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NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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Fifty years of fish in Roxboro

By Anderson White

ROXBORO — Shortly after Person 113 moved into its newly completed temple in 1964, the members sold plates of fried fish as a way of raising money for the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford and WhiteStone, the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro. The next year they did the same thing. And the next — and the next. They plowed some funds back into their cooking equipment and supplies. Thus began a partnership of Person Lodge and their community that has endured and grown for 50 years.

Early on Friday, May 2, with temperatures in the 50s, a crew of lodge members, their families, and community volunteers began lighting burners, preparing flounder, stirring hush puppy batter, and packing cole slaw cups. Just a couple of hours later with opening time approaching, a light breeze carried tantalizing aromas from the outdoor cooking pavilion throughout the grounds as workers toted large trays of sizzling flounder and hush puppies to the dining room and shuttled packaged to-go dinners to the road crew in front of the temple.

At 11:00 A.M., cars that had queued on Leasburg Road began moving, and diners in a growing line waiting for the doors to open took their seats in the dining room. The Annual Fish Fry had begun — for the 50th time.

Planning began in January when new officers assumed their stations, and the lodge's yearly calendar took shape. The prices of quality flounder filets as well as cooking oil and propane vary from year to year, and lately, the trend has been up. "Unless there's a last-minute price change from our vendors, we know the cost of a plate of fish and trimmings almost down to the dime," said Michael Day, senior warden of Person Lodge. "That lets us set the ticket price early so we can go forward with our advertising and get tickets printed. Our goals are to sell a fish dinner that's a good value for our friends in the community and still lets us maintain our level of giving to the Masonic Charities."

"The Roxboro and Person County commuas well as our Eastern Star really does



muy

see FISH, page 4

THE BOTTOM LINE



Charity extends beyond the grave

By Dalton W. Mayo Grand Master

On May 9, a group of us visited God's Half Acre following the quarterly board meeting of the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. God's Half Acre is a cemetery on the campus primarily for

children who died while a resident of what has been variously known under such names as asylum, orphanage, or children's home. These graves go back to the latter part of the 1800s. Some cannot be identified. When you go to this place, you cannot help but feel that you are on hallowed ground.

Most of us have never visited a children's cemetery. For some in our group on that Friday afternoon, it was their first time. We could not help but think about the circumstances that brought each child to us, what malady had taken their young lives, and how they came to rest in this small cemetery rather than nearer to their place of birth. The purpose of our visit on this occasion was to see the improvements that had been made to the cemetery, including the addition of a new fence surrounding it. Although they are not seeking recognition, I do want to tell you that Past Grand Master and Mrs. Dewey Preslar are the donors of the fence. If you don't already know, they have a very special place in their hearts for our Home for Children.

Although there is little that we can do for those children now, we can provide them a place to rest in peace, protected from the interruption of unwelcome intruders. But, there is much we can do for those who are presently in our care. My thanks go to all the lodges and individuals who give of their resources and continue to make the Masonic Home for Children a place of refuge for those who are not as fortunate as we may have been. If you have not been to our home in Oxford, trator, his assistant Brother Chris Richardson, and the entire staff have made it a wonderful place to live and to visit. It will make you proud to be a Mason.

We now turn our attention to WhiteStone, our Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro. WhiteStone turned 100 years old last year. It has been substantially renovated and now is a true showplace. The next time you are in the area, please stop by and take a look around. It will give you a wonderful feeling to see what your donations are supporting.

Historically, it was our intention to admit only those residents who had Masonic connections. We were able to make this model work until about eight years ago when we ran into severe funding problems and almost lost our home. When you admit someone into our home and promise them a lifetime of care regardless of their ability to pay, you have done a wonderful thing, but it has to be paid for. We reached the point that our income was not sufficient to do this, and we either had to change our way of doing business or we had to shut our doors. By admitting those who were able to pay, regardless of whether they had Masonic affiliations or not, we were able to cover our bills and keep our home in operation. This was a drastic move, but I hope you understand that it was absolutely necessary.

We have about 45 residents with Masonic connections who were admitted to WhiteStone over the years whose expenses are being supplemented or completely paid for by your donations. When you plan your charitable fundraisers or personal donations, please keep these residents in mind. They are still depending on us to maintain the level of support we promised when they entered our home. Brother Mark Kolada, administrator of WhiteStone, told us about the late Mable Baker when he made his report at our district meetings. Mrs. Baker was one our residents that we supported during the thirteen years she spent at the home. She kept

please make it a point to go. Brother Kevin Otis, adminis- a diary in which she disclosed that she never imagined she would be able to live at such a place as WhiteStone. It was a dream come true for her and she was full of gratitude to us for making her stay at such a wonderful place possible. There are more Mable Bakers out there who need our support and who are depending on us to make it possible to spend their last years in dignity and security. We ought not to forget them.

> I am happy to tell you that, thanks to the hard work of Brother Mark Kolada and his staff, and Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan, chairman of the Board at WhiteStone and his dedicated board members, we have reached the point that we can accept a limited number of residents with Masonic connections who cannot afford to pay the full costs of living there. We are hoping that this is just the beginning of our return to those days when charity was our byword. To make this dream a reality, a foundation has been established called the Masonic and Eastern Star Home LLC. Donations to this foundation made out to MESH Foundation LLC will guarantee that these funds will go to support only Masonically connected residents.

> Our third charity, the Masonic Foundation, doesn't get much publicity, but it is doing a wonderful job of supporting our other two charities. Its annual contributions to each of them are made possible by earnings on investments and by your donations. I cannot overstate what a great job the Masonic Foundation has done for us over the years. I'm using this public forum to offer my sincere thanks to the members of the Foundation Board for all they do to support Masonic charity in North Carolina. My thanks also go out to all of you who remember the foundation when you distribute your charitable donations.

> In closing, I leave you with this quote from Albert Pike, who many of you recognize as a famous Masonic scholar: "What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal."

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Underwood joining **Grand Lodge team**

RALEIGH — Jonathan Underwood has media. He will be spending much more time been named assistant to Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III. He began work June 1.

Underwood was born November 27, 1980 to Dr. and Mrs. Steven Forrest Underwood in Sanford. He is married to Jennifer Buckner Underwood. They have two daughters, Ali three years old and Anna six months.

Underwood attended Lee County Schools. He received history degrees from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (bachelors) and North Carolina State University (masters).

He comes to the Grand Lodge after eight years as director of the Stanley County Museum in Albemarle. He took his degrees in Albemarle 703 in 2009 where he is currently junior warden. He is also a member of Wilkerson College 760. He served on the Grand Lodge 225th Anniversary Committee and is chairman of the Grand Lodge Library Committee and Committee on Unfinished Business.

Grand Secretary Clapp says, "Jonathan is a quick learner and already has a good grasp of how Masonry works. He's good with people. He's going to be a real asset to the office. We're especially looking forward to using his skills to bring our Grand Lodge Library and Museum along to next level."

Ric Carter is retiring from his position as assistant, but will continue to edit The North Carolina Mason and manage Grand Lodge with his recently retired wife Kitty in their creekside home in Washington, NC.

Carter says, "Walt has found a really great young man to come in here to help him. People are going to enjoy Jonathan. I have so much appreciation for the relationships I've developed working in the office, and I'm sure I'm going to miss the encounters there. I really think Jonathan will enjoy them as much as I have, and so will those who call in daily for help."

"As for me, I'll be chasing some photographic projects, and I've already told Kitty that I want a lifetime hunting/fishing license for my 65th in October."

It Will Pass

An Entered Apprentice was waiting to enter the lodge. He sat down with the Tiler and said, "My life is in chaos! I feel so distracted, I cannot concentrate on my questions and answers, and I'm so tired that I keep falling asleep in lodge. This is just horrible! What shall I do?"

"It will pass," the Tiler said matter-of-factly. At the next lodge meeting, the EA came back

to the Tiler. "You were right! Everything is great now! My life is in order once again, I can focus on the questions and answers, and I'm not too tired to pay attention in lodge."

"It will pass," the Tiler said matter-of-factly. — Zen Masonry



Howard awarded Montfort

Coharie 379 is the latest recipient of North Carolina's highest Masonic award, the Joseph Montfort Medal. Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo made the presentation May 21 at his final district meeting. According to Grand Master Mayo, "Craig is very knowledgeable about Masonic ritual and could always be counted on to fill most any part of the degree work. He is a man with a kind and generous heart and is highly respected by all who know him. He was an obvious choice for the Joseph Montfort Medal, and his

CLINTON - Edwin Craig Howard of brethren have expressed great satisfaction that he has received this well-deserved recognition."

Howard, a 50-plus-year Mason, was district deputy grand master of the old 15th District 1987-1990. He served on the Grand Lodge Finance Committee 2005-2008. He and his wife Sarah reside in Salemburg.

The Montfort Medal is the highest honor presented by our Grand Lodge. It is given for "distinguished Masonic service or achievement." A grand master may present only three during his tenure.

I. JONES

Grand Lodge scholars announced

RALEIGH — The Grand Lodge awarded eight scholarships this year. The \$1,000 scholarships go to North Carolina high school seniors who are college bound. The selection committee commented on the large number of outstanding candidates. If you want to feel good about our future and our young people, just talk to members of the committee that chooses the winners of these scholarships.

This year's awardees are Alaina B Dennis, Statesville, North Iredell High School; Haley C. Shore, Landis, South Rowan High School; Alexander J. M. Anderson, Burlington, Walter Williams High School; Nicolas C. Munsen, Raleigh, NC School of Science and Math; Tyler C. Forrister, Murphy, Hiwassee Dam High School; Peyton L. Hartis, Leland, North Brunswick High School; Zoë L. Huppert, Ocracoke, Ocracoke School; Rachel S. Lempp, Greensboro, Ragsdale High School.

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.

House Parents Needed

By Kevin Otis

OXFORD - The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford is currently home to fifty-six children and youth. Their care and development needs are fulfilled by the dedication of house parent couples. House parents make sure the children are ready for their structured day; whether it is a school day, they have chores or homework, or it is a day filled with activities to help them learn and grow. MHCO is in need of house parent couples to become employees and begin a wonderful career of providing for children in a family centered model of care. In doing so, house parent couples prepare meals with the children's support, provide transportation needs, coordinate cottage schedules and activities, process events and incidents, and provide a model for being a family. Being a house parent couple takes a special commitment from families to open their lives and become part of a cottage family environment. The job requires both house parents to be MHCO employees, have at least a high school education, be twenty-one years of age, and possess a clean driving record. Both employees must complete a background check and drug screening. Both will receive a competitive wage based on experience and education. Benefits are included. Couples work approximately twenty days on and receive ten days off. Housing support is available. I cannot say what family system works best in this role. We have had young couples, mature couples with children, and retired couples all do a wonderful job and have fulfilling careers. I will say that this job works very well for the "right family, at the right time in their lives." It is a rewarding career to be able to say your job involved helping children have a chance at a better life. If you know someone who would be interested, please have them visit our website at <www.mhc-oxford.org> or email our HR coordinator at <lproctor@mhc-oxford.org>.



Jones is seen here, center, with PGM Jernigan, left, and GM Mayo, right.

WhiteStone names chapel for longtime friend

GREENSBORO - On Saturday, May 10, Tommy Jones, once WhiteStone administrator, joined an exclusive list of past grand masters, grand matrons, former administrators, long time board members, and donors who have had a building at the Masonic and Eastern Star community named in their honor. After his retirement, Jones dedicated much of his time to the Chapel while serving as the Home's chaplain. It was fitting that the historic worship center, built in 1941 with funds from the Eastern Star, be named the Tommy L. Jones Chapel. The naming ceremony capped off the community's Annual Family Day celebration and was attended by residents, family, staff, friends, board members, and neighbors. They came together to honor a man who has given so much to the community for over three decades.

Jones was one of five siblings born in a cotton mill village in Belmont, NC. Upon the death of his father in 1937, he along with two sisters moved to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. He and his sister, Edith, are the only surviving members of his immediate family.

After graduating from East Carolina University in 1958, he was employed by the Roanoke County School System in Roanoke, VA. For the next 23 years he served as coach, teacher, and principal. He got his master's degree from Radford University and continued studies toward a PhD at the University of Virginia.

During his time as a teacher, he married Jill Waldron Jones. They have a daughter, Laurie Anne Stanly, son-in-law Mark Stanly, and two grandchildren, Devin and Tessa.

In 1981, our Masonic and Eastern Star Home welcomed Tommy as administrator, where he was much loved and remained in the role for 13 years. He moved to the Masonic Home of Virginia in 1994 and became the administrator for the next six years. In 2002, the Masonic and Eastern Star Home welcomed Tommy back with open arms, this time as its chaplain, where he continues his faithful work to this day.

The naming ceremony celebrated Jones' life's work and tremendous impact on his beloved community in Greensboro. Executive Director Mark Kolada addressed the crowd. Other speakers thanking Jones included WhiteStone resident Martha Whitlock, resident Gene Lewellyn, Board Chairman PGM Gene Jernigan, and past Director of Nursing Ella Payne. Music was provided by resident Nancy Ghent. Brother Tommy was given a framed artist rendering of the chapel as well a replica of the naming plaque that now is prominently displayed on the front of the Chapel.

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

MHCO is a great place to be a kid and a great place to be an employee. Consider becoming part of our team.

Kevin Otis is administrator of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford and a member of Oxford 122.

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Clayton

Granite 191 was to hold their Barbecue Charity and Scholarship Fundraiser May 17. They were selling pulled pork for eight dollarsa-pound and whole Boston butts for \$25.

- David John Weaver

Greenville

William Pitt 734 sold pancakes and sausage in their May 7 fundraiser. Junior Warden John Harrelson led the cooking crew in this fifteenth year of the event. Four people attending expressed an interest in joining the lodge. The event brought their total donation to the charities this year to \$4,500, more than \$69 per member. — Tom Jones

Smithfield

Fellowship 84 held their annual pancake breakfast fundraiser March 29. To make sure everything was in impressive order, they held a clean up day March 15. - Grover Dees

Cary

April 11 was Spring Barbecue day at Cary 198. They cooked 1,500 pounds of pork shoulders. They netted more than \$3,800 for charity. - Benton W. Oakes Jr.

Candler

Hominy 491 held a pancake breakfast at a local restaurant on April 26. — Terry Gevedon

Marshal

French Broad 292 had attendees and helpers from seven lodges when they did a First Degree April 22. — Terry Gevedon

Greensboro

The 26th Masonic District's Arthur Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament was held May 17. The event to raise money for the Masonic Home for Children Scholarship Fund was held at Holly Ridge Golf Links in Archdale.

- Gary Ballance

Gate City 694 members joined Buddy Owens April 12 to help the gardening residents of WhiteStone. They moved dirt to garden beds so that plots were ready for planting.

On March 15, Gate City worked their adopta-street route and held a pancake supper to raise money for the Masonic Home for Children. Bacon, sausage, grits, and biscuits joined the all you can eat pancakes on the menu.

They are holding their Hot Dog and Hamburger Family Dinner June 7. They are also picking a date for their baseball night with the local minor league baseball game. — Gary Ballance

Guilford 656 honored US Representative Howard Coble with a special dinner April 12. They also used the buffet dinner and an auction as a fundraiser for the Masonic Home for Children. They were to present the inaugural Howard Coble Citizenship Award. — Jetze Bouma

They were making a major effort to update contact and military information of the — The Trestleboard lodge's members.

P. P. Turner 746 is trying to assemble a Third Degree Team composed of past masters of their lodge. - P. P. Turner Lodge

Youngsville

Youngsville 377 will sponsor the Eighth Annual Epp Catlett Memorial Golf Tournament September 30. They play at Old Liberty Golf and Country Club. Proceeds from their fundraisers go to the Masonic Homes as well as their \$1,000 scholarships for Franklin County students. — Dean Mooney

Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo was made an honorary member of Blue Ridge 435 in March.

On March 9, members of Blue Ridge Lodge visited a local retirement home to present William Creswell his Veteran's Emblem recognizing his 50 years in the lodge. — Dave Cashion

Gibsonville

Tabasco 271 held their annual Spring Pork Cooking April 11–12. They sold whole butts for \$25 and pints of chopped for seven dollars.

Their golf tournament was set for May 17 at Brookwood Golf Course.

Tabasco Lodge has proposed raising their dues over the next ten years to \$50 plus per capita. *— Trestle Board* and Jeff Cox

Charlotte

Master Kenny Barnette, of Charles M. Setzer 693, has stepped up the duties of his lodge committees to help streamline the business sessions of lodge meetings.

The kitchen improvements at Setzer Lodge are complete. The appliances are fresh, and there's plenty of workspace. They thanked Jack Stallings for his work on the tile floors, Eddie Wrenn for the appliance setup, Dale Bruck for cleaning, and Buddy Hopkins for his energy everywhere it was needed.

Setzer Lodge's Boston Butt Sale was set for May 3. — Trestleboard

Steele Creek 737 held their blood drive May 10 at the same time as their charity fish fry and — Bill Smith car show.

Temple 676 raised nearly \$3,000 for Patriot Rovers in their first ever Temple Lodge Charity Challenge, a marksmanship competition at Shooters Express in Belmont March 22. Patriot Rovers pairs rescue golden retrievers with veterans suffering from traumatic brain injury or post traumatic stress disorder. The lodge plans another Challenge June 14, this one for the benefit of WhiteStone's Masonic residents. Temple Lodge members took care of their adopted street March 9. They clean up a stretch — Temple Lodge along Randolph Road.

Pineville

James K. Polk 759 sponsored a blood drive March 22. They also held a community breakfast and a yard sale. Between the two, they made nearly \$1,800 for the Masonic Home for Children.

- Randy Richardson and Marc Whitman

Apex

Apex 584 is working hard at raising money for our charities this year. A charity dinner is set for June 14 at a Morrisville Italian restaurant. They are also conducting a rifle raffle (drawing in September). Each will divide proceeds evenly between the Home for Children and our residents at WhiteStone.

David Nyce has been carrying model airplanes and rockets to the Masonic Home for Children for the kids to enjoy and fly for a few years now. One of the ways he finances the project is with a rack of fishing lures he keeps at the lodge. Take a lure and leave a donation.

Cleveland

Scotch Ireland 154 has instituted study classes on first and third Tuesday evenings. Their study will be guided by the wants and needs of the attendees.

- Newsletter

The Statesville Masonic Temple Committee was holding a gun raffle for the benefit of White-Stone and the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. Four guns were being awarded. Only 400 tickets were to be sold at \$20 each.

Wendell 565 is taking member donations to derstanding the less familiar words used in our ritual, lodge etiquette, investigations, how to The November spaghetti dinner at Wenwelcome visitors, and differences to expect when dell Lodge brought in \$2,200. That brought you visit another lodge. their charity totals last year to \$3,251 to our April 17 was the date for the annual joint Home for Children, \$1,069 for WhiteStone, meeting they have with Bakersville 357. They

always enjoy a ramp supper together.

Spruce Pine

cational programs. Recent topics include un-

Vesper 554 holds excellent and regular edu-

Vesper's charity golf tournament is set for August 23. — Newsletter



District degree held in Greenville

— Let There Be Light

GREENVILLE — Six lodges from the Sixth Masonic District cooperated in a five-candidate Third Degree on March 22. Crown Point 708 hosted the degree with candidates from Bethel 589 and Ayden 498. Bethel Lodge's Kenneth Smith got to raise his son, Corey. Justin Robinson was master for the first section, and Dennis Campbell was King Solomon for the second section.

— Charles Summerlin

The lodge roof replacement fund is growing.

Scotch Ireland is again participating with Spencer 543's Back to School Pool Party. They gather school supplies for the kids at the Masonic Home for Children and throw a pool party on the day they deliver them.

Statesville

Highlands



TRAVELING THE

TAR HEEL STATE

NEWS FROM

North Carolina's

LODGES

By Ric Carter

put one in the lodge.

Wendell

ing defibrillators these days. They save lives.

Lots of places are adding easy operat-

Excelsior 261 held a fundraiser and blood drive March 17. – Temple Lodge

West Gate 738 held their Annual Past Masters' Degree April 7. They preceded their raising of two new Masons with a meal of their wellknown fried chicken. - News From the West

Derita 715 was having a historical program April 7. Stephen Campbell was telling them about Stonewall Jackson based on a biography called Savior of the Valley, A Mason's Orphan. Jackson's wife lived in Charlotte.

On the fundraising front, they were to hold their spring charity event April 18 for Masonic charities. They are planning to participate in a volunteer workday at Carowinds this summer. — Derita Lodge

Raleigh

William T. Bain 231 held their annual barbecued chicken fundraiser on April 11.

– Kevin Walton

James B. Green 735 organized a trip to Philadelphia May 2–4. They visited the beautiful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania headquarters with its spectacular lodge rooms. They visited a lodge on Friday night and took a tour of the city's Independence landmarks with Masonic ties. There was an opportunity for shopping also. They took a tour bus and invited other Masons from the 14th and 15th Masonic Districts to join them.

Green Lodge held their Spring Barbecue Fundraiser on April 11. The family ice cream socials they have had each year are returning in June, July, and August. — James B. Green Scene

Green Lodge made Luigi Ammons an honorary member March 25. — Scott Sholar — Trestleboard

Stedman

The Seventh Annual Jack Forbes Memorial Golf Tournament is set for June 7. Stedman 730 will sponsor the tournament at Lakewood Golf Course in Salemburg. — Ken Wical

King

Reading for Bikes is a program King 722 has recently adopted to improve the skills of the kids in their neighborhood schools. On dates in May and April, they sponsored electronic equipment recyclings. Money from the recycled items will help sponsor the program. — Paul Isaacson

Green Level

On April 1, Billy Upchurch, of Green Level 277, received his Diamond Jubilee honoring his 60 years as a Mason. — Stan Latta

Broadway

Friendship 763 was planning a Lodge Family Night for March 29 at a local restaurant.

They have also launched a new web site for the lodge. — Chris Tacia

Thomasville

Lodge Master Tony Downs reports that Thomasville 214's stew sale was "successful despite the weather."

They are currently planning a corn hole tournament. - Trestle Board

Kenansville

St. John's 13 members recently earned service awards. Carl Tucker got his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years as a Mason. John Barnett received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years.

The lodge will be drawing on May 26 for the grill they are raffling. — Lodge Log

— The Joppa Informer

Winston-Salem

Old Town 751 scheduled their 40th anniversary celebration for May 31. They had special commemorative pins made for the occasion. The celebration was to feature games and activities for young and old alike so as to better please the members' families.

Other events on their May agenda were a lodge workday, a pancake supper, and a Masonic youth group fundraiser.

> — On the Level at Old Town Lodge and Alan Williard

Hillsborough

Eagle 19 is redoing their stairs. It is part of their ongoing care and restoration for their 1820s lodge building. Mosaic 762 members are giving them a hand with the work.

— Keith Morgan

Kinston

St. John's 4 held their Third Annual Corn Hole Tournament May 3. They awarded three prizes for top finishers and held a raffle for a set of Corn Hole boards. Proceeds were to go to Masonic charities. – Lynn Hill

Elizabeth City

Eureka 317 designated April 1 their Reunion Night. It was the night they asked rarely seen brothers to make a special effort to come to lodge. — On the Level

Southport

Pythagoras 249 recently reimbursed one of their members who paid the funeral expenses of an impoverished member of the lodge.

The lodge held their Easter Barbecue Sale April 18-19.

Their Ninth Annual Masonic Golf Tournament is set for September 20 at Lakes Country Club in Boiling Springs. - Newsletter

Weaverville

Blackmer 170 was holding a barbecue fundraiser May 3. They were raising money for the four scholarships they award each year to collegebound North Buncombe High School students. — Terry Gevedon

Burnsville

Bald Creek 397 was to hold their Widows' and Past Masters' Night May 17.

- Terry Gevedon

Fayetteville

Fort Bragg 667 continues to hold their monthly fellowship breakfast. — Kenneth Wical

Creasy Proctor 679 has it annual fundraiser dinner planned for July 15. This one raises money for the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. - Derec Mercer

Concord

The 28th Masonic District is planning an outdoor degree for August 23. The location will be in Vulcan Quarry and start to 10:00 А.м. Grand Master Dalton Mayo will lead the district degree team in the second section.

- Steve Schenk

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.

Join us in Card Turk

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — Card Turk is here! If you've wanted to be part of a major Masonic project that is both historic and historical, now's your chance!

Back around the turn of the last century, the Grand Lodge began tracking state-wide membership on three-by-five-inch index cards. About the same time, a passion for our history led to combing all the annual returns of the lodges back to the beginnings of the Grand Lodge in 1787. For each person found in those records, a card was created with as much information as could be culled from the early records. It was only in 1995 that records moved to a digital database format. Only Masons active at the time had their record digitized. The members of more distant history, about 200,000 of them, were left tracked only on the index cards.

Talks of a dream project began with Enable Labs, the same company which builds and maintains MORI, the database web application the Grand Lodge and your lodge secretary use for membership records. The dream was to be

in deaths from lung cancer among people who

are 55 or older, who are current smokers or

have quit within the last 15 years, and who

have at least a 30 pack-year history of smoking.

(Pack-years are the number of years of smok-

ing multiplied by the number of packs per day

smoked. So, 30 pack-years could be a two-

pack-per-day habit for 15 years, or a one pack-

What does the screening consist of? A CT

scan, done without IV contrast, using special

Who is eligible for screening? People who

were screened.

able to search all the members in the history of our Grand Lodge.

Step one was completed a couple of years ago with the scanning of the entire card catalog. Two pictures of each card were made, one front, one back.

Step two was the creation of crowd sourcing application that could gather enough information from each card to make them searchable. That application, Card Turk, is now running.

Step three will be a searchable database. You type in a name and a date, and you are returned pictures of all the cards matching that search. The data will also be integrated into MORI allow lodges to have access to every member ever in their lodge.

You can find instructions and tips on the Card Turk Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CardTurk>. That will be our rally area to discuss ideas, problems, and solutions. You'll find sign up instructions there. Join us, be part of history.

From the Medical Committee Finding Lung Cancer Early

By Michael Brooks

A large study has recently shown that it is now possible to detect lung cancer before it has spread, allowing better treatment. The National Lung Screening Trial showed a 20% decrease Who is paying for this? Many insurance plans

Who is paying for this? Many insurance plans are already paying for lung cancer screening CT, and plans in the Affordable Care Act exchanges are now required to pay for it. Medicare has not yet decided whether to pay for lung cancer screening. A decision is expected soon, which will affect Medicare coverage starting in 2015.

Read the new guidelines at <http://www. nccn.org/patients/guidelines/lung_screening/> and discuss it with your doctor to see whether lung cancer screening would be beneficial for you.

Dr. Michael Brooks is a member of Piedmont-Pioneer 685.

Photo submissions

per-day habit for 30 years.)

If you're sending digital photos for publication please remember.

• What looks good on your screen and what looks good in print are very different. Cell phone photos are seldom of sufficient quality for publication. Smart phones are better.

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out to help," noted immediate Past Master Donald Clayton as he lugged sacks of hush puppy batter mix to the station he has manned for the last two years. "We get donations of propane, service to the cookers and burners, near-cost prices on disposable goods, use of commercial freezer space, and discounts on the cole slaw and drinks served with every meal."

FISH, from page 1





Homecoming coming in October

OXFORD — The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford welcomes back family, new friends and our Masonic Family for the Fourth Annual Masonic Homecoming Festival, October 10–11. This annual celebration welcomes you, and your family, and friends to come and visit the Home and see for yourself the good work still being done for families and children after 140 years. The weekend of remembrance and celebration has plenty for everyone, including those new to the Home or for those who call it home. Take this opportunity to see your charity at work while commemorating another year of service for children.

This year's celebration will feature activities on Friday and Saturday, including a charity golf tournament, barbecue cook-off (Teams are needed – please call or email us now!), music at both Friday night's Yard Party, a special entertainer soon to be announced for Saturday's main stage, and a number of traditional Homecoming activities such as the crowning of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford Homecoming Queen, a museum open house, and cottage tours. It's an opportunity to see one of our obligations and our history at work. It's a chance to bring your family, friends, or those who simply care about helping a child to our Home to see the value of our work and our charity. It's a fun weekend to relax and gather as a fraternity and a family. Look for an updated web page soon at <www.mhc-oxford.org/john.html> or call (888) 505-4357 for the latest information on this year's festival at our Children's Home. A detailed schedule of events and specifics on this year's entertainment will appear in the next issue of The North Carolina Mason.



Revolution smokes butts

GREENSBORO — Revolution 552 held their Boston Butt Sale on Saturday, April 12. While working for charitable causes is admirable, many will tell you that the true reward is in the camaraderie while doing the good work. — Revolution 552



By the end of the day, advertised as "until 7:00 P.M. or the fish runs out," Person Lodge had served 1,468 plates of fried flounder, cole slaw, fresh hush puppies, and drinks. "It's too early to know our final receipts and the cost of all our supplies, but we estimate we will be able to maintain our current level of giving to the Masonic charities," was the consensus of the organizers.

In honor of the 50th Annual Fish Fry, Person Lodge commissioned a commemorative coin which was on sale during the Fish Fry. Coins will continue to be available from members or by mail via the lodge website <www.personlodge.org>. Coins sell for ten dollars and are packaged in clear plastic sleeves. Acrylic coin capsules and clamshell boxes are available for one dollar to collectors who wish to preserve the coins untouched.

In addition to the Fish Fry, the lodge is raffling a Henry rifle. The drawing will take place on Tuesday, June 24, at 6:00 P.M. just before dinner at a stated communication. Proceeds from the five dollars a ticket raffle go directly to the Masonic charities. More about the raffle and ticket sales information are available at the lodge website.

Andy White is secretary of Person 113.

STATE, from page 3

Manteo

Bryan Edwards was named Teacher of the Year for College of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City. The Manteo 521 member teaches history at the college. It puts him in the running the state award in community colleges, but it also gets him an engraved crystal apple trophy and an Apple iPad.

Franklin

Junaluskee 145 was having their annual pancake breakfast March 29. — Brian Rau

Hope Mills

Lebanon 391 has a new newsletter.

— Ken Wical

Jacksonville

Semper Fidelis 680 is assembling a list of members who can attend Masonic funerals on short notice. — *Trestle Board*

Trenton

Zion 81 was planning an outdoor degree on the Trent River near Pollocksville in May. — Jerry Eubanks

Asheville

Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo was recently elected an honorary member of Mount Hermon 118. — *Trestle Board*

Plymouth

Perseverance 59 was holding a motorcycle ride May 24. There were to be prizes and live music. — *Keith Phelps*

Fayetteville

Phoenix 8 has reestablished their Thursday Coaching Nights.

On March 11, Mike Klack was awarded the Legion of Honor by the Order of DeMolay. — Ken Wical Ric Carter photos





May/June 2014

The North Carolina Mason

CHATHAM, from page 8

from the lodge to the courthouse for the actual ceremony.

There, the various officers and parts defined by the ancient ritual were portrayed and acted out on the lawn of the courthouse at the building's northeast corner, again with Grand Master Mayo presiding.

The cornerstone was tested by the classic instruments of Masonry - the level, square, and plumb. The stone was anointed with wine, oil, and corn. It was pronounced good and true by the officers.

The officers for the ceremony were: Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo; Brian R. Glover as senior grand warden; Samuel H. Leggett III as junior grand warden; William Minard as grand treasurer; Allan H. Pegg as grand secretary; James G. Jones Jr. as grand chaplain; R. Baskin Cooper as grand senior deacon; Brett R. Moraes as grand junior deacon; Bret A. Kelly and Michael R. Roberson as grand stewards; Robert W. Smith as grand tyler; and David E. Quick as grand marshal.







Ric Carter photos



PIG JIG, from page 8





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night party, compete for bragging rights for the best barbecue in the state, and get to go home knowing that they also raised \$10,000 to help protect and nurture kids. The Grand Champion title went to Team Branch Water 000

(AKA Riverside 606). Rhamkatte 827 (PHA) took the People's Choice Award.

stay up too late and smell of hickory smoke. They have a big, all-

Other award winners were:

Grand Champion

First Runner-Up Widow's Son 4 (PHA) Second Runner-Up A. S. Hunter 825 (PHA) Third Runner-Up Spurmont 98 (Strasburg, Virginia) Fourth Runner-Up Raleigh 500

Pork First Widow's Son 4 (PHA) Second Rolesville 683 Third Spurmont 98 (Strasburg, Virginia)

Chicken First Raleigh 500 Second Greenville 284 Third Branch Water 000 (AKA Riverside 606)

Sauce First Doric 30 (Millville, Delaware) Second Orphans 761 Third Branch Water 000 (AKA Riverside 606) Team Spirit

Stony Point 593

The Masonic Pig Jig returns to Got to Be NC AgFest next year. We'll bring you details right here. Don't miss the fun or the opportunity to make a little money for your lodge.

Ric Carter photos







Seen here at the new gate are PGM Dewey R. Preslar Jr. his wife Terrie, daughter Kellie, son-in-law Bryan, and grandson Luke.

Preslars add fence at cemetery

OXFORD - Found well back into the pastures at the Masonic Home for Children, Oxford Orphanage Memorial Cemetery is lovingly referred to as "God's Half Acre." During a visit there in 2013, then Grand Master Dewey Preslar Jr. felt something special about the location. He saw a need to replace the crumbling fence surrounding the sacred ground. The cemetery was moved to its present location in the late 1880s during a horrific flu epidemic. It is the final resting place of some of those who lived or worked at the Home during its 140+ years of existence.

done on the plot. Previously, the Alumni Association added an obelisk at the entrance, a memorial stone, and a bench. Markers had already been reset and the area landscaped. Members of Eureka 283, Andrew Jackson

Austin C. Williams in 1990 fell into disrepair.

Over the past five years, much work has been

576, and Fulton 99 joined the Preslars at the dedication. Those lodges had donated time, money, and plants to complement the fence's installation. A ceremony dedicating the fence was held in conjunction with the recent Home's Board of Directors meeting.

The original fence, a gift of Brother and Mrs.

Pamphlets available

on Public Relations and Committee Chairman Gary Walker's company Walker Marketing, we now have a first-class pamphlet to help you introduce Freemasonry to friends and neighbors. The 8 1/2 by 11-inch trifold color brochure provides an impressive first impression to anyone who asks for information about our fraternity. It's laid out to let you address, stamp, and drop it right in a mailbox.

It is made of a high quality, heavy stock paper to make sure that first impression is a good one. The inscription, "We've Stood the Test of Time," sets up a short synopsis of what we are.

RALEIGH — Thanks to the Committee It then goes on to answer basic questions about Masonry including how to go about joining a lodge. You will see a new Grand Lodge logo we will be using on some publications.

Too assure the continued availability of the "Time" pamphlet, the Grand Lodge will be selling them to lodges. The price is to cover the next printing of the brochure. They will be sold in lots of 100 for \$35. They are now ready for delivery from the Grand Lodge office.

Freemasonry Revealed, Reynold Davenport's lengthier introduction to the Craft, was updated and given a more attractive layout last year. They are still available for one dollar each.

Fayetteville jurisdiction visitation gaining popularity

FAYETTEVILLE — This military area has become one of the most active areas in North Carolina for visitation between the lodge of our Grand Lodge and Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

It seems to have started 2011 or 2012 in Phoenix 8. As Phoenix visitors extended invitations, the Prince Hall Masons began other visitations.

Seventeen District Deputy Grand Lecturer Thomas Pope says, "I remember I first sat in lodge with the Prince Hall guys at Phoenix for a Third Degree in August of 2012. They showed up the very next week at our place [Stedman 730]. Since then, there's been frequent visitation between Phoenix, Stedman, Silver Square, A. J. Henderson, and East Freedom."

He later invited several Prince Hall leaders to the 17th District School of Instruction to observe how it worked.

In 2013, the Prince Hall Masons invited their Masonic friends to march with them in the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade down Hay Street. A contingent of AF & AM Masons joined them in 2013 and again in 2014.

possible due to problems implementing dual membership in Prince Hall grand lodges. But, honoraries are more common between jurisdictions.

In the Fayetteville area, it was likely Phoenix 8 which started the fun when they made Gerard Thomas (master of Silver Square 791 PHA) and Lamar Smith (master of East Freedom 328 PHA) honorary members.

Soon, Silver Square Lodge returned the honors and made honorary members of 17th District Deputy Grand Master Ken Wical, 17th District Deputy Grand Lecturer Thomas Pope, and then master of Phoenix 8 Micheal Dodson.

Reports are that relationships have grown and enhanced the Masonic experience of the men involved.

NC Mason Deadlines	
Issue	Deadline
January/February	January I
March/April	March I
May/June	May 1
July/August	July I
September/October	September I
November/December	November I

Cross memberships are not

Let me help Masonry's charities

O The North Carolina Masonic Foundation O Masonic and Eastern Star Foundation O The Masonic Home for Children O Send information about wills and bequests. O Please have someone contact me. My name _____ Address City______State _____Zip _____ _____ My lodge _____ Phone 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.

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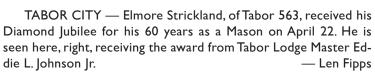
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MILEPOSTS



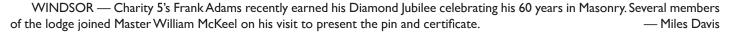






TRENTON — On March 29, Zion 81's Horace Phillips, center, received his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. He is seen here with Grand Master Dalton Mayo, left, and Zion Master Mack Smith. — Bobby Meadows









MURFREESBORO — Bynum Brown, left, of American George 17 recently received his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years as a Mason. Fifth District Deputy Grand Master Jim Burch presented the award at American George's April 12 breakfast gathering. Twenty Masons from six lodges in North Carolina and Virginia were on hand. — Floyd Stephen Brown



OLIN — Dick Norris, chaplain of Olin 226, turned 98 in March. A couple of weeks after his birthday, the lodge threw him a surprise birthday party at their March 13 stated meeting. They had a spaghetti supper for the 50-year member and thanked him for years-long service to the lodge, community, and country. A "This is Your Life" presentation was given by his nephews and fellow Masons Skip Douglas and John Lundy. They presented memories of his life and times growing up in Iredell

County and the changes witnessed through his years. Many lifelong friends of Norris were in attendance and shared their memories as well. Seen here, from left, are Olin Master Roger Speaks, Norris, Lundy, and Douglas. —Van Galliher



STANTONSBURG — Charles Dawson was recently recognized for his 54 years of Masonic service as a member of Joseph Warren 92. Dawson is a much-loved, long-time officer of the lodge. Dawson is seen here, left, receiving the recognition from Roger Bynum. — David Ellis

MURFREESBORO — On April 12, Richard Evans, center, received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years in lodge. He is seen here with Fifth District Deputy Grand Master Jim Burch and American George 17 Master Jeff Futrell. — Floyd Stephen Fowler

HIGH POINT — On February 10, Bobby Burleson got his 55-year award from the Grand Lodge of Florida and his home lodge Eola 207. He visited Numa F. Reid 344 for the presentation which was made by 23rd District Deputy Grand Master Murray Skeen. Seen here, from left, are Skeen, 23rd District Deputy Grand Lecturer Jeff Bullington, Burleson, and Numa Reid Lodge Master Ray Anderson. — Kevin P.Wood



BISCOE — Phillip Parsons was presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership by 24th District Deputy Grand Master Roy L. Bunting at the April 10 Stated Communication of Biscoe 437. Parson's son, Greg, and several nephews and cousins, all members of the lodge, were in attendance. — Carl Brown



ADVANCE — Russell Suggs, right, was recently named Secretary of Distinction by Advance 710. He has been secretary there for 11 years. Lodge Master RonVogler is seen here presenting the award. — Mark Howell



Chatham Courthouse reopens with Masonic blessing

By Ric Carter

PITTSBORO — The historic courthouse here, the one known to all as the one in the circle, burned in 2010 while undergoing a restoration. The Chatham County Courthouse reopened officially last year, with an increased emphasis on the history of the building and county. On May 3 and at the request of the building architect, equally historic Columbus 102, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, performed that ancient ceremony of cornerstone dedication at the courthouse.

Lodge Master Mike Kenlan assembled his Broth-

ers at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 3 to open Grand Lodge at the home of Columbus 102. Kenlan stepped to the sidelines to make way for Grand Master Dalton Mayo to take the east and preside over the emergent communication of the Grand Lodge and the cornerstone ceremony. Masons from more than a dozen lodges around the state joined Columbus Lodge for the proceedings.

The brief formal opening and closing of the Grand Lodge was followed by a one city block procession see CHATHAM, page 5



Pig Jig enjoys ninth year of fun



By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — Raleigh 500 held the Ninth Annual Carolina Masonic Pig Jig here on May 17 at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds. It was celebrated in conjunction with Got to Be NC AgFest, our state's off-season state fair. The Pig Jig has thousands of visitors each year and crowns the best Masonic team in several divisions of grilled and smoked delight. The Masonic Home for Children in Oxford and Central Children's Home in Oxford will each get about \$5,000 from the money made by the Pig Jig.

At the Pig Jig, thousands ate and voted for their favorites. A team of appointed and professional judges picked the best results in several divisions. Nearly 30 teams entered the competition. Many will tell you that the most valuable aspect about a fundraiser is the joy of working and associating with the others working on the event. Few other fundraisers are a better example of that principle than the Carolina Masonic Pig Jig. On Friday night while preparing to cook, men from all over enjoy spending time with their own team, but more especially with other men and new friends. It's the time before the competition begins, before the public arrives to sample and savor the food. Participants enjoy entertaining people who drop by from other states or towns. They enjoy sharing food and tips on food preparation. They enjoy playing cards and exchanging

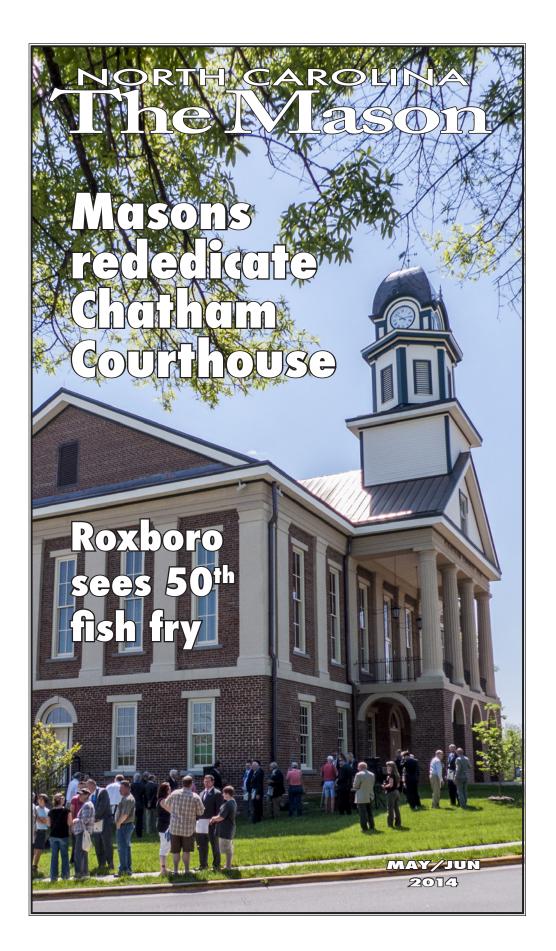
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Person Lodge holds Fish Fry for 50th year



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Chatham County Courthouse cornerstone set



Ninth Masonic Pig Jig is another success

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On the cover

Masons and citizens gather to see the cornerstone dedicated on the recently reopened Chatham County Courthouse. Ric Carter photo CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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