



## Shipboard North Carolina degree



Adam Jennings photo

By Ben Sorensen

WILMINGTON — The USS North Carolina, was the lead ship of the North Carolina class of battleships. Built in 1937, it was the fourth warship to carry the name of the Old North State. When she was commissioned on April 9, 1941, the United States did not know it was heading toward involvement in the war raging in Europe. After all, America had her own Great Depression to pull out of; soup lines that extended for blocks were still not enough to ensure that families did not starve. The Dust Bowl's destruction of American crops was still affecting the domestic food supply. Things were slowly getting better from the Great Depression, but America did not consider herself in any shape to pull Europe out of conflict.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, America was thrust into World War II. The USS North Carolina, finally having a chance to fulfill her purpose, sailed off for the Pacific Theater. While at sea, the USS North Carolina participated in every major naval offensive in the Pacific. She took torpedo hits, fought off kamikaze pilots, and lost ten men, with sixty-seven wounded. The Japanese reported her sunk at least seven times.

She was decommissioned on June 27, 1947. She was struck from the Naval Register in 1960 and transferred to the state of North Carolina in 1961 after being bought by the school children of North Carolina with nickel and dime donations.

■ see USS NC, page 4

## Rumble on the mountain

By Larry Thompson

MOUNT GILEAD — Blackmer 127 hosted its Second Annual Uwharrie Mountain Rumble on April 11. More than 40 riders participated in a 75-mile scenic route through the Uwharrie Mountains region. They enjoyed select stops including the historic Shiloh Church in Troy.

The ride ended at the Ford Place Pub and Event Center in Mount Gilead where the riders were treated to a buffet dinner and music by The Three Degrees band.

Thirty local businesses and individuals helped to sponsor the Rumble, with all proceeds from the ride going to benefit the North Carolina Masonic charities. Next year's Rumble has been scheduled for April 16, 2016.

Larry Thompson is a member of Blackmer 127 and grand steward.

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Jessie Leigh Roberts photo

### THE BOTTOM LINE

## Religion and politics

By Douglas L. Caudle  
Grand Master

Nothing brings people together or tears them apart more than religion and politics. In 1723, *Anderson's Constitutions* was written and serves as the basis for Masonic Code in England and United States lodges. Even in that much simpler time, our Masonic forefathers saw the wisdom in forbidding discussion of these topics in a Masonic lodge. This includes all areas of the lodge not just during tyled meetings in the lodge room.

#### Religion

Freemasonry takes men of all religions by the right hand of fellowship. A belief in a supreme being is our only requirement to become and remain a Mason. While the majority of North Carolina Masons are Christian, we have members who are Muslim, Jewish, and Hindu as well. The several prayers in our *Bahnson Manual* are not of a particular religion or belief. When we offer up our devotion to deity in lodge or in other lodge settings such as before dinner, be mindful of the prayers used.

I have noticed that many times Brothers offer Christian prayers during these times. While I believe that this is done mostly out of habit and not to offend, it is still improper. In instances where a Brother has been spoken to about offering a specific religion's prayer, many have been embarrassed that they may have made a Brother feel uncomfortable. However, in some instances, the

Brother did not see "what the big deal was." I would be curious if he would feel the same way if a prayer from a religion other than Christianity was offered.

Many men look to Freemasonry because our literature tells them that men of all religions are welcome. However, many become disenchanted because in practice this is not always the case. We must be mindful that just because a Brother may not openly espouse his religious beliefs that we must not assume he has the same beliefs as ours. By having specific religion prayers or conversations we are alienating many of our members. In instances such as this, many just quit attending lodge functions instead of addressing the obvious conflict with our tenets. Thus, it becomes our loss for not having the fellowship of these Brothers who can only add to our understanding of cultures other than our own. I am certainly not asking anyone to apologize for their religion or their beliefs. However, we must look to our Masonic vocabulary when we pray to our God in a Masonic setting.

#### Politics

With the 24-hour news cycle, it is hard to escape the nonstop reporting of the various political dramas being played out. With local, state, and national elections being held next year, the political rhetoric will be at a fever pitch very soon. Again, our forefathers, in their wisdom, saw how discussion of politics would be inappropriate in a Masonic lodge.

I have witnessed Brothers start a conversation around the dinner table before lodge discussing a current event. Then, in the

course of a few minutes, the conversation turned into a shouting match due to a difference in political beliefs.

Many Lodges are suffering with poor attendance and lack of new members. How can we improve our attendance if non-regularly attending members join us only to be subjected to a political discussion? What is it telling a potential candidate who may join us for dinner if groups of members are too busy to talk with this man because they are "holding court" around the dinner table?

Even if every member of your lodge belongs to the same church and even if they all belong to the same political party, discussion of religion and politics in lodge is still inappropriate. The Masonic lodge is a "sacred place of friendship and virtue." Where better can we have a place of refuge from the political and religious turmoil in our world today?

I am very firm in both my religious and political beliefs. However, I have engaged Brothers of opposite beliefs and parties outside of the lodge. What I have found is that we agree much more than we disagree. By talking with these Brothers, I have a much better understanding of their beliefs and hopefully they have the same about me. I encourage each of you to seek out a Brother who believes differently than you and discuss their beliefs. Not from the point of trying to change them to your beliefs, but to gain an understanding of theirs.

Freemasonry has and will continue to survive only if we continue to accept men of all faiths and political beliefs.

I appreciate each of you and am honored to serve as grand master.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

# Changes

Changes are afoot for *The North Carolina Mason*.

We don't want to count all those chickens that we are still hatching, but keep your eyes open for a different looking *NC Mason*.

While details are still being ironed out, we are hoping to go to a slightly different format in the next issue. We think you'll like it.



## Grand Lodges will rededicate cornerstones at Capitol

RALEIGH — On June 13, the North Carolina Capitol will celebrate its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Masons will be headlining as our Grand Lodge and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge will preside over the rededication of the cornerstone. Our Grand Lodge set the original cornerstone in 1833, and set a centennial stone in 1933. The building was completed in 1840.

Festivities begin at 11:00 A.M. and will include an address by Governor Pat McCrory, and tributes to those who constructed the Capitol. The rededication of the cornerstone is scheduled for NOON.

There will be food, music, crafts, and re-enactors on the grounds all day. It should be a great day for you and your family.



## Summer Event Planning

MOCKSVILLE — Clement Grove is the site of the Annual Masonic Picnic sponsored by Mocksville 134 and the site of the Annual Community Fest sponsored by Corinthian 17 (PHA). Both lodges make use of the cooking and eating facilities in the Concession Building. Pictured are Henry Bruce, chaplain and past master of Mocksville 134, left, and Bobby Bell, master of Corinthian 17, as they plan the August events. This year's dates are August 13 (11:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.) for the Picnic and August 15 (5:00 P.M.–10:00 P.M.) for the Community Fest.

## Forest Lawn's Masonic origin

GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA — Many celebrities have found their final resting place at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, California. Few people know that amidst the statues and reliquaries stands a lonely Masonic memorial, one of the largest sculptures on the grounds. Once, Freemasonry was huge in Los Angeles — so big that it managed to carve out a section of the now prestigious cemetery of the stars. There, in a quiet and somewhat isolated corner of the park, stands a lone Masonic memorial surrounded by hundreds (maybe thousands) of grave markers decorated with the square and compasses.

It is no surprise that the founder of the Memorial Park was a Mason himself. From *Denslow's 10,000 Famous Freemasons*:

Hubert Eaton (June 3, 1881–September 20, 1966) — Originator of the memorial park plan

for cemeteries, substituting tablets set level with the lawn for tombstones, providing art collections, historical buildings, thereby revolutionizing cemeteries throughout the United States. He is known as the builder of Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, California which is noted for its collection of stained glass works of American sculptors and recreations of the Last Supper and Calvary. Born in Liberty, Missouri, he graduated from William Jewell College in Liberty in 1902. A chemist, he was associated with many of the mining companies of America. He was raised in Euclid Lodge 58, Great Falls, Montana in 1905 and became a member of Southern California Lodge 278, Los Angeles. He was also a member of the Shrine and York Rite.

— Milton Youmans, *Philatelic Freemason*, November/December 2009

## Ten Commandments of good human relations

These will work wonders for your lodge.

1. Speak to people — There is nothing as nice as a cheerful greeting.
2. Smile at people — It takes 72 muscles to frown, only 14 to smile.
3. Call people by name — It's sweet music to everybody's ears.
4. Be friendly and helpful — If you want friends, be friendly.
5. Be cordial — Speak and act as if everything you do is a pleasure.
6. Be genuinely interested in people — You'll find yourself liking them.
7. Be generous with praise — Search for opportunities to give it.
8. Be considerate of the feelings of others — It will be appreciated.
9. Pay attention to the opinions of others — Even if you don't think they merit serious consideration.
10. Help others — Helping others is time well spent.

— From *Temple Tales* of Temple 676, December 2002.



## Bud Davidson honored

CHARLOTTE — Bud Davidson has been a cornerstone of Masonry in Charlotte for years. He is twice past master and long-time secretary of Temple 676. When Grand Master Doug Caudle made his 31<sup>st</sup> Masonic District visit March 30, he presented Davidson a certificate recognizing his 50 years as a certified lecturer. Seen here, from left, are Board of Custodians Secretary Dave Potts, Jim Davidson and Sam Davidson (Bud's brothers), Bud Davidson, and District Deputy Grand Lecturer Keith Rash.

— Eric Cable



## Freemasons in battle

By J. Perry Watson

Memorial Day brings to mind our brothers who served this country in our armed services. All of us have read and heard about how our Masonic forefathers contributed to the history of our great country during wartime. There are many stories and countless varieties of these tales affirming these historic contributions. There is no doubt about the important roles our brethren performed during all the wars in our history.

Perhaps the most unusual of all our Masonic brothers' participation in past conflicts revolves around the Civil War and that famous battle at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in July 1863. During this conflict, many Freemasons fought each other as there were Masons wearing the blue and as many brothers who wore the gray. There are several accounts of a wounded Mason giving the distress sign and a brother from the "other side" providing humane assistance.

Brother Sheldon Munn, Lafayette Lodge, Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, has published an accounting of all the Masons, and their respective lodges, participating in that pivotal conflict.

He offers a history of the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial, conceived and sponsored by the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, which recalls a historically verified encounter of Freemasons during the Gettysburg battle. The monument stands

at an entrance to the Gettysburg National Cemetery and magnificently portrays Brother (Captain) Henry Bingham (USA) holding Brother (Brigadier General) Lewis Armistead (CSA) as he lies mortally wounded. General Armistead is seen entrusting his personal effects to the captain. Brother Armistead was the Confederate who led his troops to the famous "High Tide of the Confederacy." The troops defending Cemetery Hill were commanded by Brother (Major General) Winfield Hancock (USA), a lifelong friend of General Armistead. Captain Bingham was a member of General Hancock's staff.

This important and unusual monument pays tribute to the fraternal bonds of friendship, compassion, and brotherly love found in Freemasonry. Even in battle, brotherhood is unforgotten and important to all our members.

*Perry Watson passed away last year, was a member of Masters 754, and edited their newsletter for many years.*

### 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

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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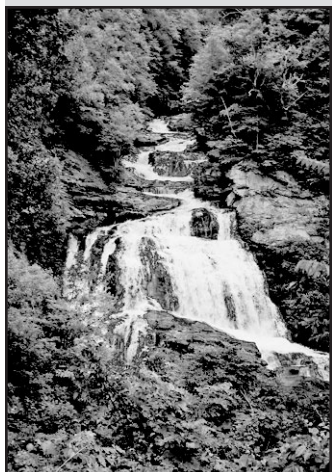
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# TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



## NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter



### South Mills

New Lebanon 314 Master Kevin Russell challenged his lodge at the beginning of the year. He promised to add ten dollars to the lodge charity jar each time 30 or more of their members attended a stated communication. As of April, the lodge was batting 1.000, and Russell is several tenners lighter.

New Lebanon Lodge continues to share breakfast at the lodge on the first Saturday of every month. Be there by 8:00 o'clock to enjoy the tasty start to your day. — *The Plumb Line*

### Lewisville

West Bend 434 this year held its second Rifle Raffle. They awarded a Henry 30/30 and a Henry .22 Golden Boy. The drawing was set for May 19. — *By the Square*

### Statesville

The Statesville location for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Masonic Blood Drive in January brought 164 units. Nearly 400 total units were collected in this year's drive.

Statesville 27's new lodge historian, J. P. Ammons, has "jumped into his role with both feet." He's busy identifying photographs and filling the newly purchased history cabinet with artifacts and tidbits of history.

Statesville 27 held their first Life Saver Day May 7 in cooperation with the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas and Be the Match. Besides an opportunity to donate blood, cheek swabs to help identify marrow donors were also being offered.

On May 26, the lodge was sponsoring a DeMolay Open House at the lodge. Steve Hornka organized dinner and presentations. They were inviting former DeMolays as well as area Masons. They are hoping to reestablish the Masonic youth organization for boys in the 30<sup>th</sup> Masonic District.

Statesville's lodge newsletter is going to an email preferred delivery. They figure to save about \$600 over the year on the electronic delivery over USPS. — *The Joppa Informer*

### Southern Pines

The Masons of Southern Pines 484 take advantage of town activities to advance their own causes. The town's Springfest, held April 25, is one of the lodge's most lucrative opportunities to fundraise. Thousands of pedestrians were milling around uptown, the location of the lodge. The lodge sold snow cones and popcorn at the front door of the lodge. Hundreds of vendors, crafters, and other entertainment attract a large audience.

They are also in the thick of the action for the town's First Fridays. The May through October block party gives them more occasions to sell their snacks and raise money for Masonic charities.

A renovations committee at Southern Pines Lodge is seeking discussion on possible updates for the lodge building. Among their possibilities were converting a storage closet into a secretary's office, adding dimmable lighting to the lodge room, reorganizing archives and surplus items, adding ceremonial music capabilities to the lodge room, and improving the atmosphere in the preparation room and lodge room.

Their First Saturday Breakfast on March 7 was followed by an Entered Apprentice Degree performed by the costumed 21<sup>st</sup> District Colonial Degree Team.

The lodge's Awards and Past Masters' Night was set for June 1. — *The Trestle Board* and Gene Maples

### Charlotte

Derita 715 has launched a new newsletter. Jason Callahan is editing.

Danny Schuller delivered 23 full piggy banks to the Masonic Home for Children on March 14. On April 17, the lodge was holding a chicken fry to help the Masonic Homes. They held it at the Mallard Creek Community House. — *Derita Lodge*

Steele Creek 737, on February 21, was planting two beech trees at the lodge. They will be dedicated to commemorate Dave Molter's service to the lodge. Molter had donated trees to the lodge several years ago. — *Trestleboard*

West Gate 738 held their Spring Fish Fry April 17. — Gary Cooke

### Bakersville

The annual Ramp Supper at Bakersville 357 is always much anticipated. It is regarded as "a fun time for renewing old friendships and the vittles can't be beaten." Masons from far and wide attend. This year's was held April 23. — *Newsletter*

### Spruce Pine

Vesper 554 has voted to cut back to one stated meeting each month — first Thursdays. The change is said to not take place until next year.

Many are nervous of talking to non-Masons about Freemasonry and the lodge for fear of revealing some secret. Lloyd Hise recently gave a program at Vesper Lodge entitled "What Can You Tell Someone About Masonry." It was a lesson which stimulated much interesting and interested discussion at the meeting. — *Newsletter*

### Casar

May 16 was the day of the Sixth Annual Bike Rally of Casar 579. They were starting at the Casar Fire Department with a surprise route to be followed. Proceeds of this fundraiser were to go to the Masonic Homes. — Paul Aulbach

### Hookerton

Jerusalem 95 is helping Jeremy Craig Cranford get raised on the same month and day as his father Lodge Chaplain Vann Cranford. The ECU student has been being coached in Greenville to keep the May 12 date. — *The Jerusalem Journal*

### Lenoir

On April 11, Hibriten 262 was having a two-location Master Mason Degree. They were doing the first section at the lodge at 5:00 p.m. and then moving to an outdoor location near Valdese for the second section. — Hibriten Lodge



## Feel good about eating fried chicken

CHARLOTTE — The Masonic Chicken Man again delighted passersby at the Derita 715's April 17 Charity Chicken Fry to raise money for our kids at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. "I'm not sure how many folks stopped by to get a fried chicken plate and contribute to our charity because of the Masonic Chicken Man, but while standing at the entrance with the costumed Brother Alan Shaw, many cars slowed down and blew their horns and school bus loads of children laughed with glee as they passed by. Some cars even turned around to snap a picture," said Master Donnie Barrier. After having lost its lodge building to a highway project three years ago and now renting a location from another lodge outside its neighborhood, Derita Lodge is pleased to be able to hold its successful charity fundraisers and begin its return to its home community, thanks to the support of Mallard Creek Community House facility's owner, the Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church. — Donnie Barrier

### Stedman

The charity golf tournament held each year by Stedman 730 is set for June 13. They're playing at Lakewood Country Club. — *17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

### Candler

The lodges of the 39<sup>th</sup> Masonic District are teaming up with the Eastern Stars here to raise money for their local hospice. They held a Chili Cook-off and Silent Auction on March 14. — Terry Gevedon

Hominy 491 was holding a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on May 2. They were serving breakfast at the Applebee's on Smokey Park Highway in Asheville. Proceeds were going to The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, MESH Foundation, and the Masonic Home for Children. — Chris Manis and Richard Pinkerton

### Albemarle

Albemarle 703 is running a 30/30 gun raffle in August. They'll be giving away 30 guns in 30 days and are adding a bonus gun on the 31<sup>st</sup> day. They're selling only 1,000 tickets at \$30 each — another five dollars adds a chance to win a gun safe. Profits from the raffle go to the Masonic Home for Children and Masonic residents of WhiteStone. — Eric Furr

### Hillsborough

Mosaic 762 members worked with Orange County Habitat for Humanity May 2. They helped with the Hammers and Heart house in Efland.

The local Rainbow Girls prepared dinner for Mosaic Lodge at the lodge's April stated meeting. The girls also exemplified their "The Pot of Gold" ceremony. — Keith Morgan

### Roxboro

Person 113 held its 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Fish Fry on May 1. Money raised goes to the Masonic Homes. — Michael Day

### Greensboro

Wilkerson College 760 is presenting a Masonic Symposium and Ritual Competition at the Greensboro Masonic Temple on June 13. Nationally known, featured speakers are Steven C. Bullock and Robert Herd. Other speakers include Mike Daniels, Jonathan Underwood, and Ben Sorensen. — Doug Calhoun

Guilford 656 was taking a special collection and making a lodge visit in February. Eagle 19 had a collection jar in place in an ice cream shop in their hometown of Hillsborough. The jar was to collect contributions for the Masonic Home for Children. The jar was one of the items stolen there during a break-in. Guilford Lodge members were to visit Eagle Lodge to join them for supper and deliver contributions to replace those lost in the robbery. — Michael S. James

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Masonic District held an Easter Egg Hunt at WhiteStone on March 28. They invited kids ten and under to enjoy hot dogs and hunt eggs on the grounds around the picnic shelter. — Gina Prevost

The district's Arthur Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament was held May 16. It was played at Holly Ridge Golf Links in Archdale. Four man teams got the round and dinner for a \$200 entry fee. — Gary Balance

Gate City 694 raffled a shotgun in May. They limited the ten-dollar tickets to 400 sold.

The lodge was attending a Grasshoppers minor league baseball game in early spring. As a group, they get a ticket discount and the lodge recognized on the big board in the outfield.

Gate City is setting up an information booth downtown for the Greensboro Independence Day celebration. — Gary Balance

### Winston-Salem

Three lodges here cosponsored a smoked pork butt sale April 25. Salem 289, Kenersville 669, and Bivouac 503 (PHA) cooked and sold the butts to help the MESH Foundation, the Masonic Home for Children, and Central Children's Home. They distributed from three locations: New Philadelphia Moravian Church and Bivouac Lodge in Winston-Salem and the lodge in Kernersville. — Rocky Boyles

Salem 289 had their Awards Night April 7. Lacy Hair and Ben Johnson got Diamond Jubilees for 60 years membership. Gene Hall, Doug Mason, James Church, William Herrin, and Rex Reed received their Veteran's Emblems for 50 years in the lodge. — *The Salem Sentinel*

Over at Old Town 751, the lodge was sponsoring an open house May 5. That was just four days after their Masonic Youth Pancake Supper. The Triad Masonic Youth's Golf Tournament was on May 2. — *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

### Raleigh

For several years now, a group of Masons in Raleigh have gotten together for lunch every Friday. They pick a restaurant and rendezvous there. Of course, if one of the local lodges is having a fundraiser, they choose that for the social gathering. They ate barbecue at Cary 198 April 10 and a week later had barbecue again at James B. Green 735. — Chick Rosselli

Hiram 40 had its annual chicken barbecue fundraiser April 24. — Tom Imler

William G. Hill 218 held their Seventh Annual Easter Egg Hunt April 4. The kids decorated eggs, and hunted the Raleigh Masonic Temple grounds for them. There were hot dogs and drinks. They even had a magic show. — Jamie Sanchez

### Wilmington

The currently reorganizing Cape Fear Chapter of DeMolay sent nine young men to Jacksonville in March to be initiated by the DeMolays there. They'll need six more to get their charter. — Terry Kuhn

There are now three Knights of Solomon lodges in the state: 764 in Charlotte, 766 in Jacksonville, and UD in Holly Springs. They were holding a joint meeting at Wilmington 319 April 18. All three affinity lodges focus on motorcycle interests. — Edward Gaskins

■ 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.



**USS NC, from page 1**

We can only speculate how many Masons were on board during her time in WWII and the short two years after war's end. Also, we can only speculate whether or not there were Masonic degrees held on board. If there were, no records remain.

All this changed, though, on May 2, 2015. St. John's Lodge 1, with Master Terry Kuhn presiding, held the first ever Master Mason's Degree on board the USS North Carolina on her mess deck. The rest of the line included Senior Warden Adam Jennings, Junior Warden Frank Barfoot, Senior Deacon Jim Brandt, Junior Deacon Chris Jones, Senior Steward Jason Harris, Junior Steward Ben Sorensen, Secretary Jim Frost, and Treasurer Ted Hueskes.

Playing parts in the degree were Terry Kuhn as King Solomon; Adam Jennings as senior grand warden; Jim Frost as the secretary; Jim Brandt, Chris Jones, and Frank Barfoot were the searchers; and Phil Rhodes, James Watson, and David Carpenter were the ruffians.

While the staffs, gavels, jewels, and Bible came directly from Saint John's, the podiums were period wooden crates found on board the ship. The light that illuminated the Bible was a lamp from a ship bunk. The line dressed according to the period. Blue jeans and shirts as sailors would have worn in the 1940s were the garb for the evening.

The candidates had already stood proficiency in their cat-

echisms before the degree. The degree went on without a hitch at about 8:00 o'clock that Saturday evening. The attendance was nothing short of amazing: 157 brothers were there, including the Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle.

The lodge closed with Grand Master Caudle presiding who led all 157 of the brethren present in the Closing Charge. The Battleship Degree was a huge success; St. John's 1 was proud to hold such an historic event on one of North Carolina's great historic jewels.

*Ben Sorensen is a member of St. John's 1.*



**STATE, from page 3**

**Plymouth**

Perseverance 59 was to hold their Second Annual Motorcycle Ride for the Masonic Home for Children May 23. Music from the Seeds of Change was scheduled to entertain the riders. This year's ride honors the memory of John Sawyer. — Perseverance Lodge

**Catawba**

Riverside 606 held their Ham Day in March. They served through breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Plates were eight dollars, and two dollars got you a ham biscuit. Money raised was bound for the Home for Children, the MESH Foundation, the NC Masonic Foundation, and their local Boy Scout troop. — Wyatt David

**Princeton**

St. Patrick's 617 did a first degree and had a steak supper for their first meeting on their new night. They now hold their stated communications on second and fourth Thursdays.

St. Patrick's Lodge held barbecue pork/barbecue chicken supper March 7. — Brent Evans

**Deep Run**

Pleasant Hill 304 held an all-you-can-eat pancake supper fundraiser March 20. — Lynn Hill

**Concord**

Stokes 32 sponsored a Red Cross Blood Drive May 2. They had a 30-unit goal. They were working Relay for Life the same day.

Coming up in June is an open house featuring Terry Cox's program "The Secrets of Masonry" on June 13. Their Annual Chicken Dinner was set for June 20. — Stokes Lodge and Thomas VanEtten

**Salisbury**

Sophia 767 was hosting Masonic artist Ryan Flynn on May 2. The New Hampshire native has produced paintings, patents, and faux stained glass windows around the world. He was the first American Ambassador to the Association of the Masonic Arts. — Doug Calhoun

**Cornelius**

The 31<sup>st</sup> Masonic District was having their Ladies' Night at the Port City Club here April 29. The full menu included beef, chicken, and fish. Tickets were \$25 per person. — Robert G. McIntosh

**Spencer**

At their second stated meeting in March, Spencer 543 had a promising program planned. Lodge members were urged to participate in an antique show-and-tell. — On the Square

**Graham**

Thomas M. Holt 492's Masonic Charity Golf Tournament was to be held May 16. They were playing at Quaker Creek Golf Course in Mebane. It's their first fundraiser of the year. — Todd Smith

**Atkinson**

Atkinson 612 held a shad fry at their March 23 stated communication. — Newsletter

**Gastonia**

Bob Howe recently got his Diamond Jubilee for his 60 years as a Mason. Members of Gastonia 369 visited him at his home March 22 to present the award.

More awards were set to be presented at Gastonia Lodge's Past Masters' Night at their May stated communication. — Joe Waller and The Trestleboard

**Kenansville**

St. John's 13 is installing an elevator in their lodge building. They, as other lodges, are hoping to ease access to their second floor lodge room for their aging members.

St. John's Lodge sent \$750 to each of the Masonic Homes at the end of 2014 and another \$900 to the North Carolina Masonic Foundation. —Lodge Log

**Hope Mills**

Lebanon 391 were holding their annual charity golf tournament May 30. — 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

**Burlington**

Bula 409 is giving away a 64-gigabyte Apple iPad in their Spring Raffle. Tickets are five dollars, and the drawing is set for June 8. — Bula Lodge

**St. Pauls**

Members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic District were invited to join St. Pauls 474 for supper on March 3. They were having a game night menu with deer chili and pheasant bog. — Ken Wical

**Raeford**

On March 24, Raeford 306 was hosting the 21<sup>st</sup> District Colonial Degree Team. They were performing their specialty, a Colonially costumed Entered Apprentice Degree for one of Raeford Lodge's candidates. — Gene Maples

**Youngsville**

Youngsville 377 held a Red Cross Blood Drive March 8. It was held at their Main Street lodge. — Dean Mooney

**Mount Holly**

Thirty guns in thirty days are on the line in June at Mount Holly 544's gun raffle. There was a drawing every day, and each \$30 ticket got you a chance in all those drawings. They are raising money for the Home for Children. — Steve Tate

**Pilot Mountain**

Dickie Crump's Squeeze Box hot dogs were the attraction for a Masonic Charities fundraiser sponsored by Pilot 493 on May 2. The Mount Pilot Main Street landmark Sandwich Shop was open for donation only business during the town's Cruise-In. — Pilot Lodge

**Mebane**

Bingham 272 held a Past Master's Third Degree March 16. They were enjoying supper before the raising of two new Masons. — Todd Smith

**Midland**

Union 618 was celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on March 28. They were having a party from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. with Grand Master Douglas Caudle the featured guest. Free food and entertainment and an exhibition of historic Masonic artifacts were featured. — Mitch Elliott

**Cary**

April 10 was the date for Cary 198's Annual Spring Barbecue. The eat-in/take-out starred 1,500 pounds of pork shoulders. — Ben Oakes Jr.

**Southport**

Pythagoras 249 was holding their annual Fish Fry on June 5. Their Independence Day Hot Dog Sale is coming up July 2-4.

Pythagoras members Hubert Keith Brittain and Harold Travis Spencer recently received their Veteran's Emblems for 50 years Masonic membership. — Newsletter

**Kenly**

All the educational programs in your lodge don't have to be strictly about Masonry. At an April meeting of Kenly 257, they enjoyed a presentation about turkey hunting. — William C. Barrett

**Clemmons**

Enterprise 752 celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on April 18. — Joseph Gibson



**William Pitt helps Homes**

WILLIAMSTON — William Pitt 734 (Greenville) presented checks to our Masonic Homes on April 28 when Grand Master Douglas Caudle held his District Meeting here at Skewarkee 90. They gave the Masonic Home for Children \$2,085 and WhiteStone's Masonic and Eastern Star Foundation \$1,085, money they earned with a Pancake/Sausage Supper they held on March 13. Seen here are, from left, Home for Children Administrator Kevin Otis, William Heath, Pitt Master William Carl Harris Jr., Pitt Secretary Thomas B. Jones, and WhiteStone Administrator Mark Kolada. — Carl Harris

**Solace for the roadside**

YOUNGVILLE — Here is the pick-up crew from Youngsville 377. They are primping their stretch of adopted highway "making a difference and leaving a positive wake." — Dean Mooney





Adam Jennings photos

# MORE MILEPOSTS



MOCKVILLE — Milton Tutterow, of Mockville 134, was recently presented his Veteran's Emblem honoring his 50 years of Masonic membership. — Taylor Slye

WASHINGTON — On Saturday morning, March 7, Washington 675 held an all past masters degree to raise William Waters. Seen here are, front from left Fess Winstead, Keith Woolard, Jack Smiley, Waters, Fred Mallison, and John Riffert. Back, from left, are Ronald Pilgreen, James Jenkins, Charles Sumerlin, Cecil Leggett, and Joe Phelps. — Charles Sumerlin



KINSTON — St. John's 4 Master Lynn Hill is seen here giving honorary memberships in his lodge to Giles Stroud and Dallas Sutton. They were presented April 13. — Lynn Hill



CHARLOTTE — Derita 715's William D. Abernathy, center, recently got his Veteran's Emblem celebrating his 50 years as a Mason. As an added treat, he was joined by his son William D. Abernathy Jr. and his grandson Chase Abernathy. — Steve M. Jordan



CARY — Green Level 277 has made Michael Prince a Life Member of their lodge. Master Mack McCorkle Jr. presented their long-time lodge secretary a certificate of Life Membership at their April stated meeting. — Mack McCorkle Jr.



KING — Dale Dowler Jr., left, received his Veteran's Emblem on April 16. The King 722 member was presented the 50-year award at the lodge's awards presentation night by King Lodge Master Will Russell, right. — Larry Oakley



LEXINGTON — Billy Miller, center, received his Veteran's Emblem April 2. The Lexington-Memorial 473 member was presented the 50-year award by Lexington-Memorial Master Harvey Fulbright, right. Senior Deacon Scott O'Neil is also seen here. —Tommy Jolly



ROLESVILLE — James Victor Kelly, right, recently received the Grand Lodge's Veteran's Emblem celebrating his 50 years in the fraternity. The Rolesville 683 member was visited at his home by a delegation of his Brothers, including from left, Steve Acord, Steve Blackwood, and Master Ed Donahue. — Mike Spencer



# Raleigh Mason on Jeopardy

By Tom Imler

RALEIGH — Yes, cross that one off my bucket list! I appeared on Jeopardy!

My Jeopardy story begins in January 2013 when I took their online exam. In March of that year, I was invited to an audition in Tampa, Florida. At that point I entered the pool of eligible contestants.

It wasn't until December 2014 that I received a call from the producers that I would appear on the show. I went out to Culver City, California in January 2015 for filming.

We arrived at the studio at 7:30 in the morning. We were taken to the Green Room (which is beige) and given donuts, coffee, etc. We were then briefed and interviewed by three lovely young ladies from the production staff. I was ushered into the makeup chair where my head was made very un-shiny. We then met our legal counsel — yes, we all had a lawyer to represent us in case there was some kind of error on the show.

Then, it was out to the promised land, the Jeopardy stage itself! Out there we were shown where the cameras were and which one to look at. They taught us how to use the podiums to write our names and how to use the buzzer. The contestants come from all different backgrounds and for the most part are sociable with each other.

The director, John Lauderdale, came out and had us tape our introductions. We met the voice of Jeopardy, Johnny Gilbert. My on-camera interview during the game centered on my Masonic affiliation and the continued relevance of the fraternity today.

The audience was let in. We sat among them but couldn't speak to them. The lights went down, and drumroll... Alex Trebeck! The taping of the game began. The champ lived up to his billing and disposed of his first four competitors, amassing a staggering \$97,000!

The game tapes five shows per day on Tuesday and Wednesday with each show taking about 30 minutes to complete. At breaks

for commercials, host Alex Trebeck takes questions from the crowd. He is a very likable, intelligent, and friendly guy.

We went back to the Green Room before game three. Game three begins and by the end, the champ was eliminated. We broke for lunch. Again, we were segregated from everyone else lest we cheat. We went back in for games four and five. At the commercial break, we each got a picture taken with Alex.

I was chosen for game five. There is an audience of about 100 people. The contestants sit among the audience, but don't speak to anyone to protect the integrity of the game. Recording the shows in advance made it a less stressful experience — no huge television audience was watching at the game moment. It allowed me to get into a rhythm and focus on the game and timing my buzzer. It was actually a lot of fun, especially when I was leading.

It was a huge surprise for me to have chosen a \$2,000 clue in a category on John Quincy Adams that dealt with his candidacy as a member of the Anti-Masonic party (and yes I got it right!). Alex even remarked about that coincidence after the show.

I came close, but in the end \$20,800 slipped through my fingers, but it was go big or go home. It was a very interesting and fun experience and crossed off one of the items on my bucket list. Tom Imler is a member of Hiram 40 in Raleigh.



## How Will You See?

In the days of the great cathedral builders, a student of Masonic philosophy came to study under a renowned master architect. When he was departing a few years later, the master warned him: "Studying the truth speculatively is useful as a way of collecting material for books and lectures. But unless you meditate constantly your Masonic light may go out, and then how will you see that which you are studying?" — ZenMasonry.com



## A family affair

WAXHAW — It's common for Freemasonry to be a family tradition. On March 31, two of Waxhaw 562's officers advanced their personal family lodge experiences by raising family members. Senior Deacon Robert Tanzy (a second generation Mason) raised his son-in-law John Hartwell. Senior Steward Jim Cox raised his step son Kyle Ferebee. Seen here, from left, are Tanzy, Hartwell, Ferebee, and Cox. — Robert Tanzy



## Byrd birthday at lodge

CREEDMOOR — Creedmoor 499 threw a party for Arthur Byrd after their March 23 meeting. Byrd, their senior member, was celebrating his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. They got him a cake and gave him a money tree as a gift. Twenty-five friends and Brothers attended. — Tommy Keith



## Masons tidy up

WENDELL — Wendell 565 fulfilled their Adopt-A-Highway responsibilities on April 11. They take care of Wendell Boulevard. Seen here on duty are Phil Lee, Tim Reese, Lloyd Lancaster, and Eric Pippin. — Scott Wilkinson

# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

- 1..... Weaver, Ashley Elliot
- 1..... Baynard II, Carl Franklin
- 1..... Cyphers, James Ryan
- 1..... Flaherty, Paul Edmund
- 1..... Roberts, Vernon Chadwick
- 1..... White, Philip Curtis
- 8..... Boland, Christopher Alan
- 8..... McMillan, Kevin Vernon
- 17..... Knowles, David Lawrence
- 31..... Lueck, Charles Christopher
- 31..... Simpson, Thomas Jordan
- 31..... Starratt, Zane Zebulon
- 53..... Montgomery, Britt Hamilton
- 58..... Bell, Christopher Robert
- 76..... Jones, Charles Arthur
- 76..... Campbell, Marshall Ryan
- 76..... Ukleja, Bryan Jared
- 83..... Brucchi, Dante John
- 83..... Humphrey, Joshua Lee
- 83..... Mayes Jr., William Allen
- 83..... Anderson, Damion Anthony
- 85..... Cameron, Jerry Anthony
- 85..... Bowden, Edward Earl
- 90..... Meeks, Johnny Elliot
- 95..... Cranford, Jeremy Craig
- 98..... Smith Jr., James Roland
- 99..... Gover, Franklin Delano
- 104..... Cornelius, Ernest Alvin
- 109..... Becker, Byron Lawrence
- 109..... Peregoy, Jules Weston
- 114..... Jacobs, James Cameron
- 115..... Magnusson, Jesse James
- 125..... Apolinario, Arthur Eugenio
- 125..... Martin, Jason Gordon
- 134..... Lory, Shayne David
- 137..... Ingle, Garrett Michael
- 137..... Payne, William Joseph
- 138..... Mysiuk, Daniel Andrew
- 143..... Raines, Anthony Wayne
- 145..... McConnell, Christopher Brian
- 147..... Byrd, Cody Ryan
- 151..... Perry, Dodd Michael
- 154..... McDaniel, Michael Shane
- 165..... Raynor, Kenny Ray
- 181..... Wendler, Erick Jerome
- 188..... Gunn, Arlie Terrell
- 198..... Graham, Nathan Kyle
- 198..... Lynch, Shawn Matthew
- 207..... Gerald, Alan William

- 207..... Ward, Rohn Alan
- 207..... Ellis, James Anthony
- 207..... White Jr., Wallace Bernard
- 217..... Ennis, Ronnie Dean
- 217..... Mull, Joseph Livingston
- 217..... Deal, Robert Jason
- 217..... Lane, David Ray
- 217..... Mode, William Richard
- 217..... Monk, Shelby Travis
- 217..... Scronce, Thomas Vernon
- 231..... Flippo, Geoffery Robert
- 231..... Grishaw, Richard Warren
- 231..... Haas, Brandon Greater
- 231..... Hair, Aaron Scott
- 231..... Smith, Andrew Brandon
- 231..... Riedesel, Erik John
- 237..... Lister, Mark Christopher
- 248..... Costner Jr., Donald Wayne
- 257..... Brown, Richard Travis
- 257..... Brown, Robert James
- 259..... Minchew, Jeremy Charles
- 261..... Campbell, Lawrence Davon
- 261..... Schneider, Adriano De Bernardi
- 262..... Bolick, Keaton Harley
- 262..... Chester, Marc Roger
- 262..... Stewart, Steven Darryl
- 263..... Ducsay, David R.
- 267..... Galloway, Boyce Ricky
- 267..... Galloway, Robert Terry
- 267..... Shelton, Michael Lorene
- 271..... Andrews, Samuel Craig
- 271..... Kennedy, William Todd
- 271..... Brent, Matthew Ryan
- 271..... Harris, John Lyman
- 271..... Harris, Kenyon Lee
- 271..... McGilvray, Stephen Philip
- 272..... Moore, Jason Paul
- 272..... Smith, Stephen Ray
- 277..... Johnson, Jerry D
- 283..... Culbert, Kurt James
- 283..... Gray, Brian Nicholas
- 284..... Carico, Leslie Craig
- 284..... Hayes Jr., John Davis
- 292..... Adams, Samuel Clement
- 292..... Gahagan, Anson Donald
- 292..... Wells, Jason Allen
- 301..... Ledford, Timothy Moore
- 304..... Lewis, Joshua Glenn

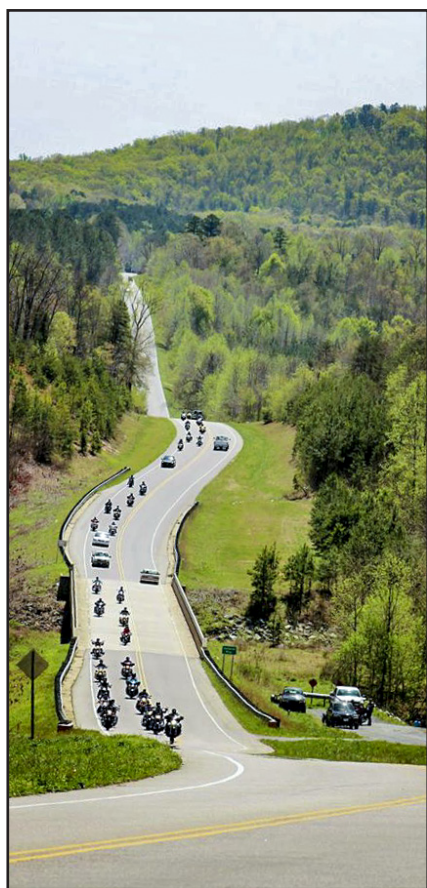
- 319..... Watson, Samuel Powell
- 339..... Roper, Daniel Ethan
- 339..... Wray, David Alan
- 340..... Young, Jason Matthew
- 344..... Zuger, David Joseph
- 357..... Garland, Elmer Daniel
- 359..... Fischer, Jerome Joseph
- 363..... Blackmon, Scottie Ray
- 363..... Byers, Clinton Edward
- 363..... Handy, Evan Quincy
- 363..... Keller, Thomas Randall
- 375..... Patterson, Matthew Ryan
- 380..... Lowery Jr., Tony Alfred
- 391..... Dodgen, Alexander Michael
- 391..... Flores Jr., Roberto
- 391..... Pugsley, Dylan Tiapula
- 397..... Penland, Joseph Paul
- 404..... Shannon, Joseph Patrick
- 409..... Spence, Brian Peter
- 409..... Berglund, Daniel Edmund
- 413..... Wells, Jonathan Michael
- 413..... Wright, Jason Tyler
- 428..... Gullickson, Larry L.
- 428..... Reitzel, Leo King
- 428..... Phillips, Douglas Brian
- 428..... Ramsey, Tony Lee
- 429..... Horst, Evan Witmer
- 429..... Pogroszewski, Thomas Michael
- 433..... Anderson, Aaron Cecil
- 434..... Choplin, James Daniel
- 434..... Gertz II, David Lawrence
- 439..... McHan Jr., Charles William
- 446..... Holland, Craig Alan
- 454..... Greene, Matthew Patrick
- 454..... Johnson, Michael Lavon
- 459..... Bryson, Kevin David
- 459..... Justice, Donovan Eric
- 459..... Londo, Evan Michael
- 461..... Gurian, Jason Paul
- 463..... Bell III, Horace Wright
- 463..... Cartwright, Todd Ray
- 472..... Hannah, Jeffery Scott
- 473..... Hedrick, Michael Scott
- 473..... Koons, Marion Patrick
- 473..... Owens, Raymond Baxter
- 473..... Parde, David DeWayne
- 474..... Stieber, Jonathan Lee
- 479..... Gainey, William Thomas

- 483..... Hutchinson, Joseph Walter
- 491..... Messer, David Lee
- 492..... Perkins, Otis Eugene
- 493..... Hall, Andrew Glenn
- 493..... McHone II, James Jonathan
- 495..... Bullard, Benjamin Jacob
- 495..... Meece, Robert Wayne
- 499..... Hixson, Eric Eugene
- 500..... Gillespie, Richard Marston
- 500..... Smith, Shawn T.
- 500..... Soper, Jason Daniel
- 500..... Todd, Michael Christian
- 500..... DeFiglio, Michael Paul
- 500..... Hemingway, Robert McCoy
- 500..... Young, William Boone
- 502..... Dunigan, Jonathan Dale
- 502..... Livert, Truman Chance
- 502..... Miller, Eric Hoyle
- 502..... Shull, Daniel Steven
- 505..... Earwood Jr., Gary Bennett
- 505..... Cook, Wesley Eugene
- 527..... Price, John Christopher
- 535..... Thompson, Zachary Steadman
- 543..... Melton, Lonnie William
- 543..... Murguz, Jason Andrew
- 562..... Ferebee, Kyle
- 562..... Hartwell, John Michael
- 562..... McGrouther, Ian
- 563..... McPherson, Michael Blake
- 564..... Rouse, Sean Thomas
- 564..... Tarkowski, Jonathan Todd
- 573..... Rhoades, Timothy Loyd
- 573..... Campbell, Joseph Melvin
- 576..... Hahn, Justin Wayne
- 578..... Dukes, Christopher Travis
- 579..... Yelton, Jasper Luther
- 583..... Tripp, Terry Lee
- 590..... Walter III, Paul
- 592..... Deaton, Brett Allan
- 606..... Bowen, Robert Allen
- 626..... Blackwelder, Dalton Blake
- 650..... Blankenship, James Michael
- 667..... Lach, Christopher Thomas
- 669..... Baker, Joshua Aaron
- 669..... Wear, Damon Jonathan
- 669..... McGrew, James William
- 669..... Hill, Jonathan Jacob
- 675..... Waters, William Charles

- 675..... Perry, Miles Rick
- 676..... Gonzalez, Giovanni
- 679..... Bates Jr., Keith Andrew
- 679..... Lynch, William Charles Robert
- 679..... Wilson III, Woodrow Wesley
- 680..... Coffman, Adam Joseph
- 680..... Whitson, Casey Eugene
- 680..... Cobb, Brandon Shane
- 680..... Cobb, Brett Dylan
- 680..... Truby-Arena, Alexander James
- 686..... Jenkins, Matthew Benjamin
- 687..... Bebout, Chad Michael
- 687..... Shiflett, Adam Michael
- 688..... Dams, William Herman John
- 691..... Jarell, Scott Garner
- 698..... Gray, Kenneth Seth
- 702..... Russell, Scott Edward
- 708..... Hicks, Tom Jeffrey
- 708..... Wirth, Brian James
- 709..... Matty, Michael Joseph
- 713..... Beale, Carroll Anthony
- 713..... Canipe, Mark Anthony
- 722..... Morgan, Benjamin Eugene
- 722..... Roddy, Jordan Alexander
- 725..... Patel, Ninad
- 727..... Lockner, Adam David
- 730..... Brewington, Samuel Mark
- 730..... Starling, Curtis William
- 732..... Pierce, James Carson
- 732..... Ross, Herbert Timothy
- 733..... Miller, Austin J
- 734..... Glenn, William Michael
- 735..... Malone, David Taylor
- 737..... Scott, Raymond Charles
- 739..... Chakra, Sary
- 740..... Grissom, Jeremy McCollum
- 747..... Ely Jr., Gerald Eugene
- 749..... Mercer, Richard Allen
- 751..... Joyce, Joseph William
- 753..... Morgan, Michael Jason
- 753..... White, Frankie Dean
- 756..... Adams, David Randall
- 756..... Bernhardt, John Phillip
- 756..... Dean, Nicholas Ryan
- 756..... Dutterer, Wayne Edward
- 756..... Eaton, Conor Lee
- 757..... Helms, Michael Lee
- 757..... Nation, Ryan Russell
- 758..... Hanna, Jeremy Daniel

Scott Wilkinson photo

Uwharrie Mountain Rumble



Jessie Leigh Roberts photos



From the Medical Committee Why do I need a flu shot every year?

By John Paschall

It seems that the flu vaccine has received a lot of attention in the past year for not being as effective as in years past. Here's why.

Influenza, or the flu, is a virus whose genetic material is made of RNA (as compared to the DNA in human cells). The shell of the virus has two main proteins, hemagglutinin (H) and neuraminidase (N). They project out like spikes, making it easier to attach to human cells and replicate. These two proteins account for the nomenclature of prevalent strains each year, such as H1N1.

The flu actually starts each year in Southeast Asia, and it can come from humans, birds, or swine. This mixing between species allows for swapping of genetic material, and the proteins change from year to year. The H3N2 strain is particularly common this year. Because of manufacturing demands, the scientists who decide which strains should be in each year's flu vaccine have to make this decision months before any particular strain becomes predominant. Considering the fact that the flu infects millions of people each year, and replicates billions of times, it's a miracle that the flu vaccine is ever a good match!

Because of the annual differences in those surface proteins, the flu can "sneak" past our immune system and not be recognized as an illness that we have had before, so we keep getting infected. The flu shot works by showing our body an inactive or "killed" form of the virus, which then teaches our immune system to recognize it once exposed, so be sure to get yours. Fooling Mother Nature can be a good thing.

Dr. John Paschall is a member of Biltmore 446.

MILEPOSTS



LEXINGTON — On April 2, Harold Bowen, center, received his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years Masonic membership. Lexington-Memorial 473 Master Harvey Fulbright, right, made the presentation. Senior Deacon Scott O'Neil is seen with them. —Tommy Jolly



WILMINGTON — Orient 395 member Horace Lee "Whitey" Prevatte received his Diamond Jubilee on April 2. It honors his 60 years membership in the fraternity. —Orient Lodge



KANNAPOLIS — Members of Allen-Graham 695 recently visited Ed Sellers, seated, at his home. They were there to give him his 60-year membership Diamond Jubilee award. Seen here, from left, are Master Mike Avery, Doug Osborne, Jeff Sellers (Ed's son), Bill Glick, Bill Harris, and James Bailey. — Doug Osborne



GASTONIA — On March 22, several members of Gastonia 369 visited Robin Johnson Hospice House to see their Brother Bob Howe, center. Thirty-sixth District Deputy Grand Lecturer Benjie Creasman, right, joined them to present Howe his Diamond Jubilee celebrating his 60 years as a Mason. Howe served as master of Gastonia Lodge in 1961-62. — Joe B. Waller



COOKVILLE — Cookville 502 held their awards ceremony April 7. They presented Diamond Jubilee awards for 60 years membership to Foy Huss, Robert Johnson, and Charlie Wyant. Darrell Sain, not pictured, got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years as a Mason. Seen here, from left, are Huss, Cookville Master Ronald Navey, Johnson, Secretary Dan Beal, and Wyant. — Dan Beal



KINSTON — St. John's 4 presented two Diamond Jubilee Awards April 13. Harold Dail and Henry Shook received the 60-year certificate and pin from Past District Deputy Grand Master Bennie Heath. Seen here, from left, are Heath, Dail, and Shook. Shook's wife Willia attended also. — Lynn Hill



BOILING SPRINGS — George Hamrick, right, received his Diamond Jubilee on March 24. Friendship 388 Master Donnie Morgan is seen here presenting the 60 years membership award. — Donnie Morgan



CARY — Green Level 277 had a special 65-year apron made for Billy Upchurch. Upchurch is seen here receiving the apron from Green Level Master Mack McCorkle Jr. at the lodge's April stated communication. — Mack McCorkle Jr.



NEW BERN — Gordon W. Crossman, center, of Semper Fidelis 680 got quite the surprise at the Grand Master's District meeting here April 27. Grand Master Douglas Caudle presented Crossman the Diamond Jubilee for his 60 years membership. Seen here, from left, are Semper Fidelis Master Robert Morrell, Crossman, and Caudle. — Howard Kahn

# Vance Monument being restored

By Mark-Ellis Bennett

ASHEVILLE — On March 31, the Zeb Vance Monument's Masonic cornerstone and its deposit were removed from the 65-foot high, 117-year-old granite obelisk in the heart of Asheville's historic Pack Square. The cornerstone is inscribed, "DEC. 22 A.L. 5897 WALTER E. MOORE GRAND MASTER." The intention was to remove the copper box from behind the cornerstone and reveal its contents in May in time for the scheduled rededication, but the monument's weight shifted over the years making clean removal of the time capsule impossible.

The box was found to contain copies of the Asheville Daily Citizen, and the Colored Enterprise newspapers, blackened coins, a Holy Bible, the city phone directory, and other documents of both local and Masonic significance. Archivist Heather South with the North Carolina Archives & History's western office audited the collection and is expected to preserve it for future generations.

In 1897, local Masons and Grand Lodge members gathered on Pack Square to lay the cornerstone for Asheville's most recognizable landmark. The monument was designed by Richard Sharp Smith in remembrance of US Senator, Congressman, and North Carolina Governor Zebulon Baird Vance. Smith was originally brought from New York by Richard Morris Hunt to be Supervising Architect for George Washington Vanderbilt III's Biltmore House.

The rededication of the monument was set for June 6. *Mark-Ellis Bennett is Mount Hermon 118 historian.*



## Garner Lodge's new award

GARNER — If you want to honor a man, give him an award. If he deserves much more, name an award for him. Garner 701 launched a new lodge award last year to be presented annually to the lodge's outstanding Master Mason. 2014 Master James Ferrell created the Jimmy Stevens Lion's Paw Award. Jimmy Stevens, seen above, is a 28-year Mason and a long-time cornerstone of his lodge. He serves Grand Lodge as judge advocate.

## 26th Masonic Blood Drive collects 400 units

STATESVILLE — The 26th Annual Masonic Blood Drive collected nearly 400 units of blood January 9. The drive is the largest in North Carolina. Masons across the western part of the piedmont sponsor the event. The collection was smaller than usual, but was considered good in the face of a flu outbreak and bad weather.

They collected blood at six different locations this year: Statesville 27 worked the Statesville Civic Center, Hickory 343 was in their lodge building, Lee 253 was in the First Baptist Church in Taylorsville, Conover 709 collected at the Conover Fire Department, Mooresville 496 was in the Charles Mack Citizens Center, and the Rowan County lodges operated in the Salisbury Masonic Temple.

All donors received an American Red Cross t-shirt and special baked goodies.

## In this issue of The NC Mason

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page 1

**Battleship North Carolina hosts Master Mason Degree**



page 1

**Uwharrie Mountain Rumble gathers for fun**



page 8

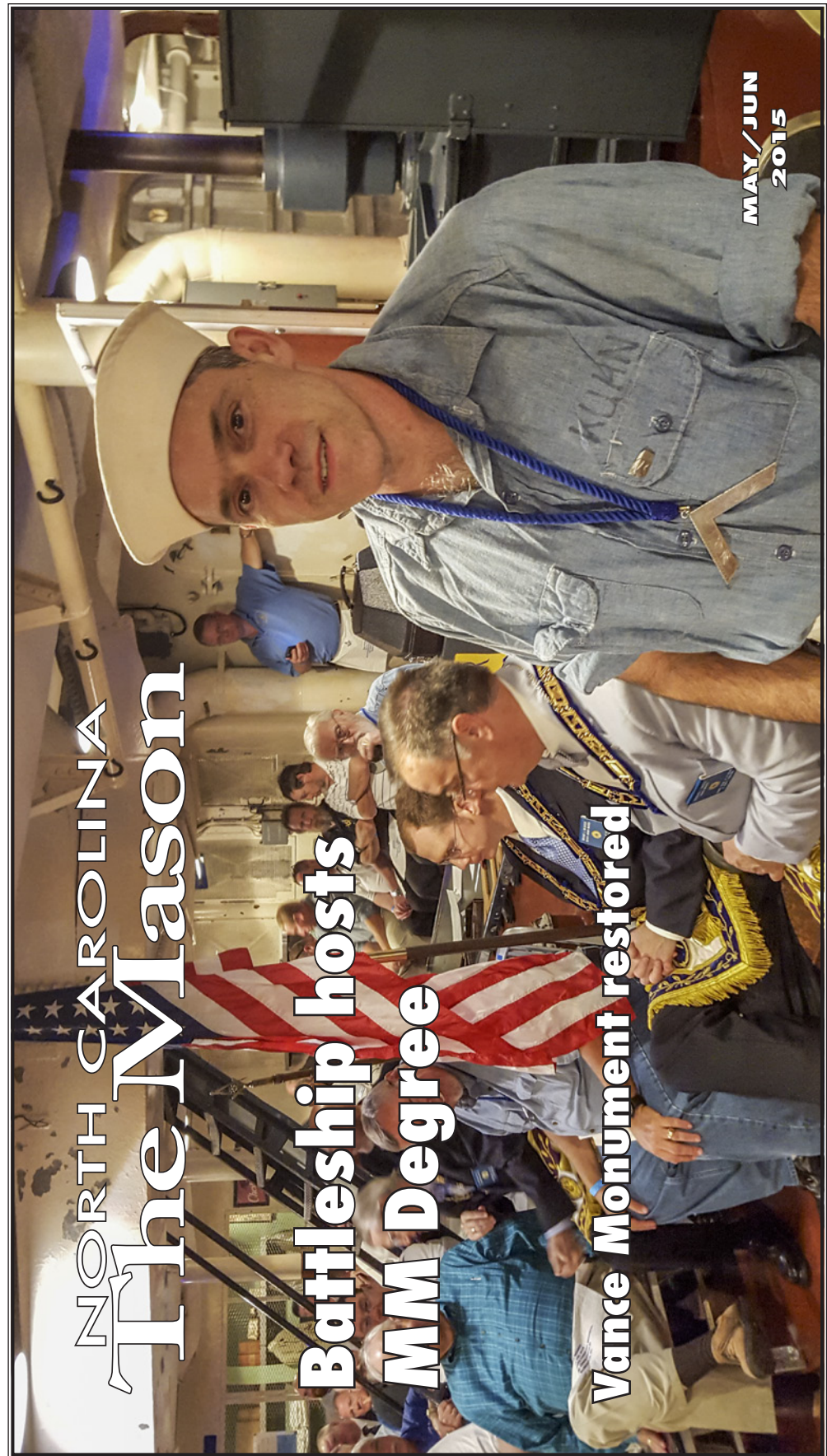
**Vance Monument set for rededication**

**On the cover**

One of our state's greatest landmarks was the site for a recent St. John's 1 Master Mason Degree. Adam Jennings photo

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

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



MAY/JUN 2015