



# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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

Volume 140 Number 4

Oxford, North Carolina

July/August 2015

## Grand Lodges rededicate NC Capitol

*By Ric Carter*

RALEIGH — On June 13, our Grand Lodge and NC's Prince Hall Grand Lodge joined North Carolina historical groups and the NC Department of Cultural Resources to celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1840 opening of the North Carolina State Capitol building. Capitol Square was already littered with historical displays and reenactors by 11:00 A.M. for the launch of the all-day celebration.

The Masons, who had already opened and closed an emergent communication of the Grand Lodge earlier that morning at the Raleigh Masonic Temple, gathered at the Legislative Building on Jones Street to begin their aproned procession between the Museums of History and Natural Sciences. They headed down Salisbury Street and turned toward the Capitol, passing the statue of the three North Carolina born presidents. The procession, led by Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle and Prince Hall Junior Grand Warden Daniel L. Thompson,

■ see CAPITOL, page 8



Ric Carter photo



Ric Carter photo

## Annual meeting time

*By Ric Carter*

WINSTON-SALEM — Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle will preside as our 2015 Annual Communication opens in Winston-Salem. The 228<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina is scheduled for September 25–26. The communication will be at the Twin City Quarter here, the same hotel we have used the last few years. It will be the headquarters hotel, the site of all committee meetings, and Grand Lodge business sessions.

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

Workshops and committee meetings held before the official sessions will be at the Twin City Quarter on Thursday, September 24. The Lodge Secretary's Workshops will be held there at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Thursday.

All voting sessions will be held in the Twin City Quarter's Grand Pavilion Friday and Saturday, September 25–26. Lodge officers are asked to bring and wear their aprons for all business sessions. All Masons must present their dues card and give the pass to enter business sessions.

■ see ANN COMM, page 3



# Vance monument rededicated



Ric Carter photos



*By Mark-Ellis Bennett*

ASHEVILLE — Masons from across the state and beyond gathered here June 6 for the rededication of the Vance Monument cornerstone at Pack Square. A procession of about 100 Masons clad in white lambskin aprons, and their families, progressed up Broadway from the Masonic Temple to the square where the rededication of the Vance Monument cornerstone took place. Also in attendance at the ceremony were representatives of the more than 150 donors who contributed to the recent cleaning and restoration of the monument.

The monument was erected to the memory of Zebulon Baird Vance, a Confederate military officer in the American Civil War, the 37<sup>th</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> Governor of North Carolina, U.S. Senator, and member of Mt. Hermon 118.

“Three years ago the 26<sup>th</sup> NC Regiment entered into a partnership with the City of Asheville for the purpose of raising of the necessary funds to conserve the Zebulon Vance Monument. Now, we find ourselves at the completion of this worthy project,” said master of ceremonies Randal Garrison.

The restoration process led to the discovery of the deposit box placed in the cornerstone at its dedication. Thanks to the Western Regional Archives of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, and archivist Heather South, the contents of the Vance Monument deposit have been saved from destruction by exposure to the elements and preserved for future generations.

“Just as the cornerstone of the Vance Monument was dedicated in 1897 by the Grand Master of Freemasons of North Carolina, I am honored and pleased that the current Grand Master, Douglas Caudle, and members of the Grand Lodge could join us today to rededicate the cornerstone,” Garrison said.

Caudle pointed out that officers of the Lodge wore collars with jewels around their necks. “The jewel that I am wearing dates back to 1873, and is the same jewel

that Grand Master Moore wore 118 years ago when he laid the cornerstone. Due to its historical significance, I wear this jewel only for special occasions such as this.” Caudle then officiated in conducting the Masonic Rites. He declared the monument to be “well formed, true and trusty, and correctly placed according to the rules of the ancient customs,” and solemnly dedicated the monument in the name of God to virtue and universal benevolence.

Elements of the rededication ceremony, such as the poetry, and singing of patriotic songs were taken from the original dedication ceremony and the monument’s early history. The North Buncombe High School Chamber Choir performed a stirring a cappella rendition of “America.” Asheville City Councilman Jan Davis and Chair of the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, David Gantt, offered comments from the city and the county respectively.

Davis noted that the square was always historically the center of town, the center of activity for public engagement, and remains so today. He said that when an edition of the *Colored Enterprise* was discovered in the 1897 time capsule it told us a lot about our community. “A third of our inhabitants at that time were African-American. There’s been a little bit of controversy about why that community’s not recognized here.” He said a monument is an example of history, but sees no reason why there should not be a marker in the area to recognize them.

Gantt noted that 1897 was a difficult time for some in the community, and said there is no reason we can’t talk about all the history instead of part of it. “We were passing Jim Crow laws, putting discrimination into law, and it was wrong. We can’t whitewash that and just forget about it, but what we can do is balance it with who Zeb Vance was.”

Gantt, an Asheville attorney, spoke about the meteoric rise of Vance’s political career. “Zeb Vance, as governor, said North Carolina is going to be the only state in the Confederacy that still observes Habeas

Corpus, which means people have a right to know what they’re charged with and how to get out of jail.” Gantt said we can’t celebrate the monument to support past policies on race. “They were wrong, everybody here knows that.” Gantt discouraged the community from cherry-picking historical events to affect their understanding of the past and invited them to “look at the whole picture.”

Chris Roberts, as president and commanding officer of the Society for the Historical Preservation of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment North Carolina Troops, and Padgett & Freeman Architects associate had the lead role in the restoration of the Vance Monument, and organizing the rededication ceremony.

In his closing remarks Roberts spoke about how Vance was remembered upon his death. “His funeral in Washington was attended by a majority of the House and Senate, justices of the Supreme Court, the commanders of the Army and the Navy, President Grover Cleveland, and Vice President Stevenson. A delegation of six senators and seven representatives was selected to escort his body back home.” A procession reported to have numbered 10,000 pedestrians and 710



## ANN COMM, from page 1

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

Grand Master Caudle will open the first session at 10:00 A.M. on Friday morning. That's when you'll see the formal opening and welcoming of special guests. Grand Orator Andrew Hammer, Masonic scholar and secretary of Virginia's Alexander Washington 22, will make the keynote address. The rest of the morning, a number of reports will be read and others submitted for the record without reading.

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

A memorial service for those Masons who died in the past year will follow the call from refreshment to labor. The Grand Master's Report is next. Other reports will also be received. Some voting will take place on Friday afternoon. We usually break about 4:00 P.M.

For you late-night types, there are several restaurants and night spots along the streets around the hotel for you to spend your evening with friends and brothers.

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

Grand Lodge officers. Business is generally concluded around lunch time.

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

We hope to see you there!

Don't miss a special attraction this year, a charity silent auction for MESH Foundation sponsored by the wives of Grand Lodge officers. They'll be set up near the vendor area in the Embassy Suites. Art, sports tickets and memorabilia, Masonic paraphernalia, gavels, gifts suitable to take home to your wife, and much more will be featured. Don't miss it! Help expand our charity for our seniors.

# Know your officers

By Ric Carter

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

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

Starting just outside the divider is Grand Tyler Kevin Combs (Statesville 27) from Statesville. He'll be helped out by assistant tylers who will be posted at the several entrances to the meeting room to check your dues card and listen to a whispered password.

At the front of the auditorium, a lodge room will be set on and in front of the stage. It has much the same form as your blue lodge, but with a station or two added. Four officers will be on the stage facing the crowd. Front and center on the stage will be Grand Master (GM) Douglas L. Caudle (Statesville 27). Caudle and his wife Angela live in Statesville and a small farm in Stony Point. They own and operate Piedmont Fiberglass.

On his right will be Deputy Grand Master (DGM) Bryant D. Webster (Nichols-West Asheville 650). Webster is a lawyer and lives in Black Mountain with his wife Janet and daughter Amy.

On the left side of the stage is Grand Treasurer (GT) Lewis R. Ledford (Statesville 27). Ledford recently retired as director of NC State Parks. He is now executive director of the National Association of State Park Directors.

He and his wife Susan live in Raleigh. Ledford was grand master in 2011.

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

Seated at the back of the stage in neat rows are special guests and past grand masters. The special guests include officers from state appendant bodies and officers from other grand lodges and Masonic organizations.

The rest of the officers are on the auditorium floor in front of the stage. Facing the stage, with his back to the delegates, you'll find Senior Grand Warden (SGW) A. Gene Cobb Jr. (Royal White Hart 2). Cobb is minister at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Sanford where he lives with his wife Brenda. Their children are grown.

Junior Grand Deacon (JGD) Dwight M. "Mack" Sigmon (Catawba 248) sits on Cobb's right. Sigmon and his wife Linda live in Newton and have a grown son and two grandchildren. Sigmon is retired from GE.

On the south side of the floor, to the delegates' right, is Junior Grand Warden (JGW) Jimmie B. Hicks Jr. (St. John's 3). Hicks is a lawyer in New Bern. He has a grown son and college student daughter.

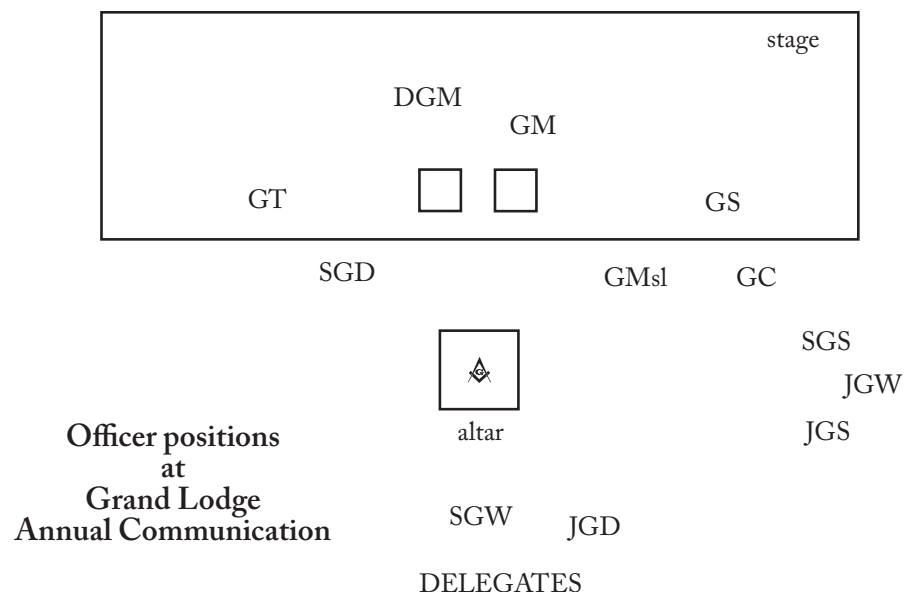
At the meeting, Hicks is flanked by the grand stewards. Senior Grand Steward R. David Wicker (Oak Grove

750) is nearest the stage, and Junior Grand Steward Larry B. Thompson Jr. (Blackmer 127) is nearest the delegates. Wicker is a lawyer. He and his wife Susan have three nearly grown children and live in Oxford. Thompson is an environmental supervisor. He and his wife Angela have six children ranging from less than one year old to more than 17 years old. They live in Salisbury.

Senior Grand Deacon (SGD) Speed Hallman (Eagle 19) sits before the stage in front of the grand treasurer, to the grand master's right. Hallman and his wife Susan live in Hillsborough. They have two sons, one in college and one in grad school. Hallman is senior director of development for the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Another officer in the Grand Lodge line we don't have in the blue lodge progression to master is grand marshal (GMsl). Grand Marshal Shaun Bradshaw (Stokesdale 428) holds that chair beside Grand Chaplain (GC) David R. Cash (PGM) (Campbell 374). Bradshaw is a software consultant. He and his wife Sharon live in Greensboro. They have a teen-aged son and daughter.

There, you have it — the starting line up for the 228<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. Don't get cocky, though. We'll elect new officers at this meeting. They'll be installed in December and take us all, once again, into a new year, and a fresh learning experience for them and for us.



# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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

Third class postage paid at Oxford, NC 27565.

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

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Each North Carolina Mason is a subscriber to *The North Carolina Mason*. If you know a member who is not receiving the paper, please send us his full name, his complete address, and the name and number of his lodge. Masonic widows receive *The Mason* free upon request. Subscriptions are available to others at a rate of five dollars per year. Subscription inquiries and address changes only should be sent to: The School of Graphic Arts, Masonic Home for Children, 600 College Street, Oxford, North Carolina 27565.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of *The North Carolina Mason*, the Grand Lodge, or Board of Publication.



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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.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

# Our new look

Welcome to the new, and improved *North Carolina Mason*.

We're now in a more convenient package and, most obviously, in full color.

Over the years, there has been consideration of going to a more modern look for *The North Carolina Mason*. Concerns of cost and effects on the Home for Children's School of Graphic Arts kept those goals in the dream category.

Early in his term, Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle asked us to seriously consider the possibilities, exploring both cost and viability of a more modern look. In March, officials of the Print Shop, Board of Publication, Grand Lodge office, and Grand Lodge officers met in Raleigh to look at the numbers. The School of Graphic Arts reported they could get the printing done at an associate's facility. The cost would be somewhat, but not prohibitively, more.

Grand Master Caudle liked the report he got and asked us when we could make it happen.

The answer is, "Now." You have in your hand the first edition in the new format. The smaller-in-the-hand paper has about the same amount of space for news as the old newspaper. The paper is better quality and will contain color throughout.

Grand Master Caudle said, "*The North Carolina Mason* is our only communication device that reaches all our membership. We need to make this medium as pleasing to the eye and as accessible and strong as possible. Adding color and a friendlier format is a first step to make our publication even better. When you have read an issue, leave it where

non-Mason friends can see it. The Grand Lodge officers, Board of Publication, and the editor are looking at several other ways to expand and integrate all our communication tools."

We have kept many of the same design elements and content. We hope to maintain a familiar feel for the reader. *The NC Mason* has evolved slowly over the years as we've tried out new features and dropped old approaches. So also will it continue in the future as we explore fresh ways to use our new newspaper.

We will need some help from you besides your continuing submissions of news tips and stories. The better newsprint and color will require higher quality photographs. Some of the pictures we have accepted in the past will no longer be usable. We'll need color photos taken with better cameras or phones; no more small, shaky images. Appearance on a computer screen is not entirely suitable for judging images. We prefer your original electronic file, not prints, but will continue to consider prints. Send us your original, uncompressed files. If you do that, we will process them for their best look in the new format. If you need help working through those changes, do not hesitate to contact the editor at <rcarter@glnc.us>. If your photos do not meet the new quality standards, your news item will still be used, but without a photo.

As ever, we solicit your suggestions and comments. We hope you find this new direction for us all as exciting as we do; a sign of a vibrant, living fraternity; but still recognize a familiar old friend.

## Amendments we'll consider

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

A lodge cannot and should not attempt to bind its delegates to a specific vote on a particular question. Very often, the amendments are changed on the floor before voting. More often still, arguments not thought of in analysis or lodge debate arise at the meeting, bringing a different outlook to the proposal. Discuss the votes and suggest the thinking of the lodge.

Your delegates should vote in the best interests of all Masonry after hearing all discussion.

Following are the proposals to be considered at this year's meeting. Groups 1 and 2 concern residency of Grand Lodge appointees. They first showed up last year. Group 1 returns modified after being defeated last year. Group 2 was not voted on last year, but was returned for further work.

**Group 1** concerns residency requirements for Grand Lodge committee, board, or commission membership. Currently, members must live within the state. These groups have a limited number of meetings each year, usually no more than four. Committees increasingly utilize phone

■ see AMENDMENT, page 11



## THE BOTTOM LINE



# Guarding the West Gate

By Douglas L. Caudle  
Grand Master

“If, in the circle of your acquaintance, you find a person desirous of being initiated into Masonry, be particularly attentive not to recommend him unless you are convinced he will conform to our rules.” These are a portion of the words in our *North Carolina Lodge Manual (Bahnsen Manual)* concerning men wanting to join our Craft.

Our communities today are more transient, and we often do not know our neighbors or co-workers. In years past, families lived in the same community for many generations. Many times, members of the lodge knew the petitioner’s father and grandfather and could effectively give an opinion on his character. Today, this is the exception rather than the norm. Therefore, we must be more diligent in our checks into the character of men who seek admission into our lodges. With low initiation fees, it is easy for a man to petition a lodge just to satisfy his curiosity.

With the technology of today, we can easily check into the criminal background of a petitioner. A few years ago, we began public records investigations on every applicant for the degrees. I have been shocked at the information received from these background checks. Convictions of many crimes (some serious) are often listed in these reports. However, criminal checks are only a part of a man’s character.

An additional way to determine character is to visit the candidate in his home. Many lodges have stopped having home visits by the investigation committee to expedite the process. Home visits give the committee an insight into the petitioner’s life.

We must also resist the temptation to quickly recommend someone just because they have a desire to join. Before signing a petition, we must ask ourselves, “Would I trust this man with my wife, mother, sister, or daughter?” Certainly I am not suggesting that we be so selective that we never allow anyone to join. However, we must not take it lightly when signing a petition for membership.

### Investigation Committee guideline

One of the topics of discussion in my District meetings, was the need for guidelines for our Investigating Committees. Currently, we have no official guideline to conduct this important part of our labors. Although *The Code* gives many rules, we do not have a practical guideline to help us put this important task into practice. Many times, Lodges rely upon their usual customs when an investigation committee is needed. Brothers Mack Sigmon and Larry Thompson have compiled a two-part guideline consisting of a checklist that you can take with you to the interview and a primer to refresh the committee on all of the aspects this important committee. This guideline will soon be available on the Grand Lodge website.

### Charles Cathey Masonic Scholarship campaign

The sale of the decals that each North Carolina Mason has received has been brisk. Many of you

have contributed the requested \$25 donation, and several have been most generous by contributing even more. I appreciate each of you who have helped with this wonderful and needed program. Our target is to raise enough funds to double the amount of scholarships awarded each year to 16. Although we are well on our way we have not quite reached that goal. I ask your to please consider helping these deserving high school seniors further their education.

### Annual Communication

The Grand Lodge Annual Communication Committee has been working very hard to make this year’s event even more special. A new audio system will be in place so that everyone will be able to hear better. Additional video monitors will also be used so that reports being presented can be easily seen as well.

This year we will also be incorporating more music into the program. We have beautiful music hidden in plain sight. Our *Bahnsen Manual* has music for each degree that will be presented. We will also have group songs that we will be singing at the opening of Annual Communication and during the necrology service.

The vendor area will be doubled in size to give better access. The Grand Lodge ladies will be conducting a silent auction to benefit White-Stone’s MESH Foundation LLC. As a special feature, we will be having a special speaker during our Saturday morning session. I look forward to seeing you at our annual session September 25–26 in Winston-Salem.



## Rash named Montfort Medalist

STATESVILLE — Keith B. Rash, left, is the latest recipient of the Joseph Montfort Medal, North Carolina Freemasonry’s highest honor. At his final district meeting May 27, Grand Master Douglas Caudle, right, presented Rash the honor.

Rash, a member of Harmony 299, is currently grand lecturer. He is past district grand master and past district deputy grand lecturer of the 30<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. Back in 1996–1997, he served as DDGL of the then 51<sup>st</sup> District at the same time his father, John B. Rash, center, was DDGM.

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.

— Mack Sigmon



# TRAVELING THE TARHEEL STATE

## High Point

Acacia 674 is planning a bus trip to Washington, DC October 3–5. They'll be visiting several Masonic landmarks including Mount Vernon, the Scottish Rite's House of the Temple, and the George Washington National Memorial. They'll also see the standard memorial attractions. Prices for the trip range from \$215 to \$439 depending on accommodations. Contact Dan Smith or Joe Honeycutt for details. — *The Word*

Numa F. Reid 344 is handing out service awards. Dale Harlow Guthrie and George William Lowe are set for their Diamond Jubilees for 60 years membership. Bruce Simmons, David Watts Petree, and William Horace McKinney are getting Veteran's Emblems for their 50 years in the lodge.

Reid Lodge was planning a hamburger and hot dog family cookout for July 18. — *The Word*

## Conover

Estimates for planned improvements to Conover 709 were set at \$17,000. The plans include replacing the carpet and renovation of the dining hall. They are soliciting their membership for donations to the cause as well as funding eventual replacement of the heating and air conditioning system.

On May 16, Conover Lodge was holding their annual fundraiser. They sell food at the Antique Tractor Show and Tractor Pull at the Catawba County Fair Grounds. They made \$2,000 at the event last year.

— *Conover Lodge News*

## Jacksonville

Semper Fidelis 680 is using a call committee this year. One of its successes has been in getting some members back to their monthly breakfasts.

They held a Valentine Dinner featuring spaghetti to honor the ladies.

The Lodge Relay for Life project raised \$1,400 for cancer research.

Grand Master Doug Caudle presented Gordon Crossman his Diamond Jubilee on April 27 to honor his 60 years as a Mason. — *Trestle Board*

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 from 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.



## NEWS FROM OUR LODGES

By Ric Carter



## Cleveland

Scotch Ireland 154 called a May 9 work day to assemble and install the new chairs lodge members have purchased. A large plaque is being made to honor the donors.

Other work committees are focused on some other projects. They've started a roof fund. Another group is working on the back porch they added a couple of years ago. Gene Myers has donated two padded seats to the lodge. — *Newsletter*

## Winston-Salem

Winston 167 is having a big fundraiser raffle for the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. A five-dollar ticket gets you chances at a number of great prizes including a rifle, a Carolina Panthers shadowbox, a wine tasting at a local vineyard, club seats for a Wake Forest University football game, rounds of golf at Heather Hills, free dinners, and gift cards to area businesses.

— Matthew Shelton

The Bikes for Books program Old Town 751 has sponsored for some years continues to grow. Eight bikes were awarded this year, two each at Rural Hall, Gibson, Old Town, and Old Richmond elementary schools. They have given away 58 bicycles since the first in 2009. They are discussing adding even more schools. They are getting the prizes on display earlier to make sure the teachers have the ammunition to encourage the kids to read more.

During the summer's Bethania Craft Fair, Old Town Lodge set up an information booth. While the booth was simply to give people information about the fraternity, they did pick up a few donations to our charities.

Old Town's senior past master was pulled out of "retirement" to work the second section of a Master Mason Degree earlier this year.

Planning for the lodge's fall raffle coming up in November is beginning.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

## Fayetteville

Creasy Proctor 679 held a Rusty Nail Degree June 2. For those of you who have not heard of it, the Rusty Nail is a program for Masons who have long been away from lodge and wish to become active again. They may have forgotten protocol or even passes and signs. The Rusty Nail review reacquaints them with the basics of getting through a meeting. — *Derec Mercer*

Proctor Lodge was also having their Fifth Thursday Dinner Club on June 30. They were serving steaks and having their rifle raffle that night.

— *17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

Phoenix 8 held their Annual Family Picnic May 29.

— *17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

Fort Bragg 667 moved in May. After years of problems involved with an unauthorized building project, they have finally sold their building, retiring their debt. They are now meeting on second Wednesdays at Phoenix 8's historic building. Several members and friends helped them pack up their possessions to move them on May 9.

— *17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

## Hope Mills

On June 20, Lebanon 391 helped a neighbor clear a lot to prevent incurring a city fine. They tore down an old building and piled up the refuse for easier disposal.

The lodge's sixth annual golf tournament was set for May 30 at Gates Four Golf and Country Club. Grab bags, door prizes, pro shop discount, and unlimited range balls were included.

Lebanon Lodge held a 30/30 gun raffle in June. A \$30 ticket got you 30 chances over 30 days. Proceeds are for our Home for Children, Warrior 360, local teachers, and the Daniel Decrisco Memorial Scholarship.

Lebanon 391's degree team won the Entered Apprentice ritual contest in Greensboro on June 13.

— *17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

see next page



### Greensboro

The Masons of Greensboro were once again running a float in the city's Independence Day Parade. Volunteers rode on the float and brought candy to toss to parade spectators. — Jeff Bullington

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Masonic District held an Easter Egg Hunt at WhiteStone on March 28. — P. P. Turner Lodge

Guilford 656 held the Second Annual Howard Coble Citizenship Award Fundraiser May 30. The event was held at the Greensboro Masonic Temple. The dinner with entertainment and a silent auction was to raise money for the Masonic Home for Children.

Criteria for nominees include being a "model citizen" who serves the community as a volunteer, works with youth, "serves the country in an exemplary way," and "deserves a pat on the back." Nominations each required a \$75 nomination fee. Coble himself was to present the award this year. Howard Coble is a former US Representative from Greensboro and a member of Guilford Lodge.

Guilford was having their St. John's Day Picnic June 27 at Gibson Park in High Point. They were bringing covered dishes, and the lodge was furnishing the drinks. — Chester Holder

It's been a good year at the Greensboro Police Department for Gate City 694 members. Wayne Scott was named the new police chief and Bill Ladd was named the department's Volunteer of the Year. Both are Gate City members.

Gate City had a raffle in May for a Remington Versa shotgun. Proceeds were for the Masonic Home for Children.

On May 28, members of the lodge were going to a Greensboro Grasshoppers minor league baseball game. It was no coincidence that they chose a Thirsty Thursday to attend as a group.

Other events at Gate City included their regular Adopt-A-Street cleanup May 30, their Boston Butt fundraiser June 13, and an open house hot dog and hamburger dinner at the lodge. Their Fish Fry is set for September 12 and Ladies' Night for October 17.

— Gary Balance and *Trestleboard*

Greensboro 76 members were going to a Grasshopper game as a group June 4. — Phillip Bialek

P. P. Turner 746 is changing their stated communication time to 7:00 P.M. from 7:30 P.M. They hope it will allow members to get home earlier.

— P. P. Turner Lodge

### Kenansville

St. John's 13 traveled to James Sprunt Community College on May 1 to help Relay for Life fight cancer. The lodge raised \$321 for the drive by selling barbecue sandwiches at the event.

At the lodge's May meeting, Jimmy Powell got his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years in the lodge, and Hank Gurley got his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years.

Their lodge's September Chicken Pastry Dinner has traditionally been held at Maxwell's Mill. This year, they are moving it to the lodge dinning room.

— *Lodge Log*

### Ranger

Montgomery 426 was holding their annual Memorial Weekend Hickory-Smoked Boston Butt Fundraiser on May 22. They were distributing the butts for \$30 each and saving customers some of their cooking chores for the holiday weekend. Profits were earmarked for the Masonic Homes and local charities.

— Brian Rau

### Spruce Pine

Gus McKinney, a 57-year member of Vesper 554, recently had the front porch at historical Orchard at Altapass named in his honor. More than 150 people, including eight past masters, a state senator, district attorney, and several judges, were on hand to see him honored. McKinney has served the community in many capacities and several elected offices.

— *Newsletter*



### Southport

Pythagoras 249's annual fish fry was termed a success. We have yet to hear results from another of their big annual events — their Independence Day Hot Dog Sale. They hold the three-day sale around Southport's downtown celebration.

— *Newsletter*

### Hookerton

The Sixth Masonic District raised five new Masons at an outdoor Master Mason Degree just outside town here May 30. Greenville's Crown Point 708 hosted.

— Chuck Smithwick

Jerusalem 95 sends monthly checks for \$30 to a lady at WhiteStone. They passed the hat at lodge in May and picked up \$221 to build up the account.

— *The Jerusalem Journal*

### Matthews

The Fall Golf Tournament Fund Raiser at Matthews 461 is set for October 16 at Stonebridge Golf Club in Monroe.

— Brian Turner

### Southern Pines

June 1 marks Past Masters' and Awards Night at Southern Pines 484. WhiteStone Director Mark Kolada was guest speaker.

May 1 the lodge held their popcorn and snow cone sale at the town's Uptown First Friday Block Party. Proceeds were for the Masonic Homes.

— Gene Maples

### Concord

Stokes 32 sponsored a visit from NC Blood Bank May 2. It honored Gerald Oliver. They had a 30 unit goal. Later that night, they were assembling at the local Relay for Life cancer charity event.

June brought the lodge Terry Cox's popular program "The Secrets of Masonry Unfolded."

On June 20, they were having their annual Chicken Dinner fundraiser.

— Thomas A. VanEtten

## A fresh visitation

FRANKLINVILLE — Hanks 128 had a special group of visitors at their April 13 stated communication. Among the VIPs were 24<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master Lee Bunting and 24<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Lecturer Wayne Morton. They were also joined by the local Prince Hall DDGM and a DDGM from South Carolina, a large turnout of past masters and a lodge full of Master Masons. The diverse group of Masons from multiple jurisdictions enjoyed a meal together before the meeting. Lodge Master Keith Eddins described it as an "awesome night for Masonry and Brothers dwelling together in harmony." The added bonus for the night was reading three petitions for the degrees.

— Keith Eddins

### Pilot Mountain

Rick Smith visited East Surry High School May 29 to present Pilot 493's scholarship. Pamela Grizzell was the honoree. One of the ways they raise money for this scholarship is at lodge dinners during the year. For instance, recently Mike and Ann Register did a Low Country boil before a meeting. The meal raised \$165 for the scholarship fund.

One of the lodge's favorite fundraisers each year is the hot dog sale at Dickie Crump's Sandwich Shop downtown in Pilot Mountain. The world famous Squeeze Box hot dog features a secret chili recipe. This year's event, held May 2, made \$1,700 for Masonic charities. Twenty-five volunteers sold 804 hot dogs.

Dickie Crump was named Treasurer of Distinction by Pilot Lodge. He has served in the office since 1999.

The lodge is looking at the cost of improving handicap accessibility to its restrooms.

— *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

see STATE page 12



## VANCE, from page 2

carriages set out to Riverside Cemetery, his final resting place.

Vance finally got his Masonic funeral April 14, 2005, when Grand Master Graham Pervier opened Grand Lodge and assembled masons at Vance's Riverside Cemetery grave here.

*Mark-Ellis Bennett is lodge historian of Mount Hermon 118.*



## CAPITOL, from page 1

advanced to the eastern entrance of the Capitol where they joined state and historical officials from around North Carolina.

Grand Master Caudle introduced the fraternity to the crowd and explained the ceremony to be performed. Caudle wore the same jewel worn there by Grand Master Simmons J. Baker when he dedicated the Capitol's cornerstone. Members and officers of both grand lodges then performed the ancient ceremony of dedication, reenacting the ceremony which would have been performed at the building's cornerstone in 1833. Construction of the current Capitol began that year just after fire destroyed the previous seat of North Carolina government. The recent celebration celebrated the 1840 opening of the finished building.

Grand Lodge officers of each jurisdiction performed their parts, applying the tools of a Mason (the plumb, the square, and the level) to the symbolic cornerstone to declare that it was "square, level, plumb, true and trusty, and dedicated according to our ancient customs."

In his postscript to the ceremony, Daniel L. Thompson said, "Let us strive to let Brotherly Love serve as our prism for viewing the human family, and let it always remind us that we are our Brother's Keeper. Let

us strive to let relief serve as our standard for serving the high, the low, the rich, the poor; all who were created in the image of God, and let us strive to let truth and the square of virtue characterize our every act, deed, and endeavor."

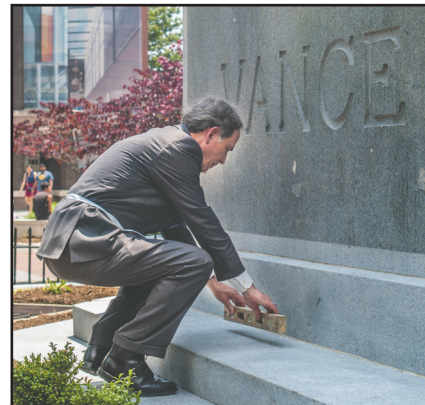
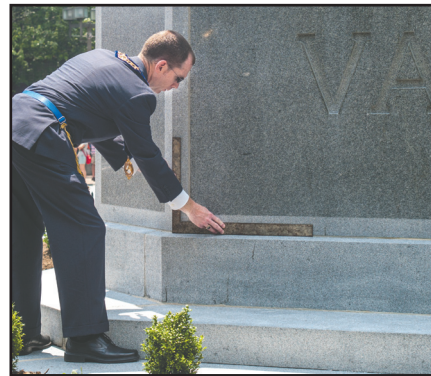
After Masons started the day with their serious and thought provoking ritual, the rest of the day was more festive. There was music and barbecue and dancing and history demonstrations spread around the grounds for the afternoon and evening.

State Capitol Site Administrator Terra Schramm said, "The daytime festivities and evening concert launch a year of special programs and exhibits at the State Capitol that aim to capture public interest and inspire a new generation to participate in the history that continues to be made here every day." The legislature moved to Jones street in the 1960s, but Governor Pat McCrory maintains his office in the building. The building served as the site of the 2010 installation of Grand Lodge officers during Grand Master Lewis Ledford's term. The House Chamber there was also the site of the recognition compact between our Grand Lodge and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge November 21, 2008.

*Ric Carter photos*







*Ric Carter photos*





# MILEPOSTS



Graham Star photo

**ROBBINSVILLE** — Robbinsville 672 members Thomas A. Carpenter, left, and Thomas E. Davis, right, recently received their Diamond Jubilees for 60 years membership. Deputy Grand Master Bryant Webster, center, made the presentations. —Jim Hyde



**WHITEVILLE** — Lebanon 207 member Roy Lindbergh Lowe, seated, has received his 60-year Diamond Jubilee Award. He is seen here with, standing from left, Lebanon Master Randy Williamson, 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic District Deputy Grand Master Edward Davis, and Lebanon Lodge Secretary John Norosky. — John Norosky



**KENANSVILLE** — Johnny Powell, center, recently received his Diamond Jubilee honoring his 60 years as a Mason. He is seen here with Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo, left, and PDDGM Raymond Turner. — Luther Jones



**FOREST CITY** — Guy Duncan, right, of Forest City 381 got his Diamond Jubilee on April 28. The honor for his 60 years as a Mason was presented by Lodge Master Eric Shelton, left. — Dewey Webb



Graham Star photo

**ROBBINSVILLE** — Three Robbinsville 672 members, Lowell D. Irons, Huel C. Millsaps, and William Edward Truitt, recently got their Veteran's Emblems for reaching 50 years of membership in the fraternity. Deputy Grand Master Bryant Webster made the presentations. Seen here, from left, are Irons, Webster, Millsaps, and Truitt. — Jim Hyde



**CASHIERS** — Glenville 551's Tom Dillard, right, recently got his Diamond Jubilee for his 60 years in the lodge. Family and friends joined members of the lodge at Dillard's home here for the ceremony. Glenville Lodge Master Michael Gregory, left, made the presentation. — Dave Cashion



**FOREST CITY** — Forest City 381 presented Wayne Hardin with his 50-year award, the Veteran's Emblem, on April 28. Lodge Master Eric Shelton made the presentation. — Dewey Webb



**KENANSVILLE** — St. John's 13's Hank Gurley, left, recently received his Veteran's Emblem honoring his 50 years as a Mason. He is seen here receiving the award from L. C. Jones. — Luther Jones



## AMENDMENTS, from page 4

and video conferencing, allowing members to participate without driving to Raleigh. There are talented members of our lodges who live out of state. Their experience and expertise can be a valuable addition to our governance and growth. There are two versions on the table which would allow committee, board, and commission members to live outside North Carolina. The first version would simply do away with the state residency requirement. The second would allow out-of-staters to serve if the grand master gives his permission. It must be mentioned that a North Carolina Mason may live in another state yet live closer to a meeting than a Mason living within the state.

**Group 2** regards residency of district deputy grand masters. This officer is appointed as the grand master's representative in each district. There are two proposals here. One would simply require that the DDGM be a member of a lodge in the district to which he is appointed without mention of the address of his residence. The second would also require dispensation (formal permission) of the grand master to serve if the DDGM lives out of state.

In **Group 3**, Grand Master Caudle has proposed uniform fees for the degrees throughout the state. The petition fees would be set by the grand master with approval of the Board of General Purposes. The cost could increase or decrease. According to Caudle, "With low initiation fees it is possible for men to petition more out of curiosity than a sense of purpose. If the fees are higher, then they may investigate the fraternity more to make sure that it is a fit for them. This also shows his ability to pay his dues in the future as well and not be a burden to the Lodge. As with many things we once called treasures, we have cheapened what that we give the new initiates. A plastic apron, tiny Bible, and a few books are the norm in many Lodges. We should be presenting them a nice leather or lambskin apron, a family Bible, a nice patent, as well as a selection of books to read. Also, the countless hours learning and rehearsing the ritual and lectures should be accounted for as well.

"If the amendment passes, my plan is to recommend \$300.00 to the Board of General Purposes as the 2016 initiation fees for all NC Lodges."

**Group 4** brings back the idea of giving past masters a vote at Annual Communication. This version would allow two past masters from each lodge to get votes. According to Robert McLaughlin of submitting lodge Stump Sound 733, "My primary goal is to increase attendance at Grand Lodge and also allow past masters to be able to vote and speak to issues during the GL session." The submission rationale goes on to say, "[grand lodges] who have [included past masters] have not indicated a significant increase in their attendance."

Critics of the change say this would add more than

50% to the potential attendance of Annual Communication, necessitating moving the meeting to larger venues and drastically raising the costs of the gathering.

McLaughlin wants past masters to "have the feeling they are still needed and part of the Fraternity." Others say that is the purpose of soliciting the advice of lodge elders and past masters' nights, not the governance of the future of Masonry.

The proposal says, "it is obvious we must make changes, if we are to survive." Some would suggest that if you must make this change, past masters are the last thing you need. Every past master had his chance to govern our fraternity, this proposal would help them rob their successors of the same opportunity. Elect officers you trust to represent the best interest of Freemasonry, and you do not need to dilute their votes.

**Group 5** is about fundraisers for lodge use. It would specify that a lodge could ask permission to hold a second fundraiser for lodge purposes if it has already held a charity fundraiser and given the total proceeds to "an approved organization."

Recent changes and clarifications in tax regulations and enforcement have brought reconsideration of the way we handle fundraisers. Expect to see an amendment that will remove all direct *Code* regulation and move the fundraising control to the Commission on Special Activities to make our legal compliance more responsive and consistent. A recent audit of Grand Lodge by the Internal Revenue Service pointed to requiring changes.

**Group 6** would allow non-private announcements of second and third degrees. *The Code* forbids publishing the names of candidates. Many say "candidate" does not apply to anyone who has taken a degree. Just to be on the safe side, Montgomery 426 proposed more explicit language.

Derek Cheek says, "Since we are in the new age of social media, Montgomery 426 thinks it is vitally important for the friends and associates of new members to be aware of their entry into the fraternity. Most younger guys want their life events published on social media. Under the old interpretation of *The Code*, the name of a candidate couldn't be published until they were raised. The amendment would clearly allow names and pictures to be published after initiation."

**Group 7** concerns repeat amendments, those amendments brought up in successive years. This amendment would forbid the reintroduction of an amendment "substantially similar" to one defeated at Annual Communication for a period of five years. According to Marvin Smith who introduced this proposed amendment at Belhaven 509, "We send the same people every year. Grand Lodge wastes so much time hearing the same ones year after year. We get tired of hearing it, we don't enjoy it. If you keep bringing it up, it will eventually get passed."



### Making Hay at 99

**STEDMAN** — Jim Hay, seated, has a long history of promoting and supporting Freemasonry in the Fayetteville area. Many of his brothers came to visit Hay at a local rehabilitation center May 18 to celebrate his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. They enjoyed cake and ice cream. Standing are, from left, Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan, Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo, and Hay's wife Dale.

Opponents say this differs only in degree from trying to make an amendment to *The Code* which says no one can ever amend *The Code* again. The composition of the Grand Lodge changes every year as officers of our lodges change. It is their responsibility to send the Grand Lodge in the direction they see as best for the fraternity. It is not proper for delegates from a prior year tell them what they may not consider.

**Group 8** is a simple housekeeping measure, cleaning up a detail missed when changes were made to our funeral procedures a few years back.

**Group 9** concerns the makeup of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation. The Foundation manages investments which help fund our Masonic charities. Over the years, we have been giving our charities more independence to protect the interests of our organizations. This change to *The Code* would allow the Foundation to alter the size of its board with its bylaws. The change would let them add more talent to the group which makes investment decisions for the Foundation and add more manpower to handle new, diversified duties such as investments of lodge funds, scholarship funds, the new MESH LLC, and more. The Grand Lodge would continue to nominate members of the Board. .



## STATE, from page 7

**Hillsborough**

Mosaic 762 has changed its meeting time to 7:30 P.M. on third Tuesdays. Meals now begin at 6:30.

Mosaic Lodge enjoys a periodic "Liquid Lodge." The most recent was at Counting House in Durham where they gathered to enjoy a "relatively calm, quiet place conducive to discussion."

On fourth Wednesdays, Mosaic Lodge has their education sessions. They use a variety of locations from homes to the Rhine Center in Durham. Recent discussions have included "Sacred Geometry, Gothic Cathedrals, and the Hermetic Arts in Stone" and theories and concepts of math. — Keith Morgan

**Gastonia**

Jonathon Greene became King Solomon 704's sixth graduate of Wilkerson College, North Carolina Masonry's nationally respected leadership training program.

King Solomon members Harry Neil "Buck" Glenn and Kenneth Leslie Nixon were recently awarded their Veteran's Emblems for their 50 years in the fraternity.

The new Widows' Brigade is developing here. Several ladies have signed up to help the lodge keep up with them and their needs.

The lodge's MESH Committee is planning a knife raffle, awarding 20 knives in 20 days. They hope to sell 200 five-dollar tickets. — *The Plumb Line*

At their May meeting, Gastonia 369 recognized their past masters and gave out service awards. Tom C. Yates got his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. Veteran's Emblems for 50 years went to John W. Waldrop Jr., Jim A. Hill, Cliff B. Hamm, John R. Griffin Jr., and William L. Foxx.

Gastonia Lodge is using both email and a phone wizard phone calling tree to stay in touch with their members. — *The Trestle Board*

**Youngsville**

A Red Cross Blood Drive was coming to Youngsville 377 July 26. — Dean Mooney

**Union Grove**

July 2 was the date for Grassy Knob 471's Fifth Annual Tomato Sandwich Night. The evening's program was entitled "Who Let the Dogs Out?"

— Tom Gregory

**Wallace**

Rehoboth 279 merged with Wallace 595 back in 2013. The lodges combined their operations, becoming Wallace 279. The lodge has now sold their property in Rose Hill, the old home of Rehoboth Lodge. They will be investing part of the money from the sale. They are considering doing some heavy repair and updating on their current building with some of the money.

— *Wallace Lodge*

**Kinston**

Richard Caswell 705 had an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper May 7. — Edwin Bundy

**Pineville**

In May, James K. Polk 759 members Jim Barnett, Robert Smith, and Jack Thrower were made Life Members of the lodge.

Cody Gustafson organized James K. Polk 759's Second Annual Cars for Kids car show in the spring. They termed it a "huge success."

Brunswick stew was added to the menu at the lodge's annual Fish Fry. It turned out to be a big hit. Proceeds went to the Masonic Homes. — *Trestleboard*



Byron Highland III a reserve officer with the Greenville Police Department, serves Farmville police officers Sgt. Matthew Smith, left, and Daniel Hawkins at the lodge thank you dinner.

**Lodge honors local police**

FARMVILLE — Farmville 517 wanted to remind their local police department of the support the members of the lodge feel for them. The lodge invited them to an appreciation dinner at the lodge on May 18. According to Past Master Bud Wooten, the lodge "just wanted to tell them how much we appreciate their commitment and dedication." — Bud Wooten



Farmville Police Chief Donnie Greene, right, accepts a plaque of appreciation from Farmville 517's Bud Wooten.

**Selma**

Selma 320 had their Past Masters' and Ladies' Night May 30. Danny Casey was named the lodge's Master Mason of the Year. James Overbee received his Veteran's Emblem celebrating his 50 years as a Mason. — David Browning

**Kenly**

Kenly 257 had a technologically adventurous program May 5. Masonic Home for Children Administrator Kevin Otis appeared in the lodge using Face-Time and a computer. They were to have a program on farming at the June meeting. The lodge is holding such presentations before or during pre-meeting meals. It helps members get home earlier.

Tommy Jackson traveled to North Johnston High School May 21 to present Kenly Lodge's scholarship.

Kenly held their Ladies' and Widows' Night May 16. — W. C. Barrett

**Thomasville**

Masons from Thomasville 214 and Denton 404 helped out with feeding post Memorial Day Parade attendees in Cushwa Stadium May 25. The parade organizers provided 3,000 hot dogs, while the lodge and other volunteers cooked, wrapped, and served them.

Thomasville Lodge was having a lodge picnic June 27. They were celebrating at a local park. The lodge provided hamburgers, hot dogs, and buns. Attendees were bringing side dishes.

The prize for Thomasville Lodge's annual raffle this year was a Savage Axxis .270 rifle and scope.

— *Trestleboard*

**Charlotte**

Excelsior 261 had their summer kickoff cookout June 29. How to celebrate? Hamburgers, hot dogs, and sweet tea — how else?

Excelsior collected ten pints of blood at their Community Blood Drive at the beginning of the summer.

— *Trestle Board*

Derita 715 is getting in high gear on building their new lodge. They are working closely with the Lodge Service Commission on the financial and property aspects of the project. A certified architect visited a meeting to talk about design, permitting, and perspectives on progressive Masonic architecture. A general contractor visited a meeting to talk about building systems and his thoughts on Masonic architecture.

Derita's fall fundraiser is set for November 6.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Masonic District fundraiser is a clay shoot. Derita Lodge's part in the project is to hold a charity raffle in honor of the late Claude Hildreth, avid hunter and member of Derita Lodge.

For several years, Derita members have volunteered for Carowinds charity workdays. The theme park pays for their work in donations to the lodge. Master Donnie Barrier has offered to match the wages of one volunteer and challenged other members to do the same.

Derita's next fundraiser is set for November 6 at the Mallard Creek Community House. — *Derita Lodge*

**Clayton**

Granite 191 gathered to clean up their lodge grounds May 17. — W. C. Barrett

see next page



### Stedman

A large crew of Masons traveled to a local rehabilitation center to enjoy a party (complete with ice cream and cake) to help celebrate Jim Hay's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. Hay is a longtime icon of Masonry in the Fayetteville area.

Lakewood Country Club was the site of Stedman 730's annual charity golf tournament.

— 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

### Hendersonville

Yes, there is a free lunch. Well, at least there was here at Kedron 387 on July 4. That's the day the lodge celebrated their 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They held an open house and even served a free meal. Ron Dellinger provided the lunch.

— Broward Davis

### Bakersville

Bakersville 357 recently hosted its annual spring tradition, a ramp supper. Masons from all over the 37<sup>th</sup> Masonic district and as far away as Tennessee come to enjoy the evening.

— Newsletter

### Grimesland

Benjie Forrest added a nice touch to Grimesland 475's recently refurbished lodge room. He had the lodge charter remounted and framed. He also gave the lodge framed trestle board prints for each of the degrees.

Grimesland Lodge is planning its annual pancake supper for November 14.

— *The Grimesland Gavel*

### Lewisville

West Bend 434 held their second successful rifle raffle in May. They drew for two rifles, a Henry 30/30 and a Henry .22 Golden Boy. They made \$2,626 for the Masonic Homes.

The lodge's recent Clean-Up Saturday put the building in "spic and span" condition.

West Bend's Past Masters' Night is set for their July stated. They'll serve steaks and baked potatoes.

— *By the Square*

### Mount Holly

After last year's success, Mount Holly 544 repeated it's 30 Guns in 30 Days raffle. Tickets were \$30.

— Benjie Creasman

### South Mills

New Lebanon 314 has an open house breakfast on first Saturdays each month. They have been consistently having more than 60 attending.

New Lebanon was having their barbecue chicken charity fundraiser June 20. They hold it at the local Ruritan Club building.

— *The Plumb Line*

### Durham

Eno 210 is organizing a Ladies' Night for the entire 19<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. Tickets are \$15, \$25 for ladies to cover a gift and flowers. The dinner will be held in a local restaurant and feature entertainment. It's set for October 3. You can get details from Al Wethington (919) 418-7304 or Dicky Lyon (919) 423-1634.

— Keith Morgan



## Jernigan reaches 60-year lecturer mark

DUNN — On April 6, Mingo 206 member Eugene Jernigan became the third man ever to achieve 60 years as a certified lecturer since ritual certification began in 1941. Jernigan served as master of his lodge in 1949, was first certified in 1955, was district deputy grand master from 1961–1963, and has served as treasurer of his lodge since 1951. Both his sons, Gene and Joe, were on hand. Between the three of them, they have been Masons for 154 years. Jernigan continues to coach all Mingo Lodge's degree work. Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle presented the award. Seen here, from left, are 11<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master/Past Grand Lecturer Earl Wells, GM Caudle, Joe Jernigan, Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan, Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo, 11<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Lecturer Timothy Hairr, and Junior Grand Deacon Mack Sigmon.

— Mack Sigmon

### Robbinsville

Robbinsville 672 was holding a barbecue fundraiser June 12.

— Jim Hyde

### Wilmington

The Rainbow Girls here held their annual yard sale on May 30 at Orient 395.

— Freddy Szakasits

### Smithfield

Fellowship 84 had a building and grounds clean-up in late April.

— W. C. Barrett

### Burnsville

Bald Creek 397 was having their Past Masters' and Widows' Night June 17.

— Terry Gevedon

### Hayesville

Clay 301 held their Barbecue and Ramps Dinner May 9. The community looks forward each year to the big feed of the little onions at the Senior Center here. Live bluegrass music filled the air.

— Brian Rau

### Wilson

Mount Lebanon 117 had their Ladies' and Widows' Night May 9.

— W. C. Barrett

Wilson 712 held a golf tournament in April to help fund their annual scholarship.

— W. C. Barrett

### Paw Creek

West Gate 738's spring chicken fry was a "great success" despite threatening weather and increased prices. They ran out of chicken at 6:30 p.m.

West Gate Mason Tommy Helms received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership on May 22.

— *News from the West*

### Weaverville

Blackmer 170 served 300 plates at their May 2 fundraiser.

— Terry Gevedon



## Learning to be silent

King Solomon asked an Entered Apprentice, a Fellowcraft, a Master Mason, and a Past Master to retire to a chamber for instructive meditation. They were given orders to sit silently and not to speak.

At evening time, a servant came in to light the lamps, and accidentally spilled some oil.

"Watch out!" cried the Entered Apprentice. "You're spilling the oil!"

"Shush," said the Fellowcraft. "We aren't supposed to talk."

"Fools," said the Master Mason. "Why couldn't you just be quiet?"

"It appears," said the Past Master, sanctimoniously, "that I am the only one who did not talk!"

— Zenmasonry.com



# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

1..... Weaver, Ashley Elliot	188..... Gunn, Arlie Terrell	387..... Wagner, William W.	576..... Miller, Brent Charles
1..... Baynard II, Carl Franklin	198..... Lynch, Shawn Matthew	391..... Flores Jr., Roberto	576..... Nall, John Thomas
1..... Cyphers, James Ryan	205..... Graham, Kyle Matthew	391..... Pugsley, Dylan Tiapula	583..... Tripp, Terry Lee
1..... Flaherty, Paul Edmund	205..... Graichen, Christopher Lee	391..... Pineda-Miranda, Alejandro	583..... Toler, Kevin Randall
1..... Roberts, Vernon Chadwick	205..... Locklear, Teddy	391..... Sierra, Jesus Luis	592..... Deaton, Brett Allan
1..... White, Philip Curtis	207..... Ellis, James Anthony	391..... Strange, Jonathan Clark	594..... Calhoun, Andrew Frelin
3..... Blanset Jr., Barry Charles	207..... White Jr., Wallace Bernard	391..... Velencia, Jaime Lee	598..... Guinn, Thomas Allen
3..... Johnson, Timothy Scott	217..... Deal, Robert Jason	395..... Fogleman Jr., Thurston Dale	618..... Stancil, Nicholas Mark
8..... Boland, Christopher Alan	217..... Lane, David Ray	395..... Gall, Christian Charles Stephen	626..... King, Jeffrey Bryan
8..... McMillan, Kevin Vernon	217..... Mode, William Richard	404..... Shannon, Joseph Patrick	627..... Jones, Matthew Ariel
8..... Bunnell, Anthony Cuevas	217..... Monk, Shelby Travis	409..... Berglund, Daniel Edmund	627..... Szucs, Christopher Charles
8..... Grayson, William Christopher	217..... Scronce, Thomas Vernon	409..... Graves, Joshua Conan	646..... West, Terry Joseph
8..... Ha, Huy	218..... Bratton, Thomas Jackson	428..... Reitzel, Leo King	650..... Blankenship, James Michael
8..... Hernandez, John Israel	218..... LaRoque, Brandon St. George	428..... Phillips, Douglas Brian	656..... Miller, Steven Ray
8..... Llena, Jasper Brian Laron	218..... Siano, Scott Joseph	428..... Ramsey, Tony Lee	657..... Cress, Allen Milton
8..... Lucas, Ryan Thomas	231..... Riedesel, Erik John	429..... Pogroszewski, Thomas Michael	667..... Lach, Christopher Thomas
8..... Portante, James Rufino	237..... Lister, Mark Christopher	429..... McClenny Jr., James Andrew	669..... McGrew, James William
19..... Gavazov, Miroslav Iordanov	237..... Washburn, Travis Colby	431..... Barbour, DeVan	669..... Hill, Jonathan Jacob
19..... Watts, Garry Lee	243..... Harper, Chad Michael	431..... Huff, Michael Blake	669..... Bullins, Eddie Wayne
31..... Lueck, Charles Christopher	244..... Barrile Jr., John V. H.	431..... Norris, Justin R.	675..... Perry, Miles Rick
31..... Simpson, Thomas Jordan	248..... Costner Jr., Donald Wayne	433..... Spain, Marty Timothy	676..... Cowan, Obraj Ruvon
31..... Starratt, Zane Zebulon	257..... Brown, Robert James	434..... Rothrock, Aaron Joshua	680..... Cobb, Brandon Shane
39..... Jernigan, Douglas Turner	258..... Welch, Bryant Lee	446..... Holland, Craig Alan	680..... Cobb, Brett Dylan
40..... Hensdale, Chad Steven	261..... Kobzar, Dmitriy	454..... Greene, Matthew Patrick	680..... Truby-Arena, Alexander James
75..... Middleton, Eric Wade	262..... Bolick, Keaton Harley	454..... Johnson, Michael Lavon	680..... Collins, Jonathan
76..... Campbell, Marshall Ryan	262..... Chester, Marc Roger	459..... Bryson, Kevin David	680..... Farmer, Joel Stephan
76..... Ukleja, Bryan Jared	262..... Stewart, Steven Darryl	459..... Justice, Donovan Eric	680..... Mayfield, Dustin Michael
76..... Lewellyn, Dylan Cody	262..... Kirby, Jonathan Shane	459..... Londo, Evan Michael	680..... Santoro, Charles V
76..... Rogers, Walter McDowell	262..... Spears, Matthew Kenneth	459..... Caldwell, James Ned	687..... Bebout, Chad Michael
83..... Mayes Jr., William Allen	262..... Townsend, Michael Christopher	461..... Gurian, Jason Paul	687..... Shifflett, Adam Michael
83..... Anderson, Damion Anthony	263..... Ducsay, David R.	472..... Hannah, Jeffery Scott	692..... Goodnight, Christopher David
83..... Arruda, Joseph Manuel	263..... Hunt, Jimmy Darrell	473..... Hedrick, Michael Scott	694..... Lawes-Murphy, Jason Patrick
83..... Kiefer, Adam Richard	263..... Jones Jr., Jeffrey Lawrence	473..... Koonts, Marion Patrick	695..... Riggs, Larry Sean
90..... Meeks, Johnny Elliot	271..... Brent, Matthew Ryan	473..... Owens, Raymond Baxter	695..... Gray, Lester Ray
95..... Cranford, Jeremy Craig	271..... Harris, John Lyman	473..... Parde, David DeWayne	708..... Bullock, Jonathan Douglas
98..... Smith Jr., James Roland	271..... Harris, Kenyon Lee	479..... Gainey, William Thomas	708..... Groccia, Bruce Alan
99..... Gover, Franklin Delano	271..... McGilvray, Stephen Philip	491..... Messer, David Lee	708..... Oxendine, Rudolph
104..... Cornelius, Ernest Alvin	277..... Johnson, Jerry D.	495..... Bullard, Benjamin Jacob	708..... Weaver Jr., Joseph Alan
104..... Everett, Nelson Anthony	283..... Culbert, Kurt James	495..... Meece, Robert Wayne	709..... Matty, Michael Joseph
109..... Becker, Byron Lawrence	283..... Gray, Brian Nicholas	496..... Dignan, William	709..... Millsaps, Larry Wade
109..... Peregoy, Jules Weston	292..... Adams, Samuel Clement	497..... Liles, Timothy Alvin	713..... Beale, Carroll Anthony
112..... Rogers, Justin Charles	292..... Gahagan, Anson Donald	499..... Jones, Davey Todd	713..... Canipe, Mark Anthony
113..... Ballard, Bryan Tyson	292..... Wells, Jason Allen	499..... White, John Michael	723..... Genao, Angelis S.
113..... McLaughlin Jr., Robert Wesley	301..... Ledford, Timothy Moore	500..... DeFiglio, Michael Paul	725..... Patel, Ninad
113..... Chesson, Jonathan David	302..... Gibbons, Shawn Patrick	500..... Hemingway, Robert McCoy	732..... Pierce, James Carson
113..... Moss, Hunter William	302..... Griffin, Thomas Clayton	500..... Young, William Boone	732..... Ross, Herbert Timothy
115..... Davis, Samuel James	302..... Guinn, Jason Matthew	505..... Earwood Jr., Gary Bennett	733..... Miller, Austin J.
115..... Magnusson, Jesse James	302..... Kidd, Gary Wayne	505..... Cook, Wesley Eugene	733..... Buchyn, Mykaylo
115..... Padalino, Robert F.	304..... Lewis, Joshua Glenn	521..... Mitchell Jr., William Robert	734..... Glenn, William Michael
115..... Pollachioli, Timothy Patrick	314..... Hudkins, Terry Lee	521..... Savage, Michael Frank	737..... Scott, Raymond Charles
118..... Farley, Aaron Clyde	314..... Lounsbury, Benjamin Allen	527..... Price, John Christopher	739..... Chakra, Sary
118..... Webb, James Herbert	317..... Hutto, Travis Grant	527..... Ballance, Felton Mark	746..... Brown, Kevin Brooks
125..... Martin, Jason Gordon	319..... Kennedy, James Brandon	543..... Melton, Lonnie William	747..... Ely Jr., Gerald Eugene
129..... Brim, Christopher Todd	319..... Walston, Abe	543..... Murguz, Jason Andrew	749..... Carnes, David Eric
129..... Gibson, James Michael	343..... Rogers Jr., Cecil Leroy	550..... Northam, Timothy J.	749..... Jordan, Adam Seth
129..... Griffin, Tracy Lynn	343..... Rogers, Wesley Morgan	552..... Carper, Nolan Boatwright	749..... Thomas, Kendall Ryan
137..... Ingle, Garrett Michael	363..... Blackmon, Scottie Ray	552..... Jarrett, Everett Nesbitt	751..... Joyce, Joseph William
137..... Payne, William Joseph	363..... Byers, Clinton Edward	562..... Ferree, Kyle	753..... Morgan, Michael Jason
138..... Mysiuk, Daniel Andrew	363..... Handy, Evan Quincy	562..... Hartwell, John Michael	753..... White, Frankie Dean
145..... McConnell, Christopher Brian	363..... Keller, Thomas Randall	562..... McGrouther, Ian	753..... Agnor, Robert Biddle
146..... Eichenbaum, Daniel Michael	369..... Curry III, Earl Eugene	563..... McPherson, Michael Blake	753..... Reuben, Daniel Edward
147..... Byrd, Cody Ryan	369..... Fulton, Andrew Stephen	564..... Rouse, Sean Thomas	756..... Pierce, Daniel Alexander
150..... Green, William Chad	369..... Ruiz, Fernando Jose	564..... Tarkowski, Jonothan Todd	756..... Siler, Frank Edward
150..... Moehn, Bruce Alan	375..... Carpenter, Jimmy Greg	571..... Hicks, Dallas Robert	758..... Hanna, Jeremy Daniel
154..... Land, Ricky Eugene	384..... Greene, Kevin Scott	573..... Rhoades, Timothy Loyd	759..... Breeden, Todd Andrew
172..... Nance, Christopher Michael	387..... Helton, Thomas Brian	573..... Campbell, Joseph Melvin	763..... Gonzalez, Esteban
181..... Wendler, Erick Jerome	387..... Marlow, Devon Carl	576..... Hahn, Justin Wayne	763..... Strait, Joel Ryan



## You're invited

October 16

### Golf Tournament

MONROE — Matthews 461 Fall Golf Tournament will be played October 16 at the Stonebridge Golf Club here. Registration and lunch are at 12:30, with a 1:30 shotgun start. Teams are \$400, individual entry is \$125. Sponsorships are available. Mulligans, putt, and long-drive contests are on the program. Contact Brian Turner for details (704) 340-3979.

## From the Medical Committee Gallstones

By Pat Stuart

Gallstones are a common problem. Most often, they are seen in women but are still a very common problem in men. In fact, ten percent of Americans are affected by gallstones. We experience symptoms more commonly as we get older.

Gallstones typically cause sudden pain in the right abdomen that moves to the back; often after a fatty meal. Unfortunately, gallbladders may often present with unusual symptoms; nausea without pain; or even as lower chest pain that could mimic a heart attack. In this situation, it is important to make sure there is not a heart problem causing the symptoms. The most common test to find the stones is a simple ultrasound of the abdomen.

The liver makes bile, and the gallbladder is a storage bag that is supposed to empty to help dissolve the food when we eat. Most gallstones are made of cholesterol, but a sluggish gallbladder lets that cholesterol crystallize. For this reason, we remove the whole gallbladder, not just the stones.

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it," applies here. Most gallstones never cause symptoms. However, once they start the symptoms are usually recurrent. The main treatment for gallstones is to remove the gallbladder. This is usually done laparoscopically with small incisions and a brief stay in the hospital. It's a major operation, but in most cases, you're back in the lodge in two to three weeks or less.

Pat Stuart is a member of Forsyth 707.

## Homecoming time at Home for Children

OXFORD — The Masonic Home for Children invites you and your family to our Fifth Annual Masonic Homecoming Festival, a special and fun weekend to remember and celebrate at our Home.

Festivities begin October 9 with the annual Chip Shots for Children golf tournament at Kerr Lake Country Club. Hosted by Home alumni and open to all golfers, the tournament raises funds for the alumni endowment directly supporting Home operations.

Back on campus, cooks from around the country set up their grills, prepare their secret recipes, and kickoff our Fifth Annual Friday Night Yard Party. There will be food for sampling from the teams, drinks and

desserts available for sale, and entertainment from Monika Jaymes. Andrew Jackson 576's Brunswick stew will be available.

On Saturday, October 10, Orphans Lodge will meet on campus at 8:00 A.M. North Carolina's largest and best Shrine parade featuring our three North Carolina Shrines, and community units including local school bands, clubs, and civic organizations, will start downtown at 9:45 A.M. and finish at the administration building on campus.

The fifth annual barbecue contest will be judged and eaten after the parade. All-you-can-eat tickets will be available for ten dollars.

Live on stage from noon-1:30, you will be entertained by North Carolina's leading beach music stars the Embers featuring Craig Woolard.

Other fun includes the crowning of the Homecoming Queen, inflatables for the kids, campus and cottage tours, and various food booths. Come with your lodge, family, and friends to visit, remember, and celebrate with our family at your Home for Children.

For the latest information please visit <[www.mhc-oxford.org/john](http://www.mhc-oxford.org/john)> and check the Schedule of Events.



Ric Carter photo

## Our back pages

# Grand Master's jewel, 1829

This North Carolina Grand Lodge grand master's jewel carries the name of Emmor Trego Weaver (1786-1860) who made it. He was a Philadelphia silversmith who specialized in "Masonic jewels, medals, aprons, and sashes..."

Weaver, a past master of Lodge No. 2 in Philadelphia, was the son of a silversmith and quite prolific during the first half of the nineteenth century. His wares, particularly examples of his flatware, can still be acquired today and are highly sought after. Other examples of his work, such as swords and tea sets are prominently displayed in museums up and down the east coast.

At our Grand Lodge's 1827 Annual Communication, a special committee reported "that it is proper to purchase new [officers' jewels]; that the present jewels are old and clumsy, and do not comport with the dignity of the Grand Lodge."

Grand Master Louis Wilson contracted for a set of jewels and clothing for the officers of the Grand Lodge, "which cost in Philadelphia, two hundred and fifty-five dollars..." The jewels did not arrive until January 1, 1829, the ninth day of the Annual Communication.

Nine of the 1828 jewels from Weaver have been found — the grand master's jewel, senior and junior grand wardens, grand treasurer, senior and junior grand deacons, grand pursuivant, grand sword bearer, and grand tyler. As offices were not in that era standardized, it is unclear what other jewels might have existed at the time.

Weaver's set of jewels were used by the Grand Lodge officers until 1879 when jeweler Henry Mahler of Raleigh made the current grand master's jewel. The jewel was used again by Grand Master Caudle in recent historical events.

— Jonathan Underwood





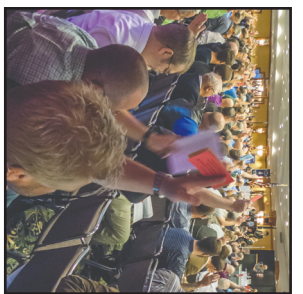
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**page 1**  
**Masons rededicate  
State Capitol**



**page 2**  
**Masons celebrate Vance  
Monument restoration**



**page 1**  
**Annual meeting  
set for September**

**On the cover**

A large crowd showed up at the Capitol to celebrate the grand old building's birthday.  
Ric Carter photo

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

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NORTH CAROLINA  
**The Mason**



**Masons help celebrate  
State Capitol**  
**Vance Monument rededicated**

**JUL/AUG  
2015**