



# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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

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## Holdes railroad roundhouse degree

# Spencer shares its rail heritage

*By Ric Carter*

SPENCER — Spencer 543 has always been part of the railroad machine, from the birth of Spencer Shops to the back shop's current incarnation as the North Carolina Transportation Museum. On April 2, they again made that heritage part of their public face by sponsoring their Railroad Degree. After the museum closed, nearly 300 Masons gathered in the 37-bay round house that now serves as a rolling stock and locomotive display for the museum. In the six bays emptied for the lodge's work, a third degree was performed between a 1913 Baldwin Copperhead steam locomotive on one side and Seaboard and CC&O cabooses on the other. The floor of the lodge took up two bays. The rest was littered with chairs brought by attendees.

Arriving Masons met at the front of the Museum and had hamburgers and hot dogs under the picnic shelters there. They had fun, talked trains and lodges, picked up their pre-ordered tshirts, and waited to make their big entrance to the degree. They boarded passenger cars and toured the yard pulled by a 1958 EMD GP9 which served Norfolk and Western during its working life. After the tour, they stopped at the end of the roundhouse and entered the huge facility. They walked down the row of giant locomotives and other historic rolling stock to the bays cleared for the lodge.



Ric Carter photos

Masons retook the Spencer Shop's roundhouse to hold a Master Mason Degree in April.

There, on a floor of vertically planted timbers, covered work pits, and rail was a lodge floor with enough of the standard furniture from the lodge to be easily recognizable. A temporary wall with tyler and preparation room doors was installed near the bay doors.

The event was the result of months of planning. Lonnie Melton, Sam Krohn, Anthony Fisher, Woodie Weddington, and John Ogden were the committee to make the Train Degree happen. They started work in January. Master Sam Krohn credited Melton's hard work and previous experience with the nearby quarry degree with the success they had.

Spencer Lodge's officers conducted the first section

see TRAIN, page 8



N&W's 611 steam streamliner was a visitor.



Grand Master Webster was dressed for the occasion.



Spencer's 36-bay roundhouse furnished a huge stage for Spencer Lodge's headline degree.

# Home for Children taps first ambassadors

OXFORD — The weekend of April 23 marked a new era for your Masonic Home for Children. Twelve Master Masons from across the state gathered, most with their spouses, to experience life on campus and learn more about the operation, programs, and plans of the Home. They are the first Ambassadors of the Home commissioned by Grand Master Bryant Webster with the goal of carrying the message of the Home to families in need. Alumni, many of whom are Masons, have been instrumental in helping bring this notion to reality. In 2014, the Marketing Coordination Group including alumni, Robert Batchler, Billy Willis, and John Belk met and proposed a plan to somehow involve Masons with the Home in a more personal manner. This idea developed into the Ambassador Program.

On Friday evening, April 22, Grand Master Webster welcomed the inaugural class of Ambassadors to the Home. They had games in the gym with three of the cottages. The class was then divided into groups of three for dinner in different cottages. After dinner, they toured a cottage and the Cobb Center. It was then off to the York Rite Chapel for reflective activities. Older residents, including 1968 Alumnus Dan Rice (PGM), shared their experience at the Home and its importance in their lives. They discussed the difficulties of being raised out of one's home, having to abide by campus rules, and the perspective of guardians having to let go of their children and trust them to others.

Saturday's working breakfast was conducted by Marketing Chair and Board Member Phil Johnson. They talked about the role of the ambassador, governance of the Home, discussion of its current programs and procedures (including the referral process), and the different departments and services of the Home. It provided a well-rounded understanding of the operation so it could be shared with others. Each person developed an action plan to begin connecting with lodges in their district, identify community groups to approach, and to reach families in need. One important message is a familiar one: the Masonic Home for Children is in need of house parent couples to work as child care workers. If you know anyone who would be good house parents,



The Home for Children Ambassador Class 2016 seen here, from left, includes David and Julie Parde, Grand Master Bryant Webster, Chairman Dan Rice (PGM), Gwen and David Nyce, Marketing Chair Phil Johnson, Annie and Tommy Greene, Chris and Liz Wilhoit, Vice Chairman Dewey Preslar (PGM), C. Ray Hall, Doug Earnhardt, Hubert Williamson, John and Heather Harrelson, Wiley Kessler, Kenneth Sudderth, and Alicia and Todd Smith. Barbara and Joe Fuller, and Pat Williamson are not pictured.

have them contact MHCO at (919) 693-5111 or visit the website at <[www.mhc-oxford.org](http://www.mhc-oxford.org)>.

At the graduation ceremony, each Ambassador received a certificate, pin, and a walking stick. PGM Preslar presented the walking sticks and explained that they were hand-crafted by David J. Stapleton of Greenville 284 and Dan River 129, for the ambassadors to embody the strength, support, and importance of their work. Each cane is unique and made from 1930s white pine tobacco sticks cut in Pitt County, NC. They represent the journey of taking the light of the Home to those in dark times.

Grand Master Webster commissioned the class by presenting the Ambassador Charter, which currently hangs in the Home's York Rite Chapel. A class photo each year will be hung next to the charter. Ambassadors are asked to provide a three-year commitment to the program. Additional classes each year are planned. Within three years, every Masonic District in North Carolina should have its own ambassador. They will work with lodges to help provide information, make contacts, assess their relationship with the Children's Home, and develop action plans. They will also present programs and information to various groups and help take the Home's message of hope to families in need.

The inaugural class of 2016 includes John and Heather Harrelson, District 6;

Joe and Barb Fuller, District 9; Hubert and Pat Williamson, District 13; David and Gwen Nyce, District 15; David and Julie Parde, District 16; Tommy and Annie Greene, District 21; Todd and Alicia Smith, District 22; C. Ray Hall, District 23; Doug Earnhardt, District 28; Chris and Liz Wilhoit, District 34; Kenneth Sudderth, District 37; and Wiley Kessler, District 38.

The Masonic Home for Children continues to be a great place to be a kid, and the impact of our work together reaches for generations. Thank you all for helping bring this program to light to be shared brightly across the state. If you are interested in the Ambassador Class of 2017, please contact your district deputy grand master who may make a formal nomination.



## Holiday joy delivered from one Home to the other

GREENSBORO — In the holiday spirit, more than 20 carolers, including of children and staff, from the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford delighted residents of WhiteStone: A Masonic & Eastern Star Community with good old fashioned Christmas tunes. In addition to singing, the group also took time to visit with Independent Living and Care and Wellness Center residents. The WhiteStone residents felt abundantly blessed and filled with Christmas spirit after the visit. This was the second year in a row for the carolers to visit, and they were encouraged to make this an annual tradition between the two Masonic Homes. — Richard Spivey

# People with Purpose recognizes Gibson



Christer Berg photo

Raleigh's Elmer Gibson has made a mark on the community.

RALEIGH — Photographer Christer Berg has an ongoing project called "People with Purpose." He uses environmental portraits to recognize and celebrate people who contribute positively their community.

Raleigh 500 Mason, Elmer Gibson was one of those recently featured.

Some of you may remember Gibson as the musician at Annual Communication in some years past. He has been one of Raleigh 500's most active members. Here is his entry.

Elmer Gibson was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and began his study of music at four years of age.

As a jazz pianist, composer, and arranger he has recorded and performed at concerts and festivals

in the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, and South America.

In 1974 Elmer moved to Raleigh where he co-founded and was the president of Preservation Jazz Company, the first organization of its kind in the state of North Carolina dedicated to increasing awareness of jazz as a language and an art form.

He has been instrumental in the creation of jazz programs around the state, including the Raleigh Artsposure Jazz Festival, Durham Arts in the Park Festival and was a founding board member of the Raleigh Community Music School.

To see more of the series visit <<http://tinyurl.com/gsx87hy>>.

# Mosaic visits NC Museum of Art

RALEIGH — Several Mosaic 762 members and their families and friends visited the North Carolina Museum of Art January 15 where they saw two headline art shows, "The Worlds of M. C. Escher" and "Leonardo da Vinci's Codex Leicester and the Creative Mind."

The Escher show was one of the museum's most successful featured shows, pulling in more than 116,000 visitors during its 14-week stay. It is one of the largest ever assemblages of Escher's work. Escher is known for the mathematical precision of his tessellations and transformations. Da Vinci's Codex is his 500-year-old handwritten and illustrated journal.

Keith Morgan, Steve Barrell, Jason Lentz, and Ric Carter brought friends and family members and met at the museum and toured the shows together sharing stories about the works and their personal experiences.

Below: Barrell, Morgan, and Carter at the entrance. Right: Barrell enjoys Devorah Sparber's *After the Mona Lisa 2* made of spools of thread.



Ric Carter photos

Ric Carter photos



"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.

# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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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.

## New lodge to celebrate UNC

CHAPEL HILL — A new affinity lodge is on the way. Lux Libertas Lodge will be for University of North Carolina lovers. Several organizational meetings have already taken place, and the lodge is expected to get a dispensation from Grand Master Bryant Webster at the lodge’s first official meeting on June 20 (Father of the University William R. Davie’s 260<sup>th</sup> birthday) in the Dialectic Hall on UNC campus.

The principles of the new lodge include:

- Supporting the mission of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in its historic role as the University of the People.
- Study of the liberal arts.
- Bridging Freemasonry with the past, present, and future of the University, especially through connections with students as facilitated by leaders

of the lodge and the University.

Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan will be the founding master, with Past Grand Master Dan Rice as senior warden, and Johnny Surles as junior warden.

Business meetings of the lodge will be held on the first Thursday of February, May, August, and November at Eagle 19 in Hillsborough. They also plan emergent meetings associated with University Day and some athletic and other University events.

If you are interested in joining the lodge, contact Lux Libertas Lodge Secretary Mike Kenlan at <luxlibertaslodge@gmail.com> or Lux Libertas Lodge, PO Box 772, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

Lux Libertas joins another college focused affinity lodge. State College Lodge received their dispensation last year. You may contact them at their website <https://statecollegelodge.org>.

### Your articles and NC Mason deadlines

Got something you want to say? Have an announcement to make or invitation? Appoint yourself lodge reporter, and keep us posted on what your lodge is doing. Got suggestions for features? The dates below will give you an idea of when you need to get timely matters to us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Issue	Deadline	Approximate Publication Date
January/February .....	January 1 .....	February 1
March/April .....	March 1 .....	April 1
May/June .....	May 1 .....	June 1
July/August .....	July 1 .....	August 1
September/October .....	September 1 .....	October 1
November/December .....	November 1 .....	December 1

## Summertime means baseball

Baseball season is upon us. The inaugural induction ceremony of the Baseball Hall of Fame took place in Cooperstown, NY, on June 12, 1939, 77 years ago.

Of the ten Hall of Famers in attendance at that first induction, six were Masons:

- Ty Cobb
- Cy Young
- Tris Speaker
- Honus Wagner
- Eddie Collins
- Grover Cleveland Alexander

The four Hall members who were not Masons included Babe Ruth, Walter Johnson, Napoleon Lajoie, and George Sisler.

Ty Cobb was a member of Royston Lodge in Georgia, where his father had served as master. Cobb became a Mason in 1907 and was later a Shriner in Michigan. Denton True “Cy” Young was a member of Mystic Tie Lodge in Uhrichsville, Ohio and was active in lodge activities until his death. He was also a member of York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Shrine.

Tris Speaker was a member of Hubbard City Lodge in Hubbard, Texas. John Honus Wagner was a life member of Centennial Lodge in Carnegie, Pennsylvania, which he joined in 1919. Eddie Collins was a member of Solomons Lodge in Tarrytown, New York, which he joined in 1911. He demitted in 1921. Grover Cleveland Alexander, became a Master Mason in 1923 in St. Paul Lodge in St. Paul, Nebraska; he was expelled for un-Masonic conduct in 1930.

The first class of Hall of Fame members — Cobb, Ruth, Wagner, and Johnson — was elected in 1936. Young, Speaker, and Lajoie were chosen in 1937. Alexander was added in 1938. Collins and Sisler joined the list in 1939 at the time when the National Hall of Fame and Museum building was opened, and the first ten members were formally inducted.

Many other great baseball players were Masons. A few of the well-known names include Mickey Cochrane, Bob Feller, Jimmy Foxx, Frankie Frisch, Rogers Hornsby, Carl Hubbell, Christy Mathewson, Willie Mays, and Pie Traynor.

— From *EMESSAY Notes*, 2014

## BUILDING A STRONGER FOUNDATION



# Locking the smokehouse

By Bryant D. Webster  
Grand Master

“When a new man comes to town and starts telling you how good he is, lock your smokehouse.” This sage advice was given by a wise counselor, now departed. We’ve all experienced this. We are all aware of persons in our communities who are not who they say they are. Sometimes it is benign: they are just puffing up their credentials, or they are “more hat than cowboy.” Other times, it is malignant, and they are true predators who often focus on our elderly, our widows, and the more vulnerable members of our society. Particularly as to the predators, let us all accept the call to “lock the smokehouse.”

When we knelt at the altar of Freemasonry, multiple times, we committed ourselves to be our brothers’ keepers. This is a non-delegable, non-optional duty. We promised, we are obligated in every sense of the word, to do our part to protect one another and our families. This is not only the right thing to do; if we do it consistently, it will increase the value of our membership to our members. Perhaps more importantly, it will make our communities better places for us all to live.

While there are physical dangers out there, for purposes of this discussion, I’m focused more on the intellectual, financial, and emotional predation visited on our seniors in particular. These threats come in the form of Internet scams, phone scams, financial scams, home repair scams, etc. Predators seek out the vulnerable elderly and give them a strong come-on or pitch, which seems legitimate. If the victim bites, usually at a low price-point, then the predator tries again and again, at successively larger financial stakes. Often, our seniors will realize they’ve been had, and they will be embarrassed and try to hide the situation from their family, for fear of the family thinking they are beginning to slip, and taking some of their freedom away. This leads to a cycle of getting in deeper and deeper with the predator, with disastrous financial consequences.

What can we do?

1. Check on our brothers and particularly their widows. Make sure they have what they need, so that they are not tempted to deal with predators offering a slick service.
2. Talk to our brothers and widows regularly so that you know their situations, and you will notice when there is some change in circumstances. Pay at-

attention to patterns.

3. Make sure your brothers and your lodge secretary know of skills you may have that could help your brothers and their families, whether this is being a plumber, or an electrician, or a lawyer, or an accountant, or just a handy guy who can balance a checkbook, or change a light bulb, or clean out a gutter. There is no limit to the ways we can serve one another. Sometimes the simplest act can have the greatest impact.

Consider the following true story:

A business owner who was a Mason had an annual practice of sending pound cakes to his customers as Christmas gifts. His vendor from prior years was suddenly unavailable, and the holiday

She was at the breaking point. In her dilemma, she prayed for some solution. The very night she prayed in desperation was the night that the Mason called and offered her the opportunity to bake the cakes.

They never discussed the price for baking the cakes; the Mason always planned to pay an amount equal to what he had paid his professional vendor, thinking that with lower overhead, this would be more than fair to the brother’s wife. When the check was delivered, it happened to be just enough to cover the property taxes and all costs of baking the cakes, plus just a little extra.

The baker was in tears as she thanked the Mason for being the answer to her prayer. The Mason was moved to tears in having accidentally been the in-

## meeting our obligations on a daily basis, we will together build a stronger foundation

season was looming. This Mason knew that an elderly brother was in the nursing home and his wife, who was a very good baker, was still living at home, and was having health and financial struggles of her own. The Mason reached out to the brother’s wife and asked whether she would be interested in baking the Christmas pound cakes. This was not a small undertaking — producing 85-100 cakes in a period of five-to-ten days. Ensuring that the wife’s health was not compromised was important, and paying her market price for the service was the plan.

The wife readily agreed, baked the cakes, they were delivered to the delight of the business owner and his customers, and the baker was duly paid an amount equal to what the commercial vendor had been previously charging. This could be the end of the story, and it would be a satisfactory example of looking after our own and choosing to care for one another in a way that harms no one and benefits all, but there is more to the story.

After all the cakes were delivered and the check paid, the baker invited the Mason to her home to pick up another cake as a Christmas gift and thank you to him. When he visited, she began to tell him a story. This brother’s wife had received her property tax bill in the fall. With her health issues, her husband in a nursing home, and all the usual expenses, money was tight, and she had no idea how she would pay the property taxes on the house, setting her up to lose it in a tax foreclosure.

strument of the blessing. Neither party doubted the involvement of the Great Architect of the Universe in structuring the transaction. I’m sure that every person reading this article could tell many similar stories. As shown above, it does not have to mean sacrificing anything; it can be a mutually beneficial arrangement. If it does require sacrifice, it is our duty to meet the call.

This goes the other way too. If you are a brother in need, please reach out and let us know. We are not mind readers. We all know that Masons are a fiercely proud and independent bunch. We don’t want to impinge on your privacy or your independence, so it will help us help you if you let us know where the needs exist. We must work together to build a strong foundation of interdependence and fraternal attention to one another.

It is our obligation to build a strong foundation, and to create a culture of fraternal interdependence; these generous principles extend further. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. We must look after our own, and we must look after all of those around us who need us. By doing this regularly, consistently, and without failing, we will be recognized as “the go-to guys” in the community to meet the needs that exist. This will strengthen us in so many ways. By simply meeting our obligations on a daily basis, we will together build a stronger foundation. Our brothers, our families, and our communities will thank you for locking the smokehouse.

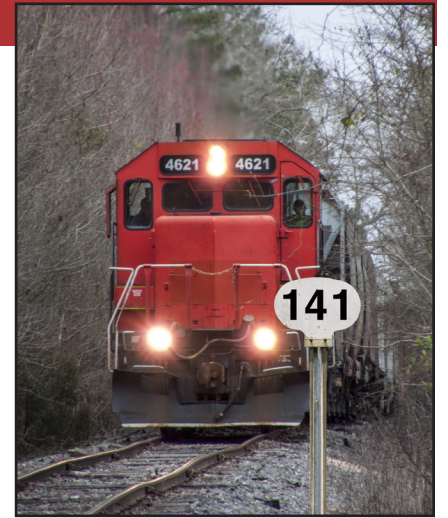
# MILEPOSTS



**GRIFTON** — On April 6, Grifton 243 presented Diamond Jubilee for 60 years membership. The honorees were Augustus Arnold "Dick" Adams, Luther Bruce Pittman, and Joseph Erwin Cuthrell Jr. Seen here, from left are Adams, Master Gary Clements who presented the awards, and Pittman. Cuthrell could not attend. — Bruce Clements



**SOUTHPORT** — Pythagoras 249 recently presented Bud Haraway, center, his 60-year service award as a courtesy to his home lodge of Roman Eagle 122 in Danville, Virginia. Jack Terry, left, made the presentation. — James Griffith



**SHALLOTTE** — On April 27, Shallotte 727's Harold Hickman and Don McGee got their Diamond Jubilees celebrating their 60 years as Masons. District Deputy Grand Master G. Anderson Green presented the awards. Seen here, from left, are Green, Hickman, McGee, and Shallotte Master Terry Pait. — Tobias Bennett

**SYLVA** — Dillsboro 459 honored Robert Lewis Owen, center, on April 21 for his 60 years as a Mason. Fortieth District Deputy Grand Master John Allen, right, and Dillsboro Lodge Master Jimmy Rogers made the presentation. — George Durden



**HIGH POINT** — Acacia 674, at their February meeting, presented Masonic and actual brothers, Bob and Roy Culler, their Diamond Jubilees for 60 years membership. Bob has been lodge master, district deputy grand master, and district deputy grand lecturer. Roy has chaired many lodge committees and most recently served on the committee to acquire and re-model the new High Point Lodge in 2000. Seen here, from left, are Joe Honeycutt (who presented the pins), Bob Culler, Roy Culler, and Master Jason Ewing. — Lewis Williams



**TROUTMAN** — On March 28, Sam Brown, center, received his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years as a Mason. Currently a member of Troutman 374, Brown has served as master of Troutman Lodge in 1998 and of Mooresville 496 in 1972. He is a longtime active catechism coach. Ken Sherrill presented the award in Brown's home. He is seen here with his sons and grandson, each of whom he raised to the Master Mason Degree. — Samuel A Brown Jr.

# Masons save the snow day

GREENSBORO — Back in January, the Piedmont had its first bad winter weather of the season. Three inches of snow is inconvenient enough in North Carolina, but put a heavy coat of ice on top of it, and you have a real mess. WhiteStone had a big challenge manning the Home. Some staffers spent the night to make sure things were running

and residents were cared for.

Revolution 552 Master Ray Spillers got on the phone, called Administrator Mark Kolada, and offered help. He offered the service of several members of his lodge who were equipped with four-by-four vehicles. Over the next three days, Raymond Spillers, Robert Spillers II, Aaron Benton, Dale Cheek,

and Jarrett Jordon worked morning, noon, and night ferrying nursing and dietary staff to keep the Home operating smoothly.

“These Brothers really went above and beyond the call of duty, and we are eternally grateful,” said WhiteStone Administrator Mark Kolada.

Grand Master Bryant Webster said,

“It is precisely this kind of consideration of others before self that characterizes the Master Mason. I could not be more proud to call each of these men ‘Brother’.... It is moments like this, which occur with greater and greater frequency, that convince me that Masonry is alive, well, thriving, and on the cusp of a renaissance in North Carolina.”

## MILEPOSTS



Mount Airy — Members of Renfro 691 received service awards April 16. Getting honors were, from left, Tycy Woods a Diamond Jubilee (60 years), John Bode Veteran's Emblem (50 years), and Bobby Watson Veteran's Emblem (50 years). Family members were invited for the open meeting and meal. — Garner Jarrell Jr.



OLIN — Alan Williams, right, of Olin 226 recently received his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years as a Mason. He is seen here receiving the award from Olin Master pro tem Roger Speaks. — Van Galliher



GRIFTON — On April 6, Grifton 243 presented Charles Tyn-dall Herring, left, his Veteran's Emblem celebrating his 50 years in the fraternity. Grifton Master Gary Clements, right, presented the award. John Michael Brown's 50 years were also honored, but he was unable to attend the gathering. — Bruce Clements



WALNUT COVE — Billy Joyce, left, received his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years in Masonry recently. Grand Master Bryant Webster, right, presented the honor. Joyce was joined by several members of his family. He was master of Walnut Cove 629 in 1974 and is currently district deputy grand master of the 26<sup>th</sup> Masonic District.



ZEBULON — Whitestone 155 members Ted Arnold and Jimmy Pearce got their Veteran's Emblems in April. The awards are to celebrate their 50 years in the Masonic fraternity. — Jared Lloyd

## TRAIN, from page 1

of John Untiedt's Master Mason Degree. A Rowan County Degree team did the second section. Grand Master Bryant Webster took the part of King Solomon in the second section and Past Grand Lecturer David Potts did the lecture.

If ever there was a community completely intertwining commerce, government, and lodge, it would be Spencer Lodge.

Spencer 543 was part of the community that sprang up around Spencer Shops when Southern Railway built the huge repair shop halfway between Atlanta and Washington, DC. When the Richmond and Danville Railroad went under in 1894, Drexel, Morgan and Company formed Southern Railway to run the track. They put Samuel Spencer, their railroad expert, in charge of the company. He had previously led the Baltimore and Ohio.

Updating the defunct rail required a new back shop, the major repair and maintenance facility required during the steam era. There were no facilities between Atlanta, GA and Washington, DC, and one was needed badly.

John Steele Henderson, a short-term Mason of Dellaplane 355 according to records, served as a secret purchaser for

the railroad. He was a Salisbury politician, Confederate war veteran, and Rowan County's largest landowner. They purchased the property for the back shop and named it Spencer Shops after Samuel Spencer. The Shops opened in 1896. Rather than follow the company town model common at the time, Southern cut up 84 acres into 500 lots which they sold to employees for \$100 each. In 1901, the 625 residents of the community were incorporated as the town of Spencer. In 1905, Spencer Lodge 543 began.

It is said that anyone who wanted to work or advance at Spencer Shops needed to join the lodge. To this day, the lodge bears many marks of the railroad including a caboose door which leads to the building's basement.

The shops employed nearly 3,000 workers through the end of the steam era. Steam was phased out through the 1950s-1970s. After the shops closed in the late '70s, Southern gave the state the facility for the North Carolina Transportation Museum. The Museum opened in 1983. The lodge has long worked at special events at the museum conducting fundraisers for multiple charities.



The Copperhead view of the proceedings was the best elevated.



Burgers and dogs preceded the degree.



The ticket to the degree included a



## Goldsboro breakfast

GOLDSBORO — Every Wednesday morning, Goldsboro 634 holds Lodge Coffee Break. Masons and their wives go by the lodge from 7:30 to 9:30 A.M. and enjoy each others company. On March 16, they celebrated St. Patrick's Day and Wayne 112 member George Ayscue's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. Back in April several Shriners attended and presented a 50-year recognition to Ray Anderson on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday during the breakfast meeting. They'd love to have you join them. — Jim Cherry



## Truth breakfast

MONROE — Truth 749 is holding a quarterly fellowship breakfast and inviting all to attend. They held the first one in February. They had lots of fun with visiting brothers and family members who enjoyed each others company and had a hot breakfast on a cold morning.

— Robert Mullis



## Dan River hosts kids

MADISON — On February 29, Dan River presented the Masonic Home for Children 33 p banks, a gallon jug of pennies, and school supplies for the children. They hosted a group of the Home residents that night for supper and served them dogs and hamburgers. — Tommy McCo

## MHCO hiring house parent couples

OXFORD — The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford is currently searching for house parent couples. The positions offer an excellent pay and benefit package. Minimum requirements include a high school diploma or GED and clean driving record. Background checks are required.

Call (919) 603-3905 or visit our website at <[www.mhc-oxford.org](http://www.mhc-oxford.org)> for more information, description, and application forms. Join our team and make a difference in a child's life today.





The view from the east is on-track.



From the south side of the lodge, you got a clear view of the old Baldwin Copperhead.



Gordy Peeler gives last minute instructions to degree team.

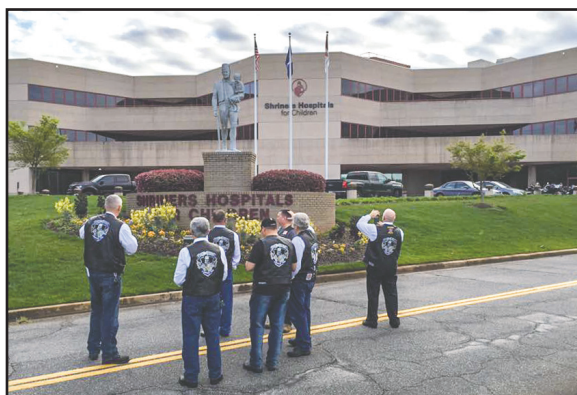


ticket to ride.

## Springtime is for bike riding

JACKSONVILLE — Spring brings out the leaves, blossoms, warm sunshine, and motorcycles. Knights of Solomon 766 made a point of enjoying the season. The lodge made two rides in April. On April 16, they held their stated communication in Halifax at Royal White Hart 2 (photo at right, top). There they learned the illustrious history of one of North Carolina's oldest lodges. They saw some of the artifacts of the lodge and visited the grave of Joseph Montfort, provincial grand master of America.

On April 2, they rode together to visit the Shriners Hospital in Greenville, South Carolina (photo at right, bottom). They delivered \$500 in cash and toys to the Hospital's child patients. The lodge members got a conducted tour of the facility. — Howard Kahn



## Scruggs honored

ASHEVILLE — Robert G. "Bob" Scruggs has accrued more than 20,000 volunteer hours at the Charles George VA Medical Center since December 1970. A member of the Kedron 387 and a Vietnam Air Force veteran, Scruggs was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the state of North Carolina's highest honor. He is seen here accepting the award from Vicki Eatmon of the Medical Center's Volunteer Services.

— Vicki Eatmon

# TRAVELING THE TARHEEL STATE

## Bakersville

On April 28, Vesper 554 enjoyed their annual ramp supper hosted by Bakersville 357. — Terry Gevedon

## Winston-Salem

Brian Chandler has set up a new website for Salem 289. You may visit <<http://ncmason.net/salem289/>>.

Mark Stewart gave the Salem Lodge a wheelchair. It's a handy thing to have available on short notice.

After their April 5 communication, a contingent of members of Salem Lodge went to the home of Lacy Hair for a visit. Hair was an instrumental coach for the lodge for many years and served as master in 1984. His health has kept him from regularly attending lodge in recent months. — *The Salem Sentinel*

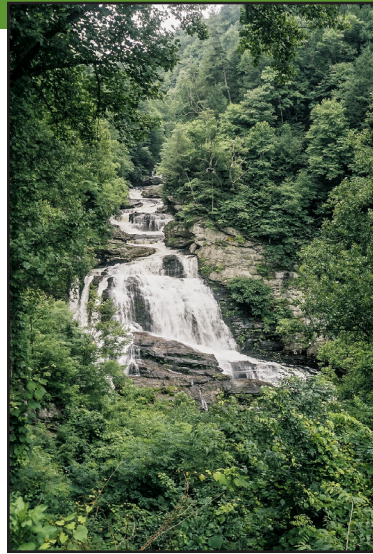
Old Town 751 has found a way to help themselves as well as promote the Masonic youth organizations they sponsor. The kids have taken over the lodge's pre-meeting meals. The lodge pays the kids instead of a caterer.

James "Red" Leslie gave the lodge a retractable projection screen. Ron Dellinger and Scott Horn installed it.

Old Town Lodge has maintenance concerns as any other property owner. Their current project is their parking lot. Complete redo or patch job? That is the question.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Masons from the new Winston-Salem Masonic Center here issued a call for volunteers to help them move chairs into the new building in March. They have since held their first meeting there as a shakedown cruise. They boldly chose the Grand Master District Meeting May 16. Other than a crossed wire in the thermostat letting them get a little too warm, the cruise went smoothly.



## Kenansville

St. John's 13 was, as it has for some years, participating in their local Relay for Life. It was held at James Sprunt Community College. The lodge sells barbecue sandwiches at the site to raise money for cancer research. Local twin chefs Harvey and Herbert Stroud cook the barbecue.

They hosted a Rusty Nail event May 14. They were holding it down in Rose Hill. They were serving the attendees barbecue. After everyone was refreshed, they were holding the actual meeting in a nearby barn.

St. John's Lodge has sustained some water damage to its columns. Repair plans are in the works. — *Lodge Log*

## High Point

Numa F. Reid 344 had a successful Barbecue Chicken Fundraiser this spring. Robert and Sandra Culler made the event happen. The lodge netted about \$2,000 for the Masonic Home for Children.

The are also collecting hygiene items for the kids at the home.

— Michael Rinehardt

## NEWS FROM OUR LODGES

By Ric Carter



## Hillsborough

The 19<sup>th</sup> Masonic District now has a district Facebook page thanks to District Deputy Grand Master Mike Kenlan. They'll use it for notifications of visitation opportunities, picnics, fundraisers, and other district news.

— Keith Morgan

Eagle 19 held their Barbecue Dinner Fundraiser April 30. You could buy plates or pints, take-out or dine-in. The dine-ins were offered a tour of the historic 1823 lodge building in Hillsborough's rich historic district. The dinner raises funds for the Historic Eagle Lodge Foundation which exists to help maintain the building.

— Michael Verville

## Burgaw

King Solomon 138 scheduled their annual outdoor degree for April 23.

— Terry Gevedon

## Pilot Mountain

Pilot 493 contributed \$100 to the Foothills Food Pantry's driveway parking lot project.

The lodge is considering amending their bylaws to make their building a non-smoking facility, banning the use of all tobacco products and e-cigarettes.

Pilot Lodge's members were pleased to see one-third of their members at their March meeting. The lodge has 67 members. — *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

Talk about encouraging you to make School of Instruction! Dickie Crump invited Pilot Lodge members attending the 25<sup>th</sup> Masonic District School to have breakfast on him at the Squeeze Box sandwich shop before the gathering.

The lodge has ordered lodge polo shirts for \$16-\$24, depending on size.

— Homer Dearmin

■ 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.



## Feed the Needy

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

### Oxford

A special Freemason Tribute Edition Henry .22 rifle was the grand prize in a raffle at Oxford 122. They were limiting ticket sales to 500 tickets at ten dollars each. The drawing is scheduled for June 25 during the 13<sup>th</sup> Masonic District's picnic. Proceeds are for the Masonic Homes.

— Rich Weaver

### Charlotte

The 31<sup>st</sup> Masonic District was holding a District Ladies' Night April 28. They were bringing their kids as well to Bubba's Barbecue for the gathering. The cost was \$20 per person.

— Robert G. McIntosh

Steele Creek 737 had their big fundraiser event set of May 14. The Annual Charity Car Show and Fish Fry ran all day.

— Bill Smith

Derita 715 has had their offer accepted on a piece of property on which to build their new home. If all goes as hoped, the property will be rezoned, and the sale concluded in August. Construction would then proceed.

Derita is shifting their newsletter to a quarterly release schedule and moving most mailings to emails. They will also be using a phonetree to send last minute notifications.

The lodge's Chicken Charity Fundraiser was held April 8 at the Mallard Creek Community House.

— Derita Lodge

Excelsior 261 created two "blue ribbon committees" earlier this year; one to plan the lodge's upcoming (2017) 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the other to work on physical rehabilitation of the lodge building. Senior Warden Phillip Brent chairs the celebration committee. Jeff Peck is heading up the revitalization group.

Excelsior Lodge is running a contest to redesign the lodge lobby. Entrants are to supply the layout of furniture and suggest prices and dealers for the furniture they wish to add to the room. They are also looking for a used washer and dryer stack unit to use in the lodge.

Temple 676 moved into Excelsior's building a few years back. The lodges have been considering forming a temple association together to share ownership responsibilities on the lodge facility.

The lodge was considering an April trip to the Blue Ridge Masonic Marker near Black Camp Gap on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

— Trestle Board

### Mount Gilead

Blackmer 127 hosted the Third Annual Uwharrie Mountain Rumble on April 16. Riders paid \$35 and riders \$15 to enjoy the motorcycle cruise through the National Forest and back to Flashbacks in Mount Gilead to hear the music of The Three Degrees. They also got t-shirts and the meal. Motorcycle Lodge Knights of Solomon 764 held their stated communication at Blackmer Lodge before the ride's start.

— Larry Thompson

### Hickory

The Plez Teague Memorial Pancake Breakfast was held April 30 at Hickory 343. Seven dollars per person got "pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee, orange juice, milk, and plenty of fellowship." Age ten or under ate free. The annual fundraiser supports the Masonic Home for Children and is named for a deceased member of the lodge who was always an avid supporter of Masonic charities and who ramrodded many fundraisers for them.

— Hickory Lodge

### Jacksonville

Semper Fidelis 680 was to hold a table lodge May 20 at the Paradise Point Officers Club. There were to be multiple toasts and multiple courses of the meal. There was to be a short program. They opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree to allow fledgling Masons to participate.

— Robert Morrell

Knights of Solomon 766 have stayed busy this spring. They sponsored their own fundraiser selling \$100 chances in a raffle for a 2017 Harley Davidson Street Glide, and six guns. Proceeds were for Masonic charities.

They rode to Oxford on March 19 on the Easter Basket Ride. They rode in the Sudan Shriners Motor Patrol Poker Run on April 30. On April 1, they visited the Shriners Children's Hospital in Greenville, South Carolina. They brought the children toys and cash donations to the Hospital.

— Howard Kahn, Jerry Eubanks, Robert Morrell, Dallas Sutton

### Concord

Stokes 32 had an active April 30. They had their first blood drive of the year with a goal of 20 donors. At the same time, they were having the first of their two annual fundraisers, their Annual Chicken Lunch. Ten dollars got you half a chicken (smoked or fried) with baked beans, coleslaw, and a roll. A special drive-through line served the lunch crowd.

— Vance McGee IV

### Greensboro

The Arthur L. Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament was set for May 21. The 15<sup>th</sup> annual edition of the fundraiser was to be held at Holly Ridge Golf Links. They sell sponsorships ranging in price from \$100 to \$5,000. Rewards for sponsors at various levels may earn team entries, program recognition, banners, post tournament dinners, or even full naming rights to the event. The tournament raises money for college scholarships for kids from the Masonic Home for Children.

— Phillip Bialek

Greensboro 76 started their 196<sup>th</sup> year March 10.

— Phillip Bialek

Revolution 552 held their Boston Butt Sale March 12. WhiteStone and our Home for Children benefitted from the sale. Butts were available either whole or chopped for \$35, sauce included.

— Todd Huffines



## Scouting Masonry

**NEW BERN** — It's always a privilege and a pleasure to conduct tours of our lodges. For St. John's 3 it was even better because they were hosting a bunch of kids. Cub Scouts of Troop 13 came to visit on May 2. Lodge Master John B. Green conducted the tour and told them the history of the lodge and answered their questions. He told them how St. John's 3 was chartered in the 1770s and about its association with the community and Masonry.

— David Sawyer

### Southport

Pythagoras 249 was having their Annual Fish Fry on June 3. As last year, plates were seven dollars. Their 11<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament fundraiser is coming up September 24.

The lodge is planning a celebration of their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Independence Day weekend.

As a courtesy to his home lodge, Pythagoras Lodge presented Bud Harraway Jr. his 60-year award. Harraway is a member of Roman Eagle 122 in Danville, Virginia.

— Newsletter

### Statesville

Statesville 27 continues a good selection of educational programs at their lodge meetings. In March, Past Grand Lecturer David Potts brought the program "The *OSW* and *Vocabulary*: How They Work and What They Mean." In April, Mike Daniels explained Leonardo's painting of The Last Supper. Also in April, Grand Steward Larry Thompson was presenting them a program "James Cash (J. C.) Penny — Businessman, Philanthropist, and Mason."

— Duane Smyth

■ see next page

## Fayetteville

Fort Bragg 667 took the lead for the 17<sup>th</sup> Masonic District in setting up an information booth here for the Dogwood Festival April 23–24. David Seivers, Roger Owens, and John Hall took the point on the project to reach out to the community during the large gathering. Other lodges and appendant bodies participated as they passed out information and answered questions.

— Derec Mercer

Grand Lodge Commission on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities Chairman Jim Medlin did a seminar at Fort Bragg 667 on lodge fundraising on March 2. It is the Commission's job to make sure that we do not get into legal or financial jeopardy during our fundraisers.

— Ken Wical

## Gastonia

King Solomon 704 has reinstated their annual lodge picnic. It is scheduled for the third Tuesday in June.

Gaston County Sheriff Alan Cloninger recently provided the evening's program for King Solomon 704. He told them about county government and some of the interesting experiences he has had in his job.

— *The Plumb Line*

Grand Secretary Walt Clapp visited a meeting of Gastonia 369 to teach them and discuss with them some of the things they can do to help protect their interest in the historic property they occupy. They talked about alternative income streams and fundraisers.

— *The Trestle Board*

## Southern Pines

April 30 was outreach for Southern Pines 484 as they held their Springfest fundraiser. They sold popcorn and snow cones to attendees for the town festival.

The lodge's First Saturday Fellowship Breakfasts continue. They start up at 8:00 o'clock.

Southern Pines Lodge set their Awards and Past Master's Night for May 4.

— Gene Maples

## Washington

Washington 675 held a raffle for Masonic charity this spring. They gave away a rifle and a shotgun. They raised more than \$2,000 for the NC Masonic Foundation.

## STATE, from previous

### Kinston

St. John's 4 held its Fifth Annual Corn Hole Tournament May 7. Entries were \$40 per team. Cash prizes were paid to the top three teams. Proceeds were going to Masonic charities.

On March 12, the three Lenoir County lodges (St. John's 4, Pleasant Hill 304, and Richard Caswell 705) drove to Oxford to carry school supplies for the rest of the school year.

— Lyn Hill

### Kenly

April 17 was the day for Kenly 257's Annual Barbecue Chicken Fundraiser. They were raising money for their scholarships this year. They were hoping to award two \$1,000 grants in 2016.

The lodge is planning to salute Jimmy Bailey's 50 years in the lodge in July.

Kenly Lodge is beginning to use a computer dialing service to notify their members of upcoming events.

— *Past Meridian*

### Elizabethtown

Bladen 646 is holding a shotgun raffle this summer. Tickets are five dollars each for a chance on a Stoeger 12-gauge semiautomatic. The drawing is August 22. The money raised will go to help the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

— Ken Wical

### Hookerton

Jerusalem 95 hosted the Sixth Masonic District's Outdoor Degree May 21. They raised three candidates under a rising full moon. One was suggested calling it the Soggy Bottom Degree because of the well-soaked ground caused by the abundant rain for a couple of days before the event.

Jerusalem Lodge replaced the windows on one side of their building. They got by for less than \$1,000 thanks to their Brother J. K. Hall's contributed labor.

— *The Jerusalem Journal*

### Cary

The Annual Spring Barbecue at Cary 198 was set for April 8. Three-quarters of a ton of pig was to be served along with boiled potatoes, slaw, and hush puppies. Proceeds were going to Masonic charities.

— Benton W. Oakes Jr.

### Holly Springs

Fifteenth Masonic District Deputy Grand Master Todd Dyches reminded the lodges of his district that the district's Facebook page is maintained to keep up with and inform members of the district of local and other events of interest.

— Benton W. Oakes Jr.

### Dallas

The 36<sup>th</sup> Masonic District was holding its Easter Egg Hunt March 26. Gastonia 369 was sponsoring the fun at Biggerstaff Park in Dallas.

— Benjie Creasman

### Hamlet

Hamlet 532 held their famous Chicken and Dumpling Plate Sale March 11.

— Frank Wanko

### Lewisville

West Bend 434 invited Angie Choplin to speak to the lodge about the Bikes for Books and Backpack programs. She visited in April.

— *By the Square*



## Community fun in Little Washington

WASHINGTON — Each year, Washington 675 sponsors teams in area recreation leagues. The most recent was the soccer team in their home town. The sponsorships are an enjoyable way of demonstrating support of youth and community.

### Creedmoor

April 9 was Cruise-In time for Creedmoor 499. They started with the Bike Show, moved on to the Classic Car Cruise-In, sold their barbecue plates, and held their gun raffle. The money they raised from the events was to be used on several charities.

— Tommy Keith

### Wilmington

Wilmington 319 held their Fish Fry April 27. — Newsletter

St. John's 1 is holding a raffle for the Masonic Homes. They are awarding a \$1,000 travel voucher, a dinner for two at a top local restaurant, and a stainless steel Masonic ring.

— Philip White

### Youngsville

May 21 was the date for Youngsville 377's Lodge Pork Barbecue Fundraiser. They were selling Boston butts.

— Dean Mooney

### Raleigh

William T. Bain 231 held their barbecue chicken fundraiser in April. Plates were eight dollars. They offered free delivery on ten or more plates.

— Chris Mills

James B. Green 735 hosted the local York Rite for an educational program about the appendant body. They also passed the hat to buy a lamp post banner for the Home for Children.

— Scott Sholar

see next page

## Bill and DeVonna's time capsule

By DeVonna Mathis

My husband, Bill, and I have a *StarNews* newspaper that is very special to us. It is dated Tuesday, February 16, 1999. You are thinking, "So what?"

That's the day my husband and I flew out of New Hanover County airport for Hawaii via Los Angeles. We were on our way to attend the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons. Masons from around the world would be attending. It is a gala affair, so you pack all your favorite things — including a tuxedo for my husband and my favorite green sequin dress.

We spent the night in Los Angeles, arriving the next day in Hawaii. We head for the baggage claim area. As we



Bill's father's watch.

watch each person claim their bag and leave, we notice we are the only ones left without bags so we go make a missing luggage report.

Not being too concerned, we go on to our hotel, the Sheraton Waikiki, thinking it would only be a matter of time and our luggage would be located. A day passes, no bags; two days pass, no bags. We begin to become very concerned at this point and decide to buy some clothes.

My husband and I are both previous airline employees, both hired in 1966 by Piedmont Airlines and later with U.S. Airways and American Airlines. I mention this because as an airline employee you never, never put anything of value

inside your suitcase.

Bill always wore his father's railroad watch, given to his father when he retired from Atlantic Coastline. For some reason, Bill had put this watch in a blue Crown Royal bag and stuck it in the middle of his suitcase. The watch has a 14-carat gold chain with a Masonic fob on the end with a diamond in the middle.

At the end of our stay in Hawaii, we still had not received our bags.

Fast forward to January 7 of this year, I receive a phone call. Hearing a foreign-sounding voice, and thinking it is telemarketing call, I hang up. In a few minutes I get a



DeVonna and Bill Mathis pose in the clothes they had packed for a trip to Hawaii in 1999.

second call, but before I could hang up the second time the voice asked for my husband. Bill had a stroke in April 2014 and has difficulty with his speech, so I identified myself as DeVonna, his wife.

The young man told me that the hotel was cleaning out their storage area and **found our bags**.

After getting over the shock I began to ask all kinds of questions, but he was unable to answer since he was not there in 1999 and neither were most of the employees.

Eventually, we worked it out to have the bags sent by FedEx. They arrived January 19.

Bill and I were like kids at Christmas. We could not wait to see if his father's watch was in his bag. My bag had never been locked, but Bill's bag had a metal lock on it. Now, how do we get it open? Bill goes over to his chest and opens up his jewelry box scratches around and pulls out the key.

I'm amazed again: 16 years later and we still have the key. We open our bags and, to our surprise, they are exactly as we had packed them. Our pillows on top, which we always packed and had forgotten, and our clothes beneath. In the middle of Bill's bag, just as he packed it, was the blue Crown Royal bag with his father's watch. He wound it up, and it's ticking away.

The next thing we wanted to know was, do these clothes fit after all these years? I tried on my favorite green sequin dress. It fits! Next the slacks and tops. Bill tries on his tuxedo, it fits, so do his suits and other garments.

We had a ball going through our time capsule of clothes. I unzip the front pocket of my suit case and there was the *StarNews* for Tuesday, February 16, 1999.

As we have had time to soak this all in we realized had we not had our land line we most likely would have never gotten our bags back as the phone number on our luggage tags was a home phone number. We did not have cell phones in 1999.

Miracles do happen!

### STATE, from previous

#### Aberdeen

Roman Eagle 550 held an afternoon blood drive April 8. They were dedicating the drive to Clement Faircloth.

— Gene Maples

#### Roxboro

Person 113's 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fish Fry was held May 6. The community looks forward to it every year as a great lunch and opportunity to help charities.

— Michael Day

#### Newport

Members of Newport 706 are supporting a local food kitchen. Attendees of the lodge's April 4 first degree were being urged to bring food items for the effort to feed the needy. — Tom Boyle

#### Newland

Linville 489 held a breakfast on April 16. They had an educational program on Masonic funerals. The public was invited to share the meal.

— Terry Gevedon

#### Conover

Mason jars to fill with pocket change are popular fundraisers in several lodges. At Conover 709, they reassure you that if you don't have change, "Don't worry, we take cash and checks."

— Conover Lodge Newsletter

#### Laurinburg

Laurinburg 305 held a blood drive on April 29.

— Gene Maples

#### Catawba

Riverside 606 held their Annual Ham Day March 12. They were also doing a 30 guns in 30 days raffle.

— Steven Lee Pendergrass

#### Hope Mills

Lebanon 391 hosted their seventh Annual Lodge Golf Tournament on April 16. They held it at Gates Four Golf Course in Fayetteville. They offered door prizes as well as trophies for first, second, third, and last place teams.

— Lebanon Lodge

#### Newton

Catawba 248 held a 30 for 30 at 30 gun raffle. One \$30 ticket got you in for the drawing for a gun each day for 30 days. Only 1,000 tickets were sold. Proceeds were for the Masonic Homes.

— Hickory Lodge

#### Candler

Hominy 491 held a pancake breakfast (including eggs and sausage) for charity April 2.

— Chris Manis

On April 30, Hominy Lodge raffled a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ruger 10/22 rifle.

— Terry Gevedon

#### Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 recently bought two benches to make it more pleasant for you and others to sit around under the oaks on the campus at our Home for Children in Oxford.

— Trestleboard

#### Coinjock

Currituck 463 hosted a Pancake Breakfast May 14.

— Mark White

#### Mount Airy

Granite 322 held their Annual Ham and Egg Breakfast on March 12. They started early (5:30 A.M.) and served until 10:00 A.M. It was seven dollars for dine-in or take-out.

— Home Dearmin

#### Weaverville

Blackmer 170 held their barbecue fundraiser on May 7. The eight-dollar plates featured pulled pork, baked beans, slaw, and hushpuppies.

— Terry Gevedon

#### Huntersville

Long Creek 205 was presenting Johnny Oates his Veteran's Emblem on March 14. The award celebrates his 50 years as a Mason.

Long Creek Lodge held their Annual Fish Fry on April 2.

— Gary Cooke

# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

8..... Lahti, Bryan Robert  
 8..... Silver, Gary Angelo  
 8..... Young, Anthony O'Chell  
 17..... Grizzard, Jody Parker  
 17..... Llewellyn, Jeffrey Scott  
 31..... Richter, Matthew Steven  
 31..... Saye Jr., Robert Lewis  
 31..... Flanigan, Eric Brandon  
 31..... Sheppard, John Winston  
 31.. Wendelborn, Daniel Alexander  
 40..... Manley, Victor  
 40..... Wilson, Timothy Sean  
 75..... Plymel, Donald Lee  
 83..... Cheeseman, Jeffrey Charles  
 84..... Allen, Anthony James  
 85..... Betts Jr., Ronald Edward  
 91..... Newton, Timothy Earl  
 98... Jennings II, Timothy William  
 98..... Coombs, Joshua Wayne  
 113..... Chaney, Michael Howard  
 115..... Aker, Donald Christopher  
 115..... Cozart, Perry  
 117..... Vitale, Michael Philip  
 122..... Nicholson, David Lee  
 123..... Joyner, Nathaniel James  
 125..... Tyler, Brandon Keith  
 127..... Wilson, James Michael  
 128..... Moon, William Clyde  
 134..... Earnhardt, Todd Steven  
 136..... Hopkins, Webb Harlan  
 136..... Horton, Brice Everett  
 151..... Diaz, Reinardo  
 154..... Michael, Patrick Lewis  
 162..... Shore, Varnie Trent  
 172..... Day, James Francis  
 198..... Akers, Alexander Scott  
 205..... Chappuis, Kyle Thomas  
 205..... Jones, Todd Dean  
 205..... Kenley, Jon Ronald  
 205..... Pennington, James Allen  
 214..... Perkins, Darin Wayne  
 217..... Farris, Timothy Seth  
 218..... Dill, Brian Richard  
 218..... Hoblit, Robert S.  
 218..... Sutton, Desmond Demario

231....Domnick, Matthew Stephen  
 231.....Jarboe, Charlie Ray Ross  
 231.....Sullivan, Timothy  
 244.....Love, Ryan Alexander  
 249...Heckendorn, Wesley Edward  
 259.....Thompson, Jeffrey Dean  
 263.....Beaty III, John Lawrence  
 263.....Beaty, Zachary Fogle  
 263.....Cloninger, Michael Glenn  
 265.....Willard, Bradley Eugene  
 267.....Bishop, Christopher Todd  
 267.....Boros, Louis L.  
 282.....Galvin, Phillip Marshall  
 282.....Taylor III, Orlin Dee  
 302.....Byrd, Randall Scott  
 306.....Hawkes, Justin Bradley  
 314.....White, David Scott  
 319.....Vinson, Woodrow Ellis  
 320.....Black, Timothy Michael  
 320.....Brower, Harold Joseph  
 320.....Lynch, Spencer Ashton  
 320.....Muniz, Luis Carlos  
 344.....Carte, Derek Thomas  
 352....Adams, Benjamin Bradshaw  
 352.....Brock, James William  
 356.....Appleman, Allen Micheal  
 356.....Gilbert, Garrett David  
 357.....Blanton, Jason Paul  
 384.....Snyder, Robert Samuel  
 390.....Danley, Mark Brandon  
 390.....Ford, Christopher Alan  
 391.....Long, Steven Michael  
 391.....Roberts, Jefferson Scott  
 395.....Vogt, Stephen K.  
 397.....Bagwell, Alan Glen  
 413.....Franks, Kristopher Steven  
 428.....Lengyel, Stephen Price  
 428.....Sigmon, Scott Michael  
 428.....Edmonds, Eugene Darrell  
 428.....Parrish, Christopher Lee  
 429.....Dacey Jr., James Joseph  
 433.....Mitchell, William Fredrick  
 434.....Uhl, David Michael  
 435.....Hagan, Thomas Keith  
 439.....Plemmons, Ryan Eugene

444.....Callahan, Todd Ashley  
 446.....Martin, Zebulon Daniel  
 446.....Brown, Phillip Abert  
 446.....White IV, Edgar Farrell  
 459.....Robinson Jr., Dale Eugene  
 463.....Shell, Jeffery Paige  
 491.....Gosnell, Hunter Blake  
 493.....Stone, Chad Edward  
 493.....Hall, Timothy Daren  
 495.....Haywood, Matthew Cole  
 498...Roebuck, Christopher Curtis  
 498.....Sutton, Michael Wayne  
 502Leatherman, Matthew Clayton  
 502.....Willis, Rodney Shane  
 505.....Hartman Jr., Burl E.  
 505.....Rainwater, Travis David  
 515.....Cook, Austin James  
 515.....Lineberger, Curtis Dean  
 515.....Lineberger, Timothy Jake  
 521.....Kepler Jr., William Lee  
 521Doughtie, Brent Douglas Young  
 521.....Keating Jr., Louis  
 528.....Floyd, Lynn Furman  
 543.....Untiedt, Johann Wilhelm  
 550.....Marks, James Richard  
 552.....Mosier, William Daniel  
 552.....Skeehan, Logan Thomas  
 561.....Padgett, Jesse James  
 561....Miller, Andrew Stephenson  
 565.....Carroll, Benjamin Travis  
 565.....Myrick, David Allen  
 571.....Melton Jr., James Lee  
 573.....Barlow, David Shawn  
 573.....Wilson, Franklin  
 576.....Hopper, Timothy Alan  
 589.....Tetterton, Robert Darrell  
 592.....Huffman, Jamie Dale  
 602....Becker Jr., Norman Richard  
 602.....Price, Dylan Justin  
 602.....Thorne, Dennis Lee  
 616.....Hawks, Ricky Dwayne  
 626.....Chaney, Joshua David  
 626.....James, Clay Daniel  
 650.....Allen Jr., Thomas Steven  
 656.....Calles, Rodrigo

656.....Fish, Edmund Booth  
 656.....Holt, Patrick Michael  
 656.....Partington, Heath Scott  
 657.....Smith, Brandon Lee  
 657.....Fisher IV, Jacob Eli  
 657.....Jones, William Michael  
 657.....Tucker, Daniel Chadwick  
 663.....Buchanan, Benjamin Dicol  
 670.....Street, William Grant  
 679.....Reams, Michael Blaine  
 680.....Bayon, Jeremy Marcus  
 680.....Rohrer, John Russell  
 680.....Sanchez, Jorge Leon  
 683.....Locklear, Archie Ray  
 686.....Dunn II, Harry James  
 686.....Frevele, Anthony Dean  
 690.....Bragg, Marty Hadis  
 690.....Fletcher, John Eric  
 692.....Ford, Andrew Heath  
 692.....LaFond, Stephen Michael  
 694.....Hook, Nicholas Allen  
 695.....Bishop, Brandon Scott  
 698.....Meekins, Anthony Ray  
 703.....Herlocker, Wes Thomas  
 703.....Gresham, Tanner Hunt  
 706.....Denning Thomas Allen  
 706.....Ross, Timothy Craig  
 706.....Smith, Joseph Harlen  
 706.....Vaselovic, James Edward  
 708.....Parekh, Rohan Umesh  
 708.....Van Etten, Chad Richard  
 709.....Loftin, Lonnie Shawn  
 709.....Sigmon, Robert Edward  
 709.....Tutko, Michael Willy  
 712.....Horton, William Andrew  
 712.....Reese, Jonathan Henry

714.....Brown, Michael J.  
 714.....Martin, Christopher Lee  
 720.....Cline Jr., Harold Wayne  
 720.....Siddle Jr., Brian Kenneth  
 724.....Banks, Bradly Scott  
 724.....Creech, Timothy Paul  
 725.....Keeler, Jack Craig  
 725.....Whaley, Jonathan Wade  
 737.....Burgess, John Douglas  
 737.....Terry, Paul Michael  
 738.....Murphy, Zachary Clay  
 738.....Putnam, Michael James  
 738.....Windell, Austin Spencer  
 739.....Dunham, Jon Richard  
 739.....Millsaps, Lee Michael  
 739.....Wrenn, Quinten Matthew  
 739.....Bennett, Anthony David  
 739.....Bennett, David Wayne  
 739.....Kralik, James Richard  
 739.....Polen, Larry Lewis  
 741.....Lawrence, James Grady  
 745.....Daughtry, Robbie Liston  
 746.....Caples, Anthony  
 746.....Osborne, Jack Edward  
 751.....Absher, James Michael  
 751.....Spaugh, Joseph Martin  
 753.....Grove, Douglas Randall  
 757.....Hillman, Kelly Dean  
 757.....Kingett, Delzon Scott  
 757.....Orrell, Donald Scott  
 757.....Rinehart, Thomas Cody  
 759.....Butcher, Erik Russell  
 759.....Wehler, Adam Scott  
 762 Vanderwalker, Matthew Albert  
 762.....Xaubet, Horacio  
 UD (MESH).....Sawyer, Keegan C.

## Father and son reunion



**PILOT MOUNTAIN** — On April 25, Pilot 493 raised new member Tim Hall. He was raised by his son Andrew. Andrew presented him a Masonic ring. Five father/son pairs were at the degree that night: Tim and Andrew Hall, Sam and Joe Carson, Nick and Scott Jarrell, and Robert and Mike Register. Present, but not in the photo were Jim and Jonathan McHone. Masons from eight lodges were there and enjoyed a meal provided by the Hall family.

— Homer Dearmin

## Let me help Masonry's charities

- The North Carolina Masonic Foundation
- Masonic and Eastern Star Foundation
- The Masonic Home for Children
- Send information about wills and bequests.
- Please have someone contact me.

My name \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ My lodge \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

To assure that your gift is properly credited to the fund of your choice, please make the check payable to that charity.

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

## The Grand Historian's Courier Case

# Founder's resting place restored

By Steven A. Campbell

**MOUNT GILEAD** — During the eight-year war for American independence, the leaders of North Carolina established numerous new counties. Edmund Lilly, along with other property owners, led the way to create Montgomery County in 1779. Lilly, born in Virginia, prospered as a planter, miller, Freemason, court official, commissioner for the first courthouse, and Baptist minister. He would wed twice (Sarah Dumas and Elizabeth Billingsley), resulting in the birth of 12 children.

As in all of our lives, time passed on, as did Edmund Lilly. He was laid to rest on his plantation (near present day Lilly's Bridge Road). Land parcels were divided and "progress" progressed along the Yadkin/Pee Dee River. Yet, what had become of Lilly's gravesite?

Today, nestled between homes along Dogwood Lane, silently sits the Lilly Family Cemetery. Time had encased it, as with many old graveyards, in undergrowth, weeds, and deterioration. However, Lilly had not been totally forgotten. The Yadkin River Patriots D.A.R. Chapter placed an etched marker upon Edmund's grave:

Edmund Lilly  
1728-1815  
Revolutionary Patriot  
Baptist Preacher  
Planter  
Miller

In recent years, members of Blackmer 127 in Mt. Gilead have undertaken a project to clear and clean several cemeteries with Masonic bearing. The DeBerry, Wooley, and Lilly graveyards have been attended to several times. Upon the clearing of the Lilly site, it was noted how badly the grounds had deteriorated. Thus, on an early spring day of 2015, Brothers Riley Beaman, Shaun Brown, Randy Browning, Steven Campbell, Stimpson McRae, Jeff Morris, Josh Peacock, Randy Poole, Ken Ringler, and Wayne Smith donated time, sweat, materials, and labor to not only restore, yet enhance this site which now beckons visitors seeking to learn more of the early history of Montgomery County. The cemetery is located on the property of Bro. Wayne Smith, in the 100 block of Dogwood Lane, Mt. Gilead. Visitors are welcome

## Our back pages



## Tarboro masters' apron



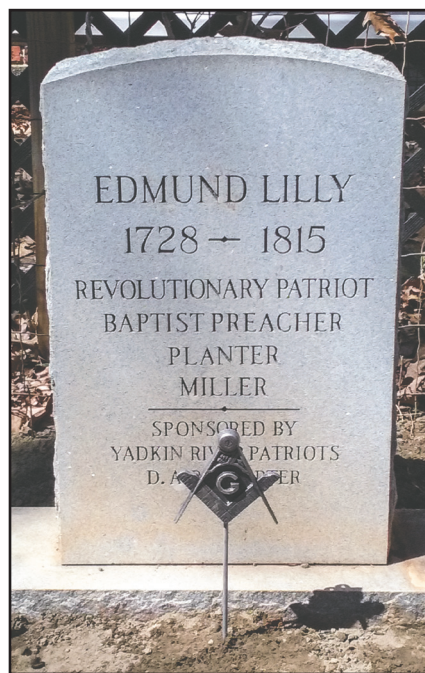
Back in the 1990s, when Concord Lodge in Tarboro built their new lodge building, they had to clean out closets not looked in for years. Among the trash there were a batch of officer aprons, too interesting to just trash, but too rough to really fix up and show. Many lodges have this sort of detritus taking up space. What should you do with those things? Don't throw them away, at least ask Grand Lodge to take a look.

At left, is Concord 58's long-time home in downtown Tarboro. Building maintenance concerns made them build a new lodge a bit further out of town. This master's apron is likely from about 1875. It was among several officer aprons discovered in the move. They now live in the archives of the Grand Lodge Museum.

This one is hand painting on a leather apron with brocade fringing. We should always opt to save our history. The Grand Lodge can almost always offer a home for artifacts which may seem only trash. Call Jonathan Underwood at (919) 787-2021.

during daylight hours. There is street parking and a walking path leading to the chain draped enclosure.

*Grand Historian Steven A. Campbell is a member of Blackmer 127.*



## From the Medical Committee From ASU's Scott Clinic

By Robin Morehouse

My first patient today at Charles E. and Geneva S. Scott Scottish Rite Speech and Hearing Clinic is a four-year old boy who wears a translucent blue, behind-the-ear hearing aid with a camouflage swirl earmold and a superhero button attached to the tubing.

He is not shy about showing his hearing aid. He knows that he has a hearing loss and that he must compensate for that loss. He embraces his hearing aid willingly, unlike many in the adult population.

Seventy-five percent of people who need hearing aids do not have them. Another disturbing statistic: the average time from noticing a hearing issue until something is done is seven years.

The audiologist at the Charles E. and Geneva S. Scott Scottish Rite Speech and Hearing Clinic at Appalachian State University is trying to

change these statistics. The audiology clinic is open to anyone in the community. If hearing aids are needed, they can be purchased here. In most cases, students doing their master's degree in Speech Language Pathology work with the audiologist.

The hearing aids do not need to be translucent blue but can be small and unobtrusive. Free hearing testing is offered to all brothers of the Scottish Rite. Unfortunately, the hearing aids are not free. The results of testing are always explained and, if necessary, suggestions are made concerning remediation.

The most common cause of hearing loss is exposure to excessive levels of noise without the benefit of hearing protection.

*Dr. Robin Morehouse is a Doctor of Audiology in the College of Health Sciences at Appalachian State University*



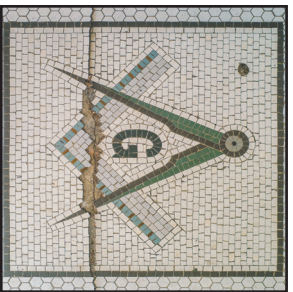
page 1

Spencer Lodge holds  
Railroad Degree



page 2

Home for Children  
trains ambassadors



page 10

Blue lodge news from  
around the state

On the cover

Spencer 543 opened  
lodge at Spencer Shops for  
its April Train Degree.

Ric Carter photo

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600 College Street  
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# NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

Spencer salutes  
railroad heritage

Home chooses first  
ambassadors

MAY/JUN  
2016