



NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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The old is new again in Grimesland



Ric Carter photos



By Ric Carter

GRIMESLAND — It seemed an ill wind that blew through this Pitt County community in July of 2012. As citizens there took stock of damage and recovery for themselves and neighbors after the winds and tornados, it took members of Grimesland 475 several days to notice their lodge had been hit. Winds had separated the roof from their lodge and set it down displaced by more than a foot.

Their policy with Grand Lodge insurance stepped in quickly and sent them a check to replace the roof with a modern metal top. They even added a much needed cover for the back stoop while they were at it.

About the same time, perhaps encouraged by the improvements they saw, the lodge voted to pull the old carpet out of the lodge room. Rather than replace it, they refinished the pine flooring and left it bare. A new square and compasses went up on the front porch. People started getting excited about the way things were looking around the lodge. Excitement built. They dared talk about doing it big.

Benjie Forrest, Mike Clark, and Kendall Paramore were appointed a special Ways and Means Committee to get the job done. First, what to tackle?

The exact age of their building is not known, but they moved into the old schoolhouse in about 1895, so few could remember what their home looked like before suspended ceilings and paneling were added over the old interior. The exterior, bricked over some years ago, was originally white painted wood. The brick will remain. But it's the inside that's going to see extensive changes — all is aimed at returning

some of its early beauty.

On the second floor with its preparation and lodge rooms, walls and ceiling will be returned to their historic beadboard and painted white and blue. The suspended ceiling has been removed, and the curved ceiling will be restored thanks to rerouting of ductwork. The attic will be insulated to save energy. The remaining floors upstairs will be refinished.

The downstairs area is in for big changes, too. The dining room will get sheetrock and wainscot. The floors will be taken back to their original pine and refinished. The kitchen will get a full remodel with a ceramic tile floor, new appliances, counter, and cabinets. There will be a new storage room for the kitchen, and the bathrooms will get a complete remodel and updating. Doors and fixtures will be replaced.

They called in the man who had just finished their repairs and improvements and asked him to work up a price for doing some restoration work. Total cost? \$35,000.

An early decision was to do the work with contributions, not fundraisers. The committee sent out a letter to all 80 of the lodge's members on January 2 describing the project and soliciting pledges and contributions. Pledges paid by the end of 2013 will be honored on a plaque to be permanently displayed in the lodge — \$1,000+ donors will be labeled Master Mason, Fellow Craft for \$500-999, and Entered Apprentice for up to \$499. Within days, they had the pledges, nearly half already paid, to finance the restoration. Nearly every member, and a

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Up the shore for Sandy

WAKE FOREST — The week following Super Storm Sandy hitting the New Jersey/New York area Joseph Miller felt he had to do something. He had retired from police work and moved from New York to North Carolina just three months earlier. The former police officer and Master Mason, trained in New York's Wallkill 627 and now a dual member in Wake Forest 282, felt a strong need to help.

He called his cousin, Joe Kurnos, in Virginia, and they tried to brainstorm an idea that could help. They decided that just giving to the Red Cross or volunteering locally wasn't enough. They decided they had to help in a way that they could actually see at work, and it had to be done quickly.

With generous donations from Wake Forest 282 and Wallkill 627 as well as from family, friends, Facebook networking, strangers, and a website named ChipIn, what was now dubbed Operation Joe took shape. In just five days, between cash donations, and donations of clothes, boots, coats, etc., they were able to raise approximately \$8,500. They used the money to purchase essential items from a list that was put out authorities in the NY/NJ area. They loaded it all up on a box truck and headed north.

It was an early Saturday morning. There was a little North Carolina morning chill in the air when Miller left his home headed to meet with Kurnos in Virginia. They loaded the remaining items on the truck, and hit the road.

Signs were put on the truck by Kurnos's daughter saying, "NJ or Bust, NY Too" and "Support For Hurricane Sandy Victims." Along the route, they were greeted with waves and horns blowing in support. At one point they were stopped by a bread delivery truck. The driver emptied his load of bread into the truck and then handed them \$20 to help with gas. Shortly after, while gassing up, two more people donated a trunk full of clothes and shoes.

First stop — Staten Island. They met with a longtime friend and NYPD officer Anthony Hernandez. They wanted to first help those who help others. While emergency personnel helped the public, flood waters devastated the workers' families in Staten Island. NYPD had set up a care station where members of service could come to get essential items they and their families needed to survive. Sharing from those supplies, officers loaded 40 cases of water on the Operation Joe truck for others along the way.

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DESIGNS UPON OUR TRESTLE BOARD



Own and deliver your Masonry

By Dewey R. Preslar Jr.
Grand Master

Probably my favorite episode of the *Andy Griffith Show* was the one on Opie's charity. You may remember it. Andy is embarrassed when he learns that Opie has donated a "measly" three cents to the underprivileged children's drive. Andy scolds Opie after learning that he is saving his money to buy his girlfriend Charlotte a present. Later, Andy discovers Opie's true intentions — his girlfriend is underprivileged, and he is buying her a winter coat because her mom doesn't have the money. But during the conversation Andy remembers reading somewhere that there are 400 needy boys in the county alone, or one and a half needy boys per square mile. Opie remarks that he has never seen one before — a half boy. Andy replies that is not really half of a boy, but a ratio. Opie replies, "Horatio who?" He continues, "It is pretty hard to forget something like a half of a boy, poor Horatio."

I have told a couple of stories at the district meetings about something that was once old is new again. And this is true of the dialogue between Andy and Opie. It is a not an old message, but one to be repeated many times over. It is a wonderful story and is relative to our conversations this year about increasing our charity

efforts. Opie was out to cause a different outcome in his charity efforts just as we are.

We are blessed to have Mark Kolada and Chris Richardson speaking during the district meetings about our beautiful Homes. They do a wonderful job talking about our charities, and their passions are very much alive for what they are trying to accomplish. Their inspirational conversations clearly show the need to increase our fundraising efforts.

At WhiteStone, Mark has been telling us about the formation of the NC Masonic and Eastern Star Home Foundation, LLC which allows each of us an opportunity to directly support our fraternal residents. Last year, WhiteStone provided more than \$1.3 million in fraternal assistance with a small portion of that amount being provided by our lodges. The opportunity for us is that by giving more, we can equally provide more assistance to those that need it the most.

During the district meetings, Chris has been handing out something that I find to be very creative. It is a Child's Ticket to Hope, which includes information related to admissions to our Home. Clearly, there are many more children in our communities that we could help. If you know of any we can serve, please don't hesitate to call our children's home.

Brethren, I am staying with my message. My push has been to increase our charity efforts through an increase in fundrais-

ing projects. If your Lodge is already doing a fundraiser, thank you. But, I will continue to ask, "Can you do more?" If your lodge isn't doing a fundraiser, isn't it about time you did? It is my belief that doing it for the fellowship can lead to many opportunities.

I often say at the district meetings that I know that I am "singing to the choir." But isn't it our time to increase, engage if you will, more of the choir in our work? Harmony is the strength and support of our work in orchestrating an increased support of our Homes.

My Brethren, this is our time to cause a different outcome in our Masonry. Together we can cause something extraordinary to occur. We can choose to continue to work in the "business as usual" mode and wait on a crisis to occur that will cause us to think differently, or we can plan and draw designs upon our trestle boards that will have a positive effect on us as well as grow in our Masonry. We must implement our plans, execute against them, and be accountable for what we are out to cause.

In my last article in *The North Carolina Mason*, I spoke about the connection between resolutions and our obligations. I ask that you regularly attend your lodge, enroll others in our efforts, and cause and inspire passion for our beloved fraternity.

I ask again, what outcome are you planning to cause in 2013? Finally, my Brothers, Own and Deliver Your Masonry.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Thanks for reading

We are proud of the publication we bring you every other month. *The North Carolina Mason*, as best we can tell, is the oldest Masonic publication in the United States, having published its first issue in January 6, 1875. So far as we can discern, it has been continuously published since that time.

In 1993, we became the world's first grand lodge publication available on the Internet. *THE electronic NC MASON* was the "stripped-down, online version of the real thing." That text-only edition became a more graphical file just a couple of years later. Today, the electronic version has moved from a stunted to a premium version. The online edition of *The North Carolina Mason* <tinyurl.com/ncmason> is in color, an upgraded version of the paper edition.

We occasionally get questions about how much *The NC Mason* costs. So, here goes. It's pretty straightforward.

The printed issue you hold in your hand costs you less than 48¢. Of that, more than 33¢ goes to printing and postage costs. The printing costs are a major income source for the School of Graphic Arts at the Masonic Home for Children.

The other 14¢ supports production costs, news gathering, equipment, software, web hosting, and staff salary.

For most of you, we are your foremost source of Masonic news from around North Carolina. For more of you, we are a top source of world Masonic news. For some of you, we are the way you find out what is happening in your lodge.

There are occasionally those who see *The NC*

Mason as expendable — merely numbers on a budget — a place to lop off a portion of the Grand Lodge's expenses. We see it as the one product that reaches out to you whether you are an officer of your lodge or an occasional show at stated communication, even if you never go to lodge or tell anyone you are a Mason. We come to your doorstep with news of Masonry around the world, our state, and your community. We keep you connected.

What is the direction of our future?

One never knows. The world changes and so do we. Here are some preliminary thoughts and plans for the future of *The Mason*.

Before long, we will be extending our news reach to more frequent updates of the Grand Lodge website and our Facebook presence. That will allow us to be more timely in bringing you news and announcements. As more and more of our late-breaking news function becomes absorbed into Internet communication, we will consider changes to the printed edition. Perhaps a feature oriented color magazine format such as several grand lodges now use may be more viable and affordable if frequency of publication becomes less important to our mission of keeping you informed of news of the Craft from around the state and world. This should not happen until a large majority of our readers see the Internet as a readily available and easily accessed utility in their lives.

Until that time arrives, we endeavor to continue to bring to your doorstep the best bargain in Masonic news and information. Thanks for sticking with us.

From the Medical Committee Immunizations

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." This line, used by everyone from Friedrich Nietzsche to G. Gordon Liddy to Kelly Clarkson, summed up the process of fighting off diseases for centuries before the invention of vaccinations. In short, the only way to be immunized against a disease was to survive it.

Today, the thirty or so immunizations available have prevented more illnesses than can be measured. Some diseases, such as smallpox, have been completely eradicated from the earth. Polio isn't far behind. The effects of other diseases, such as influenza, can be dramatically lessened through vaccination. (By the way, the Latin word for cow, "vacca," lends its name to the first vaccination, cowpox, which was similar to smallpox.)

In the 20th century, the incidence of killer

diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, polio, and smallpox each decreased by over 99% thanks to vaccines. And immunizations aren't just for small children, either. Shingles, influenza, whooping cough, tetanus, meningitis, hepatitis, and certain strains of pneumonia can still infect healthy adults, but they are also preventable. At your next check up, ask your doctor if you are up to date on your immunizations. Make sure your children and grandchildren are up to date on theirs, too. Visit <www.cdc.gov/vaccines> for more information.

If you have medical questions of wide interest, please send them here to the Medical Committee for possible inclusion in a future *NC Mason*.

John Paschall, MD, is a member of Biltmore 446 and the Grand Lodge Medical Committee.

Are you a traveling man?

By Rex Smith

As then master of Berne 724, I attended the 2012 Grand Lodge Annual Communication in Winston-Salem.

After the communication ended, there were long lines waiting for the elevator to the parking garage. It seemed to take forever to travel between floors, and when it did arrive, it was packed to the limit.

Finally, after arriving at the top deck of the parking garage, I got in my vehicle to make my way down the six levels, only to find that traffic in the garage bumper to bumper. I patiently waited my turn for what seemed like an eternity. Upon arriving at the ticket booth, I noticed the booth attendant was a black man, probably my age or a little older. I greeted him with, "How are you doing today, sir?" and handed over my parking ticket with my right hand.

He replied, "Doing just fine," and then "Are you a traveling man?" He was obviously noticing my Masonic ring.

I had heard the question before, but never directed to me. I said, "Yes I am, heading east," meaning I was both a Mason and heading east toward home. He asked if I was an officer, and I replied that I was in the East.

A smile came across his face, and he explained that he was a Prince Hall Mason and that he was a past master of his lodge. He asked how my year was going as master, and I replied, "Fine, but with challenges."

He said, "I know exactly what you mean" and went on to elaborate on the subject. The whole time, I was aware of the growing line of vehicles behind me, but he seemed content in carrying on the conversation. The whole time I was waiting

for him to tell me how much I owed for parking.

Finally, someone behind me had had enough and honked their horn. I said to the gentleman, "I guess we need to settle up."

He replied "I've got you, brother," and lifted the barricade for me to pass.

I said, "Are you sure?" and he replied "I've got you, Brother." I extended my right hand and he his in a Master Mason's grip.

I said, "Thank you and have a nice day." He nodded back in agreement as I pulled away from the booth.

I didn't get the Brother's name or which lodge he attended, but the respect shown that day of one Mason to another made my journey east a lot brighter. "I got you, Brother," just says it all about Freemasonry.



The temple in his hands

Grand Master Hiram Abif was walking through the quarry to observe the progress of the work. As he passed one Apprentice who was busy with his gavel and chisel making a stone ready to be shipped to Jerusalem, the Apprentice called out to him.

"Master Hiram!" the Apprentice said, "Since my initiation, I have been working hard in the quarries. I have been contemplating the lessons and symbols of my first degree. Yet, I still don't feel that I have gained understanding. Can you help me?"

Hiram responded, "How can a man who holds King Solomon's Temple in his hands need my help?" And the Apprentice was brought to Light.

<http://zenmasonry.wordpress.com>



Seen from left, are past Montfort recipient Bill Meacham, Preslar, new Montfort Medalist Burton, and past Montfort recipient Tommy Eller.

Burton named Montfort medalist

SALISURY — Floyd M. Burton is a new recipient of the Joseph Montfort Medal. Grand Master Dewey R. Preslar Jr. presented North Carolina's highest Masonic honor December 20 at Andrew Jackson 576's awards night celebration. Burton was master of Andrew Jackson Lodge in 1955 and has been a life member there since 1988. Burton is the man who started Andrew Jackson Lodge's famous annual Brunswick Stew. In 1978, he established a scholarship at the Masonic Home

for Children in Oxford. He helped a number of other young people continue their educations. He is a past district deputy grand master and has served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence and the Masonic Home for Children Board.

The Montfort is the highest honor available from our Grand Lodge and is given at the discretion of the grand master for "distinguished Masonic service or achievement." He is only allowed to present three during his term of office.



Santa has modern look at the Home for Children

OXFORD — On the night of the annual Christmas Dinner and Gift Party at the Masonic Home for Children, a special visitor descended on campus. Santa dropped by in Duke Medical Center's Life Flight helicopter. With our children waiting below, the chopper circled campus, touching down to deliver Santa just in time for the evening's events. Special thanks to Jim Starlin of the Emergency Services Department at Duke Medical Center for organizing this first-time event. Thanks also go to those who did the work: Duke University Medical Center's Life Flight, Life Care, Trauma Services, Duke Emergency Department, and Duke Transfer Center.

GM meetings coming to a lodge near you

Grand Master Dewey R. Preslar Jr. plans to visit about half our districts this year. His meetings start in early February and will finish at the end of May. His meetings will be similar to the area meetings of the past few years. Pre-meeting meals are scheduled for 6:15 P.M. with the tyled meeting starting at 7:00 P.M. District officers and the grand master will be received with usual honors.

You may make your lodge's reservation for the meeting with your district deputy grand master or host lodge secretary. Please be considerate of the host lodge. Make your reservations for dinner at least seven days before your scheduled meeting. It is very

frustrating to try to plan for a meal when reservations have not been made. Your lodge will be responsible to pay for all meals reserved. Those who have not made reservations should not expect to eat.

In case of inclement weather, meetings will be cancelled in accordance with local schools cancellations. If a meeting is cancelled, the host lodge and district deputy grand master will be notified. Your lodge may cancel its stated communication to attend your district meeting. Information will also be posted on the Grand Lodge web site: <www.grandlodge-nc.org>. Please consult your lodge for updates.

Date	District	Host	Location
April 8	41	Robbinsville 672	Church St., Robbinsville
April 9	37	Vesper 554	637 Oak Ave., Spruce Pine
April 10	39	Mt. Hermon 118	80 Broadway, Asheville
April 11	33	Snow 363	240 Temple Dr., Boone
April 15	5	American George 17	205 College St., Murfreesboro
April 16	1	Eureka 317	218 S. Hughes Blvd., Elizabeth City
April 17	3	Atlantic 294	Court House Sq., Swanquarter
April 22	4	Newport 706	235 Howard Blvd., Newport
April 23	12	Federal Point 753	5th and Harper, Carolina Beach
April 24	18	Chadbourn 190	417 E. Strawberry Blvd., Chadbourn
May 13	23	Greensboro 76	426 W. Market St., Greensboro
May 14	25	Elkin 454	114 Market St., Elkin
May 15	28	Andrew Jackson 576	401 N. Fulton St., Salisbury

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

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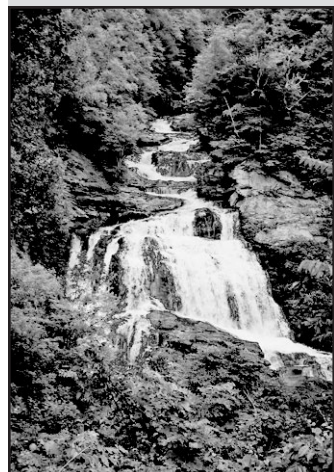
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TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter

Wendell

It was a good year for Wendell 565 — they finished 2012 with 73 members, up four from 2011.

They also did well by the charities: \$3,000 for the Home for Children, \$600 for WhiteStone, \$200 for Seniors Christmas Fund, \$300 for Scout of the Year and Wendell recreation baseball, and \$200 for Hurricane Sandy Relief.

Wendell Lodge has their Past Masters' Night set for April 13. Steak headlines the menu. Widows of the lodge are always guests of honor that night. — *Let There Be Light*

Spencer

On February 12, Spencer 543 hosted two representatives of the Rowan Family Crisis Council who told them about the importance of the agency's mission in fighting domestic violence. The lodge quickly concluded their business for the evening to better hear out the guests.

During the winter, Spencer Lodge has been selling chances on a "Wildflower" pattern quilt. The drawing was set for March. Tickets were only one dollar each. Proceeds were marked for Masonic charities. — Johnny Hatley and Sam Krohn

Pilot Mountain

Pilot 493 sent gift cards to the kids at the Masonic Home for Children this year. When they went to Walmart to purchase 47 \$20 gift cards, management wanted to know why so many. The ensuing story resulted in a \$100 shopping voucher. They used that to buy two vacuum cleaners for the Home. The \$300 left over from the project went to the NC Masonic Foundation.

New double-glazed windows have been installed in Pilot Lodge. — *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*



Lodge adopts Christmas mission

By Wayne N. Watson

BAHAMA — Some 30 years ago, C. B. Anderson began a "men only" breakfast on the last Saturday before Christmas each year. He invited a few friends and business associates. Anderson, now a member of Oak Grove 750, would pay for the meal and pass the hat for donations to Durham Rescue Mission to assist in feeding the underprivileged during the holidays. Through the years, more \$100,000 have been collected for the Rescue Mission.

As time went on, the group grew. Finding adequate space for the breakfast became a problem. A few years ago, Anderson contacted lifelong friend Wayne Watson, and asked whether Knap of Reeds 158 in Bahama would be interested in holding the event at the lodge. The lodge agreed to prepare the food for the breakfast and has enjoyed participating ever since. Anderson continues to pay for the food and makes a generous donation to the lodge each year. Knap of Reeds Lodge has named the event the Brother C. B. Anderson Prayer Breakfast.

2012's breakfast was held on December 22. A minister opened the meeting with prayer and remarks about the reason for the season. A breakfast of eggs, ham, sausage, bacon, grits, biscuits, orange juice, and coffee was enjoyed by all. After breakfast, Brothers and guests left to begin their Christmas celebrations with smiles on their faces. And well they should. — *Wayne N. Watson is a member of Knap of Reeds 158.*

Statesville

Statesville Historical Collection Curator Steve Hill and Past Grand Master Tom Gregory have a special program planned for April 2 at Statesville 27 — A Pictorial History of 217 Years of Masonry in Statesville.

More than 300 units were collected at the 24th Annual Masonic Community Blood Drive on January 4. — *The Joppa Informer*

Paw Creek

Back in November, West Gate 738 hosted a golf tournament to help Cheryl Bowers with medical expenses. They raised more than \$20,400 for the cause.

West Gate Lodge held its Ladies' Night February 9 at the Metrolina Shrine Club. They served the ladies their choice of rib eye steak or grilled chicken. The Paw Creek Praise Band entertained.

When West Gate Lodge held their Spring Chicken Fry March 15, they had something to prove. At their Fall Chicken Fry, organizer Randy Tamson set a new record for the lodge taking in more than \$11,000. — *News From the West*

Charlotte

Charles M. Setzer 693 Master Allan Mann finally had to get off his promise to pay \$50 if the lodge produced more than 25 members for a meeting. They topped the mark in December. Abner Fortner even sent a matching gift to the lodge celebrating Mann's birthday.

Setzer Lodge is again raffling a vacation in an Oak Island beach front house. A lodge member donates the home for a visit each year. Last year, the lodge made more than \$2,000 on the drawing.

Two members of Setzer have given the lodge a new second degree staircase lecture carpet. — *Trestleboard*

Derita 715 recently congratulated Ed Schweiger II on his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership.

They also reached out to member Rick Milligan, offering assistance during his severe illness. — *Derita Lodge*

Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 was very happy to sign a new lease for their downstairs space in March. — *Trestleboard*

Gatesville

Gatesville 126 was hosting their annual blood drive January 9 at the community center.

Gatesville Lodge helped out with the First Masonic District's November fundraiser for Jimmy Nash. The tractor pull raised more than \$15,000 for their brother. — *The Compasses*

Gastonia

King Solomon 704 voted in February to buy new officer aprons, jewels, collars, and a storage case for them all. They wore them the first time in March.

On January 14, ten King Solomon Lodge members traveled to Gaston 263 to take the 36th Masonic District's Traveling Gavel. — *The Plumb Line*

Asheville

Bowling may be making a comeback at Mount Hermon 118. On February 25, the lodge was having a family and friends bowling night at All Star Bowling Lanes. You got unlimited bowling and shoes for \$17. — Ron Lambe

Kannapolis

Bad weather got Cannon Memorial 626's Charity Breakfast rescheduled for Ground Hog's Day. The all-you-can-eat extravaganza featured country ham, bacon, sausage, eggs, grits, rice, gravy, biscuits, juice, and coffee. I feel full just writing it. They hold the breakfast twice a year.

Cannon Memorial is making their second effort with Relay for Life April 19. The lodge is urging their members to "create a world with less cancer and more birthdays." The national drive of the American Cancer Society rallies communities to help fight cancer and support its victims. — Thomas Van Etten

Andrews

On February 23, Andrews 529 held a pancake breakfast benefit to help Buddy and Anna Lunsford with mounting medical expenses. — Brian Rau

Franklin

Dunn's Rock 267 elected Keith Harbin Secretary of Distinction January 24. They saluted his sacrifice and dedication as well as the way he "organized and modernized the secretary's position in [their] lodge in a most thorough and exemplary manner." — *Dunn's Rock Lodge*

Murphy

Time is drawing nigh for Cherokee 146's annual Ramp Festival at the L&N Depot here. The date set is April 20. — Brian Rau

Union Grove

Grassy Knob 471 held an open house January 31. Members were urged to bring prospective members. — Tom Gregory

Carthage

End of the year recognitions went out late in 2012 to several hard workers of Carthage 181. Billy Freeland Jr. was named their Mason of the Year. Other recognitions went to Treasurer Paul Ritter, coach Kin Suggs, and Bobby Lester.

In January, they made Wes McIntyre an honorary member. — *Quarterly Trestle Board*

Hookerton

There's new equipment in the house at Jerusalem 95. Ronnie Harper donated a refrigerator. It's already stocked with drinks and water and ice cream. They've also added the "latest hi-tech projector and lecture slides."

Jerusalem member Chris Seymour, a farmer in Lenoir County, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association. — *The Jerusalem Journal*

Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 was very happy to sign a new lease for their downstairs space in March. — *Trestleboard*

Kinston

The second Annual Corn Hole Festival of St. John's 4 is set for May 4. It coincides with the 43rd Festival on the Neuse Hog Happenin'. — *The Trestleboard*

Swannanoa

Most Masonic communities have a guy they regard as Mr. Mason, the spark plug of Masonry. Swannanoa 561 lost theirs, Carl John Hogue, in February. Hogue served as lodge secretary for 24 years as well as district deputy grand master and lecturer. — Marion Hogue

Seaboard

Seaboard 378 and American George 17 held a blood drive November 20 at the Seaboard Lions Club. — Floyd Stephen Fowler

Southern Pines

One of the big events at Southern Pines 484 last year was their participation in their hometown's April Springfest. They sold breakfast and lunch to hundreds of visitors to the town. The money raised went to their scholarship fund.

Scholarship candidates were interviewed in April. The recipients were honored at a banquet at Pinewild Country Club in May.

The lodge was back at it August with their major fundraiser for the scholarship — a golf tournament at Pinewild.

Southern Pines Lodge held their Ladies' Night February 9 at Table on the Green.

They recently made Wes McIntyre an honorary member of their lodge. — *The Trestle Board*

Black Mountain

Thirty-six people attended Black Mountain 663's Valentine Dinner February 9. Dinner featured a choice of baked chicken, fresh trout, beef pot roast, and spinach ravioli. Each of the ladies got a red rose.

Lodge Treasurer Matthew Kinne entertained them on classical guitar. — *The Traveling Trowel*

Raleigh

William T. Bain 231 reached out to help a needy family during the Christmas holiday. They made the season brighter for a family of five in Benson.

Wake County Sheriff Donnie Harrison was scheduled to speak at Bain Lodge's February 4 oyster stew. All you can eat, \$15 sounds like a bargain.

In December, they took the 15th District Traveling Gavel from Holly Springs 115. — Rod Grindle

James B. Green 735 Master Joe Teague recently said, "James B. Green has a history of meeting well, acting right, and parting fed." A new evidence of that is their recent launch of second stated Sandwich Night. They've had suppers before first stated since their 1965 founding. Last year they resumed serving meals on emergent degree nights.

Green Lodge held Ladies Appreciation night February 16. — *The James B. Green Scene*

Winston-Salem

Salem 289 had their Past Masters' Night set for March 5. — *The Salem Sentinel*

Old Town 751 is a long-time champion of Bikes-for-Books, a program which encourages local elementary students to improve their reading. At teacher recommendation, this year they will place the actual bikes to be awarded on display at the school. It seems real bikes get the kids more excited than a poster.

Old Town Lodge is driving to rebuild their emergency fund after replacing an air conditioning unit recently. The \$6,000 job knocked their fund down to \$20,000. There is no time like the present to start paying for those costs you know will be coming; roof, heating, appliances. — *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Mount Gilead

Blackmer 127 tried something new this year when they changed their Ladies' Night to a Ladies' Luncheon catered in the lodge dining room. Fifty folks attended. Joy Sharpe, 12-year-old daughter of the lodge Master Jim Sharpe, read two Civil War era letters from Caroline Cooke to her brother Blackmer Past Master D. H. Cooke. Willie Haywood was presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership during the luncheon.

Blackmer Lodge's building is now 65 years old. They have just completed their three-year building care plan. The penultimate accomplishment was the conclusion of the pledge drive that paid for the installation of the new roof. — *Blackmer Buzz*

Fayetteville

They're coaching coaches at Cready Proctor 679. From 6:00-9:00 P.M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday they're offering instruction to guys who want to help coach candidates. — *Cready Proctor Lodge*

Southport

Pythagoras 249 had their annual barbecue fundraiser set for March 29-30. Their annual fish fry is coming up the first Friday of June. — *Newsletter*

see STATE, page 5

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

Masons are masters of many crafts

By Ric Carter

PITTSBORO — You can find Masons most anywhere. You especially notice them among skilled craftsmen. In Carr Amplifiers' small factory shop (fewer than ten employees) here, you'll find two Masons hand wiring the guitar amps much loved and respected among guitarists around the world.

Dave Quick, right, and Mike Kenlan, below, are both members of Columbus 102 there in Pittsboro. Quick is 20th Masonic District deputy grand master, and Kenlan is senior warden at Columbus Lodge and a dual member in Mosaic 762 in Chapel Hill. Both are active musicians who play guitar regularly with bands in the Triangle. Kenlan is known for his work with bands Pipe and Small. Quick's Swang Brothers will be appearing during Homecoming at the Home for Children in October.

Carr Amps was established by Steve Carr, a guitar player who became interested in amplifier repair. His shop now designs and hand builds high-end, custom amplifiers used by well-known musicians around the world.



Ric Carter photos



SANDY, from page 1

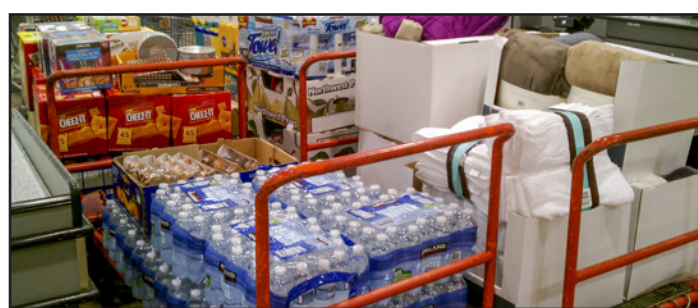
The next two stops were deep within the heart of the devastation. Whole city blocks were just gone. People were walking the streets. Makeshift help centers tried to supply food and clothes to those who were homeless after the storm of the century. The smell of the sewers that overflowed into the streets hung in the air. Construction vehicles were picking up what remained of ve-



hicles and houses. It looked like a third world country, instead of a borough of one of the richest cities in the world. At both stops on Staten Island, they were greeted by volunteers who helped take only items they needed from the truck. Bucket brigade lines moved supplies from the truck to distribution centers.

On to New Jersey. Reports told them Little Ferry and Moonachie were hard hit. The first stop took Operation Joe to the Little Ferry Fire Department where they met three families who had lost everything to flooding. The second stop was the Moonachie Fire Station to drop the last of the load. That station had been gutted after flooding ruined the interior of the building. The only thing left was a handmade sign that read "DOWN BUT NOT OUT."

The delivery day started at 5:00 A.M. and ended around 8:30 P.M. Operation Joe was complete. The stories, jokes, heartbreaking scenes, and expressions of gratitude will long live on in the minds of Operation Joe's crew. Joseph Miller says, "This operation was one of the most rewarding and fulfilling experiences I have ever been a part of."



Youth visit WhiteStone

The North Carolina DeMolay hosted a family reunion at WhiteStone to cap off the Thanksgiving weekend and prime the Advent season. More than 45 DeMolay, Rainbow Girls, parents, and advisors came to campus November 25, for an afternoon with their extended family. A Sunday service in the Chapel was conducted by Andrew Williard, master councilor of the Winston-Salem DeMolay chapter, during which he enumerated the things for which he was thankful, culminating with his membership in the greater Masonic family. Following the message, Ernestine Beal, WhiteStone resident and mother of three senior DeMolays, accompanied the group on piano as they sang Christmas carols. The Rainbow Girls brought refreshments which were enjoyed in the activity room after the service. It was a perfect way to begin the holiday season. — D. Williard



Davie Lodge shares cheer

AHOSKIE — Davie 39 is in their third year of delivering holiday gift baskets to their widows and shut-in brothers. Butch Hassell and Carroll Young delivered 26 baskets across a four-county area during the Christmas season. — Archie Hassell



704 swipes travel gavel

DALLAS — On January 14, ten members from King Solomon 704 traveled to Gaston 263 to take the 36th Masonic District Traveling Gavel. In order to claim the gavel, a visiting lodge must bring a minimum of five members. Should multiple lodges be in attendance, then the lodge with the greatest number of members present will get the gavel. Pictured from left are James W. Howell, Tom McCarthy, Frank Smith, Howard Franklin, Roger Swink, Chris Hall, Ed Becton, Scott Queen, Tim Daniels, and Bob Erwin. — Chris Hall

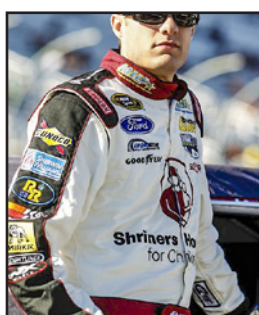


Race driver salutes Shrine hospitals

STATESVILLE — A special cause was featured on the No. 34 Ford of David Ragan at New Hampshire Motor Speedway last year. Ragan carried the colors of Shriners Hospitals for Children and their tagline, "Love to the rescue." Shriners Hospitals for Children provide specialty care to children up to age 18 with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate, regardless of the families' ability to pay. All care and services are delivered in a family-centered environment.

The Huntersville resident, a member of Williams 176 there, ended the 2012 season with one top five, and two top tens. His final points standing of 28th was a team best in Front Row Motorsports short history. Another first was Front Row's first Sprint All-Star race with Ragan behind the wheel.

Shriners Hospitals Chairman Emeritus Gene Bracewell said, "David Ragan has helped us in so many ways. He has visited many Shriners Hospitals and has become a hero to the children. We are so pleased and grateful that Front Row Motorsports has donated the race sponsorship to help raise awareness for the hospitals."



Bike lodge visits WhiteStone

GREENSBORO — On January 12, residents of WhiteStone heard the rumble of more than 25 motorcycles as Knights of Solomon 764 rolled onto campus to hold their first meeting of 2013 in the Home's fellowship hall. The traveling lodge, which received its charter in 2009 and consists of more than 90 members from all across North Carolina, select various sites throughout the state for their meetings every other month. Several WhiteStone residents joined their biker brethren for their 90-minute meeting, followed by lunch and a quick tour of the community.



Making life a little easier

By John Hudson

SALISBURY — Andrew Jackson 576 prepares breakfast one Sunday morning each month for the homeless shelter in Salisbury. The shelter is manned by various local groups for breakfast each day. 2012 was the lodge's first year participating, and they plan to continue it in 2013.

Art Steinberg got the lodge involved in the service project. John T. Hudson, 2012 master, created the Art Steinberg Community Service Award in his honor and presented the first one to its namesake.

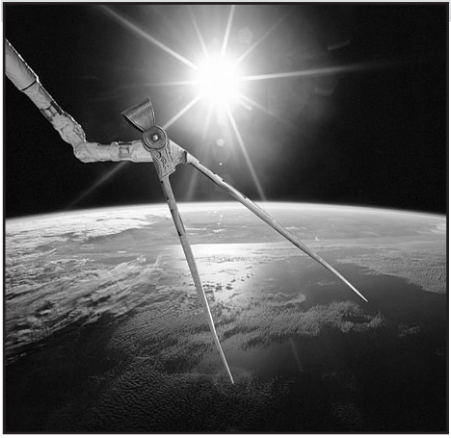
For their December 23 turn, just two days before Christmas, Grand Master Dewey Preslar was there as usual. Preslar's wife Terrie made Christmas stockings for the children spending the night at the shelter.

Seen here with GM Preslar and the kids is UNC-Greensboro Junior Alex Hudson, granddaughter of 1936 Grand Master Giles Hudson.

After serving breakfast and presenting stockings, the Masons went out for breakfast together as they have on each of their Sundays at the shelter.

John Hudson is immediate past master of Andrew Jackson 576.

ENCOMPASSING THE WORLD



By Ric Carter

Haas again out of Masonry

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA — Past West Virginia Grand Master Frank Haas is back in the news. Back in 2006 Haas introduced what became known as the Wheeling Reforms to the Grand Lodge there. The reforms included allowing the Pledge of Allegiance in lodge meetings and allowing Masonic youth groups to use lodge facilities. (See *NCMason* September/October 2010 <<http://www.epageflip.net/issue/17689/4>>).

The reforms were overturned immediately after Haas left office. When Haas spoke out against the action, he was expelled (apparently without trial) from the Grand Lodge of West Virginia. He eventually moved to Ohio where a lodge, with the blessing of the Grand Lodge of Ohio's grand master,

elected Haas to membership and conferred all three degrees. As a result, the Grand Lodge of West Virginia withdrew recognition of Ohio in 2010.

On January 30 of this year, Ohio Grand Master James F. Easterling Jr. ruled that the raising of Haas was not proper and declared it null and void. Less than ten days later, the Grand Lodge of West Virginia restored fraternal communication (recognition) with the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

In fraternal tradition, grand jurisdictions respect the membership actions of other jurisdictions. For instance, if a dual member is expelled in North Carolina, he is removed from the rolls of any other lodge in which he may be a member, no matter in which state the membership.

Band camps

Masonic band camps have proven very popular in Kansas and Nebraska as great public relations tools for the grand lodges there.

- The Kansas Masonic All-State Marching Band has attracted cream-of-the-crop high school musicians for 28 years.

- The Nebraska Masonic All-Star Marching Band has become an annual drawing card for top bandsmen in the Cornhusker State for 17 years.

In both cases, the students spend several days in band camps. It involves many hours of practicing, enjoying evening activities, performing concerts, and marching in pre-game and half-time shows at a Shrine-sponsored, all-star high school football bowl game.

Last year, 167 young musicians gathered in late July at the Fort Hays State University in Kansas. On May 31, some 265 of the state's best high school band members converged at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for band camp.

In addition to the public relations value for Kansas and Nebraska Freemasonry, the band camps are vehicles for hundreds of students from all over their states to come together, form lifelong friendships, improve their musical skills, and take part in an experience they'll remember forever. Over the years, thousands of young men and women have participated in these opportunities provided by the Masonic fraternity.

In Kansas, the annual event is sponsored by the Kansas Masonic Foundation, and the grand lodge encourages lodges to contrib-

ute and help sponsor the participants from their community. Each year, one member of the All-State Band is selected as the annual Outstanding Musician and receives a \$1,000 grant for college.

In Nebraska, the long-standing high school band tradition is administered by the grand lodge, with lodges and all the appendant bodies contributing "scholarships" which allow the students to attend. Many participants come back when they are in college to be volunteer music assistants or chaperones for the teenage band members. — *EMESSAY Notes*

A celebration of 300 years of Masonry

NEBRASKA — The Grand Lodge of Nebraska is doing a five-year build up to the 2017 300th birthday of our current form of Freemasonry. The history is based on a family tree they created looking at the origins and ancestry of the three grand lodges which signed their first charters. Different parts of that history will be celebrated and featured each year at their annual communication through 2017. Their 2014 meeting will feature "Masonry arrives in the United States and begets the grand lodges of Virginia in 1778 and North Carolina in 1787." — *The Nebraska Mason*

Thomas honored with stamp

Last year, the United States Postal Service issued a tribute to the 100th birthday of the late entertainer Danny Thomas and the 50th anniversary of the hospital he founded, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

Thomas was born in Deerfield, Michigan, and grew up in Toledo, Ohio. He received his three Masonic degrees in Gothic Lodge in Hamilton Square, New Jersey, as a courtesy for his mother lodge, Palisades Lodge, in Santa Monica, California.

As an entertainer, he was perhaps best known for starring in *Make Room for Daddy*, a popular television comedy that aired from 1953 to 1964.

Behind the jokes and anecdotes he told to sellout crowds across the country, including many Masonic groups, he was a serious humani-



tarian. In 1962, he founded St. Jude's at the suggestion of his friend, Cardinal Samuel Stritch, of Chicago. Thomas died in 1991 at the age of 79.

The Philatelic Freemason, March-April, 2012

STATE, from page 3

Gibsonville

Tabasco 271 is planning their spring cooking fundraiser for April 12-13 and a golf tournament for April 27. — *Trestle Board*

Huntersville

The 31st Masonic District is holding their blood drive at Long Creek 205 on April 9. — *News From the West*

Kenansville

St. John's 13 was proud of their charity donations this year. They gave \$1,200 each to WhiteStone (MESH), the Masonic Home for Children, and the North Carolina Masonic Foundation. — *Lodge Log*

Meadow Branch

When 23-year-old Devin Simpson was installed as master of Meadow Branch 578 in January, he became the youngest master ever in the lodge. He took the title from his brother Derek. Said Derek, "If I have to give up my title, I can't think of anyone better to lose it to." — Derek Simpson

Warsaw

A kitchen renovation is underway at Warsaw 677. They hope to have completed the project by Memorial Day. — *Warsaw Lodge*

Wilmington

Ten members of Orient 395 visited Pythagoras 249 in January to claim the 12th Masonic District's traveling gavel. — *Newsletter*

Jacksonville

The recent raffle of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle was Semper Fidelis 680's most successful fundraiser ever. They made \$14,650. The lodge gave \$7,000 to each of the Masonic Homes, and bought a pallet of bottled water for the victims of Hurricane Sandy. — *Trestle Board*

Thomasville

A Brunswick Stew fundraiser for Thomasville 214 was scheduled for February 16. — *Trestle Board*

Roanoke Rapids

Widow's Son 519 sponsored a blood drive January 30. — *Wes Tripp-Older*

Garner

May 15 is the date set for the Fifth Annual Mark Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament. They tee off at noon May 15 at Riverwood Golf Club in Clayton. The \$65 entry fee includes prizes and a grilled chicken meal after the play. Contact Wilson Ferrell at <wilson@riverplacelogistics.com> to details and entry forms. — *Wilson Ferrell*

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

GL drama in Big Sky Country

HELENA, MONTANA — On June 29 of last year, the grand master here fired the elected grand secretary following an innuendo campaign. During the following week, nine sitting masters filed charges against the grand master accusing him of abuse of his powers, violation of statutes, and unmasonic conduct. Pursuant to their regulations, a tribunal of five past grand masters was convened in August. Grand Master Thomas Duffy was found guilty on all counts

and removed from office August 10. The fired grand secretary was restored to office.

Incoming Grand Master Thom Chisholm, in a message to his membership regarding the trauma, said, "I keep considering how profitable it would be for Montana Masonry if we approached increasing our membership with the same amount of zeal we have put forth in the amount of time and energy expended in the previous two months." — *The Montana Freemason*

Academic bowls

ILLINOIS — The 29th Annual Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl took place in 2012, as a grand lodge program for getting local lodges more involved in their communities.

Sectional Tournaments were held at 26 sites across Illinois on February 18, and the State Tournament occurred in Springfield on March 3. Last year, 271 local high schools participated in the tournament.

Local lodges are encouraged to sponsor area high schools. Representatives of the lodges are urged to attend the tournaments. And this year, for the first time, young men and women from DeMolay, Jobs Daughters, and Rainbow Girls are providing assistance as part of their service projects for the grand lodge.

Monetary scholastic awards are given to winning schools at the different levels of competition.

According to Chairman Dale Thayer, the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl has become

known statewide as being very competitive and well operated. He says, "The Masons of Illinois can be very proud that they have had a part... to help with the scholastic achievements of many of our high school students." — *EMESSAY Notes*

Middle school CPR training

WISCONSIN — Middle schoolers here are learning the art of saving lives thanks to a partnership of the Wisconsin Masonic Foundation Medical Fund and the American Heart Association. The groups are placing CPR Anytime Kits in middle schools around the state. The kits give programmed teaching of CPR life saving to kids. The Foundation provides matching funds for lodges to place the kits in their neighborhood schools. — *Wisconsin Masonic Journal*

Oregon outdoor degree

FALLS CITY, OREGON — The Salem-Keizer Outdoor Communication celebrated its 67th anniversary last summer. The degree is held each July in an acacia grove on the Jack Turner Ranch. The first section of the third degree is

held before dinner. During the break before the second section, a special ceremony is held for the burning of aprons belonging to brothers who passed away during the previous year.

— *Oregon Masonic News*

GRIMESLAND, from page 1

couple of widows, responded with a pledge.

Grimesland Lodge Master Mickey Bullock says, "We've got these young guys coming up who want to be connected to the history of this lodge. When this generation leaves here, this

lodge is going to be set! We haven't had the first negative comment."

Work, as you can see, has already begun. The lodge room is getting the first attention. Work should be completed in a few months.



Oxford Lodge is community active

OXFORD — Members of Oxford Lodge 122 have been busy giving back in their local community.

One member of the lodge, a certified corporate chef, is teaching a basic culinary class to the children at the Masonic Home for Children free of charge. The class covers basic sanitation essentials and preparation of several simple dishes.

Another member gave a drug prevention seminar to the kids in grades Kindergarten through eighth grade in local schools. The seminar covered the importance of choices and consequences, ways to spot substance abuse, the effects of addiction, and how to get help for addiction. At the end of the seminar, the lodge donated drug prevention materials and resources to the school to continue to help educate the students, staff and parents about addiction. One of the schools where the drug presentation was held, West Oxford Elementary School, presents the Masonic Golden Owl Award, a merit achievement award, sponsored by the lodge. Each quarter, they recognize good students who are a positive influence in and out of the class room.

On October 31, the lodge set up a booth to participate in the Oxford's Downtown Trick or Treating event. Several members had fun with the little ghouls, goblins, princesses, and superheroes as they handed out candy. They also used this event to interact in the community and had an opportunity to represent the Craft in a positive manner.



Oxford 122 also supports the local Thanksgiving Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk event that helps support the local food bank and is a regular participant in the annual Christmas Parade. — Rich Weaver



Bula turns 125

By Alvin Billings

BURLINGTON — Bula 409 was chartered here January 11, 1888. To commemorate their 125th anniversary, they held a special dinner and program at their January 28 stated communication. Grand Master Dewey R. Preslar Jr. attended. Other special guests included Grand Marshal Speed Hallman, Past Grand Master Dan Rice, 22nd District Deputy Grand Master Don Kehler, 22nd District Deputy Grand Lecturer Dwight Crews, Thomas M. Holt 492 Master Ray Bentch, and Bingham 272 Master Jim Sykes. Local officials attending included State Senator Rick Gunn, Burlington Mayor Ronnie K. Wall, Councilman Robert Ward, and other city officials.

After a sumptuous dinner provided by Junior Warden Greg LaRocco, lodge was opened and Grand Master Dewey R. Preslar Jr. was received and escorted to the East. Labor was dispensed with, and visitors were admitted.

Mayor Wall read a proclamation making January 28, 2013, Bula Lodge 409 day. The lodge presented awards to city officials Rachel Hawley and Renee Ward for their help in the city's recognition of the lodge. Jack Bell shared his historical account of Bula Lodge and presented the lodge with a book he had compiled of that history. Grand Master Preslar presented a lodge recognition to Bell for his extensive historical work and then addressed the gathering.

Alvin Billings is master of Bula 409.

Adoniram shares a treasure



CORNWALL — Late last year, a cleaning/exploring team poked into a previously unnoticed, invisible corner of Adoniram 149 and made a discovery. It was a book, in rough shape, but considering it was 150 years old, a treasure all the same.

Jeremy Cross's *True Masonic Chart or Hieroglyphic Monitor* was a popular book for lodges during the mid-19th century. A modification with illustrations of Thomas Smith Webb's famous guides to Masonic ritual, Cross's book was a way for lodges in days of difficult travel and poor communication to improve and standardize their Masonic ritual.

Adoniram Lodge wanted to share their find, so they donated it to the Grand Lodge Library. On one of his last trips as grand master, Bob Gresham visited the lodge in Granville County to accept the volume. Seen here, from left, are Adoniram members Woody Freeze, Tommy Winston, GM Gresham, Dave Winston, Jeremy Vargo, and Ben Neal.

JOURNEY, from page 8

Care Solutions, and MHCO as we plan to establish a Family Resource Center. The services will focus on community needs and the needs of the residents. Our goal is to incorporate programs and services that can be utilized by families and children already associated with the Home and extend these services into the community. Programs and services will likely relate to individual, family, and group counseling; school support systems and training for families; parenting education; and networking for additional services. In extending program offerings, it is anticipated that MHCO will become a more likely referral source for residents; deflect children from requiring residential services; and provide support services for children and youth returning home or transitioning to other living arrangements.

While these are significant steps, they are only the first in our journey. The Board of Directors has reestablished a Vision Committee to explore possible options, develop resources, and guide implementation and continual per-

formance improvements for programming. Our path will not lead full circle to where the Home once was, however, key elements such as vocational education and academic emphasis will be stressed. In addition, plans to provide residential care for hundreds of children seem unlikely at this point. I believe we will be able to work with many more children, but the programs and services will likely extend out to meet those in need.

In addition, I would like to say thank you to the Masonic Brotherhood for continuing to support the children in so many ways. Your gifts, your commitment, your prayers and words of encouragement make the difference and help engage these children to be open to life at the Home and to a future of hope.

Thank you for walking alongside the children, families, staff and other stakeholders as we work together to make the Home even more vibrant and available.

Kevin Otis, by the time you read this, is an Entered Apprentice in Oxford 122.

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

3..... Jackson, Jesse Lewis
 3..... Lawhorn, Matthew Dixon
 45..... Hart, Jason Edward
 45..... Hayes, Daniel Ray
 45..... Isley, James William
 45..... Lowe, Roger Keith
 53..... Edmondson, Thomas Albert
 53..... Wood, Robert Brian
 81..... Kirk, Richard Bryant
 81..... Meadows Jr., James Manley
 81..... Pacilli, Brian John
 81..... Pike, Timothy Ray
 81..... Wineman, Matthew James
 83..... Ponce de Leon, Manuel Jose
 98..... Kosterman, Stephen Frank
 98..... Matthis, Stephen Christopher
 98..... Sutton, William Kenneth
 98..... Thornton, Michael Wayne
 99..... Therecka, Arturo
 102..... Croall, Thomas Benedict
 102..... Rohaly, Gregory David
 106..... Turpin, Joshua Travis
 113..... Lieske Jr., James Michael
 114..... Townsend Jr., William Crawford
 114..... Woodard Jr., Lewis Aaron
 125..... Britt, Andy Wayne
 127..... Smith Jr., Robert Lee
 127..... King, Christopher Todd
 132..... Harper, Ronald Travis
 137..... Barkley, Chance Dale
 137..... Franklin, Phillip Alexander
 138..... White, Jeffrey Dean
 143..... Ryan III, Bernard Allen
 143..... Cheek, Charles Lee
 146..... Chambers, Bedford Lee
 146..... Doster, Jacob Keith
 146..... Nicholson, Timothy Lynn
 146..... Smith, Steven Tyler
 146..... Veroline, Randy
 147..... Jackson III, Aaron Hugh
 151..... McDowell Jr., John Douglas
 151..... Shytle, Douglas Todd
 154..... Kempley, Jason Melton
 154..... Lingle, Cory Nelson
 165..... Eatman, Max Otto
 172..... Brafford, Travis Cameron
 176..... Gillespie, James Steven
 181..... Myers, Robert Wayne
 188..... Gray, Max Dixon

191..... McDermott, Hasten Donnell
 198..... King, Theodore Lee Neile
 198..... Krist, Timothy Lamont
 198..... McDonald Jr., Terrance Joseph
 198..... Robinson, Owen
 198..... Stewart, David Lloyd
 202..... Treadway II, Raymond Woodrow
 230..... Price, Bradford Allen
 237..... Panou, Antonios K.
 237..... Stanley, Garrett Cole
 237..... Feagan, Ethan Michael
 253..... Barr II, Chris Allan
 253..... Brown, Daniel Logan
 253..... Elder, Anthony Joseph
 253..... Mundy, Kevin Lynn
 259..... Wingate, Kaleb Daniel
 261..... Molyneaux, Michael Paul
 261..... Naso, Christopher Joseph
 261..... Oliver Jr., Thomas Martin
 261..... Williamson Jr., Gregory Alan
 262..... Bolick, Douglas Wayne
 262..... Woodruff, Brent Wayne
 263..... Hyman, James Keith
 263..... Ross II, George Elliott
 267..... Hires, Paul Lynwood
 267..... McCall, Chris Jiles
 271..... Blankenship II, Doye Lee
 271..... McLain, Jessie Ruben
 271..... Wilson, Eddie Albert
 272..... Shatterly, Gregory Dale
 289..... Coffey, James Brian
 289..... Harper, Kenneth Gray
 296..... Pierce, Delano Franklin
 301..... Evans, Phillip C.
 301..... Grishaber, Glen Patrick
 302..... Lau II, Brandon Fook Yuen
 302..... Tobler, Michael Edward
 304..... Grice Jr., Spillman Wadsworth
 306..... Herrera, Cesar
 317..... Marriner, Corey James
 331..... Carey, Roy Alan
 340..... Carcirieri, Michael Patrick
 340..... Powers, Michael Jareth
 343..... Jarrell, Ricky A.
 343..... Mastrovito, Paul Anthony
 343..... Waters, Brian Michael
 352..... Bryant, Kevin Nathaniel
 356..... Fox, Dalton Keith
 358..... Cherry, Helmut Gene

363..... Gasperson II, Jerry Marshall
 369..... Wall, Ricky Dean
 374..... Anderson, Dan Scott
 374..... Nicholson Jr., Tommy Lynn
 375..... Lee, Aaron Paxton
 375..... Morris, Robert Keith
 375..... Hodges, Wilbert Charles
 377..... Jordan, Scotty Wade
 377..... Lewis, Daniel Jack
 377..... Mooney, Dean Harold
 379..... Faircloth, Jason Michael
 387..... Brady, Frank Thomas
 387..... Frazier, Ronald Allen
 388..... Greene, Eric Gantt
 391..... Noack, Michael Steven
 391..... Lacy, Michael W.
 391..... Richardson, Christopher Shane
 395..... Bowman, Larry Wayne
 395..... Sykes, William Toby
 401..... Mason, Samuel Lee
 404..... Cassar, Aladino Carlo
 404..... Miles, Daniel Lee
 404..... Parker, Jason Lee
 405..... Everette, Spencer Allen
 405..... Turner, James Michael
 413..... May, Jeremy Richard
 428..... Tinch, Duane Thomas
 429..... Partington, William Scott
 434..... Bengel, Merideth Davis
 437..... Waln, David Allen
 454..... Pardue, Ryan Lee
 454..... Kennedy, Christopher Charles
 460..... Buff, Joe Stephen
 460..... Millwood, Joseph Franklin
 471..... Ireland, Eric Mitchell
 472..... Trull, Terry Lindsey
 473..... Fulbright, William Harvey
 479..... Ballance, Thomas Wesley
 484..... Hill, Edward Terral
 491..... Lance II, Thomas Walter
 491..... Miller, Christopher Patton
 496..... Blair, Jason Emmett
 498..... Bodway, Tod Howard
 498..... Shue, Andrew Phillip
 499..... Lounsberry, Ryan Peter
 500..... Baldwin, Carl Randall
 500..... Miller Jr., David Putnam
 500..... Prouse, Mark Anthony
 500..... Thompson, Ethan Hayward
 505..... Yount, Peter Edward

505..... Eaker, Devin Keith
 505..... Hutchinson, Jason Bradley
 528..... Blount, Jerry Vance
 528..... Page, Jamie Wayne
 532..... Hall, Matthew Jonathon
 542..... Lawrence, Jeffrey Allen
 552..... Whitley, Michael Roy
 556..... Ennis, Robert Alton
 556..... Kelly, Joel Daniel
 561..... Davis, Ezekiel Shannon
 562..... King, Rangeley Beau
 562..... Perez, Ramon Aaron
 564..... Tilus, Michael David
 568..... Garrett, Timothy Edward
 573..... Eller, William Bradly
 576..... Hammill, Jesse Thomas
 576..... Wallin Jr., William Clark
 579..... Gee, John Martin
 584..... Saraga Jr., Emil Michael
 592..... Jones Jr., Claybourne Brooks
 593..... Goodson, Richard Allen
 602..... Flowers, Gregory Neil
 602..... Matthews, Cameron James
 602..... Denton, Charles Allen
 602..... Morris, Tony Marcus
 602..... Mullen, Joshua Reed
 602..... Severini, Billie Joel
 609..... Studebaker, Bradley Dean
 617..... Demarest, Thomas Andrew
 617..... Evans, Brent Wayne
 626..... Dixon, David Miller
 626..... Muller, Joshua Robert
 626..... Teal, Tracy Lynn
 646..... Wallace, Anthony Shawn
 646..... Wright, Alfred Raymond
 646..... Smith II, James Graham
 646..... Buchanan, Andrew Franklin
 656..... Hudson, William Maurice
 657..... Graham, Derek Scott
 657..... Pierce, Ronald Michael
 657..... Ritchie, Kenneth Brown
 657..... Small, Kenneth Lee
 658..... Corley, Charles Edward
 663..... Craig, Christopher Bradley
 669..... Walker, Matthew Steven
 670..... Branch, Michael Weston
 670..... Brown, Nathan Todd
 670..... Treadway, Craig Nathan
 670..... Auton, Matthew Aaron

670..... Branch Jr., Phillip Allan
 674..... Kiser, James Boyd
 680..... Caldwell, Junior Jason
 680..... Garoutte, Tyrel Cade
 680..... Power, Gregory Wayne
 680..... Saenz, Antonio Rafael
 683..... Meador, James Andrew
 686..... Thomas, Cole Gray
 686..... Thomas, Shane Gray
 688..... Berdan, Lawrence August
 688..... Cole IV, Carl Henry
 690..... Just, Craig Martin
 693..... Dawi, Brian Gavin
 694..... Styles, David Gene
 694..... Kelley, Patrick Ryan
 699..... Safritz, Harry Lee
 704..... Greene, Jonathon Scott
 705..... Flanagan Jr., Larry Allen
 705..... Medlin, Grayland Perry
 708..... Johnson, Ronald Scott
 714..... Campbell, Joe Leroy
 714..... Johnson, Jerry Leon
 714..... Trull, William Edward
 717..... Thomas, Emery Norman
 720..... McEachern, Christopher Alexander
 720..... O'Dell, Mark Peter
 724..... York, Adam Tyler
 727..... Ferguson, Jeremy Paul
 727..... Hall, Thomas Lee
 730..... Lambert, Anthony Elton
 734..... Leggett, Adam Keith
 734..... Rose III, James Robert
 734..... Shultis Jr., Victor Eugene
 734..... Townsend Jr., Michael Lee
 734..... Hewitt, Christopher Alan
 736..... Losey, Brian Todd
 737..... Carp, Grigore
 737..... Ledford, Mark Lee
 742..... Dalton, Delmas Bruce
 742..... Faires, Jacob Charles
 745..... Johnson, Joshua Michael
 749..... Aldridge, Dustin Wayne
 749..... Aldridge, Michael Wayne
 751..... Moody, William Edward
 755..... Brendle, Josh Lee
 755..... Moore, William Archie
 757..... Gabriel, Michael Neil
 759..... Miles, Trevor Taylor
 765..... Rock III, David Andrew



Santa visits Spencer

SPENCER — Santa visited Spencer 543 December 8. Members were urged to, "Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews to this fun event, and tell Santa what they want for Christmas." They had refreshments and collected for Toys for Tots. They hold the fun event annually.
—Woody Weddington and Johnny Hatley

Santa's helpers in Pilot Mountain

Editor's note: Pilot Lodge 493 Secretary Bert Meijboom recently sent out the following message to his lodge members regarding the then ongoing delivery of holiday fruit baskets.

PILOT MOUNTAIN — Indeed, there were some more basket cases on the road; no, not the procrastinating late shoppers at Walmart, Belk, and other places (bless their hearts), but three little elves (well, little...) seen at right.

Up, up, and away they went, full of the Christmas spirit (it was too early for the 'other spirit', although cold enough), delivering the remainder of the fruit baskets to widows of Masons and shut-in Masonic brethren.

Of the total of 21 baskets, we delivered 13 today. We being, from left, J. T. Shelton, Rick Smith, and Bert Meijboom, as Dickie's boss did not give him off today to continue his ride. A shame.

Anyway, we delivered and/or left fruit baskets on doorsteps of Norma Boaz (thank you for the delicious cookies (yes, we accept bribes)), Ginny Fulk (where Bert scared her peeking through the window with his Santa hat), Barbara Jessup, Marjorie Matthews (where her cat tried to taste Bert, licking that is), Betty Smith, Eleanor Stone, Gayle Vaughn, Peggy Sparger, Roseanne Bulling-

ton, Bill Hanner, Arthur Weller, Ted Johnson, and Tom Kranking. Guys, the ones who did not come to help delivering missed out (again); it is a season of GIVING! Unless you have tried it, you don't know what you missed! Notwithstanding a very Merry Christmas!

Fraternal Greetings
Bert Meijboom



MILEPOSTS



GATESVILLE — On February 7, Gatesville 126 presented Cecil Taylor his Diamond Jubilee honoring his 60 years as a Mason. Taylor joined in Virginia, but moved his membership to Gatesville when he came home in 1967. Friends from Virginia joined their brothers in Gatesville for the presentation. Seen, from left, are Ben Stallings, Fifth District Deputy Grand Lecturer Jim Sanderlin, Taylor, Elmer "Bean" Butt, and Taylor's nephew John Carter.



FAYETTEVILLE — On November 11, Andy Drenkhahn, left, and Marvin Asbill, right, received Veteran's Emblems for their 50 years membership. The Clifford Duell 756 members are seen here with lodge Master Albert Tanzilo.
— Marvin Asbill



NEW BERN — Douglas Edwards, left, was recently presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years in the lodge. Edwards was treasurer of Grantham 725 for 41 years before stepping down just a couple of years ago. Grantham Secretary George Herring is seen here presenting the award.
—George Herring

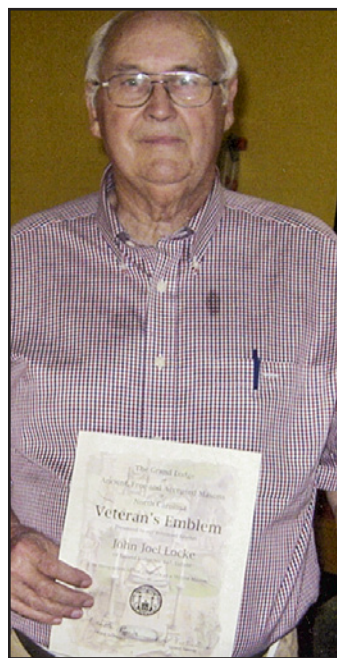
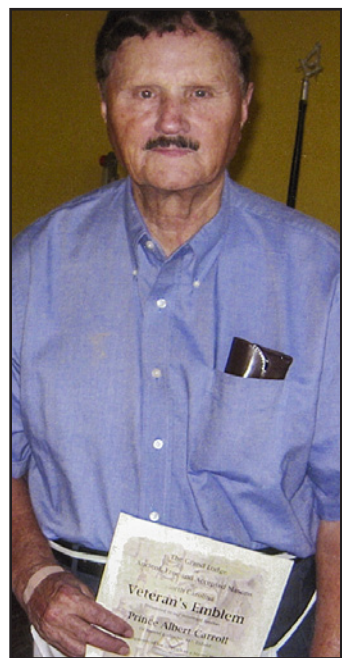
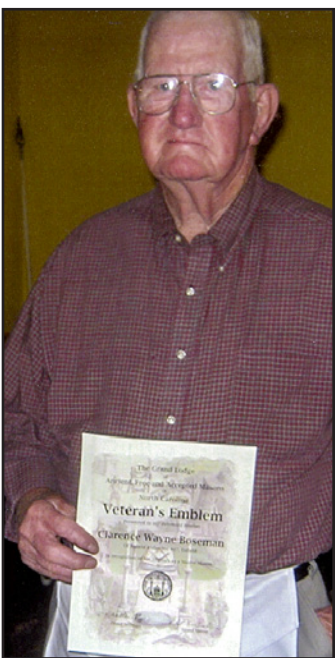


KINSTON — St. John's 4 member Bryant Dawson, right, recently got his Veteran's Emblem saluting his 50 years as a Mason. Past Master Ken Tyndall is seen here presenting the award.
— Danny Davis



SWANSBORO — Seaside 429's William Thacker, right, recently received his Veteran's Emblem celebrating his 50 years of Masonic membership. Fourth District Deputy Grand Master Loren Jones, left, presented the award.
— Greg Padgett

BOONE — Several members of Snow 363 recently visited their brother D.T. Brown at his retirement home to present him his Diamond Jubilee celebrating his 60 years Masonic membership. Brown served the lodge as master in 1962.
— Aaron Whitener



SWANSBORO — David Holland, right, of Seaside 429, was recently presented his Diamond Jubilee by Past Grand Master Leonard Safrit, left. The award recognizes 60 years Masonic membership.
— Greg Padgett

ENFIELD — Enfield 447 enjoyed moving back into their old building last year. On moving back, they presented several service awards. Veteran's Emblems for 50 years membership went to Harvey Lawrence Armstrong (right), Clarence Wayne Boseman (above left), Prince Albert Carroll (above center), and John Joel Locke (above right). Jules Kluger earned his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership, but was unable to attend.
— James Whitley



SOUTHPORT — During its Annual Widows Appreciation and Masonic Awards Dinner November 17, Pythagoras 249 presented Veteran's Emblems to four of their brothers. The newly honored 50-year Masons are, from the left, Ivey Gaskill, Roy Daniel, Robert P. Robinson, and Ozen Carrier.
— Jim Griffith



Ric Carter photo

GL Museum receives gifts

RALEIGH — Bill Chancellor, a member of White Stone 155, recently visited the Grand Lodge headquarters to bring gifts for the Grand Lodge Museum. He delivered three of his treasures. There is an engraved silver apron tube containing a lambskin apron. There were also two pieces of hand-woodwork associated with Chancellor's old friend Elmer Burroughs, a well-known member of Doric 568 in New Bern. Elmer was known for his skills in woodworking, gifts of which can be seen in many lodges throughout the country. Chancellor also brought a presentation gavel Burroughs made for Johnny West (Doric 568) in 1981. There is also a magnificent cane hand made for Burroughs by Ferdinand Stewart Jr. in 1989. The pieces are currently on display in the newly restored lobby of the Grand Lodge.



Phoenix 8 hosts PHA visitors

FAYETTEVILLE — Interjurisdictional visitation has become popular in the Fayetteville area. AF & AM lodges and Prince Hall lodges have shared in a number of events both private and public. Phoenix 8 hosted a second degree on January 29. What a great turn out — 28 AF & AM Brothers and 22 Prince Hall Affiliation Brothers gathered to see and assist the candidates advance their Masonic careers. Lodge Master Micheal Dodson reported, "It was a great night and an enjoyable time well spent." Phoenix Lodge, one of North Carolina's oldest, has become a state leader in Masonic diversity. — Micheal Dodson

Our Journey Begins

By Masonic Home for Children Administrator Kevin Otis

The seven months I have been at the Home have felt like seven years and the blink of an eye, dependent on the issues the day has brought. Your Home has a very active schedule and an extremely dedicated, hardworking staff. While we have continued to witness a revolving door of children and youth, at the time of this writing MHCO is home to fifty-seven children. This is the largest census in the past year. We are extremely pleased to see the population increase so more children and youth can experience the loving care and be taught skills to prepare them for a more successful life. Currently we have a shortage of house parents. We would be able to consider more referrals if we had an additional set of house parents. If you know of a couple you think would be appropriate, please encourage them to contact Kristin Morris at (919) 603-3905.

Being the beginning of a new year, I believe it is appropriate to shed some light on the path we are preparing to walk down together. Our immediate goal is to increase the population and utilize the current, wonderful resources available at the Home. In reaching this goal, the administrative team in conjunction with the Board has established a marketing plan to better inform the communities regarding the availability of services at the Home. These marketing links will be crucial for announcing events and needs, augmenting programs, and bringing those in need to the various services and programs as they are developed. The best marketing concept I believe is the success of the children and youth currently placed at the Home. Their successes in school, employment, and family show everyone the importance of the "family" associated with the Home. Their success demonstrates how children faced with challenges, often out of their control, can overcome with the genuine care of others; whether house parents, staff, alumni, peers, Masons, donors, or their families. Together we provide an extended family that communicates a sense of care and belonging that is so crucial to the development of children.

The next phase of our plan involves the development of additional services and programs to enhance the experience of current residents and provide various program options for others. This year we will begin by adding a vocational counselor mid-year. This role will help seek em-

ployment opportunities in the community. Connecting our youth with volunteer experiences will also be an option to give a sense of giving back and understanding the responsibility associated with a work assignment. In addition, the vocational counselor will support independent living skill development associated with employability skills, budgeting, and maintaining a positive working relationship. Additional life skill preparation will be incorporated using the Ansel-Casey Life Skill Assessment tool; development of an action plan based on the assessment; and utilization of learning materials provided by the Casey Foundation. These resources are available at no cost due to the Casey Foundation and available to all organizations. The vocational counselor will continue to cultivate employment opportunities and be a liaison for youth to support continued employment and recommend appropriate job assignments.

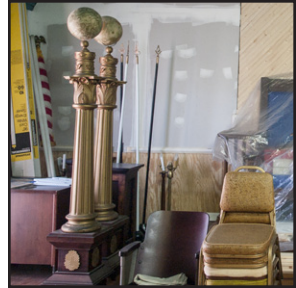
We plan to expand the involvement of residents within the School of Graphic Arts and have made strides in this area already. The School of Graphic Arts and Print Shop are extraordinary assets which have provided a keen education for alumni to further their careers, open businesses, and succeed in printing and other ventures. We expect to develop additional vocational enterprises over time to allow other opportunities for residents to learn how to be successful employees. In discussing the benefits of some of the ideas, Chairman Dan Rice helped put significant perspective on our future plans. I was energized in thinking that some of our potential plans would be prudent for residents becoming successful in working in similar occupations anywhere in the country. Chairman Rice clarified my perspective by suggesting, "What we want to do is teach the residents not only how to be good employees, but how to start their own similar business in the future." Certainly, we want our residents to have the capacity to become pioneers and entrepreneurs of businesses in their future, and Dan's frame is instrumental in defining our curriculum and path as we develop.

Future program developments will begin with the collaborative efforts of DSS, Granville County Schools, Cardinal Innovations Health

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In this issue of The NC Mason

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Grimesland Lodge is renovating



page 1

NC Mason runs his own Sandy relief



page 3

Masonic happenings around the Tar Heel State

On the cover

Much of the furniture in Grimesland 475 has been moved and covered to make way for backward progress, restoring the lodge's former beauty. Ric Carter photo

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Local Mason makes post-Sandy mercy run

Saving some history down East

MAR/APR 2013