



# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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

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March/April 2016

## Home legend Sizemore honored



Don Sizemore and his family enjoy his recognition at the Home for Children.

OXFORD — Welcome to the newly dedicated Donald L. Sizemore Reception Lobby in St. John's Hall at the Masonic Home for Children.

For more than 140 years, the administration building has been the formal and symbolic front door of the Masonic Home for Children. This second building on the same site has remained as the initial point of shelter for more than 15,000 children separated from their families, seeking comfort, support, and possibilities. It is fitting that this singular spot be now chosen to recognize a person whose tireless, faithful years of service have supported more young souls, hopes, and dreams, at this place than any other in Home's history.

In February, the lobby was dedicated to Donald Sizemore in honor of his

more than four decades devotion to the Masonic Home for Children, and the young lives saved and cherished by him as he traveled across North Carolina serving as a guardian of children in need.

At the ceremony of dedication, Sizemore was accompanied by his son, two daughters, his wife Annette, and more than 160 friends to see the administration building's lobby named for the man who led so many children through the gates of our Home.

Oxford City Mayor Jackie Sergent brought a proclamation saluting the life's work of Sizemore and his importance to not only the Masonic Home for Children, but to the City of Oxford.

■ see SIZEMORE, page 13

## Masons step back in time

By Ric Carter

NEW BERN — On Friday night, March 4, Kitty hollers during the evening news, "Look, there's a Mason!"

I look up from working on The NC Mason and startle, "Hey, I know him!"

The fellow in the home-grown confederate uniform with the square and compasses patch on the breast is talking to the reporter about their plans for the weekend educating the public and having fun together. He's Jim White, Grantham 725's chaplain and also a member of St. John's 3. I know Jim for his fascination with history. He is a retired North Carolina educator who likes to study and write history.

We listen to the news piece about the reenactment of the Battles of New Berne, billed as the largest-ever event of its kind in the area. They were using the farmlands of Bellair Plantation outside New Bern.

White helped organize the event, lending a hand with scripts for battle reenactments of the March 14, 1862 Battle of New Berne and the February 1, 1864 Battle Of Batchelder's Creek, and introducing expert speakers during public events.

The next day, I visited the lively, if soggy, historical happening. With just a little searching we began to find some Masons who frequent these gatherings. We found some, and some found us.

It is interesting that so many of the men who enjoy the reenacting hobby are also fans of Freemasonry. It is also convenient that the interest they share is one that would have also been shared by the men they emulate on the field of battle and in the tented camps distributed around the fields of Bellair.

■ see BELLAIR, page 8



Bill Potts, John Baucom, and Jim White talk Masonry in the camp.

Ric Carter photo

# Masons use one of state's favorite parks for degree

ATLANTIC BEACH — More than 80 Masons attended a very special outdoor degree Saturday, October 8, 2015 here at Fort Macon State Park. Cherry Point 688 raised two new Master Masons in an early evening ritual performed under open skies in the middle of the pre-Civil War fortification.

Craven, Carteret, Onslow, Lenoir, Wayne, Pamlico, and Pitt counties were among those represented by Masons on hand.

Supper was served from 5:00 to 6:30 in the afternoon. The degree began at 7:00 o'clock P.M. Everyone enjoyed the good weather and the excellent degree work.

Fort Macon was completed in late 1834 as part of an effort to answer coastal defense deficiencies in the War of 1812. It was named for North Carolina Senator Nathaniel Macon who got

the fort funded.

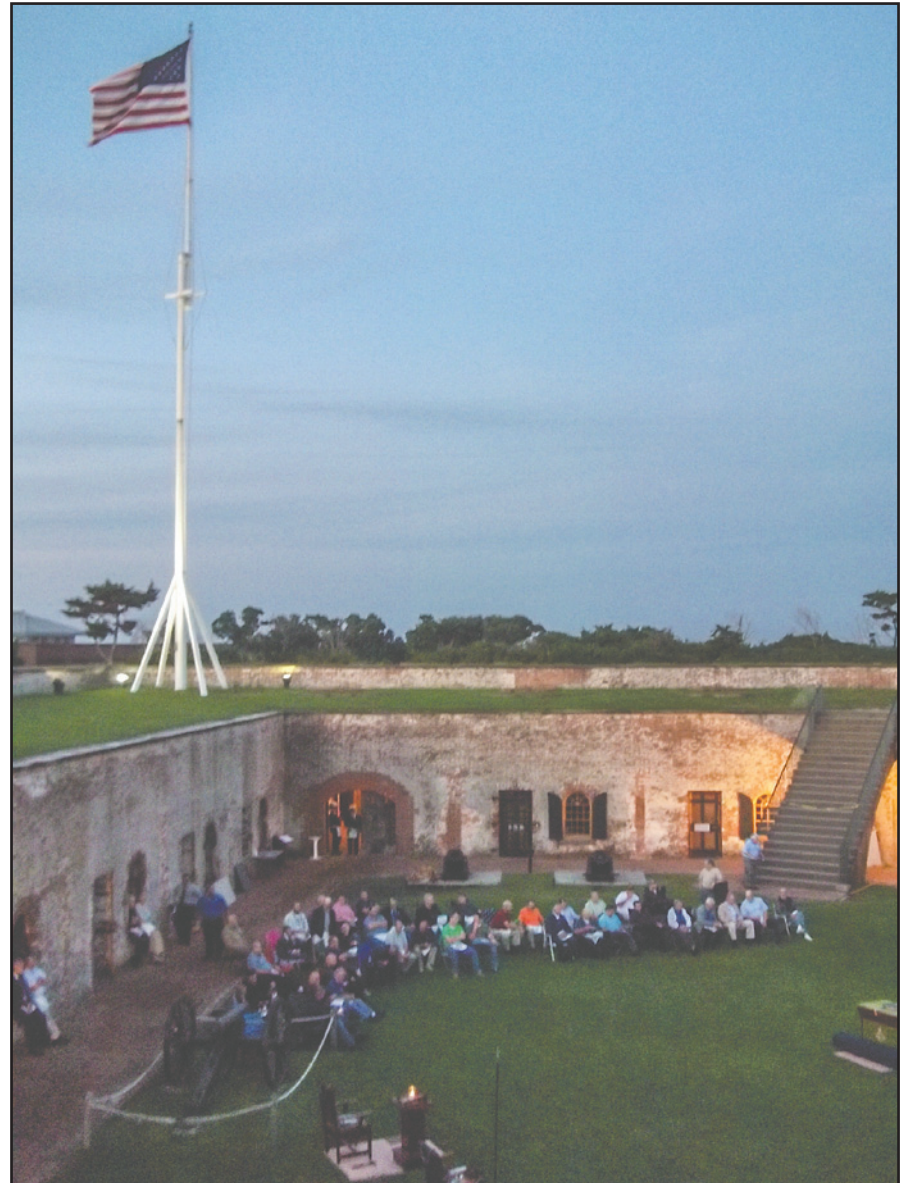
A year into the Civil War, Fort Macon (then armed with 54 heavy cannon) was taken by Union forces after the fort repulsed Northern gunboats, but suffered 560 hits from land-based rifled cannon. It served as a naval coaling station for the duration of the war, often held only by a caretaker. During Reconstruction, the fort served as a prison.

When the military abandoned the fort in the early 1900s, the State of North Carolina bought it as the second acquisition in the plan to establish a state park system. It was restored by the Civilian Conservation Corps and opened in 1936 as North Carolina's first functioning state park. The fort was again occupied by the US Army during World War II.

Fort Macon is North Carolina's second most visited State Park.



Fort Macon's 32-pounders bristle at the ocean above the degree-ready lodge.



Old Glory has flown over NC's first state park since 1862.



## Stedman keeps a large active base

STEDMAN — Stedman 730 almost always finishes the night by gathering in a circle around the altar and repeating in unison the Closing Charge. Thirty-six members were there the December night this photo was taken. They average more than 30 per stated meeting. That's right around 25% of their membership in attendance at stateds. This number includes men undergoing cancer treatments and a retired NC Highway Patrol trooper in need of a double lung transplant. The administrator from the Falcon Children's Home attended the night of this photo to receive a check from the lodge for more than \$2,100 for kids' Christmas gifts. Earlier in the year, they sent MHCO more than \$4,000 to the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

— Thomas Pope



Greg D. Padgett photos

Masons march together in parade remembering those who defended our country.

## Masons join Vets' Day parade

JACKSONVILLE — Jacksonville's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Parade was held in this military oriented town on November 7. Nearly 100 Masons from several lodges of both our Grand Lodge and the NC Prince Hall Grand Lodge assembled as Masons united to march in the parade. Then Grand Master Douglas L. Caudle and District Deputy Grand Master W. C. Barrett were on hand for the events.

After the parade, members of both grand lodges met at Semper Fidelis 680 to conduct an open Empty Chair Degree in honor of a fallen Brother from Semper Fidelis Lodge. The degree was in honor of SSgt. Javier Ortiz Rivera. Rivera's wife and family were present at the degree. — Robert Morrell



The Rivera family members were at Semper Fidelis 680 to see their lost family member saluted.



Masons assembled to march together in Jacksonville's Veterans' Day Parade.

## Speakers Bureau begun

RALEIGH — The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education is pleased to announce the creation of a Speakers Bureau. This powerful new tool provides an opportunity to bring very interesting and top quality Masonic education to your lodge. It is free, simple, and available now. You can find information about available programs in the Educational Resources section of the Grand Lodge web site. Here is the current online address: <<http://grandlodge-nc.org/speakers>>.

Speakers include Grand Lodge officers, Wilkerson College/Boot Camp faculty, and various experts in several fields. Subjects include American history, Masonic evolution and practice, practical usage and regulation, philosophy, and much more.

Don't put off having excellent programs in your lodge, or speakers at your Ladies' or Past Masters' Nights. Get on the phone or email and start nailing down your plans.

If you have a program you can share or have questions about the program, please contact the Program Administrator Tony Rathbone at <[trathbone77@gmail.com](mailto:trathbone77@gmail.com)>. — Ben Wallace

## GM's district meetings

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

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

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

In case of inclement weather, meetings will be cancelled in accordance with local schools cancellations. If a meeting is cancelled, the host lodge and district deputy grand master will be notified. Your lodge may cancel its stated communication to attend your district meeting. Information will also be posted on the Grand Lodge web site: <[www.glnl.us](http://www.glnl.us)>. This schedule was the schedule as of March 30, 2016. Changes may be necessary. Please consult your lodge for updates.

Date	District	Host	Location
April 11	30	Lee 253	108 Second Ave., SW, Taylorsville
April 12	38	Forest City 381	17 Wilkie St., Forest City
April 13	36	Mt. Holly 544	332 W. Charlotte Ave., Mt. Holly
April 25	32	Mint Hill 742	10224 Lawyers Rd., Charlotte
April 26	28	Spencer 543	114 Fourth St., Spencer
May 2	12	St. John's 1	4712 Oriole Dr., Wilmington
May 3	18	Lebanon 207	114 Pecan St., Whiteville
May 4	21	Rockingham 495	1107 Fayetteville Rd., Rockingham
May 5	17	Fort Bragg 667	221 Mason St., Fayetteville
May 16	26	Salem 289	4537 Country Club Rd., Winston-Salem
May 17	33	Sparta 423	125 E. Doughton St., Sparta
May 23	41	Blue Ridge 435	305 Main St., Highlands
May 24	40	Waynesville 259	435 E. Marshall St., Waynesville
May 25	34	Mystic Tie 237	163 S. Main St., Marion
May 26	39	Nichols-W. Asheville 650	22 Brevard Rd., Asheville

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Ric Carter

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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

### eNCMason returns

RALEIGH — *The North Carolina Mason* is in its 141<sup>st</sup> year of publication, so far as we know the longest lived continuous Masonic publication in the country.

In 1993, the World Wide Web, what we now know as the Internet, was in its infancy. Computer geeks used what were called bulletin boards to communicate and share files. The newest technology in general usage was America OnLine (AOL) where less technically skilled citizens could communicate via computer keyboard and phone lines. That was when the *electronicNorthCarolinaMason*, or *eNCMason*, appeared, albeit a "stripped-down, online version of the real thing." It was posted in the Masonic group on AOL and on various computer bulletin boards around the country.

The March/April 1993 edition of *The North Carolina Mason* is believed to be the first grand

lodge journal in world published regularly in an electronic version for the world to read. Every edition since that time has been available online.

In 1996, the universally accessible PDF format let us move to a digital facsimile of each print edition of *The Mason*.

In the last week of March 2016, the *eNCMason* was revived as its own publication. It is emailed to all North Carolina Masons between print issues of *The Mason*. We hope to give you more timely notifications and news.

To receive the *eNCMason*, you must have a valid email address in MORI, your lodge's management software. Get your lodge secretary to enter your preferred email address, and you will be included. It's that simple. That address will NOT be shared.

Join us as we explore the possibilities. It's going to be fun.

## Martin named Montfort Medalist

MOCKSVILLE — Lester P. Martin Jr. is one of our most respected past grand masters. He served as grand master 1991–92. On February 2, dozens of well-wishers visited him in his home lodge, Mocksville 134 to see him get the Joseph Montfort Medal. The Montfort is the highest honor given by the Grand Lodge. Martin, a retired judge, was raised in 1946 in Mocksville Lodge.

Besides many of his local Brothers, at least 15 Grand Lodge officers made the trip. Martin is known for his dry wit and drawling, bass voice. He has been faithful to many duties for the Grand Lodge over the years serving on most of its major commissions, boards, and committees.

Grand Master Bryant Webster made Martin his second recipient of the award

this year. 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 in office.



Martin, left, receives the Montfort Medal from the hands of his son Bob Martin as Grand Master Webster, right, looks on.



Grand Lodge officers here to join Martin's celebration were, from left, Junior Grand Deacon Shaun Bradshaw, Past Grand Master Dewey Preslar, Past Grand Master Graham Pervier, Past Grand Master Tom Gregory, Past Grand Master/Grand Treasurer Lewis Ledford, Past Grand Master Lester Martin Jr., Past Grand Master Doug Caudle, Grand Master Bryant Webster, Past Grand Master Rick Moore, Past Grand Master Charles Ingram, Grand Secretary Walt Clapp, Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan, Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo, Grand Marshal David Wicker, and Senior Grand Deacon Mack Sigmon.

## BUILDING A STRONGER FOUNDATION



## On four-letter words

By Bryant D. Webster  
Grand Master

Hate is a four-letter word. Hate is completely inconsistent with Masonic teachings. Unfortunately, as we read the headlines, scroll through Facebook, or even listen to casual conversation, we too often see and hear hate and intolerance. Even more unfortunately, when I see Masons expositing on Facebook, and in conversation, some of what I see and hear comes very close to hate and vitriol. Whether the topic is nationality, immigration status, religious tradition, race, sexual orientation, or any other subject on which there is a spectrum of belief, we seem too often unable to tolerate divergent views. I suspect that most hate comes from a lack of understanding and a fear of what we do not understand. We seem as a society to have forgotten how to have civil discourse with those with whom we disagree. We don't need to agree on everything. If we disagree, one of us may be right, and one of us may be wrong; it is equally possible that both of us may be right or both of us may be wrong. Even if the other is wrong, there is no need to hate him for being wrong. There certainly is no reason to hate him for being right. There are positive ways that we as Masons can set examples for our communities.

First, it is acceptable to have an unexpressed thought. Regardless of how upset or indignant we feel about something, I recommend taking a deep breath, and deciding whether we can improve upon the silence. If we cannot make a positive contribution to the discourse, please refrain. In my house, we call it the Thumper Theory: "If you can't say somethin' nice, don't say nothin' at all." With the right to say something comes the responsibility to decide whether it is appropriate to say it. Please do not jump to the conclusion that I am suggesting a derogation of our free speech rights. The First Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees to us the protection of our speech from government interference. That does not mean that we should say everything. As Masons, we are charged to be prudent, temperate, discrete. That means we do not always exercise our right of free speech if that language will be harmful

### We don't need to agree on everything

to another. Our Brother Benjamin Franklin explained, "Your right to swing your fist ends at the tip of my nose." The same is true of our words.

Second, seek to understand more. Talk is a four-letter word, but a positive one. Talk to those who are different, who have different views. Seek out those with a completely different perspective;

seek to understand why they believe or do as they do. Hear is a four-letter word, again a positive one. We have these working tools in our toolbox. We just don't use them enough. We speak of the instructive tongue and the attentive ear; too often we restrict these concepts to the transmission of the ritual; they will serve us much better if we extend them to other areas of our lives, particularly when it comes to human interaction. If we learn, if we formulate questions and seek answers to them, if we gain more understanding of concepts, ideas, and beliefs other than our own, it will broaden our minds and allow us to have less fear of that which is different, and less hate. I'm not suggesting that

we change our own beliefs, far from it. You may find that exploring the beliefs of others strengthens your own belief system. It is perfectly ok for us to have different beliefs; we don't even have to agree with those of another, we just have to respect their right to their own beliefs.

Third, reach out to others, particularly those whom you think are wrong. Walk is a four-letter word, again a positive word. That icon of American literature, Atticus Finch, suggested to his daughter Scout, that "you cannot really understand a man until you get inside and walk around in his skin." This is a Masonic teaching also. We are instructed to go on foot and out of our way to help those in need. We are taught that "every human being has a claim upon your kind offices." Every human being means every human being, regardless of national-

ity, residency status, race, religion, sexual orientation — period. There are no exceptions to every human being. Spending time with them, walking with them, going to their aid, will do them good and do us good. Again, I'm not recommending that we need to agree with everybody, or change our views, or accept that anyone has a better position than ours. I am only sug-

### It is even more important that we live our Masonic obligations outside our lodges than in their tyled recesses.

gesting that we need to respect all others and seek to understand them. By having personal relationships with those who diverge from us, we will have the opportunity to exemplify the teachings of our gentle Craft. We will become wider, deeper, more well-rounded men, worthy of the title Master Mason. We will be examples and ambassadors for all that is right, good, and beneficent about our Fraternity.

Fourth, do good unto all. Love is a four-letter word; perhaps the most important four-letter word of all. Love is the opposite of hate. Brotherly love is the first tenet of a Mason's profession. "Love your neighbor as yourself," is the greatest commandment. If we love one another, if we break bread together, if we talk and hear and walk together, we will have no room for hate. Hate cannot coexist with love, they are mutually exclusive. It is even more important that we live our Masonic obligations outside our lodges than in their tyled recesses. That is why we give a closing charge.

It is a reminder to practice what we preach in our daily lives. If we do that, our wives, our families, our communities will see our better selves, and our fraternity will be increased in stature and standing.

Let me be clear. Hate is un-Masonic. Intolerance is un-Masonic. Denigrating the views of others is un-Masonic. It cannot be justified by our faith beliefs, by our political views, or by our personal philosophy. Disagreeing is fine, being disagreeable is not. We are here to subdue our passions and improve ourselves in Masonry. Vanquishing hate to the dust bin of our personal history is essential to our task of fitting ourselves as living stones for that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Let us begin.

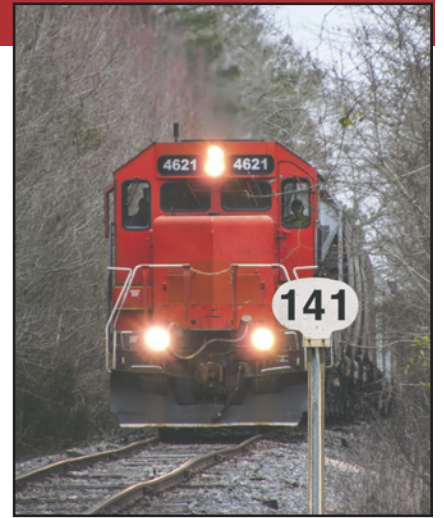
# MILEPOSTS



CLINTON — Hiram 98 member Erwin William (Bill) Lee received his Diamond Jubilee celebrating his 60 years as a Mason back on November 1. Lee is seen here, seated after receiving the award from Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo, left, and then Hiram Lodge Master Jerry Bradshaw. — Dalton Mayo



WINGATE — Meadow Branch 578 member Gene Williams, center, received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years as a Mason. Derry Simpson, 29<sup>th</sup> District Deputy District Grand Master, right, and Meadow Branch Lodge Master Mark Bagley, left, presented him his pin and certificate. — Mark Bagley



SWANSBORO — Aubrey Lincoln, center, got his 50-year Masonic membership award from the Grand Lodge of Maine on December 28. The brothers at Seaside 429 invited him to their meeting and presented the honor on behalf of the Masons in Maine. Fourth Masonic District Deputy Grand Master James McDougal is seen here pinning the award on Lincoln. — Greg D. Padgett



ELIZABETH CITY — Eureka 317 honored Ambrose Staples Sawyer October 6 for his more than 70 years as a Mason. The 92-year-old Sawyer, second from left, first became a Mason at George W. Wright 346 in Norfolk, Virginia in 1943. Eureka Lodge had special certificates made for Sawyer to celebrate his longevity. First District Deputy Grand Master Mike Burnham, left, and then master of Eureka Lodge Robert Bryant, right, made the presentations. Sawyer's son, Ronald Sawyer, is seen here sharing the experience with him. Sawyer remains active in his lodge attendance. — Paul Miller



CLAYTON — Newly installed Granite 191 Master Drew Hemphill had a big family turnout for his installation. Here he is with his dad and both his grandads at the proud event. From left are Banks Scarborough (grandfather) from Benton 26 in Timmonsville, South Carolina; Drew Hemphill, new master; Scott Hemphill (father) also of Granite 191; and Paul Hemphill (grandfather) from Gastonia 369. — Scott Hemphill



## Ragan gets a new ride

HUNTERSVILLE — Williams 176 member David Ragan has joined BK Racing for the 2016 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series. Watch for him on Sunday afternoons driving the Number 23 Dr Pepper Toyota Camry.

Ragan has been racing for 15 years in national touring divisions and has 93 top-ten finishes, 33 top-fives, and four victories. His last trip to the winners circle came in Talladega in 2013.

“I’m happy to be part of something that has so much growth potential,” said

Ragan. “I feel that we’ll be in a position to bring the team to the next level. I’m looking forward to the season.”

“We’re very excited to have a driver of David’s caliber join our team,” said team owner Ron Devine. “In addition to being a race winner, I feel that his input and leadership qualities will benefit the team on many levels. Our entire organization is energized to work with him.”

Ragan has been active in his public support for Shrine Hospitals, including carrying the charity’s banner on his car.

## MILEPOSTS



Here at Norris’ day are, from left, Olin 226 Master Skip Douglas, Dick Norris, and Norris’ nephew Johnny Lundy.

## Olin celebrates 100-year-old

OLIN — Dick Norris turned 100 March 2.

His lodge, Olin 226, threw him a party a few days before his birthday. They paid tribute to Norris with several special gifts, including a United States flag that flew over the capital in Raleigh, a centennial clock, and messages from Grand Master Bryant Webster and NC Governor Pat McCrory. Norris joined in 1963 and remains active in the lodge, currently serving as chaplain.

At the age of eight, he was helping with most of the duties around the farm. After graduating from high school and working on the farm with his father for

a few years, Norris received his draft notification, and went into the Army Air Corps. He spent more than two years on several islands in the South Pacific as an aviation mechanic until the end of the war.

Norris came back to the states, settling in Washington, DC, where he met his wife, Shirley, and got married. Their son was born in Washington, but within a few years polio fears pushed them to move back to North Carolina. They settled into the family farmhouse and began a life of farming. Norris farmed for most of his life, giving it up just a few years ago. — Donna Swicegood



MIDLAND — Looks like the dawning of the Nash era at Union 618. Pictured here at the lodge’s officer installation are the lodge’s 2016 top three officers. Tommy Nash, center, is the new master with his son David (the new senior warden) on his right and his son John (junior warden) on his left. — R. Darrell Long



BAHAMA — The master’s chair at Knap of Reeds 158 will see family action of a refreshing type this year. Kent Dixon sits in the East as master of Knap of Reeds Lodge. His daughter Emma Dixon will use the same chair as she serves as worthy advisor on Rainbow Assembly #86. — Kent Dixon



CHARLOTTE — West Gate 738 was flashing experience when they installed officers this year. Their four installing officers had a total of 237 years of Masonic experience. They were, from left, Roland Smith with 74 years; John Litaker, 59 years; Charlie Sherer, 54 years; and Bill Navy with 50 years. Each is a past master and certified lecturer, and each has served as district deputy grand lecturer and/or district deputy grand master. — Gary Cooke

## BELLAIR, from page 1

We found John Baucom, a past master of Yadkin 162 in Yadkinville. Baucom helped organize a Confederate Memorial Day celebration in his lodge a few years ago. Many of the costumed reenacting Masons attended the ceremony.

Unanimity 7's Bill Potts was there from Edenton. He and friends sat around the entrance to his tent smoking pipes and cigars.

Sean Dunham, a young Mason was there from Spencer 543. He'll be swapping his Civil War costume for overalls when his home lodge holds their Railroad Degree April 2.

As Jim and I wander around the fields and camps, we enjoy lunch and meet interesting folk, a Maine Mason strikes a conversation with Jim thanks to the square and compasses on his chest. He's new to the town and is happy to find more about visiting lodges there.

The home at Bellair Plantation, built about 1763, is the oldest surviving brick plantation home in North Carolina. It is said to have been spared in 1862 by Burnside's advancing Union



troops thanks to the Masonic affiliation of its owner.

This war of brothers created numberless stories of Masonic Brotherhood in the midst of the horror of war.

Any Mason attending one of these events will find a pleasant and outgoing contingent of fraternal members. How long before we have a traveling affinity lodge featuring degree work in tented lodges with Masons in battle-field regalia?

Clockwise from top, one of the Confederate camps, Jim White and his godson, Sean Dunham has a sip of water.



Ric Carter photos

## The Grand Historian's Courier Case Rebellious & Resolute

*By Steven Campbell*

Brother Freemasons played a major role in North Carolina's Revolutionary War effort. All would pledge their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor. How far would you go this day in taking the risks of life & limb as well as all you owned for a principle and honor? A new program is now available detailing these early Brothers, their deeds, deaths, and final success. So ask yourself, are you:

Rebellious: given to or engaged in rebellion, or

Resolute: marked by a firm determination, resolved.

To learn of this chapter in our Masonic history, contact your grand historian through the Grand Lodge's Speaker's Bureau link <<http://grandlodge-nc.org/speakers>>.

Here's is a preview of the program "Rebellious & Resolute, Freemasons and Their Role in Revolutionary North Carolina."

For more than eight generations (169

years) the men and women who colonized the 13 original colonies were considered English subjects, no matter their nationality when they emigrated to the New World. Europe, with its tyranny, depleted resources, and corruption, lost its allure to many people. If one were to survive the hazardous ocean voyage, the opportunity to own their own land, worship as they chose, and, yes, to seek fame and fortune for themselves and their kin presented itself. In this migration also came Freemasons. The first Mason on record in the New World was John Skene of Aberdeen Lodge, Scotland, who emigrated to Burlington, New Jersey, in 1682.

From 1663 until 1712 the Carolinas were one and overseen by the King's friends and supporters known as Proprietors. The manner in which they managed the affairs of the colony and its inhabitants was not all that much of an improvement from the Old World order. As a result, seeds of mistrust, de-

spair, and misunderstanding were sown. From the northern colonies to Georgia, displeasures were being expressed by the working man as well as the community leaders (Freemasons).

The rolls of early Freemasons in British North America included military officers, high ranking politicians, barristers, property owners, merchants, and craftsmen. When tempers flared and patience waned because of imposed fees, taxes, and little or no government reform, it was the leaders of the colonies who stepped up to defy Royal authority. In the North men such as Brothers John Hancock, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, and Richard Montgomery led the way. Moving South, Brother George Washington would lead the established rebel or patriot army (depending on one's point of view). North Carolina, too, had its bevy of Revolutionary leaders — Cornelius Harnett (known as the Sam Adams of North Carolina), Gen. Robert Howe, Edward Buncombe,

William Lenoir, Joseph McDowell, just to name a few of the hundreds of Brothers who fanned the flame of liberty. And let us not forget that the three men from North Carolina who would affix their names to the Declaration of Independence (Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, and John Penn) were members of the fraternity.

The American War for Independence was a long, harsh, and hard conflict which lasted for eight years. Through perseverance, vision, luck, patience, and foresight, the young fledgling nation of the United States, established in 1776, achieved its goal of severing its ties with Great Britain. With victory and independence won, it should come as no surprise that the men of the Masonic fraternity who had bled, wept, and sustained loss would continue to lead the way in our new Republic.

*Grand Historian Steven Campbell is a member of Blackmer 127 and Wilkerson College 760.*



# Encompassing the world



## Academic Bowl in Illinois

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS — The Grand Lodge of Illinois held its 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl in March. They set another record in their contest's growth with 327 high schools registered this year.

High schools are placed in one of three classifications based on their size. They compete in regional contests testing their knowledge in various subjects with winners moving forward to a state final. The state's Masonic youth groups help with the Bowl as one of their service projects.

According to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, "We believe in advancing the welfare of others, especially children, through charitable programs. Academics are a critical part of the overall welfare of children."

— *Illinois Freemasonry*

## Spruce-up grants

DOUSMAN, WISCONSIN — The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin encouraged lodges to take on building improvement projects last year. Suggestions included remodeling, painting, and landscaping. Lodges completing projects between April 1, 2015 and April 1, 2016 could apply for grants of up to \$500 to help pay for the work.

— *The Wisconsin Masonic Journal*

## Minnesota degree shortcuts

BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA — Fast tracking your Masonry has been operating in Minnesota for some years. On November 14, 2015, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota and the state's Shrine Centers cosponsored the fourth annual Big Tent event at the Minneapolis Scottish Rite Temple. Lodges were encouraged to bring their Fellows Craft to

the conferral to be raised with other Masons. A Shrine ceremonial followed the raising so they could leave as Master Masons and Shriners.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota's Annual One-Day-to-Masonry event was held January 16, 2016 at the Scottish Rite Temple. Special one-day petitions were necessary for candidates for the degrees. They got "a continen-

tal breakfast and a hearty lunch. All three degrees [were] portrayed in full form." The \$250 fees for the event included "all degree funds and assessments, the white leather apron, a ritual cipher, and Minnesota Masonic Manual, the meals for the candidate and other items." Lodge dues for the year were not included.

— *The Minnesota Mason*

## Lincoln funeral reenacted

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS — On May 2–3 last year, Masons from several states, including Illinois, Missouri, and Virginia participated in a reenactment of President Abraham Lincoln's funeral procession 150 years previous. Exact replicas of Lincoln's funeral train and coach were used to transport the president's "body" to the city and then to the State Capitol and Oak Ridge Cemetery. More than 15,000 spectators watched 1,250 reenactors portray the solemn occasion.

Lincoln's state rail coach was the Air Force One of the day. He never got to use while he lived. After his assassination, it was converted to his funeral coach to transport his body from Washington, DC back to his home in Springfield, Illinois. A duplicate of the car and train were used in the event.

— *The Wisconsin Masonic Journal*



The locomotive used in the Lincoln reenactment is currently in the B&O Museum in Baltimore, Maryland.

Ric Carter photo

## Know Your State

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA — 2015 was the 58<sup>th</sup> year of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota's Annual Know Your State Contest. The first stage of the contest included 746 students from 35 high schools around the state competing online. The 86 who scored highest were invited to the finals here at Bismarck State College. They competed for nearly \$5,000 in prizes supplied by the North Dakota Masonic Foundation.

The finalists were joined this year by all the members of the North Dakota Supreme Court, the their secretary of state, and other state officers and cabinet members. Chief Justice Gerald W. Vande Walle presented the group a history of the North Dakota Supreme Court. — *North Dakota Mason*

## New Zealand celebrates 125 years of Freemasonry

HAMILTON, NEW ZEALAND — Members of Hillcrest 363 saluted the beginnings of Masonry in New Zealand with an 18<sup>th</sup> century First Degree demonstration. They appeared in full formal period dress and wigs of the 1770s. They seemed to have had great fun in imitating the topics of the time and enjoying themselves. A "visitor produced a bottle of rum to assist in the festivities... He poured the contents into the punchbowls, two members of the audience were overheard to say, 'The bottle contains cold tea. That is what they do on stage,' but apparently there was a revised opinion about the contents of the bottle at the end of the show from the same knowledgeable chaps." — *New Zealand Freemason*

# TRAVELING THE TARHEEL STATE

## Pilot Mountain

When kidney problems forced the wife of a member of Pilot 493 to suffer 13 operations last year, Pilot Lodge and several others took up collections to help with all the incidental bills that arise during such emergencies. Donations came from Pilot 493, Pilot OES 23, Forsyth 707, West Bend 434, King 722, Piedmont Pioneer 685, Pilot Mountain Friends Meeting, and our Grand Lodge.

Pilot Lodge has, over the years, often visited Mountain Home Lodge in Stuart, Virginia. They made the trek again January 14 to see their old friend Jim Litten make his first visit to his home lodge as grand master of Masons in Virginia. The Virginia lodge traces its origins from our long defunct Colesville 278 in Stokes County.

At their January 25 blood drive, Pilot Lodge collected 28 units, a good showing, but their first time to fall short of their goal. Eleven members of the lodge volunteered their time to help with the event.

A special crew of Pilot 493 members assembled for breakfast at Dickie's Sandwich Shop on December 19. After hanging out together for a while, they split into small teams to deliver 18 fruit baskets to needful friends of the lodge. Most of the deliveries included nice visits with the recipients.

— *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

## South Mills

New Lebanon 314 was joined by members of Perquimans 106 (Hertford), Gatesville 126, and Army and Navy 306 (Hampton, VA) on a trip to the Masonic Home for Children. They traveled there shortly before Christmas to share pecans for holiday treats.

— *The Plumb Line*



## Hookerton

Jerusalem 95 has been taking care of their property lately replacing some cracked windows and patching a leak in the roof.

Toward the end of the year, Jerusalem Lodge sent nearly \$900 to the Masonic Home for Children and almost \$300 to the MESH Foundation at WhiteStone.

The lodge recently named Grifton 243's Charlie Hall an honorary member.

On January 13, Charlie Hall, J. K. Hall, Tommy Forrest, and Ronnie Harper visited William Henry Heath to give him his Veteran's Emblem celebrating his 50 years as a Mason.

— *The Jerusalem Journal*

## Kenly

On February 11, Kenly 257 was hosting the Cub Scout Pinewood Derby. They were serving the kids hot dogs and snacks at "trackside."

Kenly Lodge was holding a barbecue chicken fundraiser for their scholarship this spring. They were hoping to bring in enough to present two \$1,000 grants.

— W. C. Barrett

## NEWS FROM OUR LODGES

By Ric Carter



## Spruce Pine

After last year's state-wide discussion about adequate petition fees and a lengthy debate within the lodge, Vesper 554 has raised their fees for the degrees to \$160.

An announced goal of Vesper Lodge is to improve their communication with their members. They are using three primary tools, their acclaimed Newsletter, phonetree messaging, and email alerts.

Several of Vesper's members have earned their Frank Donald Magee, C. J. Higgins, Charlie Gordon Epley, and Tom Calloway.

— *Newsletter*

## Wake Forest

Wake Forest 282 formed a team for the April 9 St. Baldrick's event at the Raleigh Beer Garden. The St. Baldrick Foundation shaves heads to raise money to fight children's cancer.

— Jordan Horst

## Thomasville

A Super Bowl gathering of lodge members was being discussed at Thomasville 214. Tony Downs' office was a possible location.

Thomasville Lodge had two events scheduled for February, a lodge clean up on February 6 and a Brunswick Stew Fundraiser on February 20. For the stew, they form four teams to take care of the different tasks of the fundraiser: preparation, early cooking, serving, and cleaning up. They were hoping to sell 400 quarts and raise at least \$2,000.

Thomasville Lodge Master Matt Leonard was offering \$150 to the lodge fund the first time they surpass 30 members at a meeting, and \$100 each time they reached that goal thereafter.

— *Trestle Board*

■ see next page

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.



**"Masons Can"**  
**Food Drive**



**Feed the Needy**

Each Mason should bring ten dollars or ten cans of food for admission to Annual Communication in September.

**Southern Pines**

On February 15, Southern Pines 484 celebrated Brother George Washington's birthday. They were serving a Colonial-style meal before the 21<sup>st</sup> Masonic District's Colonial Degree team conferred a Fellow Craft Degree. The meal was ham, potatoes, and beans, capped off with (of course) cherry pie. They also held a silver dollar raffle. Proceeds of the raffle and donations for the dinner went to the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

Southern Pines Lodge hosted their Ladies' Night on February 12. The menu options featured stuffed flounder, beef medallions, and chicken parmesan.

Southern Pines Lodge continues to host their Fellowship Breakfasts on first Saturdays. — Gene Maples

**Fayetteville**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District held their Third Annual George Washington Birthday Dinner on February 27. The regulars were joined by a few first-timers for the gathering at the Hilltop House Restaurant here. Herb Lynch presented the evening's program which shared some little-known aspects of Brother Washington's life. They also shared special toasts.

— 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

The famed Jim Hay Square and Compasses Luncheon is back. Hay held regular gatherings for years at Fort Bragg. They are now meeting at 11:30 A.M. on third Tuesdays at the Fort Bragg Conference and Catering Center.

— Derec Mercer

Jim Medlin, of the Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities, was a guest at Fort Bragg 667 on March 2. He was talking to them about fundraising rules and regulations. Our rules have been tightened since an IRS audit a year ago.

— John M. Hall Jr.

**Hope Mills**

Lebanon 391 has scheduled their Seventh Annual Golf Tournament for April 16 at Gates Four Golf Course in Fayetteville. In addition to awards for first through third places, they will offer door prizes as well as a special award for the last place team. The \$75 entry fee includes greens fees, cart, and dinner. The field is limited to 132 golfers.

— Lebanon Lodge

Lebanon Lodge and their Eastern Star chapter held a Pancake Breakfast January 30. — Ken Wical

**Highlands**

Blue Ridge 435 recently repaired the siding on their building. Jim Shearon donated a Roomba robotic vacuum cleaner to the lodge — a volunteer who just needs regular recharging.

— *Trestleboard*

**Union Grove**

The March stated at Grassy Knob 471 will feature Al Gaylord's Possum Chili. The second attraction on tap is a program on lodge etiquette from Past Grand Master Doug Caudle and Kevin Combs. — Tom Gregory

**Hickory**

In January, Hickory 343's Gene Walker was named co-worker of the month at the Hickory Police Department for exemplifying the department's "core values, especially accountability."

—Hickory Police Department



Michael Adcock photo

**Durham Masons hold special visitation**

DURHAM — On February 25, members from two Prince Hall Lodges enjoyed dinner and fellowship before attending the stated communication of Fellowship 687. Shepard Memorial 840 (PHA) Master Rodney Bratcher visited and brought his Brothers Timothy Cherry, John Horton, Thomas Smith, Willie Harris, and William Johnson with him. Willie Thomas of Doric 28 (PHA) was also there. Fellowship 687 Master Joseph Hackett hosted the gathering along with other Fellowship members Michael Adcock, William Bailey, Paul Sprouse, Roger Cooke, Alfonso Piacentini, Allen Crawford, Charles Pless, Adam Shiflett, Michael Shiflett, Chad Bebout, and Bryan Reckless. — Michael Adcock

**Jacksonville**

Knights of Solomon 766 were planning an overnight trip to the Shriners Children's Hospital in Greenville, South Carolina for April 1-2. They were expecting participation from the other two Knights of Solomon lodges, 764 and 768. All three Knights of Solomon lodges are affinity lodges for motorcycle enthusiasts.

— Christopher Diederich

**Walnut Cove**

Walnut Cove 629 celebrated their centennial with a special dinner January 19. — Homer Dearmin

**Cliffside**

Cliffside 460 was sponsoring a blood drive February 20. They were serving breakfast to donors.

David W. Philbeck of Hollis 535 was recently made an honorary member of Cliffside Lodge. — Firpo Epley

**Dobson**

Copeland 390 and Pete Carroll celebrated Carroll's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday by having him open and close the lodge at their January 14 stated communication. He was raised in 1960 and was master of Copeland Lodge in 1968.

— Homer Dearmin

**Mount Airy**

Granite 322 held their Ham and Egg Breakfast fundraiser on March 12. The buffet was served from 5:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. at the Masonic Temple.

— Homer Dearmin

**Candler**

Hominy 491 had their Pancake Breakfast set for April 2. They were serving pancakes, eggs, and sausage to raise money for our Masonic Homes.

— Hominy Lodge

## STATE, from previous

**Raleigh**

James B. Green 735 held their Eighth Annual Chili Cook-Off on February 9. It was open to the public. Past Grand Historian Michael Brantley was presenting Masonic education at the meeting.

Green Lodge Master Scott Sholar wants to establish a regular Masonic education night for the lodge. He's considering the Sunday night before stated communications.

In outreach, the lodge was planning to participate in the Masonic Home for Children's Great Landscapes Day March 19. The lodge's Spring Chicken Barbecue is set for April 15.

— Scott Sholar

J. J. Crowder 743 has a Sporting Clay Shoot scheduled for April 16. They'll be shooting at Deep River Sporting Clays. Entry fee is \$75 and includes lunch and ammo. Proceeds are for Masonic charities.

— Philip Miller

**Winston-Salem**

Old Town 751 raised 67-year-old James Michael Absher February 2. It made a nice birthday gift for his father who was on hand for the raising. Robert Mack Absher of Piedmont-Pioneer 685 was there celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The local DeMolays and Rainbows have found a good ongoing fundraising project. They feed Old Town Lodge at their stated communications, and the Masons donate for their meals.

Scott McNeely gave the lodge a new flag to replace the aging one outside the lodge.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

**Greensboro**

P. P. Turner 746 held a breakfast Master Mason Degree on February 20. Tabasco 271 prepared the breakfast for the guests and crew. One of the candidates was receiving the degree as a courtesy for the United Grand Lodge of England. The candidate's uncle, a pro-grand master of the UGLE attended. The degree team performed in costume. Later in the day, lodge members and others enjoyed the York Rite Country Ham Supper. — Jay Callahan

Gate City 694's February 9 Masonic education program was "Masonry and Revolutionary War, The Three Strikes." — Gary Balance

**Burnsville**

Burnsville 717 has instituted weekly practices. Want to beef up on your work? Come by at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday nights. — Terry Gevedon

**Smithfield**

Fellowship 84 was holding its annual Pancake Breakfast March 19.

— Grover Dees

**Burgaw**

King Solomon 138 is hosting their 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Outdoor Degree on April 23.

— *King Solomon Lodge*

**Clayton**

Granite 191 held a Daddy and Daughter Dance on February 20. They were at the Clayton Center.

— W. C. Barrett

**Charlotte**

After the "overwhelming success" of the Claude Hildreth Memorial Gun Raffle, Derita 715 plans to repeat the fundraiser. They are also in the early stages of organizing a car show.

— *From the East*

Excelsior 261 had Chris Wilhoit visit and make a presentation entitled "The Lodge System of Masonic Education — Good for the Candidate/Good for the Lodge."

Excelsior had a lodge work night on February 22.

— *Trestle Board*

West Gate 738 had their Ladies' Night February 20 at the Metroliner Shrine Club. Darrell and the Sunshine Boys entertained after the supper of rib-eye steak and grilled chicken. Tickets were \$15 per person or \$25 for couples.

— *News from the West*

West Gate Lodge had a Super Bowl party February 7. It was a covered dish meal. They had lots of room and three televisions going.

— Gary Cooke

**Hillsborough**

Hillsborough Rainbow Girls were serving supper at Eagle 19's stated meetings in April and June. They will use proceeds to help defray their expenses attending their Grand Assembly in late June.

— Hillsborough Rainbow Girls

Mosaic 762's festive board meeting on February 16 featured music from member Jason Lentz and a presentation from Brother Desmond Miller about the Boy Scouts of America and the Scouts' initiative to put more science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) into Scouting.

Mosaic also had several cultural outings including visiting the Escher and da Vinci exhibits at the North Carolina Museum of Art in January. They are considering several Masonic related theatrical productions also.

— Keith Morgan

**Wilson**

Wilson 117 hosted their Pancake Breakfast February 19. — W. C. Barrett

**Laurinburg**

In November, Laurinburg Lodge awarded five guns in their raffle.

— Jason Butler

see next page

**Ramps mean freedom**

**KERNERSVILLE** — After several months in rehab, George Cooper Page was looking forward to getting home. That required a ramp for him to come and go. His Brothers at Kernersville 669 stepped in to make sure he was not held up on getting back where he wanted to be. They sent a crew and built a ramp at his home. Page has coached many candidates for the lodge and served as district deputy grand master. He is also the lodge's longtime chaplain. — Bob Gentry

**Gastonia**

Gaston County Sheriff Alan Cloninger was recently a guest speaker at a King Solomon 704 stated communication. — *The Plumb Line*

Gastonia 369 Master Marvin Franks is planning a coat drive this year to help homeless kids in their area.

— *The Trestle Board*

**Mount Gilead**

The Third Annual Uwharrie Mountain Rumble is set for April 16. The ride features a scenic ride through the Uwharrie National Forest. For information email <jointherumble@gmail.com>. Registration is \$35 for riders and \$15 for passengers. Masonic charities will benefit. — Robert Morrell

## It's Pig Jig time!

RALEIGH — The North Carolina Masonic Pig Jig is a unique event held annually at the North Carolina State Fair Grounds. Thirty or more Masonic cooking teams will duke it out to get bragging rights to the best barbecue in the state. The event is the biggest joint project of North Carolina's two Masonic parent organizations; Grand Lodge AF & AM and Prince Hall Grand Lodge. Men from many lodges, rites, and shrines come together for joyful competition to see old friends and make new ones.

The Eleventh Annual Masonic Carolina Pig Jig Barbecue is coming up Saturday, May 21. As in the past, it will be held in conjunction with the Got to Be NC Festival. The Festival is a mini-State Fair held each spring.

Want to sample dozens of different barbecue recipes? The Pig Jig will be serving May 21 from 11:00 a.m. until the barbecue is gone. Tickets are \$15 for 12 years old and up, kids seven to eleven eat for five dollars, and under seven years chow for free. Adult tickets are available online at <<http://carolinapigjig.com>>. For more information write Carolina Pig Jig, c/o Sean Rollman, 904 Wakestone Court, Raleigh, NC 27609, or call Rollman at (919) 609-0883 or email him at <[scrollman@nc.rr.com](mailto:scrollman@nc.rr.com)>. An early bird special for entries is available through April 15.

Over its history, the Pig Jig has raised more than \$100,000 for charities. Last year they sent \$5,000 to the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford and \$5,000 to the Central Children's Home there.



A Pig Jig team prepares their secret formula.

## SIZEMORE, from page 1

Home Board Chairman, Oxford Orphanage Alumnus, and Past Grand master Dan Rice spoke of the impact Sizemore had in rearing him as a young man and in raising him as a Masonic leader. Grand Master Bryant Webster thanked Sizemore for the heart and constitution exhibited in his decades of working with families and children, and serving as the agent of change in so many lives. Alumni and co-workers took the podium telling of the impact and influence of Donald Sizemore on their lives.

Sizemore never lived more than three miles from the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. He began his career at Oxford Orphanage on June 1, 1964 as the cottage counselor for the oldest boys' cottage. In the years following, he served as a caseworker, the Little League Baseball and Football coach, the head of the Sunday School Department, and finally as admissions director. He served with seven superintendents during his years at the Home. He first joined the Masonic fraternity April 4, 1965 as a member of Oxford 122 where he served as master and later as secretary for more than 30 years. He is a charter member of Orphans 761, received the Distinguished Secretary's Award and the highest award that can be bestowed upon a Freemason by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, the Joseph Montfort Award.

With this night, this naming, and this recognition, Sizemore will welcome all children in search of hope and a home as he did more than 40 faithful years to his Home in Oxford.

## STATE, from previous

### Statesville

The lodges here held their 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Masonic Community Blood Drive in January. Sheetz joined them this year by supplying doughnuts and coffee in the morning and sandwiches in the afternoon. The drive brought in 156 units in Statesville and 210 units at another five donor locations. Next year's edition will be held January 6, 2017.

The Temple Board here is holding a gun and cross-bow charity raffle with sales running from January 19 through July 5. They held a Masonic Charity Breakfast on March 19. Liver mush headlined the meal that raised money for our Masonic Homes.

— *The Joppa Informer*

Stateville 27 had some interesting programs at lodge recently. Ben Wallace visited on February 2 with his presentation "Veiled in Allegory and Illustrated by Symbols." Don Barrier did a program about Masonic music February 16.

— Duane Smyth

### Cherry Point

Cherry Point 688 held their breakfast fundraiser February 27. Proceeds went to the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

— Bill Sanford

### Hallsboro

The 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District's Masonic Pheasant Hunt was held at Honey Hill Hunting Preserve February 13. Proceeds were going to the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

— Ken Wical

### Salisbury

Sophia 767 had a very special guest lecturer Christina McKinley on February 26. McKinley is a cast regular on the History Channel's Brad Meltzer's Decoded."

— *17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

### Concord

Stokes 32 will hold their Annual Chicken Dinner on April 30. Their Annual Casino Night is set for November 12.

— Vance McGee

### Southport

Pythagoras 249 is forming a committee to plan their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The tentative expectation is to coordinate it with Independence Day weekend.

— *Newsletter*

### Princeton

St. Patrick's 617 held their annual fundraiser supper for the Masonic Home for Children on March 5.

— W. C. Barrett

### Elizabethtown

On February 8, Bladen 646 enjoyed a presentation on the immortality of the soul from Greg Conner.

— *17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

### Correction

The article in our last issue about Leroy Whitfield's Certified Lecturer longevity award should have said the award was for 60 years. We regret the error.



## Christmas stew time

HOLLY SPRINGS — During their town Christmas parade, Holly Springs 115 held its second annual charity Brunswick stew event. By every measure, it was an overwhelming success for our charities. They will again serve their signature homemade Brunswick Stew during next year's Holly Springs Christmas parade on December 12. Seen here are Tim Merritt, Tylor Howard, Don Acker, John Dullaghan, Bob Padalino, Stan Rimmer, Todd Dyches, Don Murphy, and David Morley.

— Vinnie DeBenedetto

# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

1 ..... Smith Jr., Jerry Howard  
 3 ..... Payne Jr., Thomas William  
 3 ..... Potts, Jerrald Daniel  
 4 ..... Davis, James Tyndall  
 4 ..... Honeycutt, Jacob Roman  
 4 ..... Villagra, Jovanni Cesar  
 8 ..... Martin, Avery Gene  
 8 ..... Schuch, Nicholas Lee  
 8 ..... Staley, Jay Tanner  
 8 ..... Lahti, Bryan Robert  
 8 ..... Silver, Gary Angelo  
 8 ..... Young, Anthony O'Chell  
 27 ..... Wright, Michael Todd  
 32 ..... Moffitt, Parish Henry  
 40 ..... Manley, Victor  
 40 ..... Wilson, Timothy Sean  
 45 ..... Howell, Kevin R.  
 53 ..... Goodwin Jr., Ron Martin  
 83 ..... McMackins, Micah Steven  
 83 ..... Ramsey, Charles Lloyd  
 83 ..... Padgett, Philip Thomas  
 83 ..... Smith, John Michael  
 91 ..... Barker, Andrew Scott  
 98 ..... Cannady, Coyier Lee  
 98 ..... Pope, Jamie Riner  
 98 ..... Bass, Bryan Keith  
 98 ..... Edwards, Christopher Paul  
 98 ..... Jennings II, Timothy William  
 102 ..... Mann, Michael Lloyd  
 114 ..... Thomas, Owen James  
 115 ..... Higgs, Luke Nathan  
 115 ..... Lindley, Michael  
 118 ..... Henderson, Steven Michael  
 118 ..... Morgan, Jonathan Charles  
 118 ..... Ramsburg Jr., James Brett  
 118 ..... Tervo, Kyle Jacob  
 118 ..... Edwards, Robert Grady  
 118 ..... Lovejoy, Brad Balsler  
 123 ..... Joyner, Brandon Johnson  
 123 ..... Kozak, Eric Russell  
 123 ..... Williams, Benjamin Kyle  
 127 ..... Wilson, James Michael  
 143 ..... Hatfield, William Anderson  
 145 ..... Peak, Adam Lee  
 147 ..... Johnson, Jessie Colton  
 151 ..... Diaz, Reinardo  
 154 ..... Lanning Jr., Michael Todd  
 154 ..... Michael, Patrick Lewis  
 172 ..... Day, James Francis  
 206 ..... Norris, Roy Shannon  
 214 ..... Perkins, Darin Wayne  
 217 ..... Coleman Jr., Dean Thomas  
 218 ..... Kupper, Robert Edward  
 218 ..... Hernandez, Rodolfo Jesus  
 218 ..... Orbe, Daniel Josef  
 218 ..... Peters, Andrew James  
 231 ..... Nowell, William Timothy  
 231 ..... Raynor, Joshua Edward Byron  
 231 ..... Domnick, Matthew Stephen  
 231 ..... Jarboe, Charlie Ray Ross  
 231 ..... Sullivan, Timothy  
 237 ..... Conley, Norman Michael  
 244 ..... Love, Ryan Alexander  
 257 ..... Plummer, Glenn Sanford

259 ..... Thompson, Jeffrey Dean  
 263 ..... Wooten, Ray Anthony  
 265 ..... Willard, Bradley Eugene  
 267 ..... Bishop, Christopher Todd  
 267 ..... Boros, Louis L.  
 272 ..... Bivins, Michael Todd  
 272 ..... Legnetti, Philip James  
 272 ..... Miller, Jeffrey Lyn  
 282 ..... Galvin, Phillip Marshall  
 282 ..... Taylor III, Orlin Dee  
 283 ..... Kiser Jr., William Lee  
 283 ..... Lentz, Donald Edward  
 292 ..... Brown, Jason Scott  
 292 ..... Whitener, Heath Joshua  
 294 ..... Pugh Jr., Richard Wayne  
 302 ..... Byrd, Randall Scott  
 304 ..... Stroud, Richard Thurman  
 314 ..... White, David Scott  
 319 ..... Collins, Matthew John  
 319 ..... Piver, Forrest Lee  
 319 ..... Williams, Garrett Mathew  
 322 ..... Wilson, Joshua Brandon  
 339 ..... Austin, Alexander Scott  
 340 ..... Suggs, David Edward  
 343 ..... Patterson, John Dexter  
 343 ..... Kelly III, Sim Delano  
 348 ..... Hatley, Larry Wayne  
 357 ..... Blanton, Jason Paul  
 373 ..... Caudill, William Nicholas  
 373 ..... Combs, Mason Raymond  
 377 ..... Overby Jr., Braxton Roy  
 384 ..... Falls, Kevin Floyd  
 388 ..... Glenn, James Donald  
 388 ..... Floyd, Jayson R.  
 390 ..... Ford, Christopher Alan  
 391 ..... Bill, Justin Patrick  
 391 ..... Long, Steven Michael  
 391 ..... Roberts, Jefferson Scott  
 395 ..... Bordeaux Jr., Ralph Randall  
 401 ..... Tipton, Marc Jeffery  
 403 ..... Oliver, Derek Austin  
 413 ..... Watkins, William Bradley  
 413 ..... Franks, Kristopher Steven  
 427 ..... Glasgow, Albert Harvey  
 429 ..... Dacey Jr., James Joseph  
 434 ..... Mulholland, Christopher Garrett  
 434 ..... Uhl, David Michael  
 435 ..... Moffitt, Anthony Scott  
 435 ..... Hagan, Thomas Keith  
 444 ..... Callahan, Todd Ashley  
 446 ..... Barkett, Darren Michael  
 446 ..... Martin, Zebulon Daniel  
 453 ..... Miller, Michael Steven  
 454 ..... Carter III, Ercel Carson  
 459 ..... Brothers III, William Curry  
 463 ..... Ennis, James Bernard  
 472 ..... Ledford, Daryell Henry  
 479 ..... Baker, Mickey Roy  
 479 ..... Barnes, Ashley Ray  
 479 ..... Emery, Lonnie Shain Fransis  
 479 ..... Tillman, Christopher Curtis  
 482 ..... Sellers, Marion Snell  
 482 ..... Turnage, Harrison William  
 491 ..... Gosnell, Hunter Blake

492 ..... Craven, Steven Wayne  
 492 ..... Moser, Charles Shawn  
 492 ..... Walker, Joseph Steven  
 493 ..... Chamberlain, Mickey Wayne  
 493 ..... Stone, Chad Edward  
 495 ..... Haywood, Matthew Cole  
 498 ..... Roebuck, Christopher Curtis  
 498 ..... Sutton, Michael Wayne  
 502 ..... Springs, Jacob Lyndon  
 502 ..... Springs, Tanner Charles  
 505 ..... Hendrick, Daniel Lee  
 515 ..... Cook, Austin James  
 515 ..... Lineberger, Curtis Dean  
 515 ..... Lineberger, Timothy Jake  
 521 ..... Jones, Jonathan Chad  
 521 ..... Jameson II, Cory Craven  
 521 ..... Kepler Jr., William Lee  
 528 ..... Floyd, Lynn Furman  
 544 ..... Bryant, Christopher Dane  
 544 ..... Batchelor, Mark Edward  
 550 ..... Marks, James Richard  
 552 ..... Mosier, William Daniel  
 552 ..... Skeehan, Logan Thomas  
 561 ..... Padgett, Jesse James  
 561 ..... Miller, Andrew Stephenson  
 563 ..... Cribb, Brandon Joe  
 563 ..... McPherson, Marc Allen  
 565 ..... Schaaf, David Mark  
 565 ..... Carroll, Benjamin Travis  
 565 ..... Myrick, David Allen  
 568 ..... Clark, Steven Michael  
 568 ..... Jefferson, Douglas McCrey  
 568 ..... Mallard III, Charles Nixon  
 573 ..... Wilson, Wade Lewis  
 573 ..... Barlow, David Shawn

579 ..... Williams, Robert Lee  
 583 ..... Moffitt, Zachary Ryan  
 602 ..... Medlin, Brandon Chane  
 612 ..... Lacer, John Barbour  
 612 ..... Phipps, Walter Cornelious  
 616 ..... Hawks, Ricky Dwayne  
 618 ..... Cox, William Robert  
 618 ..... Kiker, Austin Jerome  
 629 ..... Teague, Aaron Gregory  
 657 ..... Smith, Brandon Lee  
 663 ..... Fowler, Robert Wesley  
 663 ..... Buchanan, Benjamin Dichel  
 667 ..... Sage, Joseph Douglas  
 669 ..... Bodford, William Craig  
 676 ..... Best, OShae Daquan  
 676 ..... Bogan, Brandon Thomas  
 676 ..... Onwuka, Callistus Ogochuku  
 680 ..... Torres Jr., Domingo  
 680 ..... Trott, Michael Eli  
 680 ..... Bayon, Jeremy Marcus  
 680 ..... Rohrer, John Russell  
 683 ..... Locklear, Archie Ray  
 686 ..... Morill, Robert Pierce  
 686 ..... Dunn II, Harry James  
 686 ..... Frevele, Anthony Dean  
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Shawn Rocco/Duke Health photo

Vice President Joe Biden and Dr. John Sampson, left, talk during a roundtable discussion at Duke Hospital.

## Biden brings cancer moonshot to Durham, Mason meets him there

DURHAM — Invoking the aspirational spirit that put U.S. astronauts on the moon, Vice President Joe Biden visited Duke Health February 10 as part of the national “moonshot” initiative he is leading to advance cancer research. Duke Department of Neurosurgery Chairman John Sampson, a North Carolina Mason, led a laboratory tour for Biden during his visit.

After that tour, the vice president held a roundtable discussion with key leaders in the cancer community who were convened to share their aspirations for the moonshot.

With the Duke Cancer Institute and the Duke University School of Medicine as a backdrop, the vice president cited the unique history of the Research Triangle area, where major universities, biotechnology companies, and federal research agencies have long combined forces. He said the area’s teamwork demonstrates the sort of collaborative effort that the cancer cure moonshot aims to foster nationwide.

“I’m not naïve that we are going to cure every cancer,” Biden said during a roundtable discussion. He noted that more government funding is just one element necessary to achieve the moonshot’s goal of condensing a decade worth of research advances into just five years. Biden urged all groups to work together across academic dis-

ciplines, joining business and industry, philanthropic organizations, advocacy groups, and others.

Dr. Michael B. Kastan, executive director of the Duke Cancer Institute said, “It’s a very exciting time in cancer right now, and it’s a very challenging time,” Kastan said. “When the National Cancer Act was passed in 1971 by Congress, people expected that discoveries were going to be made very quickly. But, we were in no position to quickly advance our diagnosis and treatment of cancer at that time.” Cancer has proven to be a formidable foe, he said.

After 40 years of research and development, however, the field is at a pivotal point, Kastan said. The vice president’s advocacy for the moonshot initiative could be that final push that enables science to reach its goal.

“In many ways, Vice President Biden is asking the same questions we are,” Dr. Eugene Washington, chancellor for health affairs at Duke University and president and chief executive officer of the Duke University Health System, said. “How do we accomplish ten years of advancement in five years? How do we really pick up the pace? In research, education, patient care, and our communities locally and globally, that is exactly what we aspire to do and what we will do.”

— Sarah Avery and Health News Office

### Our back pages

## UNC treasure is a Masonic icon



CHAPEL HILL —The first public procession of our Grand Lodge was to set the cornerstone of UNC’s Old East, the first building on the campus of the first public university. GM William R. Davie, Father of the University, set the stone with Masonic ceremony. A brass plaque commemorating the event was placed. It was lost in the 1800s and miraculously recovered in 1916 from a scrap pile about to be melted in Tennessee. It was returned to the University by the Grand Lodge on University Day, exactly 123 years after its original deposit. It is displayed today in Wilson Hall on UNC’s campus.

## From the Medical Committee Weight loss and carbs

By Lonnie Lassiter, MD

So many people have difficulty losing weight—it is a struggle. As I have worked with hundreds of patients on weight loss, I see one common theme—a basic misunderstanding about what is “good for you.”

There is so much misinformation out there about how to shed those extra pounds. Certainly, eating fewer calories than you burn with your body will lead to weight loss.

The grain-based diet that Americans have learned for decades is not ideal for staying thin specifically because it is carbohydrate dense. Carbohydrates are an important source of energy for humans, and we need carbohydrates. However, eating carbohydrates causes a rise in blood glucose which, in turn, causes a rise in circulat-

ing insulin levels.

Insulin is a critical hormone for our bodies, but with chronically elevated insulin levels, a person will be in constant “storage mode” and will be predisposed to gain weight.

Exercise is secondary to weight loss. It is most practical to lose weight by altering nutrition, balancing healthy proteins, healthy fats, and non-processed carbohydrates, not by adding exercise.

A good rule of thumb is to limit daily carbohydrate intake to 50 grams. How you will lose weight will need to be based on your individual situation, but start by an honest evaluation of what you eat and then educate yourself on macronutrients.

Lonnie Lassiter is a member of Polk County Unity 482.



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**Masons enjoy New  
Bern reenactment**



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**Fort Macon hosts a  
Third Degree**



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**Masons join  
Veterans' Day Parade**

**On the cover**  
A campsite at Battles of  
New Berne held in March  
Ric Carter photo

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# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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