pythagoras 249 is installing an elevator on the back of their building. It's good news for members who have difficulty with stairs. Construction was to start in mid-April.

Pythagoras Lodge's Spring Festival Barbecue was held April 6-7. They turned a profit despite being rained out on the second day. — Newsletter

Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 was painting the lodge in March. They prepped things March 4. A big crew was planned for March 10 to paint the front of the building and treat the new deck and stairs. — Gordon Jolly/Derek Cheek

Asheville

Hominy 491 was planning an excursion April 5 to reclaim the District 39 traveling gavel from Mount Hermon 118. — Jimmy Dean Blair

Cherryville

They've started an Attendance and Participation Committee at Cherryville 505. Their job is to add new fellowship opportunities for members and their families.

They are working on repeating their Variety Show this year. — News Out of the Blue

Conover

Jerry Triplett was named an honorary member of Conover 709 on January 26. — Conover Lodge Newsletter

Franklin

Junaluskee 145 had their Second Annual Blood Drive set for April 6. — Jim Dautel/Derek Cheek

Wilson

The T. Bruce Boyette Memorial Golf Tournament was set for April 6. It is sponsored by Wilson 712. The lodge planned to hold their Pancake and Sausage Supper March 2. — David Ellis

Mt. Lebanon 117 had their Pancake and Sausage Supper set for February 17. — David Ellis

Thomasville

Thomasville 217's Brunswick Stew was set for March 10. — Trestle Board

Paw Creek

West Gate 738 recently took the traveling gavel from Long Creek 205. — News From the West

Hickory

Hickory 343 is participating in a district project to collect personal items and toiletries for our troops. — Hickory Lodge

Huntersville

Long Creek 205 was holding their fish fry April 14. — News From the West

Wingate

Meadow Branch 578 was holding their fish fry May 11. Proceeds from the Alaskan flounder meal were going to charity. — Brandon Thomas

Franklinville

On December 3, Hanks 128 presented Jerry Grazier his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership. — William Baird

Princeton

St. Patrick's 617 was to hold their Barbecue Pork Supper on March 3. — David Ellis

Durham

Oak Grove 750's Charles Anderson was recently presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic service. — Doug Harward



For Kids' Sake

HENDERSONVILLE — Kedron 387 recently signed on with the local Big Brother and Big Sister Club's Bowling For Kids Sake Fundraiser. The lodge raised \$1,724. Their team is seen above.
— Broward Davis



Pancakes for charity

GREENVILLE — William Pitt 734 recently held their annual Pancake Supper fundraiser. It's been a regular there for more than ten years. This event not only helped the lodge generate \$3,700 for the Masonic Home for Children and WhiteStone, but also gave Masonry some valuable positive exposure within their community. They got five petition requests during the dinner. They report that the camaraderie was wonderful, the food excellent, and the results rewarding. The sausage crew is seen here cooking in the back yard of the lodge.
— Tom Jones



Sprucing up the neighborhood

GREENSBORO — Gate City 694 is now in their third year of participation in local street clean ups. They clean a 1.2-mile portion Holden Road which runs near WhiteStone. They clean the route every three months.
— Gary Ballance



Pictured from left are Ed Congleton, Justin Robinson, Robbie Dail, Jimmy Jenkins, Carl Little, Dan Bishop, Roy Selby, Steven Natale, Charles Sumerlin, and Mickey Bullock.

Sixth District gets new traveling gavel

GREENVILLE — The Sixth Masonic District has a new traveling gavel. Following is the explanation offered when the gavel was presented to the lodges by DDGL Dennis Campbell, Crown Point 708; Mickey Bullock, Grimesland 475, and Charles Sumerlin, Crown Point 708.

"The journey for this gavel was created in the mind of Brother Charles Sumerlin, Crown Point 708 and was crafted in the shop of Brother Mickey Bullock, Grimesland 475 in 2011.

"You will notice the three rings at the top of the gavel representing the three degrees of Masonry: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. The three rings at the bottom of the gavel represent the three jewels of a Master Mason: friendship, morality, and brotherly love from the Master Mason's Degree.

"The white band on the gavel's head represents the lambskin or white leather apron from the Entered Apprentice Degree and the rings on the handle of the gavel, the three, five, and seven steps of the Fellow Craft Degree.

"The gavel has been crafted from walnut wood, a hardwood representing the strong grip of a Master Mason. The nondescript vehicle representing the vehicle which shall transform our spirit from this imperfect to that all perfect, glorious, and celestial lodge above created by the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

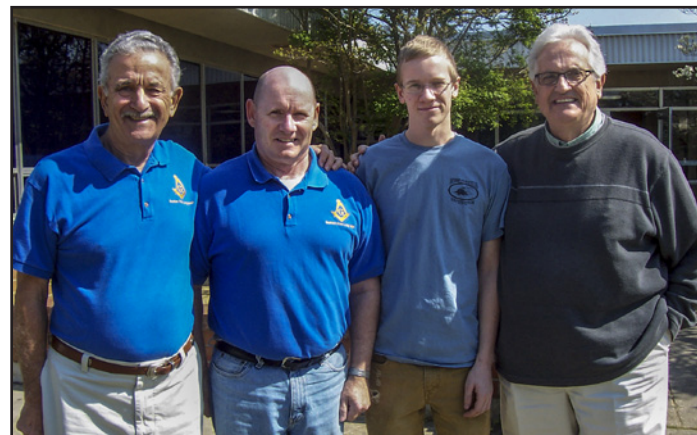
"The base on which the vehicle and gavel are mounted illustrates a highway that has no beginning or end. It represents that a Mason may, of his own free will and accord, choose what the length of his cable tow will be.

"Should you accept this gavel, it will be your duty to pass it on to a lodge that has not received it on its initial circuit. It is requested that you and not less than three other brothers from your lodge pass it on after not less than 60 or more than 90 days after you receive it.

"It is our hope that this will become a time honored ceremony within the Sixth Masonic District and promote visitation among the lodges."
— Nicholas Kalapos



Scholarship Committee Member William Anderson, scholarship recipient Subdias, and Scholarship Committee Chairman Mark Miller



Chairman Mark Miller, 484 Master Trent Carter, scholarship recipient Entz, and Committee Member Felice Schillaci

Yoder Memorial scholarships

SOUTHERN PINES — Southern Pines 484 is proud to support its own R. C. Yoder Memorial Scholarship Fund for deserving Pinecrest and Union Pines high school students. Carefully selected winners for 2012 are Joshua Entz, Union Pines High School and Libni Subdias, Pinecrest High School.

Starting from scratch nine years ago, the lodge has raised and awarded more than \$40,000 in college scholarships to needy and deserving Moore County high school students. In support of the scholarship fund, Southern Pines Lodge has two important fund raising events.

On April 28, freshly made hot breakfast and lunch will be offered to Springfest vendors and visitors at the lodge dining hall. The annual scholarship golf tournament is scheduled at exclusive, challenging Pinewild Country Club in Pinehurst, NC on August 11. Player entry and sponsor information is available by calling chairman Mark Miller at (910) 724-6892 or email <mmiller70@hotmail.com>.
— Gene Maples

Family Day at WhiteStone

By Katie Glodowski

GREENSBORO — This year, WhiteStone, A Masonic and Eastern Star Community welcomed more than 500 people to their annual Family Day. The day's festivities began with the Walk to End Alzheimer's sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association in downtown Greensboro. WhiteStone had more than 140 walkers participate! The gathering celebrated the ribbon cutting of the new picnic shelter located beside the Linville Clubhouse.

Special thanks go to Ruth Strider and her late husband, Hugh Strider, whose generous donation made the shelter possible. Family Day followed with great food and two live bands! A crew from Gate City 694 and Revolution 552 who gave their Saturday afternoon to cook barbecue and the best hush puppies ever. The crowd enjoyed great tunes from both the Rob Massengale Band, who entertained with big band music, and Soul Biscuit, who had the crowd going with '60s and '70s classics.

No one could have asked for a more beautiful day to celebrate with friends, family and loved ones.
Katie Glodowski is WhiteStone marketing coordinator.



CARY, from page 8

veteran, Hicks contacted the L. L. Polk Camp 1486 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans about relocating the graves. The square and compasses on Joel's tombstone led Polk Camp to research his lodge affiliation. They found that he was a member of Cary 198. At that point, Cary Lodge became involved in the plans.

Joel Holleman served the Cary lodge as secretary from the year he joined (1859) until his death in 1862. Lodge minutes in his handwriting are still in the lodge. There being no record of his having had a Masonic funeral, the lodge decided to perform that farewell ceremony for their long-dead brother.

Wyatt Holleman was master of Cary 198 1861-1863 and again 1868-1874. His oldest son, Joel, joined Cary Lodge in June 1861. A few months later, Joel was elected secretary.

Wyatt had four sons, Joel, Silas, and Joseph, the three oldest boys, and their father joined the newly formed Confederacy's service in 1861.

Wyatt was designated drummer of the Carey Home Guard. Joel was involved with the early hospital efforts in Raleigh. They helped with the sick and dying from the camp of instruction at Crabtree. Joseph and Silas enlisted at Camp Burgwyn on Bogue Island. They were placed in the Wake Guards, Company D of the 26th NC State Troops, a group of soldiers from the Holly Springs area. They were commanded by Colonel Zebulon Vance who later became governor and senator of North Carolina.

On January 1, 1862, Joel died, perhaps of some illness contracted at the hospital. He was 28 years old. He was lodge secretary at the time of his death.

On February 9, 1862, Joseph died in a hospital in Carolina City, not far from Fort Macon. The 22-year-old was a victim of pneumonia.

Their parents buried their too soon gone children in side-by-side graves. The site was on family ground on the outskirts of Raleigh.

But, back to our current story. Buildings, complexes, and paving projects began to impinge on the neighborhood of the brothers' resting spot. Their tombstones lay broken, nearly overgrown with vegetation. A plan emerged. On March 17, their graves were opened. A few buttons and the discolored earth of long gone remains were all that was found digging under the two fallen grave markers. Those remains were transferred directly to two new wooden caskets. The tombstones were taken to be cleaned and repaired. Joel's tombstone carries a square and compasses, Joseph's a soldier with musket and cannon balls.

When Ludwik Wodka, then master of Cary 198, was contact-



ed about the Masonic membership of Joel Holleman, he began making a plan for the involvement of Masons in the reburial. He appointed Kevin Hall to head a committee to make arrangements for the ceremony. They began plans to march with the Confederates' funeral procession and perform a Masonic funeral service for their long gone secretary.

April 14 was the day for the Holleman Brothers to have the spotlight. Joel and Joseph spent the morning laying in state at the North Carolina Museum of History, their coffins side by side. Standing guard over their remains was a uniformed honor guard of reenactors from the 26th NC State Troops. The gathering of uniformed Confederate troops from today's military history buffs and the suited and aproned Masons caused much attention among the visitors to the museum that morning. "Look, Mommy, it's the mayor!" was one youngster's reaction to seeing Cary Master Ludwik Wodka in his regalia. Another visitor to the Museum beamed, "I brought my family here to learn about our past. And, now we see history first hand!"

Shortly after lunch, the procession from the Capitol to Oakwood began. A horse-drawn caisson bore the brothers to their new final resting place — the Civil War veterans' section of Oakwood Cemetery, one of Raleigh's most historic burial grounds. Accompanying them was marched a long line of the 26th NC reenactors and aproned Mason from Cary 198, Hiram 40, and other lodges in walking the last mile with their brothers. A full Masonic burial service within the symbolic lodge formed by the deacons and stewards was performed for Joel Holleman. Standing station for the ceremony were Senior Deacon Ted Long Jr., Junior Deacon Matt Kohut, Senior Steward Jeff Higgins, Junior Steward



Kevin Hall, Chaplain Joe Gugliotti, and Tyler Glenn Strickland formed the graveside lodge. Walter Highsmith performed the burial service. Joseph, not a Mason, received a military service.

Their family resting place threatened, they now rest with their contemporaries on protected, sanctified ground.



Helping the kids

OXFORD — It started as a gag — a fun way to involve children in giving to the Masonic Home for Children. The Home had given out more than 4,000 small, bright red, disposable piggy banks in four years. Lodges, districts, and other groups promoted the Home and generated money with the “little red piggy banks.” With more than \$5,000 raised during the period, the idea is the epitome of “a little goes a long way,” allowing donors of all ages, Masonic and non-Masonic, to give as much as they can afford to the Home and the care of its kids. For grandchildren, church members, or as competition for districts or lodges, the banks have secured a special place in supporting the Home.

The Masonic Lodge Letter Program started ten years ago and reaches out to every member of participating lodges, generating support for our Masonic charities, even among those members who cannot attend meetings. The program reaches all your members while eliminating most of the cost and time needed by lodges to conduct a fundraiser. The program is offered to supplement other fundraising activities such as golf tournaments, barbecues, chicken or fish fries, and motorcycle rides. If your lodge asks, an official, personal letter from your lodge will be mailed to each of your members asking them to make a personal contribution. The letter will be individually addressed and carry your designated representative’s signature and a return envelope

for donations to the Masonic Home for Children or WhiteStone. All donations are returned to these charities through your treasurer. The program is offered by MHCO and is printed in the School of Graphic Arts for mailing August 1 through December 1 each year.

Matching gifts are another developing option for more and more MHCO supporters, as employees engage their employers in joining their charitable giving. Matching gifts program details vary from company to company, but they allow an employer to increase the donation of an employee to our Homes. During a depressed economy, matching gifts have been a great option for our donors allowing them to double or even triple their gifts for MHCO while holding down their personal spending. Some current matching companies recognizing MHCO as an approved charity include Wells Fargo, Starbucks, Merck, Tyco, GlaxoSmithKline, Progress Energy, IBM, NC State Employees Giving Campaign, and GE Corporate. Supporters of the Home interested should contact their employer’s human resource department or corporate giving office for more information or to qualify MHCO as a recognized charity.

For more information on these giving ideas or other ways to support the future of MHCO and the children visit the Home’s “Ways to Give” website at <www.mhc-oxford.org/generalgiving>, or call (888) 505-4357 and ask for Chris or Tina in the financial development department.

GL helps Aurora with hurricane recovery

AURORA— Aurora 300 was in the late stages of refurbishing their lodge facility when Hurricane Irene struck the Inner Banks. Waters from numerous previous hurricanes had spared the lodge and its property over the years. Irene changed that history, flooding the building and ruining all the repairs just put in place. The Grand Lodge Committee on Charity helped them recover at least some of their injury with \$4,000 in aid. Aurora’s members are confident that the help will make it possible for them to complete the work they had so proudly started. Seventh District Deputy Grand Master Johnny Surles is seen here presenting the check from the Masons of North Carolina.

— Bobby Meadows

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.

WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.....Brandt, James Fredric | 206.....Jackson, Gary Bradley | 343.....McClure, Andrew Paul | 505.....Hager II, Robert Heman | 699.....Emerson II, Dandridge Neal |
| 1.....Payne, Daniel Franklin | 206.....Jackson, William Martin | 356.....Beatty, Brian Charles | 505.....McLeymore, Eric Wayne | 699.....Hardwick, Forrest John |
| 1.....Rich, Michael Lawrence | 206.....Lockamy, Billy Frank | 356.....Tysinger, Daniel Albert | 505.....Roque, Armando | 701.....Parker, Matthew Nathaniel |
| 1.....Feinberg, Ryan Mitchell | 208.....Puckett, Dennis Eugene | 363.....Austin, Griffith Douglas | 505.....Sherrill, Vincent Cooper | 703.....Furr, Devron Kenneth |
| 1.....Tyler, James Gregory | 214.....Darr, Arthur Dale | 363.....McNeil, Jesse Morgan | 505.....Todd, Jamison Bradley | 704.....Farmer, William Floyd |
| 1.....Whitwam, Michael Edward | 214.....Francis, Zachary Kevin | 363.....Teague, Joshua James | 515.....Haynes, Lucas David | 705.....Garriss, John Michael |
| 4.....Whittington, William Clayton | 217.....Lonon, Rodger Dale | 373.....Bryan, Anthony Wayne | 517.....Taylor, Mervin Tugwell | 708.....Spruill, Chad Lee |
| 8.....Milson, Charles Gavin | 217.....McNeely, Marty Alan | 373.....Bryan, Joshua Wayne | 517.....Howard, Robert Alan | 708.....Uvalle, Marcos Antonio |
| 8.....Rogers, Jeffery Scott | 230.....Hicks, Bennie Madison | 373.....Norris, Garrett Vance | 527.....Watson, Justin Matthew | 713.....Smith, Donald Richard |
| 13.....Phillips, Chadwick Dalaney | 231.....Midkiff, James Talmage | 375.....Davis, Jack Harold | 527.....Williams Jr, Clayton Earl | 714.....Humble, Gary Wayne |
| 17.....Francis, Christopher Leon | 231.....Williams, Robert Steven | 375.....Eherton, William Zachary | 529.....Dockery, Mark Alan | 717.....Goodson, Kenneth Ted |
| 31.....Blalock, William Thomas | 243.....Braswell, Jordan Ivan | 375.....Buff, Seth Garland | 542.....Slaughter, Robert Lee | 717.....Parmelee, Richard John |
| 31.....Narciso, Joseph Ralph | 243.....Brinson, Anthony Keith | 377.....Soto, Christopher Celestino | 552.....Spillers, Robert Daniel | 717.....Riddle, Martin Eugene |
| 32.....Parsley, Brian K. | 243.....White, Joshua Earl | 380.....Baker, Dustin Thomas | 552.....Spillers, Robert Daniel | 720.....Goodermote Jr, James Walter |
| 40.....Boggs, Bradley Daniel | 248.....Davis, Allen Trent | 390.....Chilton, Edward Clayton | 554.....Burlson, James Victor | 720.....Hunt, Cory Adam |
| 40.....Knowles Jr, William Conrad | 249.....Schrom, Joshua Craig | 390.....Darden, Robert James | 554.....McKinney, Ethan Cole | 720.....Rinehardt, Taylor Wilson |
| 40.....Barnes, Anthony Eugene | 253.....Maynor, Timothy Dean | 390.....Darden, William Ellison | 571.....Stroud, Adam Lee | 722.....Burton, Logan Dale |
| 40.....Geist, William Michael | 253.....Whitt, Donald Riley | 391.....Brown, John Barron | 573.....Costagliola, Onofrio | 722.....Welch, Brian L. |
| 40.....Jones, Stewart Christopher | 259.....Bradley, David Lynn | 391.....Everitte, Charles Wayne | 576.....Cole, Joshua John | 722.....Haynes, Matthew Robert |
| 40.....Perry, Jonathan Neil | 259.....Cooper, Anthony Owen | 391.....Hill, Brian Glynn | 583.....Gray, James David | 722.....Wall, Douglas Cleveland |
| 53.....Cartwright, Daniel Clay | 261.....Fernandes, Alexandre de Andrade | 397.....Huffman, Rodney Eugene | 590.....Hoffman, Dustan Jennings | 725.....Fedchenko, Jeffrey Alexander |
| 59.....Jett Sr, Benson Curtis | 261.....Pettit, Clay Eugene | 403.....Wrenn, Bradley Thomas | 590.....McLean, Cameron Blake | 725.....Jeter, Donald Gene |
| 76.....Lam, Randy Lee | 261.....Tompkins, Glenn Edward | 405.....Beadle, Blake Edward Powell | 590.....Rhyne, Richard Pence | 725.....Martin Sr, Timothy Michael |
| 81.....Brasch, Timothy Michael | 262.....Triplett, Robert Israel | 405.....Lewis, Christopher Wayne | 596.....Ellis, Clyde Lendon | 725.....Byrd, Jeffery Henderson |
| 81.....Heath, Floyd Allen | 262.....Penley, Todd Dean | 407.....Gregory, Jason Matthew | 606.....Connor IV, Charles Franklin | 725.....Miller, Bryan Swain |
| 81.....King, Robert Allen | 263.....Bidley, Jeremiah Ryan | 407.....Johnson, Lewis Dale | 606.....Caldwell, Trent Dorsey | 725.....Morrow, Clifton |
| 81.....Paschal, Doug | 263.....Black, Michael B. | 407.....Absher, Jonah Bryce | 612.....Retherford Jr, Doyle Carlton | 727.....Alderman, Eric Lee |
| 81.....Sanderson, Christopher Scott | 263.....McCourry, Scott Travis | 413.....Moore, Junius Gregory | 616.....Easter, Tanner Lee | 727.....Dixon, Jeremy Clifton |
| 83.....Brennan, Peter | 267.....Anders III, L C | 427.....Cabe, Dustin Paul | 618.....McKenzie Jr, Billy Darrell | 727.....Smith, Joseph |
| 85.....Hill, James Scott | 267.....Whitmire, Nathan William | 427.....DeBruhl, Robert Grey | 629.....Gallimore, Alan Keith | 727.....Smith, William J. |
| 98.....Boyette, Kenneth Ray | 271.....Carter, James Oakes | 427.....Rose Jr, Albert Dale | 629.....Cooke, Daniel Kirby | 730.....Dowd, David Paul |
| 99.....Hannold, Gregory Mark | 271.....Jones, Vernon Salle | 428.....Scott, Samuel Cephus | 637.....Hicks, Shannon Lee | 730.....Hardee, Robert Earl |
| 106.....Shaffer, David | 271.....Rogers, Bennie Green | 429.....Malagisi, Michael Patsy | 656.....Medlin, Thomas Haywood | 730.....Nichols, Wyman Andrew |
| 109.....Vaughan, Frederick Michael | 271.....Tilden, Robert Jay | 429.....Owens, Forrest Claude | 656.....Phillips, William Clyde | 730.....Holland, Michael Lee |
| 112.....Campbell, Bruce Keith | 283.....Parks, Andy L. | 431.....Johnson, Thomas Wayne | 657.....Taylor, Joel Carson | 732.....Barr, Steven Harrison |
| 114.....Johnson, Richard D. | 284.....Parks, Eric Blaine | 431.....Johnson, Timothy Wayne | 663.....McDonald, Jonathon James | 733.....Tate, Michael Arthur |
| 117.....Brantley, William Tyler | 284.....Wheeler, Thomas Wayne | 431.....Peacock, Jeremy David | 663.....Lunsford, Jamie Michael | 735.....Knight, Baxter Carr |
| 117.....Niez, Gilbert Babanto | 289.....Chandler, Brian Marshall | 433.....Mitchell, Timothy Lee | 667.....Boyd Jr, Herschel Lee | 737.....Lindsay II, William Clyde |
| 118.....Cort, Taylor Gregory | 289.....Wagner Jr, Marlin Eugene | 433.....Morris, Clement Lathon | 667.....Lambo, William Ernest | 738.....Davis, Kenneth Allen |
| 125.....Warren, Brian Douglas | 292.....Wilson, Joseph Lee | 433.....Powell, Matthew Reid | 667.....Stanfield, William Nicholas | 738.....Muller, Andy Mark |
| 126.....Smith, Stephen Andrew | 302.....Colombo, Phillip Wayne | 444.....Teague, Joshua Neil | 669.....Reid, Michael Leroy | 738.....Smith, Phillip Alan |
| 134.....Steele Jr, William Leslie | 302.....Freeman, Donnie Steve | 446.....Foster, Michael Theodore | 669.....Oringerdf, John Scott | 739.....Chakra, Ronny |
| 134.....Brown, James Clayton | 302.....Lamancusa, Anthony Thomas | 446.....James, Dustin Seth | 670.....Carrico, Jerry Gale | 741.....Taylor, Brian Keith |
| 137.....Jenkins, Dale Patrick | 302.....Toler, Michael Justin | 446.....Reynolds, Coren Paul | 670.....Horton, John Douglas | 742.....Draffen, Douglas Kendall |
| 137.....Laws, Darrell Burgin | 314.....Burnham, Joshua Allen | 446.....McCaslin, Donnie Wayne | 670.....Powell, Matthew Tyler | 742.....Godwin, Brandon Thomas |
| 137.....Leonard, Lonnie Michael | 317.....Perry, Donald Bradley | 454.....Norman, Stewart Tyler | 670.....Spake, David Claude | 742.....Hughes, Carl Thomas |
| 137.....Runyon, Frank L. | 317.....Riggs, Dustin Tyler | 459.....Rogers, James William | 670.....Holder, Brooks Irwin | 742.....Quinlan, Leo Joseph |
| 137.....Faircloth, Michael Thomas | 317.....Massey, James Kevin | 463.....Bedsole Jr, Clark Clifford | 670.....Morton Jr, Bobby Gene | 744.....McKinnish, Michael David |
| 138.....George, William Elias | 319.....Bridgers, Carl Jason | 473.....Byrd, Timothy Allen | 674.....Thomas, Robert Lester | 746.....Miller II, Richard Andrew |
| 138.....Goff, Robert Granberry | 319.....Ellison, Kenneth Michael | 473.....Freeman, Billy Steve | 674.....Tuttle, Timothy Phillip | 749.....Burch, Clay Franklin |
| 138.....Herring, Nicholas Edward | 319.....Pigford, Horace Vernon | 473.....Honeycutt, Brian James | 676.....McCormick, Robert Gordon | 749.....Meagher, Benjamin Matthew |
| 138.....Jasper, Timothy Clayton | 319.....Hoff, Michael Martin | 474.....Hall, Tommy Harold | 679.....Kersey, Donny Lee | 749.....Schofield, William Robert |
| 138.....Morton, Nathan Todd | 322.....Rinehart, Gregory Bernard | 482.....Bennison Sr, Timothy Paul | 680.....Moctezuma Jr, Gilbert | 752.....Abbott, Thomas Dean |
| 145.....Farmer, Brian Lee | 322.....Riffe, Michael Cary | 489.....Hayes Jr, Johnny Fletcher | 680.....Barnes, Alfonso | 756.....Allen, Justin Matthew |
| 145.....Holt, Carl Wilbur | 339.....Queen, Charles Thomas | 492.....Brooks, Timothy Wilburn | 683.....Horton, Geoffrey Shawn | 757.....Ikerd, Christopher Lynn |
| 145.....Ledford, Brandon Scott | 340.....Mozingo, Jamie Len | 492.....Fogleman, Jeffrey Lynn | 685.....Swaim Jr, Jason Eric | 759.....Newman, John Joseph |
| 158.....King, Samuel Speight | 343.....Meadlock, Dallas Tyson | 496.....Vitanza, Anthony Santino | 687.....Custar, Graham Taylor | 759.....St. Clair III, Duncan David |
| 170.....Cole, Zachary David | 343.....Walker, Larry Eugene | 499.....Foley, Matthew Marchioni | 695.....Bollinger, Jeffrey Lynn | 759.....St. Clair, Michael Duncan |
| 170.....Lewis, David Strider | 343.....Turner, Robert Wilson | 500.....McKaig, Jesse Scott | 695.....Cook, Robert Patrick | 759.....Capps II, Harold William |
| 176.....McIntosh, Patrick Scott | 343.....Bowman, Dennis Scott | 500.....Wood, Marvin Tad | 695.....Harrel, David Scott | 762.....Spearman Sr, William Douglass |
| 198.....Strickland II, Glenn Richards | 343.....Kirk, John Frank | 502.....Martin, Kevin Alan | 698.....Barnett, Thomas Brett | 763.....Morrison, Michael Lee |
| 198.....Livecchi, Brian Patrick | 343.....Lineberger, Matthew Arlee | 502.....Peele, Brian David | 698.....Anderson, Bruce D. | 763.....Buchanan, Eric Keith |
| 202.....Jones, John Russell | | 502.....Riddle, Michael Scott | | 765.....Crist, Andrew Guss |

Facebook thoughts

By Kevin Combs

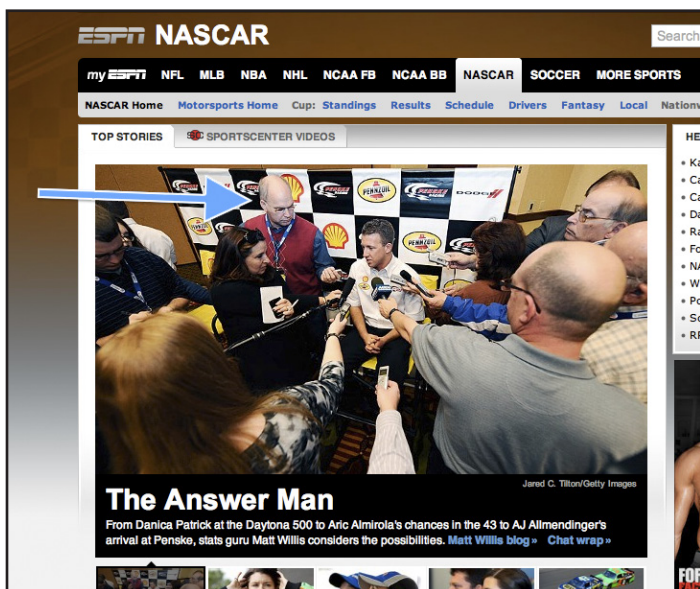
- The key to Facebook is to post content that will draw in your fans. Use lots of videos and photos and regularly update your fans on what's going on in the lodge. Encourage your members to "Like" your content and to comment on it. The more people comment on your content, the more it spreads on Facebook. This is the concept of viral marketing, where the postings and comments create a snowball effect and reach other members across the social network.

- When you include photos of lodge events, be sure to get a good cross section of your membership. If the subjects of your photos are on Facebook, be sure to "Tag" them so that your photos show up on their profile.

- To reach out to younger members of the lodge and to younger members of the community, NC Masons are going to have to communicate with them electronically - via email and the internet. We must do this to gain immediacy and relevance with these younger men.

- The youngest men eligible to join our lodges were born in the 1990s. Use of the personal computer was common when they were born. The Internet and cell phones have been around as long as they can remember. If we don't communicate with them using these tools, we are going to appear to them to be as out of touch as a lodge in the 1970s would have been if it didn't have electric lights.

- Even the baby boomers expect the lodge to communicate electronically. I'm 53 years old and have been using personal computers for almost 30 years. When I was interested in joining our lodge some years ago, I found it on the Internet. I'm thankful that it had a presence on the internet.



You never know who you'll see surfing the Internet. When checking a racing story earlier this year, I spotted a familiar face — Stedman 730 member Thomas Pope (indicated with the arrow). Pope is sports editor of the *Fayetteville Observer* and chairman of the Board of Publication of *The North Carolina Mason*. — Ric Carter

Correction

The article in the last issue of *The NC Mason* regarding troubles between Masonic jurisdictions and their Shrine organizations should have referred to the Grand Lodge and Shrines in Arkansas and Michigan. We regret the error.



ASHEVILLE — Grand Master Robert E. Gresham Jr. toured the Charles George VA Medical Center here April 11. The Masonic Service Association operates a visitation program nationally which performs services for inpatients in Veterans Administration health facilities. Grand Master Gresham and his entourage are seen here visiting one of the patients at the hospital. — Dana Hawkins

MILEPOSTS



TROUTMAN — On February 23, Campbell 374 hosted Grand Master Robert E. Gresham's district meeting. Besides Past Grand Master David Cash, the grand master of Alaska Jerry Pinion attended. Grand Master Gresham, left, made Pinion, right, an honorary member of our Grand Lodge. — Richard Ervin



GIBSONVILLE — Tabasco 271 recently presented Michael Fugmann, left, his award for 50 years Masonic membership. They did so on behalf of the Grand Lodge of New York. Scott Lackey did the honors. — James Oakley



WHITEVILLE — Edwin Russ, master of Lebanon 207, recently presented 18th District Deputy Grand Master James E. Britt a Masonic walking stick in appreciation for his work in the district and his support of their lodge. — John Norosky



WHITEVILLE — On March 15, Lebanon 207 held an awards celebration for two of their members. George William Holt, third from left, was presented his Diamond Jubilee award for 60 years membership in the lodge. Roy Edward Walker, second from left, got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years as a Mason. Lodge Master Edwin Russ, left, made the presentations. Seen at right is lodge secretary John Norosky. — John Norosky



WILMINGTON — George Jones, center, a long time fixture of Orient 395, earned his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years Masonic membership last year. Jones was escorted to the altar by his son Frank, right. Past Grand Master William G. Mathis, left, made the presentation of the award. Jones passed away earlier this year. — Scott Kennedy, Jr.



PORT ST. LUCIA, FLORIDA — Grady Warren, of Royal White Hart 2, recently received his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years Masonic membership. Warren spent his life traveling in steel construction, living and working in England, Russia, the West Indies, the Bahamas, and Central America as well as the United States. He currently lives in Florida with his wife Janet. — Wilbur Garner



BISCOE — Lowell Wendell Plum, center, recently got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years lodge membership. Don Bulla, left, and David Parsons, right made the presentation. Plum is a member of Biscoe 437. — Carl Brown



SELMA — Leon P. Howell, of Selma 320, recently earned his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years Masonic membership. He is seen here, left receiving the recognition from Selma Lodge Master Robby Evans. Howell is a veteran of Japan's Pearl Harbor attack.



SELMA — Johnnie B. O'Neal III, a member of Selma 320, recently received his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years Masonic membership. Selma Master Robby Evans presented the award.



WILMINGTON — On March 17, St. John's 1 held a Past Masters' Third Degree in full costume. They held the event on the Scottish Rite's stage and utilized their antique backdrops. Four candidates were raised. They hope to make this production an annual event. — Chuck Baer



GASTONIA — On March 19, members of King Solomon 704 visited Stanley 713 and successfully claimed the 36th Masonic District's Traveling Gavel. The gavel had resided at Stanley for over a year. King Solomon Lodge welcomes visitation from any lodge in the district to claim the trophy. — Chris Hall

Cary Lodge salutes long fallen brother

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — Masons and Civil War aficionados assembled here April 14 to honor the lives of two young brothers who died 150 years ago. Joel and Joseph Holleman died just five weeks apart in 1862 while in service of the Confederate Army.

But, our current story starts three years ago when Kenn Hicks became worried about two graves beside

Trinity Road in Raleigh on a wooded, brush covered piece of land he owned near RBC Center. He had noticed the graves and broken tombstones of two brothers buried side-by-side. Concerns about urban creep made him fearful the graves could be lost forever.

Noticing that one of them had been a Confederate
■ see CARY, page 5



Kip Campbell photos



Left, the Hollemans are carried to their new Oakwood graves. Right, Cary 198 performs the final farewell to their brother.



Ric Carter photo

Homecoming planning time for you

OXFORD — Preparations are underway, plans being set, and details lined up as the Masonic Home for Children and its alumni and Masons prepare for the October 12-14, 2012 Masonic Homecoming Festival. The schedule of events, as well as details regarding the Chip Shots Golf Tournament, Friday Night Yard Party, parade, Barbecue Contest (including rules and sign up), Alumni Activities, and this year's entertainment (T. Graham Brown), are now available on the Masonic Home for Children website at <<http://www.mhc-oxford.org/john.html>>. Check the site as we countdown the days to our second annual Masonic Homecoming Festival.



ABERDEEN — Roman Eagle 550 held its first ever American Red Cross Blood Drive February 24. The event was a great success with everyone pleased with the amount of community involvement. There were 48 donors (23 first-timers) which translates into 112 lives affected by the blood collected. Liberty Tax Service provided each donor with a certificate for free tax service. They also sent Lady Liberty to dance her way into the hearts of passersby, encouraging them to stop in. Ten people said it was her fun spirit that brought them through the door.
— John Crowl

In this issue of The NC Mason



page 1

Eastern lodges host Colonial Degree



page 3

Bulletins from around the state



page 7

Masonic mileposts



page 8

Cary bids brothers farewell after 150 years

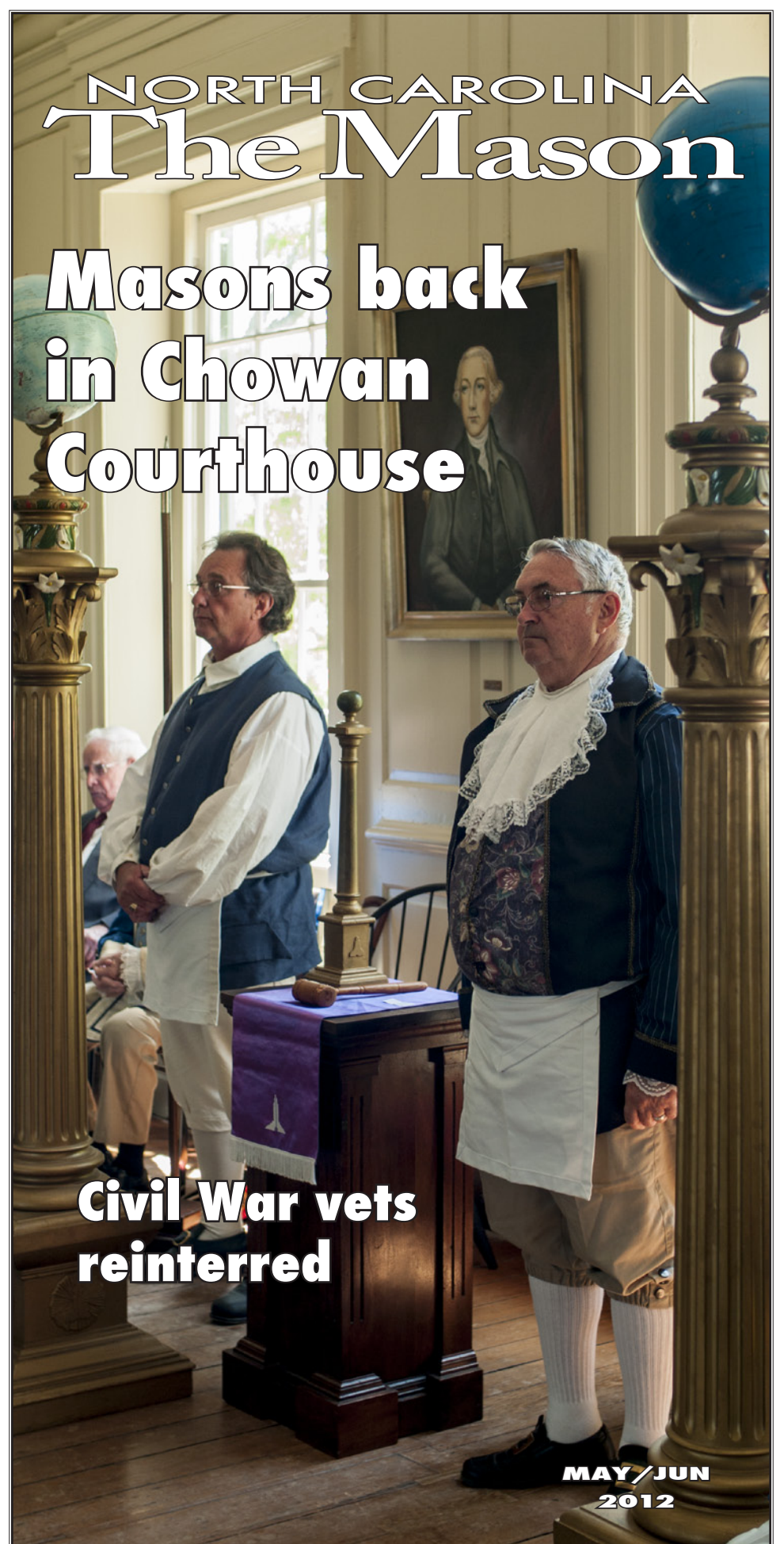
On the cover

The Chowan County Courthouse degree in April was a vision of Masonry 200+ years ago.
Ric Carter photo

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NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

Masons back in Chowan Courthouse

Civil War vets reinterred

MAY/JUN 2012