



# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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

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September/October 2015



Grand Master Caudle greeted Past Grand Master Mathis who has recently battled illness to return to activity in the lodge.

## Annual Meeting concludes

By Ric Carter



Ric Carter photos

GM Caudle calls for order.

WINSTON-SALEM — Stairway to Heaven may not be the theme music that first jumps to mind for a meeting of North Carolina's Masons, but the toned-down orchestral version played struck the proper note for the march of the district officers September 25 at the opening of the 228<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina at the Embassy Suites here. Every communication is the first step of the next generation of Freemasonry in the state.

The big news from the meeting — Deputy Grand Master Bryant D. Webster was elected to be grand master for 2016. He appointed Kevan D. Frazier of Mount Hermon 118 as grand steward, the newest man to join the line for becoming grand master of North Carolina. We also recognized the rest of the 42 Prince Hall grand lodges accepted by their shared jurisdictions.

Delegates began arriving on Wednesday night, September 23 for committee meetings early the next morning. Thursday was filled with committee, board, and commission meetings pertaining to business to be brought before the assembly the next two days. Lodge secretaries attended morning and afternoon workshops. The grand master hosted a dinner for his guests and officers on Thursday evening.

Three hundred thirty-nine lodges were represented. Sixteen Grand Lodge officers, 16 past grand masters, 61

committeemen, 23 district deputy grand masters, and 21 district deputy grand lecturers made for a total of 1,154 voting delegates for the meeting.

The formal opening began at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, September 25. District officers and visitors from other jurisdictions were received and introduced. Officials from Alabama, Connecticut, District of Columbia, New Jersey, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, and West Virginia were on hand, as were officers from our state's appendant organizations.

After the ritual opening, Grand Orator Andrew Hammer spoke at length to launch the business session. Andrew Hammer, past master and secretary of Alexandria-Washington 22 in Virginia, made extensive remarks on Masonic renewal and the traditional observance movement.

Derita 715's Don Barrier presented a program on the use of music in the degrees. The demonstration included multiple musicians from around the state and emphasized the *Babnson Manual's* musical suggestions. Musical performers over the weekend included Mike Hamrick, Logan Rodgers, Randy Sharpe, Eric Dixon, Riley Beam, Shawn Brown, Lloyd Johnson, David R. Cash, Mike Cashion, and Ron Lambe.

see COMMUNICATION, page 8



The Grand Lodge officers gathered outside the lodge room in Statesville to await surprising PGM Gregory.

## Tom Gregory Day declared



Ric Carter photos

Gregory held court from his seat in the north as he shared stories.

By Ric Carter

STATESVILLE — By declaration of Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, August 5, 2015 was Thomas W. Gregory Day. Gregory is renowned for his dedication to blue lodge Masonry and his reluctance to celebrate high office. He is the primary founding force of Wilkerson College, our Grand Lodge's nationally respected officer education program. As grand master in 1999, it was his lot to speak across the state about the first resolution that we recognize Prince Hall Masonry. He did so with conscience and great grace.

The declaration of the day honors him "as an expression of our never-ending gratitude, appreciation, and brotherly love to a true pillar of modern Freemasonry; and in recognition and honor of the sacrifices and dedication of that outstanding past grand master; a man of vision and toleration, who turned the other cheek and gave brotherly forgive-

ness in the face of stringent attack and misunderstanding; who blazed a new trail for our fraternity, awakening it to the twenty-first century."

Gregory was surprised by a contingent of nearly all the Grand Lodge officers and several past grand masters at the August 4 stated meeting of Statesville 27. The gathering was done in secret as Gregory is well known to avoid personal honors. More than 20 high ranking Masons came in together about 20 minutes after the lodge opened.

Gregory was clearly affected by the honor and spent quite some time reminiscing on his experiences with the craft and the lessons it has taught him.

Grand Master Caudle saluted Gregory saying, "Tom has been a mentor of mine and has shown me how to be a better man, husband, business man, and grand master. For that, I am eternally grateful."

So are we all.

## Officers' Boot Camps

Officers' Boot Camps and Coaches Workshops will be held this Fall at four different locations in the state. The Boot Camp sessions are designed to train blue lodge line officers in essential leadership skills for their travels to the East. The forums provide up-to-date and informative material on effective lodge management and planning.

The Boot Camps are separate one-day sessions held four Saturdays in October and November. The October 24 session will be held at Durham 352, 205 Husketh Drive in Durham; the October 31 session at West Gate 738 at 5924 Brookshire Drive in Charlotte; the November 7 session at Nichols-West

Asheville 650 at 22 Brevard Road in Asheville, and the November 21 session at 7, 215 East Water Street in Edenton.

These sessions offer lodges across the state unparalleled opportunities for development. These opportunities are unique in Masonry in the United States. Each session stands on its own — a brother need attend only one session to get the full Boot Camp experience.

The Boot Camps are provided free of charge and are co-sponsored by Wilkerson College and the Grand Lodge Ma-

sonic Education Committee. Participants receive a work book and other material also at no charge. Lunch is on your own.

The Boot Camps sessions will be most helpful to blue lodge line officers, but are open to any members in good standing of one of our lodges. Most Masons will find the Boot Camps a tremendous help.

The Boot Camps were conceived as a way of providing leadership training for officers who could not attend Wilkerson College, or who would like a refresher after the Wilkerson College program. Topics covered in the sessions

include "Masonic Education in the Blue Lodge," "Motivation," "Fundraising," "The Master's Toolbox," and "The Proven Path." Brothers scheduled to present at the boot camps include Junior Grand Deacon Mack Sigmon, Jim Medlin, Grand Historian Rick Smith, Grand Marshal Shaun Bradshaw, Grand Steward Larry Thompson, Ben Wallace, Mike Daniels, Steven Cates, and Grand Tyler Kevin Combs.

This is the seventh year for the Boot Camps. Participants in previous years have remarked about how valuable the program has been in their development as leaders. Become one of them.

No registration is required. For more information on the Boot Camps, contact Kevin Combs at (704) 929-9707 or <secretarync27@gmail.com>.

October 24.....Durham 352.....1644 Cole Mill Road, Durham  
 October 31.....West Gate 738.....5924 Brookshire Drive, Charlotte  
 November 7.....Nichols-W.Asheville 650.....22 Brevard Road, Asheville  
 November 21...Unanimity 7.....215 E. Water Street, Edenton



After a report from a neighbor, Columbus Lodge members found the long undisturbed cornerstone of George Washington Lodge cracked open on their porch.



Some of the artifacts from the cornerstone



Examining the contents

# Columbus Lodge's mystery entices

*By Bob Reidford*

PITTSBORO — A shroud of mystery enveloped Columbus 102. This summer, the pastor of the Presbyterian church next door to the lodge phoned lodge secretary Allan Pegg and told him a parishioner had noticed a mysterious box on the front porch of the lodge. He had, after several days, picked up the box and delivered it to the church office. The pastor delivered the sealed copper box to Allan's house.

"I knew it was important because of the care someone took to solder the edge of this box closed," said Pegg. Allan sent an email to the entire Columbus Lodge mailing list to enquire if anyone had any information about how this strange copper box ended up on the front steps of the lodge.

Further inspection showed the mysterious copper box was actually the deposit box from a cornerstone the Pitts-

boro Masons were storing temporarily on the front porch until proper arrangements could be made to incorporate the stone into a permanent location.

This cornerstone was from George Washington 174. The lodge was chartered in 1855 at Lassiter's Crossroads and moved to Bell's Cross in 1882. The lodge had to be abandoned when Jordan Lake was created in 1971. The membership of George Washington Lodge merged with Columbus Lodge at that time. The cornerstone, with the deposit included, was moved to Pittsboro as many of the brothers moved to Pittsboro and Columbus Lodge 102 when the old lodge building and their homes and farms were to be lost to the flooding. Recent renovations to Columbus Lodge meant the cornerstone would have to stay on the porch until a suitable permanent location could be determined.

"We never imagined anyone would

disturb the heavy cornerstone much less the deposit inside," said 20<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master David Quick, a member of Columbus Lodge. "I remember pushing the stone up against the inside wall. People rarely go onto the front porch as we normally use the side door." Whoever removed the deposit must have been looking for something other than a solid copper box inside the corner stone. They left the unopened deposit beside the cornerstone where it was found several days later.

Curiosity about the box's contents got the better of the Masons of Columbus Lodge, and they opened the deposit at their June stated meeting. Interesting treasures were found inside including minutes from a December 4, 1955 emergent communication of George Washington Lodge. This was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of George Washington 174 on this same date in

1855. The Masons found a Chatham Record newspaper from December 1955 describing the 100-year anniversary ceremony at the lodge. Also included was a very old Masonic Bible that was undated but clearly printed around the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century.

These important documents and the copper deposit will be enshrined in Columbus Lodge. Digital images of the documents are being made to maintain a lasting record of them throughout history. A permanent location in the Pittsboro Columbus Lodge for the massive cornerstone, the copper deposit, and the treasure trove of Masonic history has not been determined. But, these articles remain behind a shroud of mystery regarding that fateful day when Allan Pegg received a phone call from the Presbyterian pastor next door.

*Bob Reidford is a member of Columbus 102.*

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## Grand Master

Douglas L. Caudle

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Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle .....dcaudle@glnc.us  
Deputy Grand Master Bryant D. Webster .....bwebster@glnc.us  
Senior Grand Warden A. Gene Cobb Jr. ....gacobb@glnc.us  
Junior Grand Warden Jimmie B. Hicks Jr. ....jhhicks@glnc.us  
Grand Treasurer Lewis R. Ledford (PGM) .....lledford@glnc.us  
Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III .....wclapp@glnc.us  
Senior Grand Deacon Speed Hallman .....shallman@glnc.us  
Junior Grand Deacon D. M. "Mack" Sigmon Jr. ....msigmon@glnc.us  
Grand Marshal Shaun Bradshaw .....sbradshaw@glnc.us  
Grand Steward R. David Wicker Jr. ....dwicker@glnc.us  
Grand Steward Larry B. Thompson Jr. ....lthompson@glnc.us  
Grand Tyler R. Kevin Combs .....secretarync27@gmail.com  
Grand Chaplain David R. Cash (PGM) ... grand.chaplain@glnc.us  
Grand Historian Richard J. Smith ..... Grand.Historian@glnc.us  
Grand Lecturer Keith Rash ..... grand.lecturer@glnc.us



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 BROTHERHOOD OF GOD WITHIN THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

## Ledford named Montfort medalist

RALEIGH — During the open session at Annual Communication, Grand Master Douglas Caudle named Grand Treasurer Lewis R. Ledford (PGM) as the latest recipient of the Joseph Montfort Medal, North Carolina Masonry's highest honor.

Ledford was grand master in 2011 and has been grand treasurer since 2012. He was also director of North Carolina's State parks. He is now executive director for the National Association of State Park Directors

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 term.



Ric Carter photo

Lew Ledford is getting his Montfort Medal affixed by his wife Susan.

## There's now a digital Vocabulary

Did you ever need to look up just one word from the *OSW*? You had to run down the lodge secretary and hope he remembered where to find the lodge copy of *The Vocabulary*?

NO MORE!

Hiram's Whisper™ is the answer to your problem. It is a mobile app that will answer your questions (up to ten words a day). The app has been approved by both

the Board of Custodians and the Board of General Purposes.

You can buy the app on the iTunes Store or the Google Store for iPhone, iPad, or Android devices. It costs \$35.99. You are required to verify your good standing before the app will work. It will require your birth date and membership number (found on your dues card).



## New daylight lodge forming at WhiteStone

The Board of Directors of WhiteStone a Masonic and Eastern Star Community recently formed a steering committee to explore interest in developing a Masonic lodge on its campus in Greensboro. The committee consisted of Board Members Gene Cobb, Ross Geller, Wayne Southern, Mark Vickers, and Mike Cashion; along with Shaun Bradshaw, Ed Moody, Mark Kolada, Dewey Misenheimer, and John Fields. They were charged with gauging local interest. After meeting with several Masonic residents at WhiteStone as well as surveying some of the surrounding Guilford County lodges, it was quickly determined that there was sufficient support for a lodge and that the committee should proceed with filling out an application for dispensation from the Grand Lodge. On Thursday, August 27, the committee and interested brothers met at WhiteStone and voted on the lodge name and it's initial officers.

The name will be MESH Lodge after the Home's original name, Masonic and Eastern Star Home. It's first officers will be Master Al Phillips, Senior Warden Ed Moody, Junior Warden Gene Lewellyn, Treasurer Richard Spivey, and Secretary Mark Kolada.

One intent of the lodge is to provide the residents of WhiteStone a convenient opportunity to renew their Masonic activity and give non-Mason residents an opportunity to become Masons.

The lodge will also provide the opportunity for nonresident Freemasons to affiliate, support, and assist in maintaining the fraternal connection of Freemasonry with the campus and residents. In addition to serving the needs of local Masons, it is also expected that the proposed lodge will give all NC Masons another opportunity and occasion to visit WhiteStone.

As part of its plan to make itself convenient to seniors, MESH Lodge will be a daylight lodge, meeting at 2:00 P.M. on second Saturdays of each month. They will have lunch at 12:30 at WhiteStone before holding their meetings in the fellowship hall at the Home.

Proposed annual dues are \$75 per member. If you are interested in becoming a charter member of MESH Lodge or would like to learn more about the lodge, contact Mark Kolada at <mkolada@live-atwhitestone.org> or (336) 547-2992.

## THE BOTTOM LINE



By Douglas L. Caudle  
Grand Master

# Wilkerson College, Wilkerson College Lodge, and Wardens Boot Camp

Wilkerson College, Wilkerson College Lodge, Wardens Boot Camp. You may have heard these names and wondered about these groups. Let me tell you more about these very important North Carolina Masonic entities.

## Wilkerson College

Wilkerson College is an annual training program for lodge deacons held in three weekend sessions each February, March, and April. Limited to 36 students per year, the college is a highly focused lodge operations training program to prepare the deacon for his term as lodge master. Yes, you should be preparing that far ahead.

Ritual training is not part of this program. The training centers around planning, public relations, proper fund raising, Masonic education programs, mentoring, working with officers, and many more practical application topics.

The instructors for each topic are knowledgeable Masons from across the state who are devoted to high standards of Masonic work. The students also grade the instructors to ensure that the level of instruction remains high. Many of the instructors are former Wilkerson College students, educators, and proven lodge leaders.

Each year, the sessions are hosted at White-Stone, the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, and the Grand Lodge office. To graduate, a student must attend all three sessions. At each location, the students arrive Friday afternoon for a tour of the host facility and dinner. This is followed by fellowship time for the Brothers to get to know their counterparts from across the state. The Saturday sessions begin bright and early and are packed with wonderful information and useful tools. At the end of the third session, a graduation banquet is held, and the student's lady is invited to share in their accomplishment.

Tuition for the program is \$600. That covers training materials, meals, and hotel expenses for all sessions. Scholarships are provided by the Grand Lodge, each NC Scottish Rite Valley, and private

donations. So, don't let an inability to pay discourage you from this excellent training.

Wilkerson College is governed by a Board of Regents who meet regularly to evaluate the instructors, topics, and location of each session. The current dean of Wilkerson College is Past Grand Master Billy Dill who works with the college officers to ensure that the sessions remain relevant, fresh, and applicable to the current needs of our lodge officers. The College is named for H. Lloyd Wilkerson SGIG emeritus for the Scottish Rite's Orient of North Carolina.

As I have traveled across the state and visited many lodges, I have noticed a recurring thread in lodges that are thriving. Many of those lodges have sent their deacons to Wilkerson College and are supporting them in making positive changes in their lodge. They are active and growing. These lodges immediately begin to see the positive impact from graduates. I encourage each lodge to make a positive change in their lodge by sending their deacons to this important training. To learn more visit the Wilkerson College website. <<http://www.wilkersoncollege.com/index.html>>

## Wilkerson College Lodge 760

Wilkerson College 760 was organized by graduates of the first Wilkerson College class. This is an affinity lodge that meets quarterly at various locations around the state. Each meeting presents a high quality Masonic education program on a wide variety of topics. Many times, a national level speaker or author is featured, exposing us to talent beyond our borders. The college and the lodge are not the same — one is a training program, and the other is a Masonic lodge. Any North Carolina Mason may join the lodge; membership is not limited to Wilkerson College alumni. To learn more about this lodge visit the Wilkerson College Lodge website. <<http://www.wcl760.com>>

## Wardens Boot Camp

The Wardens Boot Camp is a training program sponsored by the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education. This program is a one-day instructional session to help prepare wardens for their term as master. Similar to Wilkerson College,

the Boot Camp is not a ritual training program, but focuses on lodge operations. The sessions are held on Saturdays at four locations around the state usually in October and November. While not nearly as thorough as Wilkerson College, the Boot Camp is an excellent resource to hone the plans for an incoming lodge master. Kevin Combs is the overall coordinator of the program with assistance from site coordinators at the training sites. The Wardens Boot Camp is not just for wardens, it is open to all Master Masons who want to better prepare themselves to serve as lodge officers. There is no charge or registration required for this training. Visit the Grand Lodge website for details about upcoming sessions. <<http://grandlodge-nc.org/education-resources/wardens-bootcamp>>

## Thank you

My Brothers, my term as grand master is coming to a close, and I am forever grateful for this experience. During the year, you have afforded me so many courtesies for which I will never be able to properly thank you. The respect for the office of grand master is humbling and appreciated. You have allowed me to share in many special moments in your lodges and to honor many of your members.

We have tackled some difficult issues, and although you may not have always agreed with me, we have an understanding of each other's views. If I tried to thank all of the people who made this year successful, I would leave someone out, so please know that I appreciate each of you who "moved the ball" on so many projects.

Your Grand Lodge officers are a group of many dedicated Brothers who work tirelessly to make our jurisdiction better. It has been an honor to serve with these men and see first hand their virtue, skill, and inflexible fidelity. Your election of Bryant Webster as grand master will ensure that North Carolina Masonry will thrive. Brother Webster has many plans that will keep North Carolina as one of the most progressive and active grand lodges in the nation.

Thank you again for this opportunity.

May Brotherly love prevail and every moral and social virtue cement us.

# MILEPOSTS



**DEEP RUN** — Ray Blizzard, center, is seen here receiving his Diamond Jubilee celebrating his 60 years as a Mason. Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo, right, presented the award during Pleasant Hill 304's Past Masters' and Ladies' Night. — Rick Stroud



**WENDELL** — At their recent Past Masters' Night, Wendell 565 presented service awards. Shelton V. Bridgers got his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. Ronald Thompson got his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years in the lodge. Thompson's wife Janet was on hand, and Wendell Master Les Jerrell made the presentations. Seen here, from left, are Mrs. Thompson, Thompson, Bridgers, and Jerrell. — Raymond A. Burch



**FARMVILLE** — Past Grand Master William L. Dill visited Farmville 517 in June to present the lodge's service awards. George C. Finklea and J. C. Brock Jr. were awarded their Diamond Jubilees for 60 years membership. Robert W. Hodge, William E. Wooten, and Lynwood D. Williford earned their Veteran's Emblems for 50 years in the lodge. Seen here, from left, are Hodge, Wooten, Dill, Brock, and Williford. Finklea was unable to attend because of family illness. — Bud Wooten



**CLEMMONS** — On July 10, Robert Furches got his Diamond Jubilee acknowledging his 60 years as a Mason. The Clemmons 755 member received the award from 26<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master Gary Handy. Seen here, from left, are Clemmons Lodge Senior Deacon Wesley Walker, Handy, Furches, and Clemmons Master Neal Johnson. — Bruce Ayres



**CARY** — Mocksville 134's Carl Sofley was recently presented his Diamond Jubilee honoring his 60 years as a Mason. Cary 198 did the presenting as a favor to Mocksville Lodge. Seen here at the visit to present the award are, from left, Cary Lodge Chaplain Chip Wooten, Mrs. Millie Sofley, Sofley, and Cary Master Greg Wallace. — Greg Wallace



**KENLY** — Kenly 257 presented service awards on June 16. Tom Lucas got his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership, and Felton Knight received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years. Lucas and his wife, Margaret are seen at left. Knight and his wife, Joyce are at right. — Ted Sherrod



**KING** — King 722 member Thomas Allan Johnston, right, was recently awarded the Diamond Jubilee for 60 years as a Mason. Lodge Master Will Russell, left, presented the award. — Larry Oakley



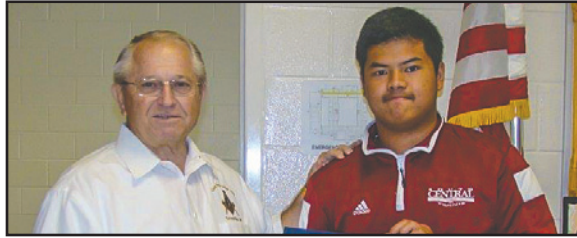
**GASTONIA** — Tom Yates, right, a member of Gastonia 369, recently got his Diamond Jubilee for 60 years of lodge membership. The award was presented by 36<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master Chris Houser, left. — Joe Waller



**RALEIGH** — Gerald R. Radford, center, got his 60-year Diamond Jubilee Award on July 28. J. Luigi Ammons, left, and John W. Davis III, right, are seen here presenting the award. Radford is a member of William G. Hill Lodge 218 and a chartering member of J. J. Crowder 743. — J. Luiji Ammons



**WILSON** — Wilson 712 recently held their annual T. Bruce Boyette Memorial Scholarship Banquet. Four Students were awarded the \$1,000 scholarships this year. Seen here, from left, are NC State bound Katherine Kirby, Wilson Lodge Master Bill Fardy, future NC A&T student Coyee Farmer, and Amy Faris who is headed for Wilson Community College. James Johnson IV, going to Wilson Community College, was not available for the photo. — Bill Fardy



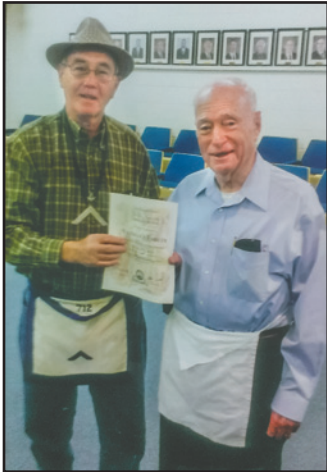
**GREENVILLE** — On May 20, Crown Point 708 presented their Col. Frank Lewis Brewer Memorial Scholarship to South Central High School's Junior ROTC Cadet Watcharin Saenghian. Charles R. Sumerlin is seen here, left, presenting the scholarship. The \$1,000 award was established by the lodge three years ago when Brewer persuaded the lodge to show their support of ROTC at the six high schools in Pitt County. Brewer died last November. — Charles R Sumerlin



**WASHINGTON** — John Riffert, left, was made a Life Member of Washington 675 August 3. He is seen here receiving the honor from Washington Lodge Master Norman Hiatt. Riffert was master of the lodge in 1990 and has also served as district deputy grand master and lecturer of the Third Masonic District. — Ric Carter

Ric Carter photo

## MILEPOSTS



**WILSON** — Bill Smith, right, received his Veteran's Emblem earlier this year. He is seen here with Wilson 712 Master Davis Wheeler who made the presentation. — Bill Fardy



**NASHVILLE** — Widow's Son 519 (Roanoke Rapids) member Harry Lee Williams, left, was recently honored here for his 50 years as a Mason. Grand Master Douglas Caudle, center, and Widow's Son Master Randy Bowen, right, presented the award. Williams served as 519's master in 1975 and 1976 and for Royal Hart 497 (Littleton) in 2004. — Harry Williams



**CASAR** — Joe Goforth got his Veteran's Emblem on June 4 as his wife Wanda, left, looked on. The Casar 579 member is seen here, center, receiving the 50-year award from Casar Master London Warlick. — Eric Newton



**CARY** — Green Level 277, in July, presented Vince Thompson, center, his Veteran's Emblem honoring his 50 years as a Mason. They also presented him a Life Membership for his service to the lodge. Thompson is seen here with wife Patsy and son John. — Mack McCorkle Jr.



**GASTONIA** — Three members of Gastonia 369, John Waldrop Jr., Jim Hill, and Cliff Hamm recently received Veteran's Emblems for 50 years as members of the lodge. Presenting the awards was 36<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Lecturer Benjie Creasman. Seen, from left, are Creasman, Waldrop, Hill, and Hamm. — Joe Waller



**DEEP RUN** — At their Past Masters' and Ladies' Night, Pleasant Hill 304 presented Thomas H. Quinn, center, his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years in the lodge. Dexter Mills, left, made the presentation. — Rick Stroud



**KING** — Lewis Idol, right, of King 722, recently received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years as a Mason. King Lodge Master Will Russell presented him the certificate and pin. — Larry Oakley

## COMMUNICATION, from page 1

A number of official reports were received and formally entered on the record of the communication which will be published widely at a later date. They were also available in the *Reports* booklet of the meeting. Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo presented his final report on his year in the East, and he was presented his past grand master's pin, and the Board of General Purposes tribute to him was read.

After a lunch break, a public session was held so that several guest speakers could address the meeting. During that visitor period, we heard from Masonic Home for Children resident Yancey Otero and WhiteStone resident Gene Lewellyn. Eastern Star Worthy Grand Matron Fran Southern, Rainbow Worthy Grand Advisor Tori Shue, DeMolay State Master Councilor Luis Roman Jr., and NC Masonic Foundation Chairman Leonard Y. Safrit (PGM) delivered messages and greetings from their respective organizations. The public session continued through the Necrology service recognizing our Brothers who passed away in the past year.

Grand Master Caudle presented Grand Treasurer Lewis Ledford a Montfort Medal for his service to the fraternity. Ledford's wife, Susan was invited to the podium to pin the medal on his lapel.

Several check presentations were made to Masonic charities.

Business resumed after visitors were excused from the hall. The first order of business was the presentation of Grand Master Caudle's interim report. Certificates were presented to district officers whose terms are ending.

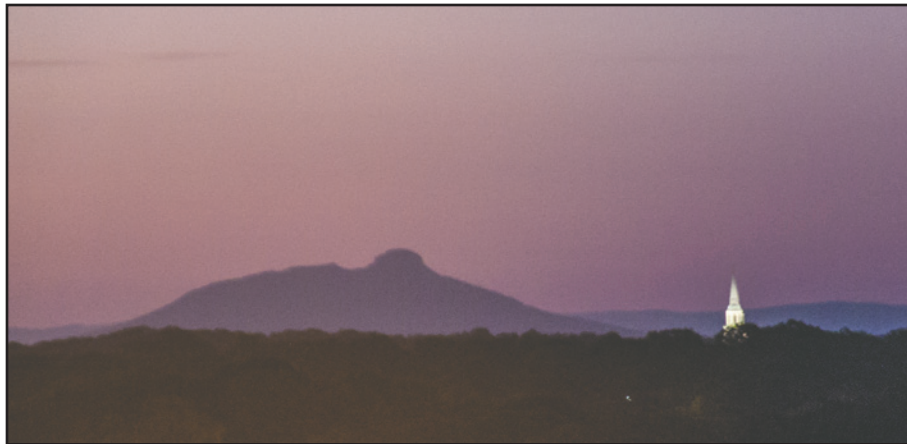
Two lodges operating under dispensation this year applied for charters as official lodges. Both were granted charters after positive reports from the Committee on Charters and Dispensations. Welcome Holly Springs based Knights of Solomon 768, the newest motorcycle affinity lodge. They will meet at various locations around the state on the first Saturday of February, May, and November, and on the second Saturday of July and September. All meetings are set for noon.

Veritas 769 is based in Asheville. The traditional observance lodge will meet at 7:00 P.M. at the Asheville Masonic Temple on the fourth Monday in November and the fourth Wednesdays of January, March, May, July, and September.

The Committee on Appeals received and approved reports on all the cases heard on charges of un-Masonic behavior during the past year. The decisions of 11 of the 12 cases heard were approved. One case had its sentence of suspension changed to expulsion. Two applications for restoration after expulsion were approved and one was denied.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence then began its presentation on the proposed amendments to *The Code*. Voting on most of the amendments took place on Friday afternoon.

Both Group 1 and Group 2, relating to officers living outside the state failed.



Pilot Mountain and Wake Chapel as seen from the headquarters hotel



Local volunteers begin setting

Ric Carter



Pledge of Allegiance salutes



New Grand Steward  
Kevan Frazier



Well-wishers queue up to congratulate Grand

Group 3, the only group voted on Saturday, was defeated on a written ballot. It would have allowed the grand master, with approval of the Board of General Purposes, to set the fees for the degrees for all lodges.

Group 4, which would have allowed limited past master voting at Annual Communication, was withdrawn by the submitting lodge.

Group 5 referenced permissible fundraising activities. In the past year, the Internal Revenue Service audited the Grand Lodge. They complained about lack of control of subordinate lodge fundraising. In keeping with IRS guidelines, *The Code* was amended to require prior permission for all fundraisers by lodges. Many of you have already dealt with the Commission on Special Activities and know they will swiftly help you stay within due bounds with tax regulations.

Group 6 appeared to pass a ballot, but after much confusion ensued, it was withdrawn from the floor by Grand Master Caudle. It was a simple measure which would have clarified that one is allowed to use unsealed announcements to the lodge carrying names of candidates to be passed or raised.

Group 7 was an effort to forbid reconsideration of defeated amendments for five years, It was ruled out of order and not voted on. A nearly identical amendment was also ruled out of order in 2007 for attempting to take away the prerogatives of future members of the Grand Lodge.

Group 8's housekeeping measures, related to past amendments, passed. Group 9, allowing the North Carolina Masonic Foundation to add directors as they see fit, passed.

At the conclusion of business late Friday afternoon, Grand Master Caudle dispensed with labor and hosted the delegates for coffee and snacks in the courtyard adjacent to the meeting room.

At 9:00 A.M. Saturday morning, labor was resumed. The first order of business was the consideration of the Grand Lodge budget presented by Finance Committee Chairman Grover Dees. The budget was approved virtually without changes.

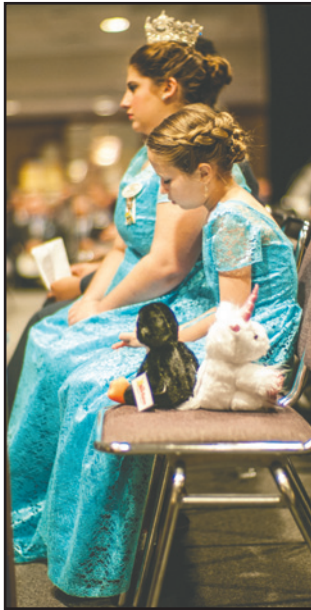
Officer elections began as the budget was being discussed and voted on in sections. There were no surprises in the elections. Bryant D. Webster of Nichols-West Asheville 650 was elected grand master for 2016.





up for the meeting.

photos



Two Rainbows visited the open session.



GM Caudle's wife Angela spearheaded a silent auction that raised \$6,261 for WhiteStone



Master-elect Webster.



Masons joined hands all over the auditorium for the Closing Charge.

A. Gene Cobb Jr. (Royal White Hart 2) was elected deputy grand master. Jimmie B. Hicks Jr. will be senior grand warden, and Speed Hallman junior grand warden. Both Grand Treasurer Lewis R. Ledford and Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III were reelected.

We moved on to the recommendations of the fraternal correspondent. After Grand Lodge overwhelmingly granted recognition to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Delaware, another resolution regarding Prince Hall recognition was put on the floor. It passed with fewer than a dozen negative votes. From now on, we have fraternal relations with all Prince Hall jurisdictions that are in amity with a grand lodge we already recognize. For instance: since the Grand Lodge of Kansas recognizes the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Kansas, so do we. Since the Grand Lodge of Arkansas does not recognize their Prince Hall jurisdiction, we do not either. When Arkansas votes to recognize them, we will automatically add Prince Hall Arkansas to our recognized list. We now recognize 42 Prince Hall jurisdictions in the United States.

Appointed officers for 2016 include: Senior Grand Deacon Dwight M. Sigmon (Catawba 248), Junior

Grand Deacon P. Shaun Bradshaw (Stokesdale 428), Grand Marshal R. David Wicker (Oak Grove 750), Grand Steward Larry B. Thompson Jr. (Blackmer 127), Grand Steward Kevan D. Frazier (Mt. Hermon 118), Grand Chaplain Henry C. Hilliard (Black Mountain 663), Grand Tyler Deleron L. Webster (Knap of Reeds 158), Grand Lecturer John M. Burchfield (Black Mountain 663), Grand Historian Steven A. Campbell (Blackmer 127), Grand Orator David B. Sentell (Excelsior 261), and Judge Advocate James R. Stevens (Garner 701).

Kevan D. Frazier, a member of Mount Hermon 118 in Asheville was named grand steward. Frazier is a historian with degrees from UNC-Asheville, Kent State University, and West Virginia University. He is currently director of Western Carolina University's Programs at Biltmore Park.

Grand Lodge was closed just before noon Saturday, September 26, and the Closing Charge was shared by all present.

New Grand Lodge officers will be installed at 10:00 A.M., December 5 at the Asheville Masonic Temple, 80 Broadway, Asheville, NC.

## Eastern outdoor degree

By Dennis Campbell

HOOKERTON — On May 30, the Sixth Masonic District held its first outdoor Master Mason degree. It was conferred at a secluded farm in the Green County countryside. Five candidates were raised as Master Masons under the direction of Crown Point 708 (Greenville) Master Kyle Weaver who presided in the first section of the degree.



Kyle Weaver photos

The lodge was set up in an isolated clover field encompassed by tall pines with a bright moon and an actual starry decked heaven overhead. The fixtures of the lodge were constructed of bales of hay, burlap, and bags of shelled corn. The warm, soft light for the degree was furnished only by tiki torches surrounding the lodge.

A pre-degree pig picking to feed the brothers was provided by Bethel 589 and prepared by Wilber Futrell and Greg Giles.



The degree team for the second section was assembled with members from the nine participating lodges. Assisting Weaver in the planning and lodge assembly were Sixth District Deputy Grand Master Chuck Smithwick (Grifton 243), Sixth District Deputy Grand Lecturer Justin Robinson (Crown Point 708), Greg Giles (Bethel 589), Kendall Paramore (Grimesland 475), Charles Chapman (Jerusalem 95), Charlie Hall (Jerusalem 95), Ted Sauls (Crown Point 708), Dennis Campbell (Crown Point 708), and Bennie Heath (Radiance 132), as well as many other brothers participating from the various lodges.

An innovative and impressive lecture was presented by Justin Robinson who narrated the lecture with the brothers reenacting their parts including the raising and guided by a torch held by Robinson. Capping off the evening was a very solemn and moving Bible lecture delivered by Scott McLaurin (Crown Point 708). There were about 90 Masons in attendance.

Participants and Sixth District officials plan to carry forward the outdoor degree as a proud tradition.

Dennis Campbell is a member of Crown Point 708 and a past Sixth DDGL.

# TRAVELING THE TARHEEL STATE

## Pilot Mountain

Homer Dearmin, Sam Carson, Mike Register, Tyler Cook, and Dean Gordon represented Pilot 492 at the June ritual competition in Greensboro. When they got home, the lodge honored them with Certificates of Appreciation.

Pilot Lodge's recent hot dog fundraiser made \$1,700 for charity. They sent \$1,000 to the Home for Children, \$500 to the MESH Foundation, and \$200 to the North Carolina Masonic Foundation.

Robert Guy Register Jr. was made an honorary member of Pilot Lodge in June. — *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

## Candler

Hominy 491 is having a flapjack fundraiser again this year in association with the local Applebees. The date is October 3. — Terry Gevedon

Their Annual Fish Fry was scheduled for August 8. They were using the event to celebrate the dedication of their new outdoor events shed. They were having a cornhole tournament, a smorgasbord, and cotton candy as part of the fun. — *Hominy Lodge*

## Hillsborough

Dress is usually coats and ties at Mosaic 762. But, July 21 the dress was Hawaiian shirts. The menu was also more laid back than usual — hot dogs and hamburgers grilled over charcoal.

They were going to the opposite extreme August 18 with a formal festive board. The meal was open to spouses and guests and was to be enjoyed with "appropriate Masonic ceremony." Doug Spearman was preparing the barbecue main courses, Rickie Williams was preparing desserts, Steve Barrel the drinks, and Keith Morgan the vegetarian selections. — Keith Morgan and Jason Lentz



## Marble

Marble Springs 439 chartered a bus to visit the Masonic Homes August 22. They were visiting the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford to see Ronnie Smith of Clay 301 present a marble memorial for the children buried at the orphanage cemetery on behalf of the 41<sup>st</sup> Masonic District. They were also visiting WhiteStone in Greensboro on the trip. — Brian Rau

## Statesville

Statesville 27 sponsored a kids' tee-ball team this year. The Masonic Braves recently finished a successful season. The lodge invited the players and their families to join them for an end-of-season pizza party at the lodge. The lodge is sponsoring a recreation league basketball team this fall.

Lodge education programs this summer included viewing member Kevin Combs' award-winning photography. Also in July, lodge member Allen Sipes, of the Iredell County Sheriffs Department, taught them about financial scams and how to avoid them.

— *The Joppa Informer*

## NEWS FROM OUR LODGES

By Ric Carter



## Hamlet

July 14 was the date for Hamlet 532's blood drive. — Gene Maples

## Winston-Salem

The 26<sup>th</sup> Masonic District is having its Chicken Stew Cook-Off October 17 at Old Town 751. There will also be games and entertainment at the event.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Old Town 751's Fall Charity Raffle is set for November 7. Prizes this year include a rifle, a shotgun, a television, an iPad, and a men's clothing gift certificate.

Old Town Lodge has signed on to buy nine more bikes in the continuing expansion of their Bikes for Books program which encourages local elementary school students to improve their reading skills.

Fred Wood, of Old Town 751, was joining Katrina Oakley in performing at Olivet Moravian Church on September 27. Their piano and organ concert was to help finance an Eastern Star scholarship.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Salem 289 was taking its turn helping H.O.P.E. (Help Our People Eat) August 23. The program helps provide meals to hungry children.

— *The Salem Sentinel*

The 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts have a dinner together each year at Annual Communication. This year they were meeting at the Old Fourth Street Filling Station the night before Annual Communication opened. — Ken Wical

## Cleveland

The Vulcan Quarry Degree on August 1 was attended by 85 Masons. Grand Master Douglas Caudle presided over a costumed degree team.

— *Scotch Ireland Newsletter*

Scotch Ireland 154 is enjoying the enhanced "comfort and pleasant appearance" of new chairs in the lodge room. A plaque has been installed recognizing those who contributed to the program.

Scotch Ireland cosponsored with Spencer 543 the Back to School Party held at the Masonic Home for Children on August 22. They pack a truckload of school supplies they take to the home each summer and throw a big party around the Home's pool.

— *Scotch Ireland Newsletter*

## Carthage

Carthage 181 had their Past Masters' and Awards Night July 14. At their July 28 meeting, they were having a speaker from the Fayetteville DeMolay.

A \$250 gift card to Food Lion was the prize in the lodge's recent raffle.

— Gene Maples

## Hayesville

Clay 301 was holding its Seventh Annual Barn Degree September 19. Ronnie Smith's barn was again the site for the bib overall and hay bale ritual. They maintain the old saying, "Yes, I was raised in a barn."

— Terry Gevedon

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.

see next page

### Weaverville

Blackmer 170 raised a fourth generation Mason July 21. Tyler Robinson joined his father (Chuck Robinson), grandfather (Mitch Clevenger), and great grandfather (the late Earl Clevenger) as a member of that lodge. Boyd Black did Tyler's degree just as he did the one for Tyler's uncles and grandfather 45 years ago. — Terry Gevedon

### Stedman

Stedman 730 held their all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner August 15.

— Ken Wical

### Charlotte

Derita 715 is in the throes of filling in the details of their new building. Architects have visited several of their meetings and, most recently, brought a plan with three connected squares based on the 47<sup>th</sup> Problem of Euclid. They learned that the Masonically interesting design is also cost effective.

Derita is working to create a fifty-year fund to pay the dues of 50-year members. Many lodges forgive the dues of these veteran members, but it can leave a serious hole in lodge finances. Junior Warden Jason Callahan has been charged with finding a way to pay for the program.

Shawn Snyder recently presented a lodge program about social media. He taught the members about using the lodge Facebook page. They termed the page "not only a great way for our lodge to connect to us and other Masons, but also a resource for Masonic education and entertainment."

Derita members were to enjoy a Knights Out Night August 8 to see a minor league baseball game.

Derita member Robert Marshal Winter was presented his Veteran's Emblem this summer in recognition of his 50 years as a Mason.

The lodge's April Chicken Fry fundraiser brought in \$2,492 for the Masonic Homes. — *Derita Lodge*

Temple 676 held a shooting range fundraiser at Shooters Express in Belmont August 22. They were sending the money to Patriot Rovers, a group which trains service dogs for veterans.

— Eric Cable

James K. Polk 759 sent their community outreach team to McCreesh Place to put on a fish fry. McCreesh Place is a supportive housing community for men. — *Trestleboard*

### Dallas

The 36<sup>th</sup> Masonic District is holding a benefit ride and rod run October 24. They are raising money for the daughters of Joey and Michelle Dunlap who were killed in an accident on the way to a Maggie Valley Shrine parade in June. Stops are scheduled at select lodges between Cherryville and Dallas. Contact Dave Jones for details at (704) 609-8655 or <chardave1j@gmail.com>.

— Dave Jones

### Foscoe

The 37<sup>th</sup> Masonic District was having an outdoor Third Degree September 19 at Camp Rainbow. Attendees were being urged to bring "guitars, banjos, washboards, upright basses, fiddles, mandolins, one-string washbuckets, and jugs. If you got time to breath, you got time for music. In that case we'll scrub one off for you, just jump in where you can and hang on."

— Terry Gevedon

### Lewisville

West Bend 434 was holding their Past Masters' Night July 21.

— *By the Square*

### Southern Pines

Southern Pines 484 held their usual fundraiser at their town's First Friday Street Party. They sell snow cones and popcorn to those who gather. Masonic Home for Children Administrator Kevin Otis and his wife Kevin visited to help operate the booth. About 2,000 locals attended, and the lodge brought in \$500 for the Home for Children.

The lodge continues to hold their First Saturday Fellowship Breakfasts at the lodge at 8:00 A.M. — Gene Maples

### Selma

Grover Dees recently presented Selma 320 a portrait of Richard Jordan Noble, our grand master in 1899. Noble was a past master of both Selma 320 and Friendship 84 in Smithfield. He was a doctor employed by Southern Railway and Atlantic Coast Line.

Selma Lodge is holding their golf tournament October 16. They'll be playing at Cardinal Country Club in Pine Level. Player entry is \$65 each. Hole sponsorships are available.

— Robby Evans

### Asheville

Michael Daniels was bringing Veritas 769 a special program August 26. "The Secret Supper — A Look into the Art and Mind of Leonardo da Vinci" was examining Leonardo da Vinci's message in his art. Daniels was covering art, history, esoteric thought, and symbolism in the context of Renaissance and religious history. — Terry Gevedon

Knights of Solomon 764 (that's the Charlotte motorcycle lodge) were meeting at Biltmore 446 on August 15.

— Terry Gevedon

### Fayetteville

Phoenix 8 is holding their 227<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Table Lodge on November 14. Noted Masonic author and lecturer Robert Herd will be the guest speaker. — Ken Wical

### Benson

Relief 431 is building a firefighter degree team. If you are interested in participating, contact Matt Moore at <matt-moore@centurylink.net>. — Matt Moore

## Reaching out to a stranded Brother

THOMASVILLE — Back in March, long-distance truck driver Lonnie Brandon was driving through North Carolina when he began suffering vertigo. He was examined and released at the hospital in Winston-Salem. But, he was unable to safely operate his truck in his condition.

The stranded Oklahoma Mason contacted the Grand Lodge which in turn called Enterprise 752 member Tommy Allen to check on our brother. Allen took Brandon to Thomasville to pick up his belongings and to check that his cargo had been put on its way to its destination. Joe Manning bought their lunch, and Allen's father, also a truck driver, put some cash in Brandon's pocket to help him on his trip home. They boxed up Brandon's possessions, and the next day, put him on a bus home. — Tommy Allen



### Windsor

Charity 5 hosted a blood drive August 1. They held it at the Windsor Community Building. — Keith Phelps

### Concord

Stokes 32 honors local service personnel each year at their Annual Awards Night. They spotlighted the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department this year. Ed Depauli was named the lodge Mason of the Year. Concord City Manager Brian Hiatt was guest speaker.

Stokes 32 held a blood drive for the North Carolina Blood Bank August 15 in honor of member Harry Blume.

The "hat money" collected at each meeting of Stokes Lodge all went to Relay for Life in the first quarter. The second quarter collection was for school supplies for local elementary schools. This quarter is going to Children's Shoebox which gives small Christmas gifts to needy children.

— Thomas A. VanEtten

### Reidsville

Jefferson Penn 384 was holding a rifle raffle with an October 17 drawing. The grand prize is a Remington Model 700 with scope. The Masonic Home for Children and the MESH Foundation will benefit.

— Steven Cates

### Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 recently installed new carpet. They credited shopping locally with saving them time and money.

They held their lodge picnic on September 12. — *Trestleboard*

### Spencer

Spencer 543's annual Back to School Pool Party at the Masonic Home for Children was scheduled for August 22. They take a truckload of school supplies to the Home every summer at the beginning of the school year. At the same time, they hold a cookout at pool-side there to take the pain out of the reminder. — Johnny Hatley

see next page

## STATE, from previous

**Paw Creek**

West Gate 738 is moving their Fall Chicken Fry to October 23. The spring edition of the fundraiser brought in \$2,500 for the Masonic Homes.

They were enjoying an old fashioned cookout September 21 with hamburgers, hot dogs, and ice cream.

They had their hands full August 24 when they passed four candidates to Fellow Craft. — *News from the East*

**Waxhaw**

The 31<sup>st</sup> Masonic District was having their clay shoot September 18 at Meadow Wood Farms. Entry fees were \$150 for single shooters or \$500 per team. Hole sponsorships were \$1,000. Shells, clays, breakfast, lunch, and prizes were furnished. They ran two gun raffles at the event. Profits were earmarked for Masonic Charities. — Gary Cooke

**Franklinville**

Hanks 128 held their Third Annual Golf Tournament September 12. They played at Densons Creek Golf Course in Troy. The entry fee was \$50 per player and hole sponsorships were sold at \$100 for businesses and \$50 for individual memorials. Dinner was included. Mulligans and throws were available also. Proceeds were for the Masonic Homes.

— Keith Eddins

**Raleigh**

J. J. Crowder 743 awarded their first scholarship in August. Cody Bray Staples was chosen from this year's applicants to receive the \$2,500. The winner is chosen on merit from candidates nominated by a North Carolina Mason. They started the program to "help the youth of North Carolina better themselves through education and raise their awareness and understanding of Masonry.

— Phillip Miller

James B. Green 735 celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. They are updating the previous history of their lodge, written by Mark Thompson, which covered their first 25 years. They are looking for pictures and stories for the book. You can email them at <jamesbgreen735+history@gmail.com>.

— Michael Thompson

James B. Green 735 continues to enjoy monthly ice cream socials throughout the summer. — Don Steichen

**Franklin**

Junaluskee 145 held a Poor Man's Supper on July 18. Chicken, pinto beans, fried potatoes, cornbread, and coleslaw filled the ten-dollar plates. Profits were earmarked for Masonic charities. — Brian Rau

**Eden**

Leaksville 136 was raffling a fancy, custom engraved Henry rifle. The .44 magnum was modeled after L. D. Nimschke's late 19<sup>th</sup> century work. The drawing was held on September 19 at Riverfest. — Steven Cates

**Lexington**

On April 2, Lexington-Memorial 473 presented service awards. Harold Bowen received his Diamond Jubilee for his 60 years in the Lodge. Billy Miller got his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years. — Tommy Jolly

**Wake Forest**

Wake Forest 282 repeated its Heroes 5k Run on September 19. Proceeds were for the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. Runners completing the course got a t-shirt and medal.

— Jordan Horst

**Plymouth**

Perseverance 59 is holding another raffle to benefit the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. First prize is a shotgun, second is a rifle, third is \$100, and fourth is the book *My Home* is Washington County. The drawing was set for October 10. — Keith Phelps

**Conover**

Fred Sherrill was getting his Diamond Jubilee on September 10 to celebrate his 60 years as a Mason. He is a charter member of Conover 709 and perhaps the longest serving lodge secretary in the state.

Conover Lodge has finished their kitchen and dining hall facelifts. New carpet is next on the to-do list.

— *Newsletter*

**Greensboro**

Gate City 694 is now opening their stated meetings at 7:00 P.M. allowing them to get home a little earlier each meeting night.

On September 8, Gate City Lodge was holding their meeting at WhiteStone.

— Gary Ballance

**Southport**

Pythagoras 249's annual hot dog day was a "great success," exceeding last year's results quite a bit. They sell food every year during the town's Independence Day celebration. A number of member wives volunteered and helped make the event a success.

Their Tenth Annual Golf Tournament was set for September 19 at Lakes Country Club in Boiling Springs. Men, women, and foursomes were welcomed. The \$50 entry fee included luncheon and prizes for the first three places in each flight. Refreshments were provided on the course. As with many tournaments, much of the money raised for charity comes from sponsor advertising.

The lodge recently took up a collection to help a member who has been ill and needed help paying his utility bills.

— *Newsletter*

**Pittsboro**

On October 3, Columbus 102 is having its Lodge Day Car Show, Rib Fest, and Family Day. It's their big fundraiser each year and gets a big turnout from the community. — Brian Weaver

**GM visits VA Medical Center**

SALISBURY — Grand Master Douglas Caudle visited the Veterans Administration Medical Center here July 31. He visited a few veterans who live there. Here, he is seen with 93-year-old Willis Edward Kerley, a 50-plus-year member of Cannon Memorial 626. — Mack Sigmon

**Hookerton**

Jerusalem 95 has a mystery grass cutter this year. Apparently, his last cutting included a herbicide spraying to neaten up the job. — *The Jerusalem Journal*

**Ayden**

Ayden 498 has had to abandon their building reportedly because of foundation problems. They are currently holding their meetings at Grifton 243.

— *The Jerusalem Journal*

**Hamlet**

Earl Bradshaw was master of Hamlet 532 at age 47 and again 47 years later at age 94. On August 13, now aged 100, Bradshaw was sitting in as master for the lodge. — Fran Wanko

**Shalotte**

Shalotte 727 sold barbecue sandwiches in April to donate to Relay for Life. The Relay raises money to fight cancer.

— Albert Parker

■ see next page



## Phoenix enjoys family day

FAYETTEVILLE — Phoenix 8 had their Annual Family and Veterans' Day on May 30. They cooked three pigs which were surrounded by lots of side dishes. Several members received lodge service awards. Kids from local youth groups DeMolay and Rainbow were guests. Seven college-bound local students were invited to receive the scholarships the lodge awarded this year. The little kids also enjoyed entertainment brought especially for them.

— Nick Yakas

## STATE, from previous page

### Weaverville

Pulled pork fans were catered to when Blackmer 170 held their September 12 fundraiser. Barbecue, baked beans, slaw, and hushpuppies were on the menu.

— Terry Gevedon

### Kenansville

St. John's 13 has Pastry Day every September. That's when they honor service award winners and widows of the lodge. They also invite friends and potential candidates.

— Lodge Log

### Clemmons

Enterprise 752 is celebrating their 40th anniversary. They are making commemorative t-shirts available.

— Joseph Gibson

Clemmons 755 was having their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Tournament September 17. In the last 12 years, they have given the Masonic Homes \$125,000 earned from the golf tournament. They played at Salem Glen Country Club this year.

—Bob Charlier

### Jacksonville

Lafayette 83 held a blood drive July 11.

— Trestle Board

Semper Fidelis had members and family enjoy hot dogs and hamburgers at their May 30 Family Day event.

They were having their roadside clean-up August 15.

— Trestle Board

### Kinston

St. John's 4 held their Fourth Annual Corn Hole Tournament September 23 at the Lenoir County Fair. Entry fees were \$40 per team with proceeds going to Masonic charities. Cash prizes went to the winners.

— Lynn Hill

### South Mills

New Lebanon 314 was to have Widows' Night/Eastern Star Night on August 22. Their Past Masters' Pig-Picking was set for September 8.

— The Plumb Line

Winnedumah 287 in Bishop, California holds its meetings at 270 feet below sea level, the lowest lodge in North America.



Masons gather to celebrate Durham 352's new home.



Grand Master Caudle sets plaque.

## Durham 352's new home

By Ric Carter

DURHAM — After selling a previous lodge building some years ago, then meeting in properties owned by other lodges for while, Durham 352 finally has its own home again.

The new lodge was dedicated July 25 when dozens of Masons and family members assembled at 1644 Cole Mill Road in Durham to make the once restaurant into a Masonic hall.

Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle presided over the emergent communication of the Grand Lodge. As is usual for such meetings, most of the stations and places were filled by local Masons to enhance the community memories of the occasion. David Wicker took the part of the deputy grand master; Charles R. Lee portrayed the senior grand warden; 19<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master Brian J. Curran was junior grand warden; Patrick B. Poer, as grand treasurer; Gary M. Whiteside as grand secretary; John E. Wallace as senior grand deacon; Michael S. Hamrick as junior grand deacon; Shaun Bradshaw as grand marshal; James W.

Crawford as grand steward; Henry C. Halboth as grand steward; Gregory S. Giles as grand chaplain; and William E. Cole as grand tyler. Other officiating parts were Tom Carr as the principal architect; Bobby G. Hancock as the bearer of the taper; Samuel D. Vaughan Jr. as the bearer of the Constitution; and Claude M. Jones with the Three Great Lights.

Attendees included Past Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo, Past Grand Master Dewey R. Preslar, Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III, Junior Grand Deacon Dwight M. Sigmon, 19<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Lecturer Herbert C. Lyon, and Masonic Home for Children Administrator Kevin Otis.

Grand Master Caudle made appropriate comments for the occasion. He was then presented the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest honor, on behalf of Governor Pat McCrory by Durham Lodge Master Robert E. Carter.

Durham 352 meets on second Tuesday evenings.

# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

1 ..... Nye, Camden Seth  
 1 ..... Rackley, Avery Joseph  
 1 ..... Taylor, Paul Edwin Lee  
 3 ..... Burany, James Vassili  
 3 ..... Hill, Jessie Alton  
 3 ..... Turner, Russell Charlie  
 3 ..... Edwards, Robert Samuel  
 3 ..... Jensen, Joshua Leigh  
 8 ..... Bunnell, Anthony Cuevas  
 8 ..... Grayson, William Christopher  
 8 ..... Ha, Huy  
 8 ..... Hernandez, John Israel  
 8 ..... Llana, Jasper Brian Laron  
 8 ..... Lucas, Ryan Thomas  
 8 ..... Portante, James Rufino  
 8 ..... Lopes, Roberto A. Ortiz  
 8 ..... Reyes, Keith  
 8 ..... Bozard, Kyle Lee  
 8 ..... Clark, Brian Jesus  
 8 ..... Nobles, Timothy Marshall  
 8 ..... Pilkay, Grant Lewis  
 10 ..... Ross, Joseph Alfred  
 19 ..... Watts, Garry Lee  
 19 ..... Austin, Joshua Daniel  
 32 ..... Twigg, Robert Patrick  
 40 ..... Hensdale, Chad Steven  
 75 ..... Middleton, Eric Wade  
 76 ..... Lewellyn, Dylan Cody  
 76 ..... Rogers, Walter McDowell  
 83 ..... Kiefer, Adam Richard  
 85 ..... Ezzell, Jerry Lee  
 90 ..... Beelendorf, Alek Andrew  
 98 ..... Barnes, Alvin Ray  
 109 ..... Buttry, Kevin Dean  
 112 ..... Rogers, Justin Charles  
 113 ..... Ballard, Bryan Tyson  
 113 ..... McLaughlin Jr., Robert Wesley  
 113 ..... Chesson, Jonathan David  
 113 ..... Moss, Hunter William  
 114 ..... Edge, David Lee  
 114 ..... Miller, Joshua James  
 114 ..... Roach, Billy Ray  
 118 ..... Farley, Aaron Clyde  
 118 ..... Webb, James Herbert  
 122 ..... Hobgood, Henry Crawford  
 122 ..... Owen, Stephen Todd  
 122 ..... Powell, Robert Hugh  
 128 ..... Griffin, Samuel Parks  
 129 ..... Brim, Christopher Todd  
 129 ..... Gibson, James Michael  
 129 ..... Griffin, Tracy Lynn  
 146 ..... Eichenbaum, Daniel Michael  
 154 ..... Land, Ricky Eugene  
 170 ..... Robinson, Tyler Joseph  
 170 ..... Sexton, Paul Roy  
 172 ..... Nance, Christopher Michael  
 181 ..... Barnes, Jimmy Ray  
 191 ..... Davis, Justin Blake  
 191 ..... Jeffcoat, Randy Joe  
 191 ..... Vause, Justin Ryan  
 198 ..... Brown, Parker Ray  
 198 ..... Holcomb, Lonnie D.  
 205 ..... Graham, Kyle Matthew  
 205 ..... Graichen, Christopher Lee  
 205 ..... Locklear, Teddy  
 217 ..... Morrow, John Adam  
 218 ..... Bratton, Thomas Jackson  
 218 ..... LaRoque, Brandon St. George  
 218 ..... Siano, Scott Joseph  
 231 ..... Clos, Jonathan Andrew  
 231 ..... Jones, David William Ward  
 231 ..... Nichols, Jonathan Tyler  
 231 ..... Steadman, Jody Bridges  
 231 ..... Williams, Matthew Brett  
 237 ..... Jenkins, Jason Lucas  
 237 ..... Washburn, Travis Colby

237 ..... Hoerig, Charles Eugene  
 243 ..... Harper, Felix Ervin  
 244 ..... Barrile Jr., John V. H.  
 244 ..... Carver, Zachary Bryan  
 258 ..... Welch, Bryant Lee  
 259 ..... Abbott, Dennis Wesley  
 259 ..... Hyatt, William Vince  
 261 ..... Davis, Sam Jerome  
 261 ..... Robinson, John Lachmann  
 262 ..... Greene, Clinton Scott  
 262 ..... Hale, Christopher Allen  
 262 ..... Murray, Brian Adrian  
 262 ..... Townsend, Michael Christopher  
 263 ..... Hunt, Jimmy Darrell  
 263 ..... Jones Jr., Jeffrey Lawrence  
 265 ..... Taylor, James Wesley  
 271 ..... Clegg, David Pierce  
 271 ..... Hines, Thaddeus Kellar  
 271 ..... Buzzard, Justin Tyler  
 271 ..... Foust, Kyle Leonard  
 289 ..... Sturgill, Ronald Bryce  
 301 ..... Morris, Donald Lee  
 302 ..... Adams, David Michael  
 317 ..... Hutto, Travis Grant  
 319 ..... Walston, Abe  
 319 ..... Keller, Joseph Michael  
 319 ..... Marella, Timothy George  
 319 ..... Thomas, Henry Albert  
 322 ..... Campbell, Johnathan Derrick  
 322 ..... Rook, Charles Alan  
 322 ..... Woodson, Robert Joel  
 343 ..... Rogers Jr., Cecil Leroy  
 343 ..... Rogers, Wesley Morgan  
 343 ..... Cline, James Hugh  
 343 ..... Luna-Zea, Huberto  
 352 ..... Carr, Thomas E.  
 352 ..... Poer, Patrick Bryan  
 369 ..... Humphries, Harold David  
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To assure that your gift is properly credited to the fund of your choice, please make the check payable to that charity.

Mail to The Grand Lodge of North Carolina,  
 PO Box 6506, Raleigh, NC 27628.

## From the Medical Committee Second opinions

By William B. Brunk

So, a lady goes to her doctor and gets examined. After he delivers the diagnosis and provides his recommendations, she says, "I'd like a second opinion." He says, "OK – you're ugly, too."

Second opinions are a good thing, for a couple of reasons. First, we should remember that doctors are like everyone else: they're human, and they can make mistakes. Diagnosis is the most difficult part of health care. In most situations, once we can figure out what's wrong, then we can do something about it. But, if the diagnosis is not correct, well, it's kind of difficult to get better if you're being treated for the wrong illness — and there is no single person who has all the answers. Second, and I hate to say this, but there are too many practitioners today who are more interested in looking after their bank accounts than in caring for their patients.

Over the last several decades, business has been injected into the profes-

sions in such a manner that there are now practitioners who are more interested in how much money they can make rather than how well they can care for their patients. The vast majority of health care practitioners are honest, hardworking people of integrity who entered their profession in hopes of tending to the needs of others, and doing something good for those with whom they have an opportunity to work. Should you encounter one whose goals you suspect to be something different, or if you just need reassurance, don't hesitate – get a second opinion!

*Past Grand Master William B. Brunk is a member of Hiram 40.*



Dr. Edward Jenner, in 1789 discovered the vaccination process against smallpox. He was master of Faith and Friendship Lodge #270 in Berkeley, England at the time.

## MSA disaster request for South Carolina

A drenching rainstorm hovered over South Carolina for much of the first week of October, pouring up to two feet of water onto some sections of the state. Rivers overflowed, dams were breached, roadways were flooded, and homes and businesses were inundated with water, causing severe damage, if not complete destruction.

The storm, described by a meteorologist as "unprecedented and historic," qualifies as a 1,000-year event. Officials said damage would exceed billions of dollars across the state, with the state capital in Columbia and historic Charleston being among the hardest hit. Recovery is expected to take months, if not longer.

At least one lodge building has been virtually destroyed. Other lodges, plus the homes of many Masonic brothers, have been seriously damaged, and the toll to life and property is still being assessed.

MSA has established a Disaster Relief Fund for South Carolina, with all donations that are received to be transferred directly to the Grand Lodge of South Carolina for distribution to those in need.

Please forward to the MSA donations to help our devastated Brothers, their families, and others in this stricken jurisdiction. Please make checks payable to MSA Disaster Relief Fund and send to: Masonic Service Association, 3905 National Drive, Suite 280, Burtonsville, MD 20866. When remitting funds to the MSA in response to this appeal, please mark checks, "South Carolina Appeal."

Also, donations may be made on MSA's webpage, <www.msana.com>, with the use of a credit card. Such donations allow relief funds to be available sooner.

The Masonic Service Association is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

### Our back pages

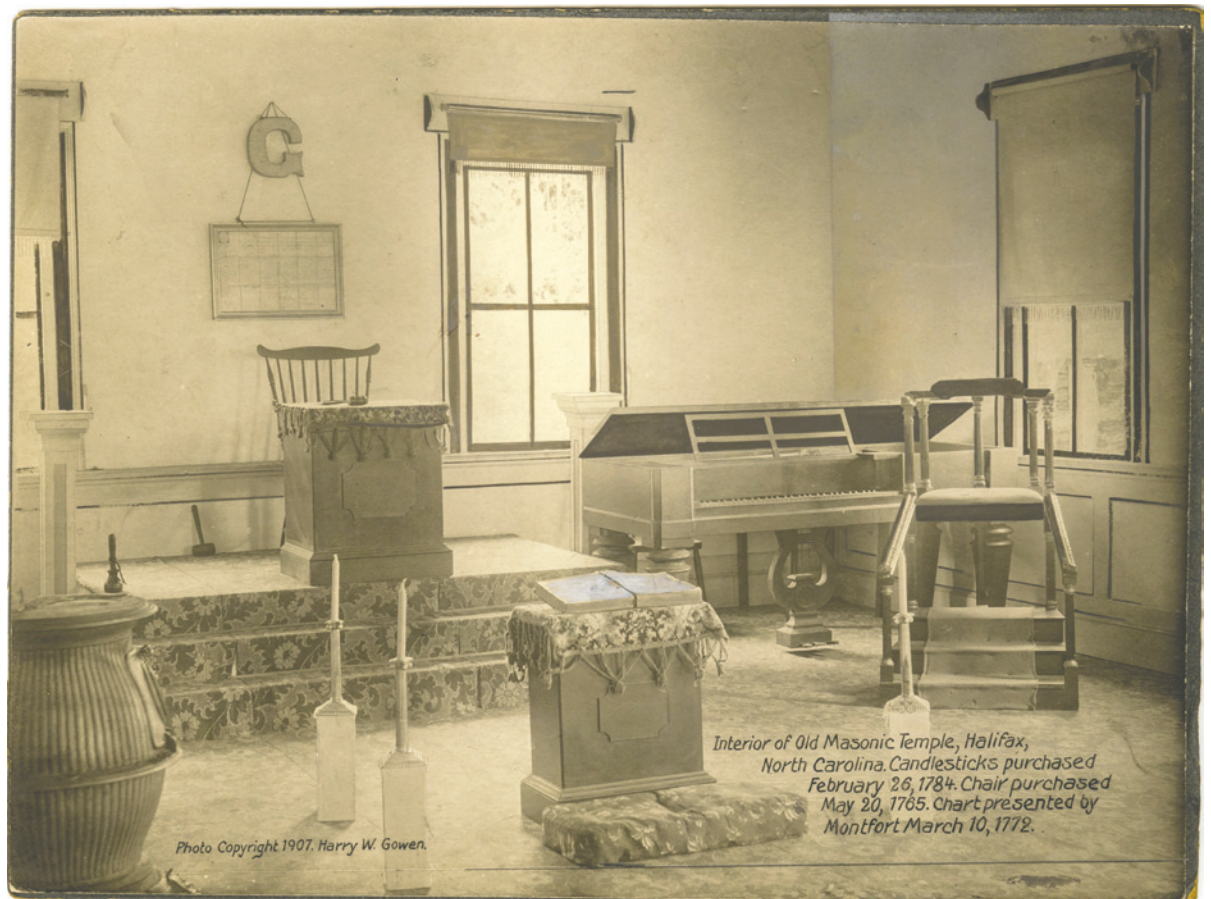
## Royal White Hart 2

HALIFAX — Royal White Hart 2 is the second oldest lodge in North Carolina. It was the home lodge of William R. Davie (Father of the University of North Carolina) and Joseph Montfort (only Provincial Grand Master of America).

They still meet in the building they built in about 1819. Many of the artifacts of the lodge are still preserved. The master's chair seen here at right is preserved and on display at the Grand Lodge headquarters in Raleigh.

An English floor cloth, given the lodge by Montfort in 1772, still hangs in the lodge. A floor cloth is an instructional tool for the degrees, the slide show of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Harry W. Gowen took this photo in 1907.



*Interior of Old Masonic Temple, Halifax, North Carolina. Candlesticks purchased February 26, 1784. Chair purchased May 20, 1765. Chart presented by Montfort March 10, 1772.*

*Photo Copyright 1907, Harry W. Gowen.*



**page 1**

**Grand Lodge's 228<sup>th</sup>  
annual meeting**



**page 2**

**PGM Gregory honored  
by Grand Lodge**



**page 3**

**Columbus Lodge  
enjoys a mystery**

**On the cover**

Lloyd Johnson of Raleigh 500  
furnished part of the marching  
music for the opening and closing  
of Annual Communication,

Ric Carter photo

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**The Mason**

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PGM Gregory honored**

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