



NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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

Volume 141 Number 6

Oxford, North Carolina

November/December 2016

“Let’s get to work.”

Grand Lodge installs 2017 officers

By Beth Grace

CHAPEL HILL — Arnold Gene Cobb Jr. issued a clear invitation to action as he was installed December 3 as 164th Grand Master of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina.

Before a crowd of about 300 in the heart of his beloved alma mater, Cobb outlined his program for the year, which will emphasize education, patriotism, philanthropy, Masonic membership, and affiliated connections throughout the world.

“May everyone hear us clearly. The conspiracy of Freemasonry is that of offering the hand of friendship, morality, and brotherly love.

“... So from this day forward, for better or worse, on this campus of historic connection, capacity, and conscience, we prepare to return to what will be 370 headquarters and fortresses to aid and assist as part of the saving minority in North Carolina. Our tools are friendship, morality, and brotherly love.”

Cobb’s line journey began in 2009, when Grand Master Dave Cash appointed him grand steward to fill a vacated seat. Outgoing 2016 GM Bryant Webster also was appointed a grand steward that year by GM Dan Rice.

At the ceremony, Cobb’s son, John

Marlow Cobb, led the crowd in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance before Cash presented the apron to Cobb. Installing Officer W. Berry Rigdon presented the hat and gavel, and Dan Rice presented the past grand master’s jewel to Webster.

Rigdon administered the oath of office to all of the Grand Lodge officers for 2017.

Installed were: Deputy Grand Master Speed Hallman; Senior Grand Warden D.M. “Mack” Sigmon; Junior Grand Warden P. Shaun Bradshaw; Grand Treasurer Lewis R. Ledford; Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III; Senior Grand Deacon R. David Wicker Jr.; Junior Grand Deacon Larry B. Thompson Jr.; Grand Marshal Kevan D. Frazier; Grand Steward Donald E. Kehler; Grand Steward Robert W. Rideout; Grand Tyler William B. Bruton; Grand Chaplain Mark M. N. Vickers; Grand Historian Steven A. Campbell; Grand Lecturer Hugh L. McLaurin III; Grand Orator David R. Cash, PGM; and Judge Advocate James R. Stevens.

In one of his first official acts of office, Cobb closed the day’s program by calling immediate past GM Bryant D. Webster to the altar to present him



Ric Carter photos

Grand Master A. Gene Cobb Jr. kneels at the altar for his installation.



Cobb, Hallman, Sigmon, Bradshaw, Clapp, Wicker, Thompson, Frazier, Kehler, Rideout, and Vickers taking their oath.

■ see INSTALL, page 8

Homecoming moves mostly indoors

OXFORD — Hurricane Matthew moving across the bottom third of the state during the Sixth Annual Homecoming at the Masonic Home for Children was about as big a weather “problem” as you could imagine. But, changing plans, enduring driving rain, strong winds, being mindful of the safety, and the resolve of the organizers allowed the “show to go on” for the October 7–9 celebration.

Friday’s Chip Shots Alumni Golf Tournament was held under threatening skies, yet raised more than \$85,000 for the Alumni Association’s Endowment Fund, which directly supports the Home. It was the highest fundraising total in the tournament’s history.

The approaching storm moved Friday night’s Yard Party into Creasy Proctor Gymnasium. Andrew Jackson 576 served stew, and Bryan Mayer’s tunes and playing entertained the barbecue teams and other Friday night visitors. Cobb Center at Dunn Cottage Museum and Archives cut the ribbon on a new interactive gallery for children, Violet’s Room, named in honor of Home alum and long-time museum volunteer, Violet Davenport. Through the night, in rain and wind of the approaching storms, the barbecue teams huddled with their grills and smokers under makeshift cover to cook the next day’s meal.

Saturday morning brought no sight of sunshine, only stronger winds and harder rains. The parade was cancelled, but other activities along with craft and snack tents were moved into the gym.



Dancing on the gym floor in street shoes.

Guests were recognized there. Abigail Burnette was named Homecoming queen. Keller Memorial 657 was awarded the Grand Champion Barbecue title.

More than eight inches of rain fell during the event. In spite of the disastrous weather, 500 alumni, families, Masons, and visitors came to campus, to eat, listen, visit, and celebrate.

After lunch, Jim Quick and Coastline filled the gym with beach music. When they finished, visitors who were not officials, staff, or alumni called it a day and headed home.

Various alumni events continued. They honored Evelyn Hunter-Longdon for her York Rite Chapel endowment. Her late husband, Stanley Hunter, was a 1924 graduate of the Home. The fund

will perpetually give to the needs of the Chapel and those it serves.

Grand Master Bryant Webster said, “By any measure, what took place on Friday and Saturday in the teeth of the outer edges of a hurricane, was remarkable... I know it required Herculean efforts on the part of all, and I’m sure each of us was a bit disappointed that the sun did not shine, and things could not go according to the primary plans. But, you must take extraordinary pride in the fact that the show went on, and we were able to have an event under extraordinary duress. When all the sunny



Danger Men Cooking

times have faded and run together in the stream of memory, this is one we will recall, and look upon fondly and with bemusement, that we made it through and made it work.”

Mark your calendars. October 13–15, 2017 is set for the Seventh Annual Masonic Homecoming Festival. Hope to see you there. Bring a kid and a chair!



Lunch was not under the oaks, but still delicious.



Barbecue contestants pitched tents for protection.



Fellowship and luncheon moved from the grounds into the gymnasium

Civil War degree celebrated near Dunn

By Ric Carter

DUNN — The 20th Masonic District held a special outdoor Master Mason Degree at Averasboro Battlefield on October 15. In honor of the 1865 Battle of Averasboro, they conducted the degree in Civil War costume. Past the fields, in an open dell by a wooded rill, they set a rustic lodge. The static of history is hard to ignore when walking the same ground where men lived and died in the throes of battle.

While the predominant uniform color of the day was gray, at least a couple of blue uniforms and caps were seen among the Brothers on hand. Members of Angier 686 opened the lodge for raising Justin Mainusch before the event and dispensed with labor which was later resumed on the field under bright blue skies.

The 20th Masonic District created a Battlefield Degree team for the occasion. The first section of the degree was mastered by Dennis Brooks of Siler City 403, with Senior Warden Walter Akin (Neil S. Stewart 556), Junior Warden Dean Wilkins (Palmyra 147), Secretary Johnny Kelly (Buffalo 172), Senior Deacon Bill Minard (Sanford 151), Junior Deacon Roy King (Angier 686), Stewards Orin Taylor (Wake Forest 282) and Ron Burgess (Angier 686), Tyler John Cosgrove (686), and Chaplain Paul Kelly (Sanford 151).

In the second section, Grand Master Bryant Webster took over as King Solomon. Also on the team were Senior Grand Warden Brinson Hunter, Senior Deacon Bill Minard (Sanford 151), Ruffians Ben Brown (Mount Vernon 143), Butch Adams (Angier 686), and Resson Faircloth (686), Fellow Crafts Bill Mi-



The gathering for the degree in Averasboro was held on the historic battlefield.

nard (151), Frank Long (Lilington 302) and Christopher Nance (Buffalo 172). Sanford 151's Paul Kelly did the lecture.

Tickets to the event included lunch and a chance at a reproduction period Richmond Arsenal Rifle. The drawing for the rifle was held after the degree and lecture were complete. You had to be present to win.

The degree took place on the battlefield where on March 15–16, 1865, Confederate forces under the leadership of General William J. Hardee executed a delaying action on Sherman's northward march. Hardee's forces succeeded in holding up the Northern march long enough for General Joseph E. Johnston to concentrate 25,000 troops in Bentonville to surprise Sherman's Fourteenth Corps.

In the Averasboro skirmish, Southern troops suffered about 500 casualties while the Union lost nearly 700. It was

the first serious check on Sherman's Army movement since it left Atlanta. Some of the Confederate dead are buried in nearby Chicora Cemetery.

The Averasboro Museum was open for the event.

The Averasboro Battleground Degree raised \$2,460 for the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. The

District also made a donation to the Averasboro Battlefield Commission.

Twentieth Masonic District Deputy Grand Master Terry Byrd organized the historic degree and was director of production. They plan to make this an annual event and one you should certainly see. The 2017 edition is set for Saturday, October 21, 2017.



GM Webster and the Doc talking.



Some blue, no fighting, on site



The candidate is being prepared in the tent at right.



This is the view of the obligation from behind the master's station.

NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

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

Third class postage paid at Oxford, NC 27565.

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

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

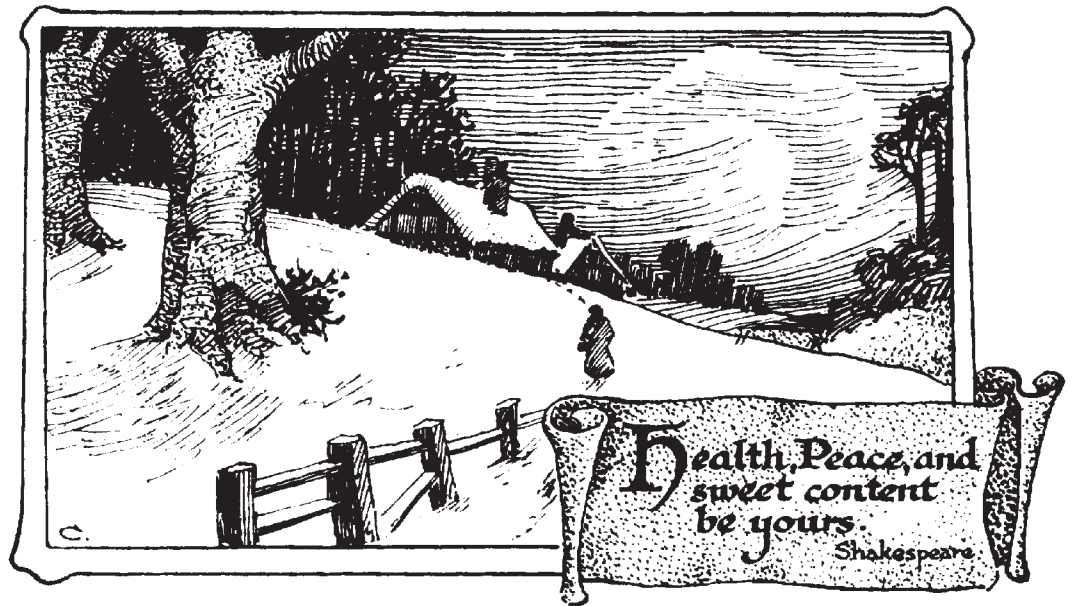
Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of *The North Carolina Mason*, the Grand Lodge, or Board of Publication.



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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



We wish you a joyous holiday.
May you rejoice in the blessings you
have in your life without
concern for that you lack.
May the new year
present you opportunities
that surpass your needs.

So long, and thanks for all the fish...

So, here is my 151st edition of *The North Carolina Mason*. It is also my last. For me, it's so long to a 25-year adventure. I thank each of you for giving me the best seat in the house for seeing inside how Freemasonry works as an organization.

I've seen Masonry walk the fine line of preserving tradition while growing with society. We've come out of hiding in our communities. We've embraced our own teachings and used them to grow as an institution.

While our total membership has declined with the passing of our membership explosion of the '50s-'60s, we have become more widespread by creating new lodges after years of stagnation. While some have created lodges just to have more fun with their Brothers, others have built lodges to delve more deeply into the mysteries of our philosophy. They all help create a quarry for each Mason. We are making new communities for ourselves in these lodges and opening our fraternity to men who might otherwise

have not been attracted to our Craft. Our strength is in our diversity. Who among us has not met a special person we treasure who, except for the lodge, would have never crossed our path?

Remember that our fraternity is a band of Brothers, not a business. Remember that we are Brothers who meet upon the level, not customers of some organization selling memberships or secrets. We, as our leaders, are men, and subject to the imperfections of man. We will have ups and downs over time. Some times will see us thrive, and other times will find us scratching to survive. In the end, it is up to each of us to be the conscience of Freemasonry — to stay the course and do the work necessary to help the truths of Masonry spread as we spread the cement of Brotherly love to all mankind.

As for me, I'm off on a new adventure. I'll see you along the trail. Thanks for your many kindnesses. It's been a real privilege. ☞

BUILDING A STRONGER FOUNDATION



Let's go to work!

By *A. Gene Cobb Jr.*
Grand Master

When I was growing up in Roanoke Rapids, we lived in a small, two-bedroom house on Williams Street. My father worked at the local paper mill. My mother was a clerk at a jewelry store on Roanoke Avenue. Before we started going to school, my younger brother and I would always take our father's lunchbox to him before he went to the mill. He would receive it with a proud look on his face and say, "Let's go to work!"

In March of 1991, my dad died at age 55. My mother followed him in May of 2016. During that time in between and since, I have often reflected on the smiles, love, joy, and happiness they gave their family and community and wondered, what if we practiced Masonry that way?

On September 24, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina elected its officers for the ensuing year. Your gracious affirmation of all of us is an honor and

privilege that we receive with humble confidence, and we are ready to go to work. Having served directly in the Grand Lodge with Bryant Webster, Doug Caudle, Dalton Mayo, Dewey Preslar, Bob Gresham, Lew Ledford, Billy Dill, Dan Rice, Dave Cash, Gene Jernigan, Leonard Safrit, Charles Lewis, Charles Ingram, and Bill Simpson, I am extremely grateful for their presence in all of our lives. Every other past grand master has helped shape who we are today because when it was time, they went to work.

Now it is our time to go to work. Our goals this year are simple.

First, in recognition of the longest serving grand master in our history, William Richardson Davie, our district deputy grand masters and I will be working this year with lodges to help them in five distinct areas of excellence: education, patriotism, philanthropy, membership, and assimilation

into our various communities. The Lion and Pillar Lodge of Excellence award for lodges will hopefully one day be respected as much as the Montfort Medal is for our members.

Second, all of us understand the importance of faith, hope, and charity. As a United Methodist pastor by vocation, I believe God made every human being good. As a Mason, I believe we are acting according to the will and pleasure of God whenever the highest thoughts, the greatest achievements, and the most noble deeds directs us concerning our purity of life and rectitude of conduct. I will never feel bad about asking anyone to do what we promised on our knees at the altar to do. Count on it.

Third, as we take up our working tools for the year ahead, we give thanks to the Supreme Architect of the Universe for the blessings of those who have gone to work with a smile and sense of duty and purpose. I'll say more about them later, but for now let's go to work!

God made every human being good

Cobb installed as new grand master

CHAPEL HILL — Arnold Gene Cobb Jr., currently of Sanford, was installed as the 164th grand master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina on December 3. This follows his election at our Annual Communication September 24. He was appointed to the Grand Lodge line in 2008 by Grand Master-Elect Dan Rice.

Gene Cobb was born in Halifax County, North Carolina, July 9, 1958, the eldest son of A. G. Cobb and Joyce Cobb (both deceased). He was a three-letter athlete (basketball, baseball, and football) in high school who graduated third in his class. In 1972, he earned his Eagle Scout and was named to the Order of the Arrow in the Boy Scouts of America.

Cobb is married to Brenda King of Paris, Mississippi.

Dear to him were his years at University of North Carolina Chapel Hill where he earned a bachelor of arts in religion in 1979. There, he was var-

sity basketball statistician 1977-1979 for Coach Dean E. Smith. He later added degrees at Duke Divinity School in Durham (Masters of Divinity 1983) and Hood Theological Seminary in 2008.

Cobb has been lead pastor at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Sanford, since 2009. He has previously pastored in Durham, Louisburg, Wilson, Mount Gilead, and Norlina, as well as Nash, Edgecombe, and Alamance counties. He has also served on state and district United Methodist committees. He was on faculty at Duke University and Louisburg College, and he is currently assistant professor in the Doctor of Ministry Program at Hood Theological Seminary. Hood presented him their Distinguished Service Award for Teaching in 2015. He has



Grand Master A. Gene Cobb Jr.

worked on many community organizations across the state.

Grand Master Cobb was initiated February 16, 1993, passed March 16, 1993, and raised a Master Mason April 6, 1993 in Blackmer 127 in Mt. Gilead. He served as master there in 1995. He is also a member and past master (1999) of Royal White Hart 2 in Halifax. He is a chartering member of Whitestone 771 in Greensboro and Lux Libertas UD in Chapel Hill.

Cobb has been on the Grand Lodge's Masonic Education Committee and Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence as well as the boards of both our Masonic Homes. He was grand chaplain in 2004. He is a member of the Shrine, York and Scottish Rites, and Eastern Star. He is the recipient of many Masonic honors.

MILEPOSTS



KINSTON — In May, Grand Master Bryant Webster, left, presented three Diamond Jubilee Awards for St. John's 4. Recipients are, from left Gerald Hirsch Kanter, Claude Cary Davis with his wife Betty, and William Allen Taylor with his wife Joyce. — Danny Davis



MARSHALL — Preston A. Edwards, left, of French Broad 292 was honored with his Diamond Jubilee award for 60 years membership on October 15. The 92-year-old took all three of his degrees in a span of 16 days in 1956 with his father as his coach. He remains an active participant in the lodge. Grand Lecturer John Burchfield, right, made the presentation.



Ric Carter photo

WASHINGTON — Roy L. Edwards received his Diamond Jubilee on November 4. The Washington 675 member got the recognition of his 60 years membership at the lodge's Ladies' and Awards Night. Roy, left, is seen here with his wife Treasure, and lodge Master John Riffert.



BISCOE — Zeb R. Shuping, right, recently received his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years lodge membership. Twenty-fourth District Deputy Grand Master Don Bulla presented the award to the Biscoe Masonic 437 member. — Carl Brown



BISCOE — J. C. Brewer, center, of Biscoe 437, recently got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years membership. Twenty-fourth District Deputy Grand Master Don Bulla presented the award with a hand from Master Kevin McNeill. — Carl Brown



KINSTON — Saint John's 4 presented service awards at their Ladies' and Awards Night in May. Sterling Gillikin Jr., center, received his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years as a Mason, 30 of them as secretary of the lodge. Gillikin's wife Sue, right, was there to see Grand Master Bryant Webster, left, present the award. — Danny Davis



HILLSBOROUGH — Eagle 19 gave a birthday surprise to William Winecoff, left, in September. Members of the lodge gave him a special past master's apron. They report that Winecoff is "invaluable [to the lodge] as a coach, a ritualist, and master of the grill. He sees things that need to be done and takes care of them without fanfare. Bill also led the renovation of Eagle's lodge room in 2009 during his year as master." Bill Faison, center, and Charles King, right, made the presentation. — Michael Verville

First Eagle Scout Degree



Grand Master Webster and other Eagle Scouts raised one of their own.

RUTHERFORDTON — On August 13, a hot Saturday night, more than 100 Master Masons from 36 North Carolina lodges and four South Carolina lodges gathered under the pines in the hills of Rutherford County, next to the picturesque Lake Bynum Carter at Boy Scout Camp Bud Schiele. They were there for a historic Master Mason Degree in which the entire degree team was composed of Eagle Scouts. So far as is known, this is the first such event in North Carolina. About 40 Eagle Scouts, ranging in age from 19 to almost 91, took part in the event.

Dunn's Rock 267 examined their 20-year-old Fellow Craft Luke Lundquist and conferred the first section of his Third Degree. The team of Eagle Scouts took over in the second section of the degree. On that second section team were then Grand Master Bryant Webster, and Past Grand Masters Pete Thomas and Billy Dill, all three Eagle Scouts. Lundquist was raised by Past Grand Master Thomas, his grandfather.

Smoked pork chops and all the trimmings were served before the degree. Several Scouts reported that it "far exceeded the normal camp fare."

GM's district meetings

Grand Master Gene Cobb 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.glnc.us>. This schedule was the schedule as of December 7, 2016. Changes may be necessary. Please consult your lodge for updates.

(s) indicates that the meeting is a stated communication of the host lodge.

Date	District	Host	Location
January 23	18	St. Albans 114	600 N. Elm Street, Lumberton
January 24	11	Mingo 206	1924 Fayetteville Highway, Dunn
January 25	12	Wilmington 319	2910 S. College Road, Wilmington
January 30	20	Buffalo 172	602 W. Main Street, Sanford
January 31	16	Mt. Lebanon 117	2501 W. Nash Street, Wilson
March 21	25	Granite 322 (s)	212 Franklin Street, Mt. Airy
March 22	23	Corinthian 542	426 W. Market Street, Greensboro
March 23	33	Ashlar 373	318 Deep Gap Drive, Deep Gap
March 27	41	Junaluskee 145	50 Church Street, Franklin
March 28	39	Biltmore 446 (s)	6 St. Paul Street, Asheville
March 29	35	Friendship 388	722 McBrayer/Homestead Road, Boiling Springs
March 30	34	Hibriton 262	602 Wilkesboro Boulevard SE, Lenoir
April 19	7	Zion 81	108 E. Lakeview Drive, Trenton
April 20	15	Vandora 745	1120 Benson Road, Garner
April 24	19	Person 113	219 Leasburg Road, Roxboro
April 25	8	Royal White Hart 2	Location TBD
May 1	1	Eureka 317	218 S. Hughes Boulevard, Elizabeth City
May 2	2	Manteo 521	101 Highway 64/264, Manteo
May 3	3	Washington 675	1115 West 5 th Street, Washington
May 16	24	Blackmer 127 (s)	109 S. School Street, Mt. Gilead
May 17	31	Long Creek 205	8500 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road, Huntersville



Tom Turrentine photo

Full moon lights Barn Degree

By Jim Hyde

It was not planned, but by happy coincidence Clay 301's Eighth Annual Raised in a Barn Degree on September 17 was held under a full moon as was done by many of our overall-wearing forefathers. In earlier times, it was common for Masonic lodges (moon lodges) to plan their meeting nights to coincide with the full moon. Why?

Transportation by horse or buggy was not as convenient as it is today. Getting back and forth from home to lodge was even more problematic in the dark, especially in the fall and winter months when darkness fell much earlier in the day. Having lodge meetings the same night as a full moon helped provide enough moonlight for Masons as they traversed rough country roads, animal trails, and footpaths. With later improvements in roads, transportation, and availability of electricity to rural areas, this practice fell by the wayside.

The venue for this event is an old

barn still in use today. It has been in the family of Clay 301 member Ronnie Smith for more than 100 years. It has been the site for raising brothers seven out of the eight-year of this event. Guests and cast members are encouraged to wear bib overalls. If one first looks at the barn from the outside, and later attends the event they may well reflect upon the phrase, "It's not the external, but the internal."

This year, an all-star cast helped exemplify the degree. Senior Grand Deacon Dwight Mack Sigmon shared the lecture with newly raised Brothers Chase Locke and Johnathan Crisp. Current and past Grand York Rite officers Lon Peden, Derek Cheek, David J. Cashion, Russell Bridges, and Todd Bridges assisted guest lodge, Montgomery 426, in putting on the degree.

These new brothers can truly claim, "As a matter of fact, I was raised in a barn!"

Jim Hyde is a member of Robbinsville 672.

INSTALL, from page 1

with the Joseph Montfort Medal. The medal is the highest award that can be bestowed upon a Freemason by the grand master.

Cobb honored Webster for tireless work and dedication to making WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star community a financial success and a strong Masonic charity.

“Everyone knows that WhiteStone not only exists but thrives, and it is because of three people. Two have already received the Montfort,” he said. “Now, with three, the honor is complete.”

Webster wiped away tears as he accepted the medal in the company of his wife, Jan; daughter, Amy; Mark Kolada, WhiteStone executive director, and Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan, chair of the WhiteStone Board. Both Kolada and Jernigan are Montfort recipients.

Cobb, a native of Roanoke Rapids, remembered his parents during the ceremony.

He recalled that when his father, Arnold Gene, passed away in 1991, he searched in the church and community for ways to move beyond his loss. He found the connection he sought with the brothers of Blackmer 127 in Mount Gilead and was initiated, passed, and raised in the winter of 1993. In April 1993, he attended the first of 24 consecutive Annual Communications, and will preside this year on the 25th anniversary of his first attendance.

Cobb majored in religion at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill before getting his masters at the Duke University Divinity School and his doctorate at Salisbury’s Hood Theological Seminary.

A member of Royal White Hart 2, he has pastored United Methodist Churches in Mount Gilead, Wilson, Louisburg, Norlina, Durham, and Alamance, Edgecombe, and Nash counties. He currently is lead pastor of St. Luke UMC in Sanford.

Cobb is married to Brenda King of Paris, Mississippi. At the ceremony, Cobb surrounded himself with symbols and remembrances of family, friends, and brothers at the ceremony. A candle burned in memory of friends and family he has lost; the Bible on the altar belonged to his grandparents; the altar, square and compasses were from his lodge, Royal White Hart 2; the columns,

gavels, and staffs were from lodges where the four principal officers are members.

Cobb got a surprise of his own as the ceremony wound down. Deputy Grand Master Speed Hallman presented him with a seedling from the Davie Poplar, a large tree near the Old Well on UNC’s campus, where legend says that then Gen. William R. Davie, who was grand master of our Grand Lodge from 1792–1798, selected the site for the University. Hallman said 41 sprouts have been grown in all for him to distribute as he sees fit throughout his year as grand master.

Before ending the ceremony with a recording of the University of North Carolina alma mater, Cobb recalled what his father always said as he headed out to the paper mill to work.

“Our usual custom was to give him his lunchbox, say, ‘I love you,’ and hear him say, ‘See you later.’ Dad would stop at the back door before leaving, smile, and say, ‘Let’s go to work.’”

So “what is it that binds us to this fraternity as to no other?” Cobb asked as he ended his opening remarks.

“It is not the jewels, or the aprons, or the mystic legends. Or the knife and fork degrees we love so well. Our loyalty is not only to William Richardson Davie, though we are proud of what he did 224 years ago... nor even to Joseph Montfort.

“No, our love for this fraternity is based on the fact that it is, as it was meant to be, a conspiracy of good people who best work and best agree through friendship, morality, and brotherly love.

“May light and liberty keep us diligent, prudent, temperate, and discreet.

“Let’s go to work.”

On the shoulders of giants

In his opening remarks, Grand Master Gene Cobb honored past grand masters with whom he served in the grand line for teaching “us all something about belonging and having a moral conscience. Their message speaks to our conscience and ‘binds us together as no other.’” Here’s what they taught us:

- We must, at all times, have fun but be truthful. (David Ronald Cash, 2008)
- Be charitable with others. (Dan Charles Rice, 2009)
- Learn and improve as much as we



Past Grand Master Webster was named a Montfort medalist.



Mike Kenlan presents Grand Master Cobb a clone of the Davie Poplar.



The officers enter the ballroom.

can. (William L. Dill, 2010)

- Practice our work to the point of excellence. (Lewis R. Ledford, 2011)

- Be the family God put us here to be. (Robert E. Gresham Jr., 2012)

- Own and deliver our Masonry and be not afraid to get to the rat killing. (Dewey R. Preslar Jr., 2013)

- Be ever mindful of how we come across. (Dalton Wayne Mayo, 2014)

- Always seek the high road. (Douglas L. Caudle, 2015)

- Build on the strong foundation laid before us. (Bryant D. Webster, 2016)

Our new grand stewards

Don Kehler



Ric Carter photos

Donald Edward Kehler, of Burlington, is our new senior grand steward. He is one of two appointments by Grand Master-elect A. Gene Cobb Jr. to the progressive line of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Mason of North Carolina, those men on the path to become grand master of Masons in North Carolina.

Kehler was born April 20, 1959 in Hornell, New York, the fourth child of William James Kehler Jr. and Helen Ruth Garrison Kehler. They moved to Marion, North Carolina when he was six years old.

He earned an associate degree in business administration at McDowell Technical Community College in 1980 and bachelor of technology from Appalachian State University in 1982.

Kehler has been an investment broker in Burlington since 1982. Kehler

married Melody Underwood McBride of Davie County in 2005. He is father to two children, three step children, and one adopted son.

Don was initiated in Bula 409 March 24, 1986; passed May 19, 1986; and raised July 21, 1986. He was master of Bula Lodge in 1992 and was secretary 2000–2009. He has been a certified lecturer since 2000 and served as grand lecturer in 2009. He was on the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance 2008–2011 and the Board of Custodians 2009–2012. He also was district deputy grand master and lecturer in the 22nd Masonic District. He has been secretary the Scottish Rite's Greensboro Valley since 2013.

There were two appointments to the line this year due to the resignation of Senior Grand Warden Jimmy Hicks to pursue university opportunities in Europe.

Bob Rideout



This year's junior appointment to the Grand Lodge line is Robert Wayne Rideout Jr. of Zebulon and White Stone 155. Rideout, appointed by grand master-elect A. Gene Cobb Jr., becomes the junior grand steward in the progressive line of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Mason of North Carolina, those men on the path to become grand master of Masons in North Carolina.

An administrative law judge, Rideout is married to Stacy Wiggins Rideout for more than 18 years. They have two children, Ivan aged nine and Daisy who is seven.

Rideout was born in Newport News, Virginia, September 24, 1973 to Robert Wayne and Sandra Gail Phillips Rideout.

Rideout graduated from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1995 with a degree in history. He attended Louisiana State University (LSU) Law School from which he graduated in 1998.

He has served as an assistant public defender (1998–99), an assistant district attorney (1999–2005), and deputy commissioner for the North Carolina Industrial Commission (2005–2010). In 2010, he was appointed a United States administrative law judge, and in 2014, was appointed to his current position of

hearing office chief administrative law judge of the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review in Raleigh.

He is a lieutenant colonel and decorated combat veteran in the United States Army Reserve where he currently serves as a military judge. Rideout previously served in Iraq (2003–2004) and Afghanistan (2013–2014). He has been awarded two Bronze Star Medals, four Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, and three Army Achievement Medals. In 2014, LTC Rideout won the LTG(R) Jack C. Stultz Excellent Award for Field Grade Office of the Year. In 2015, he was named Distinguished Alumnus by the UNCW Alumni Association.

Bobby Rideout was initiated September 19, 2006; passed October 17, 2006; and was raised a Master Mason November 2, 2006 in White Stone 155 in Zebulon. He served his lodge as master in 2011. He was chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Appeals (2013–2014). He was a member of the Canada Lodge UD, at Kandahar Air Field in Afghanistan. He is a member of the National Sojourners, as well as the Scottish and York Rites.

There were two appointments to the line this year due to the resignation of Senior Grand Warden Jimmy Hicks.

May Brotherly Love Prevail

Need a short Masonic education program for your lodge? Like to read your history in short bits? Like a good tale? Waxhaw 562's Richard Shields has written another collection of wartime stories of the power of Masonry, *May Brotherly Love Prevail*. It includes dozens of stories about Masonry reaching

beyond the rules of war. It's a great read!

The books are \$41.50 including tax and shipping. You can order them from <www.TheCarolinaTrader.com> or by calling Shields at (704) 282-1339. The author is also available to do limited educational appearances in lodges around the state. Or just read from his book.

TRAVELING THE TARHEEL STATE

Pittsboro

Columbus 102 held their Columbus Lodge Day on October 1. It featured a car show, rib fest, and family fun. All makes and models of cars were welcomed to the show, and it was free to the public for viewing. The barbecued ribs cost ten dollars and were served with live music and family activities. The Masonic Homes benefitted.

— Terry Byrd

Pilot Mountain

Pilot 493 held their 39th Annual Fall Barbecue September 30. They cooked 549 pounds of barbecue, and they picked up more than \$3,700 in sponsorships. They made about \$5,000 for North Carolina Masonic charities.

Pilot Lodge entertained at their annual Masonic Widows Dinner on August 20 at a local restaurant. Four lodge widows were there along with 20 Masons and other guests. Each of the ladies received a flower arrangement. They are holding next year's as a Saturday luncheon rather than the previous weeknight dinners.

The lodge is having to add an additional heating and air conditioning unit. They are raising the money from members and friends of the lodge. At the same time, they are setting up a specific fund for building maintenance and repairs.

Recent educational program presenters at Pilot Lodge include Grand Historian Steven Campbell and NC York Rite Deputy Grand Commander Stancil Wilson.

— *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

West End

Elberta 654 was holding a gun raffle. Their drawing was set for December 6.

— *21st District Calendar*



Union Grove

Grassy Knob 471 held their Fifth Annual Turkey Shoot on October 8. You could bring your shotgun or open sight .22 rifle. Food was available for purchase on site. Proceeds were for Masonic charities.

— Tom Gregory

Kenansville

About 60 members of St. John's 13 and their friends and families attended the lodge's Annual Pastry Supper. Keith Kennedy and Harvey Stroud cooked the usual pot of stew, and attendees brought side dishes and desserts.

When St. John's 13 absorbed Warsaw 677, the lodge inherited a couple of regular projects. One of them is the Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast. It is held each year during the Warsaw Veterans Day Parade. On November 5, they sold eggs, pancakes, and sausage to parade watchers. Charles Taylor was to train his cooking successor for the big event. They cooked and served at the Warsaw Baptist Church fellowship hall.

St. John's Lodge suffered minor roof damage in Hurricane Matthew.

— *Lodge Log*

NEWS FROM OUR LODGES

By Ric Carter



Hillsborough

Eagle 19 held their 51st Annual Barbecue Fundraiser November 12. It was eight dollars, eat in or take out, for barbecue or chicken; two dollars extra got you Brunswick stew as well.

— Michael Verville

Prestonian Lecturer Richard Beraman was visiting Mosaic 762 in September. Lodge Secretary Keith Morgan invited lodge members over to his home to practice toasts before the visit so they were suitably proficient. They were figuring it would be a fun get together also.

— Keith Morgan

Candler

Hominy 491 had their Past Masters' and Awards Dinner October 15.

The lodge completed repairs to their roof just before the heavy rains associated with Hurricane Matthew.

Hominy Lodge held a gun raffle to raise nearly \$4,000 for the three main Masonic charities, the Masonic Home for Children, WhiteStone, and the North Carolina Masonic Foundation. They broke their own record for lodge charitable donations this year by giving nearly \$7,000.

— Rick D. Pinkerton

Ramseur

Marietta 444 honored their lodge widows during their family night supper on October 10. Jerry and Tammy Graham and Carey and Tracey Graham provided supper.

The lodge continues to collect canned goods for the Ramseur Food Bank.

— Jerry Graham

Raeford

The 21st Masonic District Colonial Degree Team conducted a First Degree at Raeford 306 on September 27. The lodge served supper before the degree.

— Bob Vaughn

Hamlet

The "almost world famous" Ham Biscuit Breakfast Fundraiser sponsored by Hamlet 532 was held October 29 during the Annual Hamlet Seaboard Railroad Festival. It was also a last chance to get tickets for their gun raffle.

— Frank Wanko

Greensboro

Corinthian 542 held their Arvil Evans Memorial Skeet Shoot on October 15. The event at Shanes Sporting Clays in Stokesdale was to raise money for the Masonic Homes. It was open to the first 56 shooters. Shooters had to supply their own guns and shells. They were also having a gun raffle at the same time.

— Jeff Bullington

Greensboro 76 and C. W. Lawrence 837 (PHA) jointly sponsored a blood drive September 3. They held the drive at the Greensboro Masonic Temple. They served breakfast and had giveaways for donors.

— Phillip Bialek

Guilford 656 held their Ladies' Night and Awards Dinner on October 15. They were entertaining in the fellowship hall at WhiteStone. Tickets were \$25 each, \$40 for couples.

— Tom Dolinger

If your lodge has a newsletter for its members, make sure *The North Carolina Mason* is on your mailing list. Lodge newsletters are a major source of news from Masons around the state. If you don't have one, think about starting one. Newsletters are a good way to keep your members active, happy, and informed.

■ see next page

Bonlee

Mount Vernon 143 is challenging “big city lodges” to outdo their “small country lodge” in giving to victims of Hurricane Matthew. They have (so far) given an average of \$12 per member.

— Terry Byrd

Winston-Salem

Grand Master Webster and dozens of Masons from all over the state gathered in Winston-Salem October 23 for the grand opening of the new Masonic Center of Winston-Salem.

— Joey Transou

Even before the official opening, the regular Masonic Barbecue was held in Winston-Salem’s new Masonic home. Award winning Big Boy Barbecue was the featured dish on October 21. Proceeds are for Masonic charities and youth programs. They charged ten dollars per plate or per pound and offered free delivery on 12 or more plates. Winston 167, Salem 289, Piedmont Pioneer 685, and Forsyth 707 were the sponsors.

— George Troxler

The 26th Masonic District chicken stew was held on October 15. Attendance was good and so were the different stews presented. They plan to repeat next year, perhaps with an upgraded contest and invitations to lodges outside the district.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*

Salem 289 had their Past Masters’ Night on October 4. Fourteen of their previous lodge masters were there: Terry Jones, Harold Schaffer, Doug Mason, Cliff Pranke, Fred Cook, Gerald Wood, David Simmons, John Hoover, Ronnie Bailey, Bobby Perdue, Sandy Erwin, David Grubbs, Richard Lambert, and Jason Anderson.

Recent educational program presenters at Salem Lodge included Mike Daniels (a state York Rite officer) and Rick Smith (former grand historian).

— *The Salem Sentinel*

Old Town 751 has launched its Legacy Project, a way to memorialize large contributions to the building maintenance. Pavers by the flagpole will carry the names of contributors who give in excess of \$150.

Old Town Lodge’s Bikes for Books program is taking on five elementary schools this year. They are using two volunteers per school to represent the lodge at the schools appearances.

— *On the Level at Old Town Lodge*



Lin Webb photos



Lodge master grabs his first national

MARTIN, MICHIGAN — John Strickland, the sitting master of Hiram 98 in Clinton, won his first drag racing national event June 11 at the PDRA Summer Drags at US 131 Dragway. Strickland runs GALOT Racing’s 1969 Camaro in the Pro Boost class. He won the event on a single run of 3.82-seconds at 196.76 mph. Strickland drives for Past Grand Lecturer (and his father-in-law) Earl Wells of Hiram 98.

— Thomas Pope

Raleigh

On October 29, William T. Bain 231 sold barbecued chicken plates to support their scholarship. The Linwood T. Hicks Scholarship Fund helps young people attend vocational school. The nine-dollar chicken plate got you half a chicken, boiled potatoes, and a roll.

— Chris Mills

James B. Green 735 celebrated the 51st anniversary of Grand Master Sam Hennis signing the lodge’s charter at their October 11 meeting. They were asking the oldtimers to bring their stories from the early days of the lodge — “their favorite memories, funny stories, or moments of great reward.”

Green Lodge was holding their Fall Charity Barbecued Chicken Fundraiser September 30.

— Sam Sholar

Discussions are underway to create a traditional observance lodge in Wake County.

— W. C. Barrett

Laurinburg

Gun raffles have been big the last couple of years. Laurinburg 305’s was to draw their winner on December 6. They were awarding five guns and two other prizes. Tickets were ten dollars. Proceeds were for the Home for Children and other Masonic charities.

— *21st District Calendar*
and Michael Nobles

Waxhaw

October stated meeting was set for past masters recognition as well as service awards at Waxhaw 562. They were having a steak dinner.

Joe Simmons and Tim Lyons are leading classes on the lectures for members of Waxhaw Lodge.

— Richard Shields

Southport

Pythagoras 249 is one busy lodge. Their 11th annual golf tournament in September was a record setter for them with more than 90 hole sponsors. They have already set the date for the 12th, September 16, 2017.

Recent charitable spending from the lodge includes \$1,000 for neighboring Atkinson 612 which suffered damage in Hurricane Matthew, \$200 for storm damage at Phoenix 8 in Fayetteville, \$500 to the Southport Police Department’s Shop with a Cop program for needy kids, and \$1,000 scholarships for Cameron Peters and Lorn Watts of South Brunswick High School. They are also buying a Henry rifle and engraving it in celebration of their 150th anniversary. They will be raffling it to help a VFW project that provides communications between active duty military and their families.

Pythagoras Lodge held their Annual Widows Appreciation and Awards Banquet on October 29.

— *Newsletter*

Fayetteville

Due to damage at Phoenix 8 during Hurricane Matthew, Fort Bragg 667 is meeting at the Fayetteville Masonic Center.

— John M. Hall Jr.

Creasy Proctor 679 and Derec Mercer hosted Fayetteville Masonic History Dinner recently. Bruce Daws of Phoenix presented the program, and Creasy Proctor Lodge handed out their awards. The program was open to all Masonic groups.

— Michael Reams

Washington

Past Masters’ and Ladies’ Night at Washington 675 was held on November 4. Local traditional musician Linda Boyer entertained. Diamond Jubilees honoring 60 years membership were announced for Edgar Woolard, Roy Edwards, and Carlos Jackson.

Beaufort

Franklin 109 held a fish fry fundraiser on September 30. They were raising money for the Masonic Home for Children.

— Keith Redmon

Ocean 405 was having a past masters degree November 1. The old-timers did a Third Degree on two candidates. Joe Morris was making his clam chowder to reward them.

— Wray Thomas

■ see next page

STATE, from previous

Charlotte

The Sixth Annual Knights of Solomon Memorial Motorcycle Rally were held October 8. Knights of Solomon 764 were raffling six guns and a 2017 Street Glide. Lunch, door prize eligibility, and t-shirts went to all participants. Proceeds were bound for the Masonic Homes. — Allan Mann

Charlotte lodges hosted 50 kids and staff from the Masonic Home for Children at a November Carolina Panthers National Football League game. The lodges were feeding them before the game and collecting donations to give the kids cash to buy souvenirs. Phalanx 31, West Gate 738, Williams 176, Long Creek 205, Steele Creek 737, Excelsior 261, and James K. Polk 759 sponsored the visit. — Gary Cooke

West Gate 738 held their annual building fund golf tournament September 10 at Westport Golf Course. Entry fees were \$60 per player. Hole sponsorships were also available. It was termed a success. — *News from the West*

West Gate held their famous annual Fall Chicken Fry October 21. Ten dollars for grownups, five dollars for kids — all you can eat. The money went to Masonic charities. — Gary Cooke

Steele Creek 737 held their Annual Barbecue/Fish Fry Fundraiser on November 11. For ten dollars, you got to choose all you can eat fish or barbecue. — Bill Smith

Excelsior 261 has dropped plans to enter a building association with Temple 676.

Excelsior is looking into an arrangement with a fraternity studying culinary arts at Johnson and Wales University. They are talking about exchanging meeting space for catering meals for the lodge. — *Trestle Board*

Wilmington

Wilmington 319's Breakfast With a Mason was set for October 1. It was to be "an open forum to young men and women ages 12–21, current Master Masons and adults interested in learning about Freemasonry" and its family of organizations. They were offering a free breakfast followed by presentations from various people including Grand Master Bryant Webster.

— Freddy Szakasits

Jacksonville

Lafayette 83 hosted a Red Cross blood drive September 17 in their lodge building. — Russ Jones

Knights of Solomon 766 took part in The Ride September 10. They organized their own ride route from Richlands through Kinston and Goldsboro to Oxford where they joined other bikers organized by Eureka 283 in visiting the Masonic home for Children.

— Christopher Diederich

They also took part in a Special Olympics Poker Run a week later.

— Robert Morrell

Gastonia

Gastonia 369 collected food as a group to carry to Annual Communication for Grand Master Webster's Masons Can drive to feed the hungry. Even after the big event, the lodge is continuing to collect food for their local food bank.

Clyde Cox was elected a life member of Gastonia Lodge in recognition of "the support and work he does for the lodge and the Temple Association."

— *The Trestle Board*

King Solomon 704 was voting on a dues increase in October.

— *The Plumblin*

Kenly

Kenly 257's 150th anniversary is here. They were planning a special ceremony at their December 6 meeting. The lodge's Sesquicentennial Committee minted special coins to mark the occasion. Life members were given the coins and the rest were available for sale at ten dollars each.

Glen Rains received his Veteran's Emblem on November 1. It honors his 50 years as a member of the lodge.

Kenly Lodge's gun raffle earned \$2,150 for their scholarships and other charities. — *Past Meridian*

Highlands

Blue Ridge 435 raffled off a Ruger 10/22 rifle October 22. The money they raised from the drawing was to go to the Shriners Children's Hospitals and their local scholarship.

Blue Ridge Lodge's Steve Wilson recently got his Veteran's Emblem for his 50 years membership.

— *Trestleboard*

Asheboro

Balfour 188 was hosting Ross Gellar November 1 for a special Masonic education program. Gellar was telling them about the major Masonic charities. The Greensboro Mason has served three years on the WhiteStone Board.

— Roy Smith

Benson

Relief 431 held their annual pancake and sausage breakfast on September 24. The eight-dollar all-you-can-eat raised money for Masonic charities.

— W. C. Barrett

Cary

Past masters were to be honored at Cary 198 on October 17. They were filling all the stations of the lodge and conducting the business meeting.

— Benton W. Oakes Jr.

Aberdeen

Grand Master Bryan Webster recently visited Roman Eagle 550 to conduct a workshop for the 21st Masonic District. He taught them about estate planning and WhiteStone. The Roman Eagle Lodge served refreshments.

— Phillip Richardson

**Oak Grove thanks law enforcement**

DURHAM — On August 15, Oak Grove 750 hosted a Law Enforcement Appreciation Night. Several members of local law enforcement agencies, both Masons and non-Masons, attended. — Jay Watkins

Rolesville

Flounder was the star fish at Rolesville 683's November 4 Fish Fry. Tickets were eight dollars. — Vann Johnson

Southern Pines

The scholarships awarded by Southern Pines 484 are paid into the student's college account in semester installments. They pay as much as \$2,000 if the student makes satisfactory progress.

After summer hiatus, the District 21 OSW School restarted on October 1. They hold it on Saturday mornings at Southern Pines Lodge.

— Gene Maples

Statesville

On October 24, Mt. Moriah 690 had their awards dinner. Robert Collier and Harold Speaks got their Veteran's Emblems honoring their 50 years as Masons. — Marty Byers

Newport

Tim Ross, of Newport 706, coordinated a candy drive to help an elementary school in Grifton, North Carolina. The candy was for an event to give the kids a safe place to trick or treat and avoid hazardous areas created by the recent Hurricane Matthew flooding in Grifton. — Wray Thomas

see next page

State College Lodge receives charter

RALEIGH — North Carolina's first affinity lodge centered around a college received its charter on October 19. Grand Master Bryant D. Webster opened the special meeting of State College at the DoubleTree Hotel on Hillsborough Street just a block from the campus of the lodge's namesake institution, North Carolina State University. A large crowd was on hand for the launching.

Several Grand Lodge officers opened the lodge: Grand Master Bryant D. Webster, Deputy Grand Master Gene Cobb, Past Grand Master Dalton Mayo, Junior Grand Warden Speed Hallman, Grand Secretary Walt Clapp, Senior Grand Deacon Mack Sigmon, Junior Grand Deacon Shaun Bradshaw, Grand Tyler D. L. Webster, Grand Marshal David Wicker, and Judge Advocate James Stevens.

The officers of State College 770 were posted west of the altar, and the master was presented at the altar. Grand Secretary Clapp presented the charter and records of the lodge to Grand Mas-



The members and officers of State College 770.

ter Webster who declared them correct and approved. The officers of the new lodge are Master Michael W. Brantley, Senior Warden Jonathan Underwood, Junior Warden Matthew Robbins, Treasurer Chris Mills, Secretary Mirl Austin, Senior Deacon Adam Cloninger, Junior Deacon Steve Barrell, Senior Steward Will Highsmith, Junior Steward Billy Huggins, Chaplain Jerry Thomas, and Tyler Robert Scott.

The Grand Lodge officers conducted the constitution and consecration of a new lodge using the vessels used in the

1888 laying of the cornerstone of Holaday Hall, the first building on the NC State campus. The symbolic lodge used in the ceremony was highly customized suitable to the lodge identity.

The officers were then installed by Grand Master Webster. Brantley was presented the furniture and various implements of the lodge. He was then presented the charter of the lodge and charged by the grand master. Master Brantley assumed the East and conducted the business meeting of the lodge.

State College 770 meets on third



Wolfpack basketball fans will find the symbolic lodge familiar.

Wednesdays except in November at 2416 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh.

— Mirl Austin



GM Webster installs State College Lodge officers.



State College Lodge Master Brantley is charged with his office.

STATE, from previous

King

Award presentations were made at King 722 on October 20.

—Homer Dearmin

Mount Airy

Senior Grand Deacon Mack Sigmon gave a history of Masonic ritual in North Carolina at Granite 322 on October 18.

— Homer Dearmin

Arcadia

Enterprise 752 held their annual barbecue October 15. The beef barbecue plates were nine dollars for adults, five for kids.

— Joseph Gibson

Clemmons

Clemmons 755 held their annual golf tournament October 12. It is one of the state's biggest Masonic fundraisers each year.

— *The Salem Sentinel*

Advance

October 1 was the date of Advance 710's quarterly fundraiser for the Masonic Home for Children. They were serving breakfast — pancakes, sausage, and eggs to order.

— Joel Crofts



Of those who say nothing,
few are silent. — Thomas Neill

Ritual contest

GREENSBORO —The Grand Master's Ritual Competition crowned the Down East Rascals the top winners. The team includes Master Loren Jones (Semper Fidelis 680), Senior Warden Bill Thacker (Seaside 429), Junior Warden Mike Wagoner (Lafayette 83), Senior Deacon Russell Jones (Lafayette 83), and Junior Deacon Jim Fitzgibbons (Lafayette 83).

The runner up the team called the Rubbish of the Temple with Master Mark Alexander (North Wilkesboro 407), Senior Warden David Wyatt (Mt. Pleasant 573), Junior Warden Evan

Handy (Snow 363), Senior Deacon Paul Pulaski (Mt. Pleasant 573), and Junior Deacon Dylan Atwood (Mt. Pleasant 573).

The rules are being modified to encourage entries. The open competition may be a team of Masons selected from any lodge, no restrictions. The closed competition must be a team from an individual lodge. Teams can have two alternates. Alternates may not be a certified lecturer.

The contest is sponsored by Wilkerson College 760, and the judges are five members from the Board of Custodians.

—Tom Dolinger

WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

1..... Cook, Justin Dean
 3..... Coffey, Nolan Claude
 3..... Jones, Ryan Matthew
 3..... Nixon, Richard Lee
 8..... Chandler, Joshua David
 8..... Chandler, Troy Allen
 8..... Quick, Ronald Wayne
 8..... Yoakum Jr, Robert Franklin
 8..... Adams, Devin Hunter
 8..... Breitenfeld, Michael Lloyd
 8..... Evans, Joseph Edward
 8..... Smith, Brian Patrick
 13..... Davis, Jerry Lee
 13..... Graham, Dennis Lee
 27..... Frankhouser, Charles William
 27..... Rivera, Christopher Lee
 32..... Alvarez, Marcos Alejandro
 32..... Malone, James Andrew
 40..... Gammon, Joseph Edward
 45..... Fracassi, Nicholas Scott
 45..... Mockerman, Benjamin James
 45..... Wilson, Kerry Michael
 59..... Patterson, James Michael
 64..... Thomas, John Garrett
 75..... Moran, Joshua Keith
 75..... Fillyaw, James
 81..... Scott, Edward Trent McIntyre
 83..... Aiken III, Robert Devon
 83..... Kissel, Nicholas Joshua William
 90..... Creech, Joseph Ernest
 91..... Houser, Nicholas Allen
 99..... Alexander, James Carl
 99..... Taylor, Philip Edward
 109..... Brown, Richard Wayne
 109..... Heartsill, Charles William
 109..... Fulcher, Arthur Harris
 113..... Stringham, Antonio Cleophia
 113..... Clement, Christopher Scott
 113..... Roberson, Timothy Daniel
 118..... Cobb, Marshall Braxton Martin
 118..... Huskey Jr., Richard Delano
 118..... Loffin, Brian Anthony
 123..... Reynolds, Jerry Adam
 127..... Goforth, Dale Royce
 134..... Frye, William Samuel
 134..... Pitts Jr, Dwight Roy
 138..... Morisi, John Ryan
 143..... Barker, Garrett Vann
 143..... Willett, Hayden Ray

147..... Honeycutt, Jerry Lee
 147..... Westbrook, John Thomas
 147..... Winters, Kenneth Brooks
 147..... Nelson, Joseph Pierce
 151..... Repper, Patrick Michael
 151..... Womble, Kendrick Antonio
 162..... Church, Taylor Allen
 167..... Miley, Steven Craig
 172..... Sabiston, William Edward
 190..... Dyson, Stephen Ashley
 190..... Lanehart, Jonathan Poe
 191..... Overly, Russell Wayne
 198..... Guadagno, Michael
 205..... DaRin, Joseph Edward
 205..... Orr, Keegan Douglas
 207..... Long II, Garland Marco
 207..... Godwin, Anthony Shawn
 218..... Napoles, Raul A.
 237..... Hastings, Mark Shane
 249..... Falcetti, Mark Paul
 249..... Wittkofsky, Tyler Bruce
 259..... Cable, Timothy Michael
 262..... Haire, Brian David
 262..... Coffey, Eddie Lynn
 262..... Powell, Bruce Edmund
 265..... Harpe, Slayton Reavis
 267..... Lundquist, Luke Steven
 267..... Owen, Charles Wesley
 267..... Ownbey, Barry Josephy
 271..... Blackmon, Harold Lee
 271..... Huffman, Bradley Scott
 271..... McKirgan, Brandon Allen
 282..... Bates Jr., Jamie Robert
 289..... Peterson, Gregory Thomas
 289..... Saturnino, Kevin Keith
 289..... Freeman, Christopher Gavin
 292..... Peek, Kevin Douglas
 292..... Petzold Jr., Carl Robert
 294..... Stotesberry, William Ray
 294..... Williams, Joseph Cordon
 314..... Weeks, Terry Clyde
 339..... Hovis, Mark Anthony
 339..... Steward, Jared Chester Ray
 343..... Lawson, William Richard
 357..... Lunsford, Calvin Vance
 357..... McCourry, Anthony Ryan
 357..... Parker, Shane Nathaniel
 357..... Sparks, Randall Heath
 359..... Broughton, Christopher Brock
 359..... Edwards, Zachary Ryan

363..... Fox, Will Marshall
 363..... Stamp, Gregory Lee
 369..... Hibberts, Jacob Lee
 369..... Wallace, James Michael
 373..... Bengtson, Eric Nils
 375..... Conner, Terry Donald
 375..... Maxwell, John Kimble
 380..... Dzieciolowski, Matthew David
 381..... Robinson Jr., Jack Wesley
 387..... Dolinger Jr., Avery Dale
 387..... Taggart, John Samuel
 390..... Crotts, Jackie Wesley
 391..... Nieshe, Lory Daniel
 391..... Parisian, Zachary James
 391..... Thomas Jr., Jancer Clellan
 395..... Barwick, Eric Bryan
 395..... Moulton, Daniel Lee
 395..... Thomas, Keven Bryan
 405..... Cauley, Maurice Alon
 405..... Lyons, Jon Baer
 407..... Yale, Jason Ray
 417..... Giannini, Michael James
 423..... Carico, Ethan D
 426..... Crisp, Jonathan Dale
 426..... Locke, Chase Dakota
 431..... Harper, Michael Tyler
 431..... Lee, Christopher Howard
 433..... Jones, Jonathan Isaac
 434..... Sorrell, Michael Bryan
 446..... Hart, Walter Flave
 454..... Gentry, James Travis
 461..... Hiatt, Gary Alan
 462..... Crenshaw, William Harrison
 463..... McGough, Matthew Justin
 463..... White III, Robert Melton
 475..... Heath, Jason Lee
 475..... Williams, Ronald Gene
 484..... Cowick, Jeremy Dwayne
 484..... Leuenberger, William Nimrod
 484..... Velazquez, David Anthony
 486..... Jolley, Grady Richard
 489..... Ashe, Carlos Twobear

489..... Gates, Samuel Chasten
 491..... Warren, Micheal Ryan
 492..... Stead, Zachary Thomas
 493..... Register, Christian Allen
 493..... Dollyhite, Gregory Leighton
 493..... Martin Jr., Carl Thomas
 493..... Collins, Tracey Sanders
 495..... Carroll, Joseph Ray
 502..... Gafford, Kevin Christopher
 502..... Putnam, Collin Trent
 502..... Scott Jr., Jerry Eugene
 505..... Lesenger, John David
 505..... Thornburg, Clayton Jerrid
 515..... Farris, Brandon Scott
 515..... Scott Jr., Vernal Dalton
 527..... Spruill, Nicholas Adam
 532..... Barbee Jr., Lawrence Leroy
 532..... Gore, Christopher Glenn
 543..... Reash, Tyler James
 552..... Dunlap, David Ray
 552..... Powers, Phillip Aaron
 564..... Atkinson, Joshua Mark
 564..... Patry, Brent Michael
 573..... Childress, Noah Brett
 576..... Mintz, Byron Anthony
 578..... Eubanks, Micah Lynn
 589..... Everette, Joseph Christopher
 590..... Reed, Stephen Tae
 592..... Early, William Mark
 592..... Putnam, James Stephen
 596..... Carroll, Britton Chase
 598..... Young III, Wood Hall
 616..... Easter, Bobby Wayne
 616..... Easter, Michael Tyrell
 629..... Lemons, Joseph Marc
 629..... Smith, Michael Keith
 656..... Miles, Charles Austin
 656..... White, Nicholas Charles
 657..... Lambert, Jerry Dale
 657..... Talbert, David Keith
 657..... Wilhite, Chase Edward
 680..... Acevedo Jr., Heriberto

680..... Lewis Jr, Reginald Byron
 680..... Lewis, Reginald Byron
 680..... Martinez, Luis Rey
 680..... Marshall, James Randall
 686..... Mainusch, Justin Alexander
 691..... Kirkman, Timothy Gray
 694..... Weatherington, Daniel McNeil
 698 Spragins, Joey Michael Christopher
 702..... Whitenor, Ron David
 703..... Morgan, William Charlie
 703..... Ohman, Alexander Gregory
 707..... Smith, Phillip Arcendio
 709..... Schronce, Andrew Kent
 713..... Milstead, Gary Matthew
 718..... Davis, David William
 720..... Irons, Tyler James
 724..... Higgins, Jack Ryan
 730..... Bullard, Aaron Samuel
 733..... Beale, Brian Benstead
 733..... Hines, Garland
 734..... Staley, Justin Zane
 734..... Houston, Corey Nicholas
 735..... Malone, Charles Joyner
 735..... Patino, Cristian Arturo
 737..... Faircloth Jr., David Brett
 737..... Gonzalez, Miguel A.
 742..... Chapman, Drew Clayton
 742..... DeValle, Blake Conrad
 742..... Stanley, David Richard
 742..... Violette, Russell
 744..... Hamrick, Jonathan Cole
 745..... Cook, Stephen George
 745..... Johnson, Dennis Wayne
 746..... Contreras, William Daniel
 746..... Dempsey, Stephen Wayne
 755..... Dumas, Louis Stephen
 756..... Carson, Michael Lee
 759..... Maney, Keith Stephen
 763..... Barnes, Dustin Wayne
 763..... McNeill, Todd Phillip
 763..... Knight, William Levie
 765..... Nguyen, Binh Quoc



Andy Hicklin photo

WENDELL — This summer, Wendell 565 held a chicken leg dinner fundraiser. They gave the proceeds to Combat Warriors Inc., an organization which sponsors outdoor activities for combat veterans and their families. Wendell Lodge Senior Deacon Lloyd Lancaster, right, is seen here presenting \$1,000 to Bill Warren and Wayne Farmer of Combat Veterans. — Ray Burch

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 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ My lodge _____

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The Grand Historian's Courier Case Reflections through the prism of history

By Steven Campbell

In our modern world, climate controlled environment, motorized vehicles, and electronic devices; do we truly face any more insurmountable challenges than those who came before us? Only 240 years ago we became a nation. Many who led the way were members of our fraternity and their family members. Upon reading the statements which follow, you decide how we have progressed as a nation.

The past forward

• “These are the times that try men's souls.” — Thomas Paine, 1776

(Though not a Freemason, he was a Revolutionary era writer who associated with many members of the Craft and was recruited to pen a detailed history of Freemasonry.)

• “I have always given it as my decided opinion that no nation had a right to intermeddle in the internal concerns of another.” — George Washington, 1796

• “My first wish would be that my military family, and the whole Army, should consider themselves as a band of brothers, willing and ready to die for each other.” — George Washington, 1798

• “I am still determined to be cheerful and to be happy in whatever situation I may be, for I have also learnt from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances; we carry the seeds of the one, or the other about with us, in our minds wherever we go.” — Martha Washington

(Though twice widowed and witnessing the death of all four of her children, our new nation's first first lady remained resilient throughout her life.)

• “If we turn our attention, fellow citizens, more immediately to the internal concerns of our country, and more especially to those on which its future welfare depends, we have every reason to anticipate the happiest results.” — James Monroe, 1821

• “As long as our government is administered for the good of the people, and is regulated by their will; as long as it secures us to the rights of person and property, liberty of conscience and of the press, it will be worth defending.” — Andrew Jackson, 1829

• “Our population has increased from three to twenty millions. New

communities and states are seeking protection under its aegis, and multitudes from the Old World are flocking to our shores to participate in its blessings.” — James Polk, 1845

• “We have recently passed through a presidential contest in which the passions of our fellow citizens were excited to the highest degree by questions of deep and vital importance; but when the people proclaimed their will the tempest at once subsided, and all was calm.” — James Buchanan, 1857

• “The census has already sounded the alarm in the appalling figures which mark how dangerously high the tide of illiteracy has risen among our voters and their children.” — James Garfield, 1881

• “The government should not be permitted to run behind or increase its debt like the present.” — William McKinley, 1897

• “There is no good reason why we should fear the future, but there is every reason why we should face it seriously, neither hiding from ourselves the gravity of the problems before us nor fearing to approach these problems with the unbending, unflinching purpose to solve them aright.” — Theodore Roosevelt, 1905

• “Our international policy is always to promote peace.” — William Taft, 1909

• “Let me speaking to the maimed and wounded soldiers who are present

today, and through them convey to their comrades the gratitude of the Republic for their sacrifices in its defense.” — Warren G. Harding, 1921

• “This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive, and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” — Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1933

• “Each period of our national history has had its special challenges. Those that confront us now are as momentous as any in the past.” — Harry S. Truman, 1949

So, as in the past, the future will always present challenges. However, those who came before us endeavored to persevere as we, recommitted to our tenets, will do as well.

Of special note: Witnessing the end of an era.

A vital thread in the fabric of Masonry in our state is *The North Carolina Mason*. For a quarter of a century, Brother Ric Carter (Editor Emeritus) has harnessed the contents and shepherded the publication of this “voice of Masonry.” Now, as Brother Ric concludes his duty, let each of us extend to him our thanks for the framework he has enhanced, which will prove a solid foundation for the worthy forthcoming editor.

Grand Historian Steven Campbell is a member of Blackmer 127



PINEVILLE — James K. Polk 759 made 450 quarts of Brunswick stew on October 22. They were raising money for the Masonic Home For Children at Oxford. They had great fun and fellowship as well as a successful fundraiser.

— Randy Richardson

From the Medical Committee Hypothermia in summer? Are you nuts?

By R. Keith Bailey

Hypothermia is a loss of body temperature which is divided into three stages; mild, moderate, and severe. Each stage has symptoms and health implications. Some people are at more risk: for instance, the elderly (over 65 sorry), diabetics, infants under two, and anyone whose mobility is compromised.

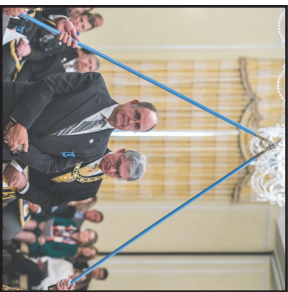
It is the environment and our response that affects our body temperature. When it is cold outside, we dress appropriately and heat our homes and work places. In the summer, we dress lightly and cool our environment. Now take a person in an air conditioned home, say 78 degrees, who has fallen on a tile, linoleum, wooden, or concrete floor where temperature will be lower than thermostat. Normal body temperature is 98.6 degrees fahrenheit. Their body temperature over 30 minutes can drop to a critical level, in addition to what caused the fall. If they are unconscious, their temperature can drop even faster as they may have lost some of the protections of shivering and vasoconstriction (narrowing of blood vessels).

If a person is found unconscious and does not appear to breathe and has no pulse, call 911 then start CPR. (CPR training is available through the Red Cross or American Heart Association.) Paramedics will take over resuscitation and deal with hypothermia.

If you find someone conscious but incapacitated, make sure they can breathe and have a pulse, change the thermostat to heat and increase ambient temperature, Next get a warm blanket to provide protection to person. If there is a potential for a spine or neck injury, do not move victim; call 911 and continue to try to provide warmth. Do not try to warm skin directly as this could cause thermal burns, usually first or second degree.

In summary: Hypothermia can occur in summer. We need to make sure our family and friends at risk are checked on, especially if we know of specific health risks. Have at least one family member trained in CPR.

Dr. R. Keith Bailey is a member of Scotch Ireland 154.



page 1
2017 Grand Lodge officers were installed



page 2
Homecoming moved indoors by storm



page 3
Civil War degree at Averasboro

On the cover

The site of an 1865 battle defending North Carolina hosted an outdoor degree. Dennis Brooks is in the East.

Ric Carter photo

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