

# NORTH CAROLINA THE MASON

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## Foundation restructures, expands

Cooperation, planning aid effort to better support charities, craft

*By Beth Grace*

The North Carolina Masonic Foundation has been a benevolent presence among Freemasons from Murphy to Manteo, from Beaufort to Boone since it was founded almost 90 years ago.

You know you've heard the name. You know it raises money for our charities: the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford and WhiteStone, our Masonic and Eastern Star senior community.

But while you have heard of the Foundation, most brothers would admit they have only a vague idea of what it is, and the good it does.

That's about to change.

The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, after exhaustive study, creative planning and strategic implementation, is becoming an invaluable partner to the Grand Lodge in ensuring financial stability for our beloved charities, stepping up its own philanthropical work, reporting news of the Craft to you in a new and creative way, and sharing our story with those who might become brothers.

Since last spring, a team of brothers led by the Foundation board with the support of past Grand Master Bryant Webster and current GM Gene Cobb, members of the Grand Line, the boards of WhiteStone and the Children's home, and others, launched an intentional strategic effort to build

on the fundraising capacities of WhiteStone and MHCO and has assembled a team dedicated to raising funds for all three charities.

Along with that, they created a plan to spread the word – via creative, compelling fundraising communications to potential donors and the outside world, and among the brethren through a revamped NC Mason, social media, video and special programs for lodges.

They didn't create the plan without extensive research. The Foundation board, led by then-chair Leonard Y. Safrit Jr., called in seasoned Philanthropy Consultant Jennifer King, who has been executive director of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut for more than 16 years.

"I was struck by the underlying admiration and respect that all parties – administrators, board members, staff and members of

Masonic leadership – expressed for North Carolina's Masonic charities and their strong desire to help these charities achieve fundraising success," King wrote in her 136-page report.

Her recommendation: Give the Foundation a strong team dedicated to raising funds and awareness – a team that will support the charities in more lasting ways, such as planned giving, which leaves a legacy that will impact our charities for generations to

come.

Her recommendations included many of the changes now in place at the Foundation.

Jeffrey Hensley was hired as chief development officer in August, and Chris Richardson, MHCO's long-time, much respected development officer moved to the Foundation Jan. 1 to assist Hensley as eastern region director of development.

That means Richardson will continue to work with donors to

the home, as he has for many years with great success. But he will expand his work to benefit WhiteStone and the Foundation as well, to secure a future for all of our Masonic charities. MHCO has taken steps to ensure that Richardson's other duties there will be handled by members of the staff, so the transition will be seamless. The Foundation also is currently searching for one more fundraiser to cover the western side of the state.

Rounding out the new team, Beth Grace became communications director for the Foundation and editor of the NC Mason, now operating under the auspices of the Foundation and guidance of the Grand Lodge Board of Publications, in November.

Hensley and his team report to the five-member Foundation board, chaired by Mike Faulkenbury, a member of St. Johns 1.

Faulkenbury is excited about the work done so far and sees a bright future that honors the past.

"Our brethren back in 1929 had the foresight to create a foundation and say we need to make sure our charities are taken

■ see FOUNDATION page 13



NORTH CAROLINA  
MASONIC  
FOUNDATION

**Who are these people?  
Find out more about  
them on Page 13**



## LET'S GO TO WORK!



# Why the Lion and the Pillar?

By A. Gene Cobb Jr.  
Grand Master

William Richardson Davie, longest-serving Grand Master in our history, chose the Lion and the Pillar as his mark

during the Mark Master's Degree in Fayetteville 1791. He went on to serve as our Grand Master from 1792-1798. All of us trace our lineage to Davie.

In his 1975 work, *Launching the Craft*, Thomas Parramore described Grand Master Davie as "the lion" and Masonry as "the pillar" in his life. Building upon the strong foundation of education, patriotism, philanthropy, completing the work of the subordinate lodges, and connecting with our communities, North Carolina Masons have an opportunity to roar and rekindle Davie's spirit of excellence our grand jurisdiction.

## Here are five ways the lion roars:

First, we work with the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education to utilize the opportunities through the Davie Academy, Wilkerson College, and other programs to help lodges learn. Davie was educated at Princeton and is the father of the oldest public university in the nation. One way to address this will be to have the three principal officers attend the 4 p.m. meeting I will have in the Districts when I go to Sanford, Franklin, Halifax, and Manteo. Watch the Grand Lodge webpage and the Grand Master's Facebook page for further details.

Second, we subdue our passions long enough to recognize the men and women who have served our country in military service. Davie was a Revolutionary War hero. We can come up with a plan to do something for our veterans above and beyond mentioning them in the minutes of our meetings.

Third, every Mason promised to support widows and orphans. When I became Grand Master, six lodges had given no contributions to the children in Oxford and 142 had given nothing to the widows at Whitestone. We've all acknowledged the misinformation out there about our charities and have faithfully been correcting it. After my election, I challenged every lodge to do something – anything – before Dec. 31, 2016. Thank you to all who did something, because you are roaring on the course of excellence. I hope other lodges will get on board in 2017, so their efforts may be recognized in 2018.

Fourth, the elimination of NPDs begins with finishing the work we start. Staying in touch with our members and showing we care about them is the direction of excellence.

Fifth, we are blessed to have a wonderful masonic-related family. Growing in knowledge and virtue is accomplished many ways. Many Masons expand their connection with their

community beyond the lodge by joining other groups like York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shrine, Amaranth, AMD, and by being involved in our Youth Organizations. Other Masons take an active role in scouting, schools, and community support. Getting the word out there about the good that we do is essential.


Every lodge has the opportunity to develop a publicity team that will connect with Beth Grace, the new editor of the *NC Mason*. So plan to connect with Beth right away. Doing so will be one way to hear the roar of excellence from your lodge.

There are all kinds of ways to connect with our community and we are very flexible in what that can be.

The key element is to "do something" beyond our own doors because these goals will help us improve ourselves in masonry.

So when you wear the Grand Master's pin this year, take some time to reflect on what we are all doing to make our lodges excellent.

My goal is for every lodge in North Carolina to be excellent and for those who can best work and best agree, I am completely confident the higher deeds and nobler achievements will be accomplished!

Let's go to work! 



## Attend one of these upcoming District meetings with the GM:

Date	District	Lodge Names and No.	Location	Date	District	Lodge Names and No.	Location
Mar 21	25	Granite 322	212 Franklin St, Mt. Airy	Apr 24	19	Person 113	219 Leasburg Rd, Roxboro
Mar 22	23	Corinthian 542	426 W. Market St, Greensboro	Apr 25	8	Royal White Hart #2	Location TBD
Mar 23	33	Ashlar 373	318 Deep Gap Dr, Deep Gap	May 1	1	Eureka 317	218 S. Hughes Blvd, Elizabeth City
Mar 27	41	Junaluskee 145	50 Church St., Franklin	May 2	2	Manteo 521	101 Hwy 64/264, Manteo
Mar 28	39	Biltmore 446	6 St Paul St, Asheville	May 3	3	Washington 675	1115 West 5th St., Washington
Mar 29	35	Friendship 388	722 McBrayer/Homestead Rd, Boiling Springs	May 16	24	Blackmer 127	109 S. School St., Mt. Gilead
Mar 30	34	Hilbritten 262	602 Wilkesboro Blvd. SE, Lenoir	May 17	31	Long Creek 205	8500 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Rd, Huntersville
Apr 19	7	Zion 81	108 E. Lakeview Dr, Trenton	In case of inclement weather meetings will be canceled. We will make every effort to notify the host lodge and DDGM. Information will also be posted on the Grand Lodge web site.			
Apr 20	15	Vandora 745	1120 Benson Rd, Garner				



# Make the lion roar in your community

Make sure your lodge this year becomes a Lodge of Excellence in North Carolina. Lodges will be honored for their work and contributions toward Grand Master Gene Cobb's goals for all of North Carolina Masonry.

At the 2017 Annual Communication Lodges of Excellence will be recognized for their achievements in the five areas listed to the right.

With problems being experienced with some members not paying dues and others not completing their degree work, the Grand Master encourages everyone to take action.

Why?

- We need a cure. Here it is.
- Care: Do we intentionally care about our brothers?
- Understand: Do we intentionally try to understand "others" situation or are we just interested in our own?
- Relationships: Do we intentionally develop our connections?
- Effort: Do we intentionally strive and make efforts to CURE broken connections with our members?
- Be an Intentional Brother! Get to know one another. IT'S WHAT WE DO!
- Here's the cure: Let's go to work!

## EDUCATION

1. Complete the 10-point program of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education OR participate in the Davie Academy OR enroll at least one person in Wilkerson College OR at least one member participates in the Middle Chamber program

2. Attended the Grand Master's Classes about Davie and specify date



## PHILANTHROPY

1. Certify that in 2016, your lodge contributed to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, to the WhiteStone LLC and to the NC Masonic Foundation and specify the totals given to each, and promise to plan to increase giving in 2017.

2. If your lodge gave nothing in 2016, give an average at least \$3 per member per charity by May 30, 2017, to receive the award in 2017.



## MASONIC MEMBERSHIP



1. Your lodge must make full use of MORI, including financial pages and adding or updating member email addresses OR
2. Certify your lodge had ZERO members suspended for non-payment of dues OR
3. Certify that ALL candidates advanced within the time frame required by the Code OR
4. Offer a written explanation for why your lodge is not using MORI OR why there were suspensions OR why candidates did not advance.

## AFFILIATED CONNECTIONS

1. At least one lodge member will join EITHER the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Order of the Eastern Star, the Shrine or any other appendant/concordant organization before June 30, 2017, OR sponsor a Masonic Youth Organization, OR Sponsor a local Boy or Girl Scout troop, OR report how your lodge reached out to the community

through schools, ROTC, local food pantry or homeless shelter as approved by the DDGM prior to June 30, 2017.

2. Your lodge must provide a publicity plan coordinated with the Board of Publications and certified by the Chair of the Board of Publications and Editor of the NC Mason.

## PATRIOTISM

1. Set aside and include in the lodge minutes that veterans were honored at a regular stated meeting of the lodge and specify the date.

2. Complete a project of recognition of veterans approved by the DDGM or Grand Master and specify the date.



Mike Harding photos

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THE MISSION OF FREEMASONRY IN NORTH CAROLINA IS TO RAISE THE MORAL, SOCIAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND SPIRITUAL CONSCIENCE OF SOCIETY, BY TEACHING THE ANCIENT AND ENDURING PHILOSOPHICAL TENETS OF BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH, WHICH ARE EXPRESSED OUTWARDLY THROUGH SERVICE TO GOD, FAMILY, COUNTRY, AND SELF UNDER THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD WITHIN THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

# Making The Mason a priority

What is it they say about work? Choose a job you love and you'll never have to work a day in your life.

Well, I got lucky. That job has chosen *me*. And I couldn't be happier to meet *you*.

Who am I? I'm the new editor of the *North Carolina Mason* and the director of communications for the North Carolina Masonic Foundation.

As editor of the *Mason*, I'm the person who receives and handles the news and photos you send via [ncmason@glnc.us](mailto:ncmason@glnc.us), who writes lots of stories and who will wake up every day wondering what's happening out there that will highlight just what it is you love about being a Mason.

I'll be covering many events and taking pictures, with some help from all of you in lodges from Murphy to Manteo, to use in the newsletter and to share with folks who are interested in making gifts that will make our charities stronger.

I'm blessed to be working with and under the guidance of the Board of Publications, led by Chair Bill Faison. These dedicated brothers are leading the charge to make the *Mason* the best Masonic newsletter in the country. I'm also grateful for the advice and guidance outgoing editor

Ric Carter has shared.

In fact, you'll soon see some big changes in the newsletter. We want to make it the best of the best, and we want to hear from *you* what works and what doesn't. We want

you to make reading the *Mason* a priority, and to ensure that when you finish reading it, you have learned something new and useful ... and can't wait till the next issue.

You'll also see a new effort to tell the craft about the good work being done by our Masonic charities: WhiteStone:

A Masonic and Eastern Star Community, the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, and the NC Masonic Foundation itself. We'll also ask you to help us celebrate in these pages *your* good work to support all three charities.

As the foundation's communications director, I will help the board and new Director of Development Jeff Hensley create strong, effective letters, brochures, magazines, web pages and social media posts designed to raise awareness and appreciation of our charities and Freemasonry in North Carolina.

I come to this position with a deep and growing admiration for Freemasonry, an inquisitive and appreciative mind ... and my own reporter's notebooks! I join you after many years in the field,

rising from a cub newspaper reporter in Ohio to an Associated Press reporter, editor and bureau chief, then executive director of the North Carolina Press Association.

I have written and edited stories of all kinds and sizes for local, state and international audiences; I have shot photos; helped put together a newsletter or two; lobbied at the state Legislature on behalf of North Carolina's newspapers and readers; and worked on open government issues with state officials and citizens interested in preserving their right to know.

I'm a Pennsylvania native (raised in a tiny town called Sewickley, near Pittsburgh) and have lived all over the country. But now, after 12 years of living in North Carolina, I am a Tar Heel right down to my toes.

I look forward to visiting with you in your lodges, seeing you at District Meetings, covering your work for charities, and hearing your stories. I'm on call for any questions you have about communications: how to make sharing news part of your regular lodge life, best practices for reporting your news, and how to tackle social media.

In the meantime, send me your news! To send news and photos (in .JPG form!), use [ncmason@glnc.us](mailto:ncmason@glnc.us). If you have questions, give me an email shout at [bgrace@glnc.us](mailto:bgrace@glnc.us).

I've got to run now. As our Grand Master Gene Cobb says: Let's go to work!



By Beth Grace  
Editor



**We've got a specific assignment in mind for your Lodge for the next issue of The Mason. If you choose to take on this mission, go to Page 15 for the details!**



## OUR MASONIC CHARITIES AT WORK

# Parties, good cheer come to Oxford



Santa helps put the Home in a Christmas holiday mood.

*By Tina Gilreath  
Financial Development  
& Communications Coordinator*

Ever since we had Homecoming in a hurricane, things haven't slowed down! Rain or shine, the Masonic Home for Children is so fortunate to have activities, meals, and all kinds of other fun stuff to do!

October came to a close with our annual Madden Tournament held at Temple Cottage. This annual event, hosted by Houseparents Kenny and Pam Reynolds, pits players of all ages and skill levels against each other in the video game arena. The winner takes the championship belt, but everyone gets to enjoy food donated by Buffalo Wild Wings and Papa John's Pizza. The winner for 2016 was Recreation Assistant Ty Breedlove.

November was another busy month for our campus. J.J. Crowder Lodge held their annual Pasta Luncheon on Nov. 12. Our older kids hit the road the next day and headed to Charlotte to see the Panthers play the Chiefs. Our Panthers fans weren't happy when they lost in the final seconds, but they still enjoyed the experience!

The Rotary Club of Oxford organized and packed boxes for their Emergency Food Box Pack-a-thon and many of our cottages and staff participated. And Wake Forest Fire Department returned on Nov. 20 for their

annual steak dinner. We won't soon forget the Krispy Kreme donuts for desert!

The hustle and bustle of the holidays gave us a happy and busy December. Abatement Restoration hosted our children at their annual party on Dec. 3. Santa and a whole bunch of donors attended MHCO's Annual Christmas Dinner and Gift Party the following week. (You can see a list of those donors on our website. Just look for the Christmas box on the home page!)

Our beautiful Candlelight Service was held at the York Rite Chapel on the evening of Dec. 11. The North Carolina Nurse's Association once again served brunch to our campus and created fun crafts – tag blankets, pine cone bird feeders and gingerbread houses – with our kids. And on Dec. 18, a group of carolers traveled to the WhiteStone, the Masonic/Eastern Star senior home in Greensboro, to spread some holiday cheer and to sing to their residents.

Looking ahead, there are some pretty exciting things coming up! J.J. Crowder Lodge will be here for its annual Chili Cook-off on February 25<sup>th</sup>. The kids love sampling all the different chilis and voting for a winner.

Wilkerson College will be visiting our campus March 3 and 4, and mark your calendar for the Great Landscape Event, set for March 18.

## Your dollar makes big impact at Whitestone

*By Beth Grace*

GREENSBORO — When Gene Lewellyn runs into a fellow WhiteStone resident, he sees more than just another neighbor.

He sees a brother.

He sees family.

Lewellyn, a past master of Dan River Lodge 129, and his wife Maggie, would be the first to tell you that WhiteStone isn't your average senior citizens' community.

WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community was founded in 1912 to give haven to aging Freemasons, members of the

Order of the Eastern Star, and their families. About 300 people live here, most in independent-living houses and apartments. Others occupy the 88-bed nursing unit or 12-bed dementia unit.

At any given time, about two-thirds of the residents are "fraternal residents," meaning they are Masons or Eastern Star members, or closely related. That has changed a bit in recent years as residency was opened to non-Masons to help offset soaring maintenance and other costs.

That doesn't make the bonds of

brotherhood at WhiteStone any less strong, Lewellyn says.

"I may not have something in common with everyone in the dining room as I once did, but the fraternal ties never die," he says, adding that WhiteStone brothers have recently started a lodge in North Carolina, MESH 771, with 80 members. He's a proud charter member.

While giving among lodges has remained steady over recent years, not all give to WhiteStone. As of last December, of some 370 lodges in North Carolina, 142 lodges — a

full 38 percent — had not made a contribution. Comparatively, all but six lodges in the state contributed to The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford.

That giving level disappoints Grand Master Gene Cobb, who has made increasing support of our Masonic charities a priority for his year. For a lodge to earn special recognition for 2017, it must contribute at least 10 percent more than it did last year and give to all three charities: MCHO, Whit-

■ see WHITESTONE, page 7



# Snow no obstacle to these Masonic angels

## WhiteStone staff receive rides to work thanks to some dedicated Brothers

By Todd Huffines

Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> recorded an 8-inch snowfall in Greensboro. This created some challenges for our extended Masonic Family.

WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community had need for some shuttle service of their employees to and from the facility during the storm.

This program was started in 2016 when then-Master of Revolution 552 set the program up, and the Brothers of Revolution 552 shuttled employees back and forth as needed during a similar snowfall event.

WB Ray Spillars asked the Brothers of Revolution if we were going to continue his project at WhiteStone at their stated communication on Jan. 5. He offered his assistance, and hoped that it would continue.

Brother Todd Huffines took up



Todd Huffines, Revolution 552, pauses to shoot a picture that tells you all you need to know about road conditions during the "Snow Angel" project.

the challenge and offered to organize the project and recommended we reach out to the other lodges for help to better staff the project and help spread the work out.

Todd contacted WB Jeff Bullington, DDGM of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District, and asked for his help in reaching out to the district. He offered any and all of his resources and time to help. Todd reached out to Mark Kolada and let him know our intentions, and that we wanted to get an idea of who and where we would be needed so we could plan shifts of drivers over the weekend.

Mark put Diane Whitesell in touch with Todd, and she compiled a list of staff who needed help. She also condensed the dynamic list and forwarded details to Todd throughout the event.

Diane assisted in contacting staff that we had problems reaching and even jumped in her vehicle and helped us with some running around. The Brothers of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District cannot express how much help she provided in making this possible.

After receiving the list of employees from Diane, the brothers started calling and offering help. As the storm hit Friday night, we



Jeff Bullington, DDGM 23rd District, Corinthian 542, and WhiteStone employee Maria Ahmed as 'Snow Angel' Jeff drops her off for work at 11 p.m. Saturday night.

began transporting people to work and back home.

Drivers made trips at 11 p.m. Friday, then headed out again at 5:30 a.m. Saturday — and made trips throughout the day. WhiteStone was able to shuffle a few shifts around to allow us to move people as efficiently as possible. We wrapped up the project Sunday afternoon.

In all, 15 Masons from eight different lodges moved 32 employees to and from WhiteStone over the course of 36 hours. We moved some people to and from work multiple times. Our best count of the trips made was 53.

This was an amazing experience for us all and we were overwhelmed by the willingness of the Masonic Brothers to answer the "call to arms" and step up for the people who take care of our Brothers and Sisters at the home.

### Shuttle Drivers

WhiteStone says thanks to these Masons for coming to our aid:

- Rocky Boyles, Salem 289
- Jeff Bullington, DDGM 23<sup>rd</sup> District, Corinthian 542
- Bo Pascal, PP Turner 746
- Shane McGee, Corinthian 542
- Danny Sapp, Tabasco 271
- Steve Dempsey, PP Turner 746
- Kevin Brown, PP Turner 746
- Ray Spillars, Revolution 552
- Rusty Rodgers, Greensboro 76
- Jay Callahan, PP Turner 746
- Tony Ramsey, Stokesdale 428
- Eddie Moss, Revolution 552
- Ben Crissman, Gate City 694
- Todd Huffines, Revolution 552
- Jarrett Jordan, Revolution 552

## Look who's on Facebook now!

Want to be in the know? What's happening at lodges around the state? Where in the world is Grand Master Cobb these days and what is he saying in his latest on-the-road video?

Just link to <http://bit.ly/2irdm6m> or search for The North Carolina Mason. Read and post! And share your good news and charitable successes news with your fellow Masons!





## WHITESTONE, from page 5

eStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community, and the Masonic Foundation.

“As a Master Mason, you make a promise to give to widows and orphans,” Cobb said. “Charitable giving is an act of love. Why would anyone not give to these charities?”

The money lodges and brothers send to WhiteStone supports a long list of good deeds on behalf of fellow Masons and Eastern Star members, says Mark Kolada, WhiteStone’s executive director.

Those funds can help subsidize housing costs for those who have outlived their assets; it can be used to cover fraternal residents who run low on money to pay monthly bills because of medical emergencies; it can help fund a food bank and emergency loan assistance for WhiteStone workers.

“In 103 years, we have never asked anyone to leave because of failure to pay,” Kolada said. “Without money like this coming in from the lodges, we can’t do any of that. Every dollar makes a significant impact.”

The three Knights of Solomon lodges know that. They are the largest charitable giver to WhiteStone. In 2015, they split proceeds of their annual fundraising projects — raffling a Harley Davidson motorcycle and several firearms — evenly between WhiteStone and MHCO and gave each \$15,500.

Rodney Hinson, a member of

Knights of Solomon 764 and a past DDGM, has preached to his brothers for years to give as much as they can to WhiteStone, as well as MHCO.

“People are thinking that there’s plenty of money pumped into WhiteStone, but I say they are wrong. We want this to be a five-star retirement community but here’s the thing: We took an obligation as Masons, every single one of us, to take care of our charities. That’s what we’re supposed to do,” he said.

The Knights of Solomon is a travelling lodge, currently comprised of lodges in Charlotte (764); Jacksonville (767) and Holly Springs (768).

Cobb, and the NC Masonic Foundation Board, led by Chair Mike Faulkenbury, are betting that the giving outlook will brighten at all our Masonic charities now that Jeff Hensley, NCMF’s new chief development officer, and his team — which includes one regional development professional, one to be hired, and a dedicated communications director — have begun their work.

Cobb acknowledges it will be an uphill battle for some.

“We have a lot of Masons who have formed opinions based on old information. It’s a new day. The management at WhiteStone is exceptional, night and day. It used to be that people believed you could



Photo by Fred Wilkerson

Gene Lewellyn sees WhiteStone as more than a place to live. To him it is where his family resides along with him and his wife, Maggie.

go there only if you have money. But when we give from our lodges, we give to our brothers and sisters who *don't* have money. They need our help,” Cobb said. “We have the means. Why would we not be willing to help?”

So, how do we narrow the giving gap? The Grand Master has an idea.

Go visit WhiteStone, your Masonic and Eastern Star community.

“Have you been to WhiteStone lately? Have you seen what has taken place there? Have you sat down with a brother and had a meal in the dining room? Have you shot a game of pool with one

of your brothers? Have you visited them in their homes?”

“Chances are good that if you go and see for yourself, you will love what you see and make WhiteStone a benefactor of your generosity.”

Lodges may hold meetings at WhiteStone and individual Masons and their families are welcome to visit, tour the facility and meet residents. Just call before you visit to ensure a staff member is available to meet you.

To schedule your visit, contact Mark Kolada at [mkolada@Live-atWhiteStone.org](mailto:mkolada@Live-atWhiteStone.org) or call (336) 547-2992. ⚡



▲ Joe Elliott from Perquimans #106 presents Kevin Otis a check at the MHCO Annual Christmas Party on Dec. 8. A total of \$3,757 was presented from the First Masonic District.



◀ Pam and Kenny Reynolds, then-houseparents at Temple Cottage at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, get into the spirit as they host the Madden Tournament. For more details, check out the story on Page 5.

Photo courtesy MHCO

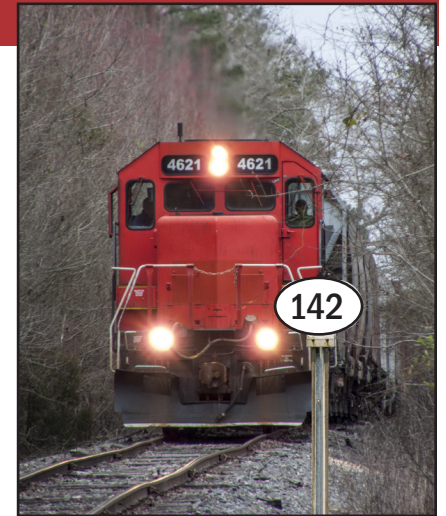


# MILEPOSTS



Photo by Melody McBride

◀ **MEBANE** — Bingham 272 presented its Distinguished Past Deputy Grand Master certificate to Senior Grand Steward Don Kehler, third from left, who served as DDGM from 2013-2015. The award was created by Brother Todd Smith, who had every lodge in the 22<sup>nd</sup> District place its seal in the certificate. The presentation was a surprise, sprung while Don was at Bingham to install their officers. He did the entire ceremony from memory. PGM Dan Rice and Deputy GM Speed Hallman presented the certificate on Dec. 19 at Bingham Lodge. Pictured L to R: Dan Rice, current 22<sup>nd</sup> DDGM Alvin Billings, Don Kehler, Speed Hallman. Lodges that affixed their seal included: Bingham 272; Bula 409; Caswell Brotherhood 11, Dan River 129, Jefferson Penn 384, Leaksville 136, Thomas Holt 492.



## Family of Masters

**SANFORD** — It's not often a grandfather, father and son all served as master of the same lodge. But the brothers of Buffalo Lodge 172 can brag about that. Celebrating their service are (l to r) Oscar Harold Pace Sr. (Master 2012-13), Justin William Pace and Oscar Harold Pace Jr. (Master, 2013-14)



▲ Grand Master A. Gene Cobb proudly stands beside a restored portrait of Grand Master William Richardson Davie. Lux Libertas Lodge U.D. of Chapel Hill (of which the Grand Master is a member) donated funds toward the restoration of the portrait, which was painted more than a century ago by famous North Carolina portrait artist and founder of Jugtown, James Littlejohn Busbee.



▲ **GRAHAM** — Worshipful Master Mike Hunter presents WB Ken Qualls with his certificate of Meritorious Service after completing his term of 23 years as Treasurer of Thomas M. Holt 492. Between WB Qualls and the previous Treasurer, W.E. Smith, the two men comprised 40 years of service of the lodge's 120-year history.

## Our fraternity around the globe

Tom Stroozas, past Master of James K. Polk 759, has been appointed to the Alaska Masonic Grand Lodge line as Senior Grand Deacon for the coming year.

## NORTH CAROLINA THE MASON DEADLINES

As plans to redesign the NC Mason progress, deadlines may change. Watch this space for updates. We'll keep you posted!

March 5 — Issue arrives at your home end of April  
 May 5 — Issue arrives at your home end of June  
 July 5 — Issue arrives at your home end of August  
 Sept 5 — Issue arrives at your home end of October







Masons across North Carolina are learning more about the craft at the Davie Leadership Academy.

## Davie Academy workshop a hit

By Bill Faison

Davie Leadership Academy's fall Masonic Education Track 1 was so successful, Davie has already expanded its offerings with a winter workshop – and there is more to come.

Davie Leadership Academy launched this fall with its Track 1 introduction to masonic education taught in Jacksonville, Walnut Cove, and Asheville. Successive tracks are being taught monthly across the state.

Attendance has been strong and the presentations are receiving high marks from the brothers attending.

“Our goal is to meet the educational needs of our brothers across the state in practical and accessible ways, and we are delighted with how eagerly they have engaged in the Davie program,” said WB Mike Daniels, academics chair.

Davie has added workshops to its offerings. The first workshop, *The Art of Chairing a Lodge Meeting*, was taught in six locations across the State on Jan. 21. Over a hundred brothers signed up for the workshop.

“I am very excited that we are helping so many new Masters

provide an even better lodge experience to the craft across our state,” said WB Bill Faison, workshop chair.

The tracks and workshops are taught by Davie's Instructor Corps, a cadre of 40 instructors from around the state.

Davie Leadership Academy is the brainchild of WB Ben Wallace, chair of the Grand Lodge Education Committee, and his committee members.

“Davie's goal is to promote and continue the masonic education of North Carolina Masons, from the newest to the most knowledgeable Mason,” he said. Wallace conceptualized the Davie offerings, outlined the educational program and put together the team, which includes the “Ops Guys,” headed by WB Randy Browning.

The Ops Guys organize the locations, set up the lodges, and provide nourishment. Browning said the Ops Guys do an amazing job.

MWB Douglas Caudle chairs Davie and provides vision and leadership for the implementation and expansion of Davie offerings.

“We have a great team that is

working together with great success to improve Masonry in North Carolina,” Caudle said.

Immediate Past Grand Master Bryant Webster and Deputy Grand Master Speed Hallman are strong supporters of Davie and Hallman is actively involved in marketing Davie offerings.

“The Davie offerings sell themselves,” Hallman said. “Our job is to be sure all of our Brothers know about the programs and where to sign up.”

Most Worshipful Grand Master Gene Cobb has established participation in Davie as one of the educational steps that can be taken by a lodge striving to achieve the status of *The Lion and the Pillar Lodge of Excellence*.

“Education has been and continues to be a cornerstone of an enriched masonic life,” The Grand Master said. “Davie helps serve this great and important laudable purpose.”

To see the Davie offerings and sign up for classes go to [www.grandlodge-nc.org/william-r-davie-academy](http://www.grandlodge-nc.org/william-r-davie-academy).

## From the Medical Committee ‘Hands only’ CPR or AED may be better first method

By R. Keith Bailey, MD, PA, Lt. Col.  
USAF (ret), Chairman

The American Heart Association has proven that Hands-Only CPR is just as effective as CPR with mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, and is easier to teach to the public.

The guidelines are simple:

Step 1 - Call 9-1-1

Step 2 - Place hands on lower third of sternum (breast bone) push hard and fast, at least two inches at a rate of 100. NO MOUTH TO MOUTH contact is necessary!

Once paramedics arrive, they will complete CPR by establishing an airway and initiate full rescue procedures.

It takes minimal practice to become proficient. If you add an automatic external defibrillator (AED), survival of an outside-the-hospital cardiac arrest can be increased four-fold. If we apply this in our lodges we are talking about saving our brother masons or their families.

The initial cost of an AED can be around \$1,000, and the annual cost of battery replacement is \$165. But I have been advised that lodges can acquire them through their local EMS or Fire services, as part of the state contract. The training takes 30 minutes with practice session.

One recommendation is to form a committee of volunteers willing to be trained, who attend regularly and be prepared. Legal counsel has advised rescue actions are covered by the Good Samaritan laws and there is no liability to the lodge, Grand Lodge, or brothers trying to rescue someone who has collapsed.

As we start a new year of fellowship and brotherly love it would be comforting to know our Masonic institutions are one of the safest places we spend our time.



# TRAVELING THE TARHEEL STATE

## CLEMMONS

Richard Brewer, Golf Committee Chairman for Clemmons 755, on Dec. 1 presented \$11,500 in proceeds from the annual fall golf tournament to Whitestone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community, and The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. This was the 14th annual golf tournament with total proceeds going to charity eclipsing the \$150,000 mark.



## GREENSBORO

Greensboro 76, led by PGM Bryant Webster and WM Tom Saitta, ended 2016 by celebrating the 195th anniversary of "Old 76," consecrating new furnishings for the Blue Lodge and placing a time capsule in the new altar. The lodge also celebrate its strong relationship with CW Lawrence/Prince Hall Lodge and plans to strengthen that bond in the coming year.

The lodge had several successful community projects, such as a Service Luncheon in honor of all First Responders and Veterans, a Summer Blood Drive, and participation in the city's "Adopt a Road and Adopt a Park" programs.

The GSO 76 lodge signs can now be seen by the public in those areas.

The lodge also started a scholarship fund for MHCO and donated funds to create a beautiful outdoor area within WhiteStone.

## PINEVILLE

Brother Dave Ward Sr. of James K. Polk Lodge 759 took it upon himself to take donations to buy bicycles for the children of Marines serving at home and around the

world. He raised enough money or was given bicycles to be able to give 1,000 children bicycles at Christmas. He also was instrumental in giving over 300,000 pounds of coffee to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and more than 600 pairs of socks to the Marines serving in those countries.

Brother Dave is a man who loves masonry and his country. Plus, he is always willing to help do the cooking at all of our meetings and degrees. We are blessed to have him as a part of our lodge and masonry is blessed to have him as a member. Thank you Brother Dave! -- *Randy Richardson*

## RALEIGH

WT Bain 231 raised just under \$8,000 for the Masonic charities at its annual golf tournament Sept. 28. The 20th annual event, created and run by Jim Marcom for 18 years, was delayed a week by rain. Twenty-three players competed at Reedy Creek Golf course in Four Oaks. – *Rod Grindle*

## NEWS FROM OUR LODGES



**CHINA GROVE** – At Eureka Lodge 317's annual installation in December, members give a \$2,500 contribution to the local Salvation Army to help families that suffered hardships as a result of Hurricane Matthew. Master Scot Hardwick, left, and Master-elect Doug Brickhouse, far right, presented the check on behalf of the lodge to Capt. Julie Igleheart and Capt. Kenny Igleheart, Salvation Army commanding officers.



**GREENSBORO** – In late December, four masons from King Lodge 722 presented a check for \$2,366 to WhiteStone LLC. These four men alone raised the money selling raffle tickets for a Christmas raffle sponsored by King Lodge. Pictured l-r are: Matt Chilton PM, Scott Elvis, WhiteStone Marketing Director Richard Spivey, Amos Elvis and Ted Barbee.

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.



# Sanford Mason receives Montfort Medal

## 'You have made my day,' winner declares

By Beth Grace

Oscar Keller didn't see it coming. The 95-year-old Sanford businessman who has dedicated 70 years to Masonry knew something was up when his brothers from Buffalo 172 began to gather around him in a parlor at the Parkview Retirement Center he owns in Sanford.

But what?

Knock. Knock. Knock.

Three raps at the door. Grand Master Gene Cobb, wearing the jewel of his office

and carrying an historic setting maul from Royal White Hart 2 in Halifax where he is a member, enters.

Oscar's eyes widen in surprise and he begins to smile. He still doesn't know what the big surprise is, but he clearly knows it will be a good one.

"Today," Cobb said, "In recognition of 70 years of devoted service to Freemasonry, your tireless dedication to the growth and development of Sanford and North Carolina; your support and love for God as evidenced by

your support of the households of faith in this community; and the example you and Elderlene (Keller's wife) set for all of us regarding the meaning of family: It is my distinct honor and privilege to present to you amongst your friends, family, and brothers of Buffalo Lodge 172 where you were a Past Master, the highest award for service that can be given to any

Mason in the state of North Carolina, the Joseph Montfort Medal."

Keller, almost speechless, beamed as his brothers and family members applauded.

"Lord have mercy, folks," he said, fighting back tears. "You have made my day."

Each Grand Master may give three Montfort medals during his tenure. The first Cobb recognized from among some 40,000 North Carolina Masons was Immediate Past Grand Master Bryant

D. Webster. Cobb awarded the medal at his installation as Grand Master in December.

Keller, the son of a Baptist preacher, has spent his life working on behalf of the elderly. He holds the first Nursing Home Administration license ever awarded in North Carolina.

In fact, the number of the license, which hangs in the front hall of Parkview, reads "Number 1." It was awarded June 30, 1970.

He and his wife, Elderlene, who passed away at age 94 just two years ago, ran two homes in Sanford for years. He still reports to work six days a week at Parkview, but gives himself a break:

he leaves at noon on Saturdays.

"Oscar has cared for countless people in his life," Cobb said in an interview before the award. "For me to be able to honor and recognize this is a blessing. The care of the elderly is part of our promise as Freemasons and Oscar has fulfilled that promise."

In a letter accompanying the award, Cobb called Keller a "true



### Who is Montfort?

Joseph Montfort was the only Provincial Grand Master for America. He died before the American Revolution began and is buried in the front yard of Royal White Hart 2 in Halifax, where he was a member. Montfort's memory lives on through this award and through the 244 dedicated Masons throughout our history who have proven themselves worthy of this honor.



Grand Master Gene Cobb discussing the setting maul from Royal White Hart 2 with the latest winner of the Montfort Medal, 95-year-old Oscar Keller. Keller still goes to work six days a week (although he leaves at noon on Saturdays).

builder, a master Mason."

"You have built a family, a community, and a home for the elderly and sick. You have improved education and healthcare so that citizens of this community might have a better quality and quantity of life," he wrote.

"Your example cannot be eclipsed by the accomplishments of past Grand Masters, philanthropists, Supreme Court justices, governors, and other worthy recipients of this award because all of you come from that great light of goodness and perfection that defines you all as sons of light, liberty, and brotherly

love."

Keller greeted brothers and friends for a long while after the ceremony, posing with his medal and the setting maul, which Cobb said was in use at Royal White Hart when his grandfather, John M. Cobb, was a member there from 1946-1965.

"I just don't have the words to say how much I appreciate this. My years in Masonry have been great years," he said, looking at the crowd of brothers there to witness the ceremony. "I love all of you. You're all good Masons." ✦



# Time capsule dedication draws the faithful

By Beth Grace

As they did some 201 years ago, North Carolina Freemasons gathered to certify and commemorate a moment in history for the congregants of First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh.

The Grand Lodge, led by Grand Master Gene Cobb, members of the Grand Line and brothers from Hiram Lodge in Raleigh, on Jan. 22 pronounced the church's bicentennial time capsule "square, level, plumb, true and trusty" before a crowd of about 90 members of First Presbyterian and gathered Masons.

The dedication rounded out a year of bicentennial events held by the historic church.

"For 200 years ... you have been a cloud of witnesses. You have been a light in the city of Raleigh, shining the way to God," said

Cobb, wearing the same starburst jewel worn when the State Capitol cornerstone was laid in 1833 and re-dedicated in 2015.

The dedication was a first for a Sunday. Masons were prohibited from holding such ceremonies on Sundays, until last year when brothers approved a code amendment permitting ceremonies on a Sunday if they are held at a church.

First Presbyterian's Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Ed McLeod, welcomed the brothers on behalf of the church and officially invited the Grand Master to dedicate the time capsule.

The metal capsule will be installed near the church's cornerstone later this year. It will include items recovered from the original time capsule, including the very first silver dollar donated to the church at its first service in 1816.



Grand Master Cobb addresses the crowd during the ceremony at First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh.



**HEY MISTER, WHAT IS THAT???** Children attending the dedication of the First Presbyterian Church Time Capsule on Jan. 22 are enthralled with the brothers gathered for the ceremony. They chatted with Grand Master Gene Cobb, asking him about his apron and the starburst jewel, (right) which he explained was worn for the original dedication of the State Capitol and again two years ago when it was re-dedicated. (Photo by Beth Grace)



Photos by Michael Harding

The metal time capsule after having been inspected by the working tools. The capsule will include items discovered in an earlier time capsule along with newer material representing the church's long history.



◀ Want to know more about the 1829 Grand Master's jewel? Visit our online archive of past issues of *The Mason*. Look for the July/August 2015 issue (page 15). For a direct link, go to: [www.epageflip.net/i/557870-july-august-2015](http://www.epageflip.net/i/557870-july-august-2015)



# Masonic Foundation's leadership team

## Jeff Hensley

Chief Development Officer

Jeff joined the North Carolina Masonic Foundation in August as its new Chief Development Officer. He leads the fundraising efforts of the Foundation as it seeks support for its two principal charities—the Masonic Home for Children and WhiteStone.

He brings over 15 years of experience building the fiscal capacity of nonprofits and educational institutions. Most recently, he served as the development director of the Internet Society, an international nonprofit of 100 employees with a \$40 million annual budget. Over a five-year period, he grew annual fundraising from \$300,000 to over \$10 million and helped conceive, implement, and manage the Internet Society's first-ever \$50 million capital campaign. He also has worked as a fundraising consultant for higher education, K12, healthcare, and nonprofit clients.

As a consultant, he specialized in helping organizations develop fundraising initiatives and conduct capital campaigns. He completed his undergraduate studies at Wheaton College (IL), his divinity training at Yale Divinity School, and doctoral work in religious studies also at Yale. Prior to becoming a development professional, Hensley taught theology/religious studies for nearly a decade at both the university (Baylor) and seminary (Virginia Theological Seminary) levels.

Jeff is a native of Asheville and has been married to Danielle for 23 years. They have two teenage children, Noah and Claire, and currently live in Cary.



## Chris Richardson

Eastern Region Director of Development

Chris joins the NCMF after 17 years at The Masonic Home for Children, starting as assistant director of development and marketing. He developed the Home's initial Financial Development Program working with donors and potential donors to establish planned and individual gifts, donated goods and services, giving, and acknowledgments.

He traveled to countless lodges to promote giving to the Home and the children it serves. During his tenure, Chris managed a \$7 million dollar capital campaign, an annual \$1 million operations campaign, and worked with several estates that have contributed more than \$40 million in long-term gifts.

At the home, he also served as business manager, assistant administrator, and interim. Chris holds a B.S. in Science (Biology) from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., and a Masters in Business Administration from Elon University. He has worked in medical services, finance and management at Duke University Medical Center and Granville Medical Center. He is a member of Oxford Masonic Lodge 122, Orphans Masonic Lodge 761 and is a past board member of the VFG Smart Start Board and the Leadership Granville Board. He currently serves on the Grand Lodge of NC Finance Committee and various other Masonic financial development committees.

Chris is a native of Christiansburg, Va., and is married to his wife of 18 years, Elizabeth. They have two children, Robbie and Mary Elizabeth.



## Beth Grace

Director of Communications

Beth Grace brings decades of front-line journalism experience to the foundation as editor of the NC Mason and the NCMF's first director of communications. A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Beth graduated from Bethany College in West Virginia with a B.A. in Communications and worked for two daily newspapers in Ohio before joining The Associated Press as a reporter in 1985 in the Columbus, Ohio, bureau.

She rose to news editor for Ohio, then became assistant bureau chief before becoming the AP's New York State bureau chief. She and her staff assisted the AP's New York City bureau and national desks in covering the attack on the World Trade Center on 9/11 and the aftermath. She later was promoted to bureau chief for Missouri/Kansas before moving south to Raleigh in 2005 to become Executive Director of the North Carolina Press Association, the trade association serving daily, weekly and online newspapers around the state.

For the last two years, Beth ran her own consulting business, WordWorks Communications, writing web and print communications for private clients, communications training for a major national electric utility, and editing manuscripts. She is a board member of the North Carolina Open Government Coalition; a former senior warden, vestry member at St. Michael's church in Raleigh; and is a member of the Transition Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, which is assisting in the selection of the next bishop.



## FOUNDATION, from page 1

care of for the rest of our lifetimes. They did their work," he said. "We're faced with exactly the same situation now, and that's what led us to where we are in our work on strengthening the Foundation.

He is pleased with how the effort is progressing, particularly when it comes to brotherly relationships.

We have three terrific leaders to

take this thing going forward, and one of the most pleasing aspects to me so far is that all three of our charities – WhiteStone, the Children's Home and the Foundation itself – have become closer than ever before. The cooperation to get this off the ground has brought a lot of people together."

That's the main goal, said Hensley,

"to put all of our charities in the minds and hearts of all Masons, to assist the charities in raising money and to put a real face on the people we serve, and share the real needs they have."

That means Hensley and his team of fundraisers will spend a good amount of time on the road visiting prospective donors within the Masonic family, speaking to lodges about the Foundation changes and

appearing at District Meetings, and thanking those who give from the heart.

"All of our charities will not only maintain their current donor relationships and retain their own identities," says Hensley, "They will have solid support from the Foundation and its team. It's not easy to raise funds alone; we're a Masonic

■ see FOUNDATION page 14

# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

Adams, Devin Hunter	Phoenix	8	Godwin, Anthony Shawn	Lebanon	207	Cowick, Jeremy Dwayne	Southern Pines	484	Carroll, Britton Chase	Waccamaw	596
Breitenfeld, Michael Lloyd	Phoenix	8	Hardy, William F	Mystic Tie	237	Leuenberger, William Nimrod	Southern Pines	484	Hull, Warren Taylor	Round Peak	616
Evans, Joseph Edward	Phoenix	8	Molina, Wilfredo	Mystic Tie	237	Velazquez, David Anthony	Southern Pines	484	Miles, Charles Austin	Guilford	656
Smith, Brian Patrick	Phoenix	8	Cable, Timothy Michael	Waynesville	259	Honeycutt, Richard Colon	Thomas M. Holt	492	White, Nicholas Charles	Guilford	656
Frankhouser, Charles William	Statesville	27	Harpe, Slayton Reavis	Farmington	265	Bennett, Joseph J	Mooreville	496	Cahoon III, Walter Sherman	Washington	675
Rivera, Christopher Lee	Statesville	27	Freeman, Christopher Gavin	Salem	289	Drake, Kristopher Wesley	Mooreville	496	Thomas, William Shawn	Rolesville	683
Fillyaw, James	Widow's Son	75	Gibbs, Walter Scott	Atlantic	294	Farris, Brandon Scott	Whetstone	515	Smith, Phillip Arcendio	Forsyth	707
Alexander, James Carl	Fulton	99	McCourry, Anthony Ryan	Bakersville	357	Grant, Vernal Dalton	Whetstone	515	Schronce, Andrew Kent	Conover	709
Taylor, Philip Edward	Fulton	99	Parker, Shane Nathaniel	Bakersville	357	King, Stephen Thomas	Rodgers	525	Huffman, Cody McLee	Conover	709
Walker, Stephen Grant	Perquimans	106	Sparks, Randall Heath	Bakersville	357	Richeson, Richard Alexander Horace	Andrews	529	Nobles, Bryan Amos	Grantham	725
Fulcher, Arthur Harris	Franklin	109	Wilson, Stephen Andrew	Bakersville	357	Coble II, Steven Bryan	Corinthian	542	Smith, Stephen Tyler	Grantham	725
Herring, Rencil Dennis	St. Alban's	114	Robinson Jr, Jack Wesley	Forest City	381	Dunlap, David Ray	Revolution	552	Unversaw, Frank Farlow	Grantham	725
Nelson, Joseph Pierce	Palmyra	147	Harbour, Brian Edward	Jefferson Penn	384	Powers, Phillip Aaron	Revolution	552	Huey Jr, Michael James	Shalotte	727
Meszaros Jr, Michael Emmett	Sanford	151	Crotts, Jackie Wesley	Copeland	390	Atkinson, Joshua Mark	Richlands	564	Houston, Corey Nicholas	William Pitt	734
Berth, Larry Dean	Carthage	181	Cauley, Maurice Alon	Ocean	405	Patry, Brent Michael	Richlands	564	Stahl, Joshua John	William Pitt	734
Reeves, Nicholas Matthew	Carthage	181	Lyons, Jon Baer	Ocean	405	Bader, Edward Philip	Doric	568	Sullivan, Curtis Lynn	William Pitt	734
Dyson, Stephen Ashley	Chadbourn	190	Hardt, Harrison Brockwell	Ocean	405	Lupton Jr, Robert Clay	Doric	568	Hernandez, Jose Rafael	New River	736
Lanehart, Jonathan Poe	Chadbourn	190	Kittrell, Wesley Cameron	Ocean	405	Shew, Christopher George	Mt. Pleasant	573	Frost, Donald Winfield	Old Town	751
Brown, John Houston	Chadbourn	190	Hazelrigg, Howard Duane	Biltmore	446	Jackson, John David	Casar	579	Knight, William Levie	Friendship	763
Sinclair, Brenton Ward	Granite	191	White III, Robert Melton	Currituck	463	Stroud, Keith McLendon	Ashe	594			

## Masons with ties to Scouts invited to be part of NAMS

Many North Carolina Masons engage in their communities by participating in and serving the programs of the Boy Scouts of America. Many Masons were Boy Scouts; a significant number were Eagle Scouts. Our Brothers may now participate in the National Association of Masonic Scouters (NAMS).

The purpose of NAMS is to foster and develop support for the Boy Scouts of America by and among Freemasons while upholding the tenets of Freemasonry. This includes, among other things, encouraging Masonic Lodges and other Masonic organizations, to the extent permitted by their regulations, to charter and support BSA units.

NAMS will seek to provide opportunities for Masonic fellowship at Scouting events and encourage the awarding of the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award to deserving Masons while supporting the Scouting movement at all levels.

Our Grand Lodge has for some time allowed the presentation of the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award in this grand jurisdiction, and we have supported Boy Scouting in various and sundry ways throughout the State. Past Grand Master Bryant Webster, in one of his last acts in office, officially approved the participation of North Carolina Masons as Regular Members of NAMS.



In a letter dated Nov. 28, 2016, he wrote to NAMS: "As Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, it is my decision that the NAMS organization and its goals are not in conflict with the Masonic Code/Law of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. It is my opinion that the Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction would be furthering the goals, activities, and support of the youth programs of this Grand Lodge by membership in the NAMS organization."

There is no requirement to join, but interested Scouters who are Master Masons in good standing can become regular members of NAMS and support its mission.

For more details, go to: <http://www.nams-bsa.org/>. This is a great way to ally two institutions which shore up the fabric of our country.

## ■ FOUNDATION, from page 13

family that works together for the good of all."

Hensley also said the goal is to ensure full transparency in this process, meaning more news of what the Foundation is achieving will be shared regularly with the Craft, through the NC Mason, through Foundation materials and online.

GM Cobb, who is backing this new plan with a fundraising challenge he has issued to all lodges this year, says success is assured because "we are a conspiracy of good people."

He has challenged lodges to work hard to be designated a "Lodge of Excellence," which means your lodge must give to both MHCO and WhiteStone, AND must give a total of 10 percent more this year than last. Cobb and committee chairs will be checking on how each lodge is doing in July.

"Here's what success will look like to me," he said. "By the end of my year as Grand Master, I will be happy if every lodge in state that hasn't been giving to our charities has begun to give, and if every lodge that has been giving increases that giving."

He also looks forward to a new world of communication, through a state-of-the-art newsletter, timely Facebook posts and notices, and compelling fundraising magazines, brochures and other collateral aimed at raising awareness of the Foundation and of Masonry itself.

"I want our message to be clear – that we work together, that we believe in caring for the least among us," Cobb said. "This new communications push will help us form stronger relationships with each other and with other lodges."

Cobb is already ahead of the curve on that. He is creating his own "on-the-road" videos from his



## FOUNDATION

from previous page

various trips around the state this year. Watch for those on the Grand Lodge, Grand Master and North Carolina Mason Facebook pages.

This edition of the Mason is Grace's first. Some changes are already visible in this issue, she said. But more will come.

"Every change you will see will be the product of Brotherly teamwork," Grace said. "The Board of Publications has become the Mason's editorial board – a team formed to help plan coverage, target interesting stories and issues, and guide the overall design and look of this important newsletter."

The board and Grace also are working to put more focus on charity – the charities we support, the work they do, and what Masons statewide can do to expand that good work and charitable reach. At least one page of each edition of the Mason will be dedicated to stories about WhiteStone, MHCO and the work of the Foundation itself, including creation of scholarships for worthy students and funds for historic lodge preservation.

"All Masons promise to care for those in need and this is a new and exciting way to keep that concept on the front burner as we all work to keep our promise to help the elderly and children," Grace said.

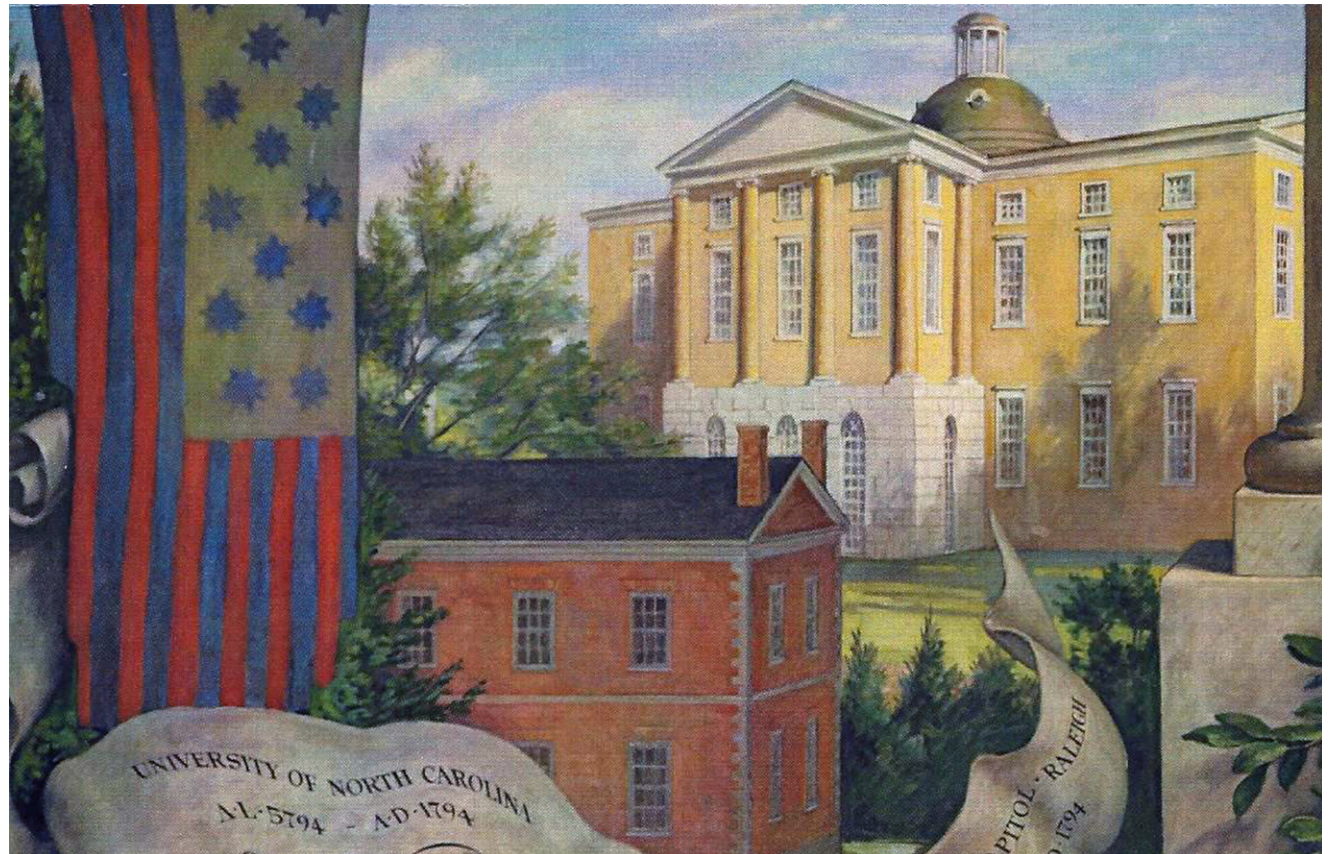
She invited feedback on this Mason issue and invited all Masons who dabble in Facebook to sign on to the new *The North Carolina Mason* Facebook page.

"We're working to put news on that page as it happens, including submission from lodges and brothers that might not make it into the Mason itself, due to space or timeliness issues," Grace said.

The work on all levels of the Foundation is well under way, and the NCMF board welcomes your feedback. Send your comments or questions to [bgrace@mfnc.org](mailto:bgrace@mfnc.org) or [ncmason@glnc.us](mailto:ncmason@glnc.us).

Cobb summed up this year of change.

"Our duty is not to be better than our brethren, but to be better than ourselves," he said. "If we can keep that thought in our heart and soul, that will turn things around." ❖



### The Grand Historian's Courier Case

# Postcards allow members to own a replica of N.C. Masonic history

Since the colonial era, Brother Freemasons have led the way in the Old North State. The institutions, values and beliefs we hold dear are without doubt a result of those Brothers who came before us.

Our Grand Lodge building in Raleigh houses countless artifacts, documents and other valued relics depicting our history. We are fortunate to have a trusted staff protecting and preserving these treasures.

Though desirable, many of our thousands of members have never visited our Grand Lodge building. Now, through a concerted effort, you can in essence do so by owning a replica of Allyn Cox's beautiful 1959 Masonic mural which graces the interior walls of the Grand Lodge building.

This mural is "a walk through" of early NC Masonic history.

Soon to be available for purchase,

this colorful 10 card set depicts the men, places and events which began and nurtured "the flame of Freemasonry" in North Carolina.

Price: \$10 – with all proceeds going to the North Carolina Historic Masonic Properties Foundation's efforts of preserving our historic buildings and sites throughout the state.

*Steven A. Campbell, Grand Historian*  
[campmckay1358@gmail.com](mailto:campmckay1358@gmail.com)



### Your ASSIGNMENT

Every lodge spends countless hours planning and executing some of the world's greatest fundraisers. Brunswick Stew Dinners. Chili Cookoffs. Harley raffles.

What does YOUR lodge do? How much do you raise? And how much do you dedicate to each of the three NC Masonic charities?

Tell us about the history of the event – when did your lodge do it first, have you ever skipped a year, did weather ever cancel it? Why do you think it works so well? And if you're brave, tell us about a fundraiser you planned that didn't go so

well. We can learn from the good and the bad!

Give us some data – how many bowls of chili do you sell? How many tickets went?

Tell us what it feels like to do this kind of good-guy work? It always feels good to help others – but do you have a particular reason for helping charities? We want to hear your story.

Send it all in to the Mason at [ncmason@glnc.us](mailto:ncmason@glnc.us) – with photos if you have some – and we'll write a story about what you give and why.

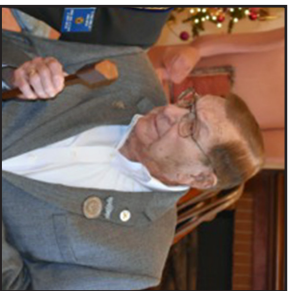
Thanks in advance – we can't wait to share your story!





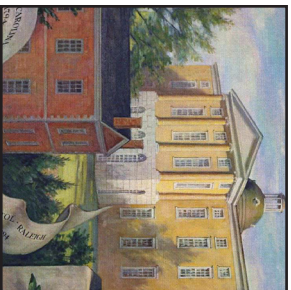
page 1

A new, vibrant  
Foundation



page 11

Congratulations to our  
newest Montfort Medalist



page 15

Postcards from  
our history

On the cover

Members of First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh view their time capsule prepared for installation.  
Michael Harding photo

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NORTH CAROLINA

**THE MASON**

Masons help church  
dedicate time capsule  
Neither snow nor rain deter  
these Masonic angels



JANUARY / FEBRUARY  
2017