

# NORTH CAROLINA THE MASON

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

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## ANNUAL COMMUNICATION 2018 PREVIEW

# Membership, per capita, reporting + more

### Weekend packed with fun, fellowship, education goes along with important business

By *Beth Grace*  
Mason Editor

It happens once a year. Call it Annual Communication or call it Grand Lodge, the purpose remains the same: keeping Freemasonry in North Carolina strong through fellowship, brotherhood .... and lots and lots of discussion.

On Sept. 28, the gavel will fall, opening the 231st official Masonic meet-up. Annual Communication will again be held at the Twin City Quarter in Winston-Salem and will open after a day of on-site committee meetings scheduled to discuss last-minute issues and conduct regular business.

“Masons sometimes talk about Grand Lodge in us-versus-them terms,” Grand Master Speed Hallman said. “The fact is, we are ALL the Grand Lodge, and we gather for a day and a half every year to transact our business.”

Grand Master Hallman said Annual Communication is a time “to truly come together. We have fellowship and we see folks we

haven’t seen in a long time – and that’s wonderful and fun,” he said. “But we also have important business before us and decisions to make that could impact the Craft for years to come. It’s a true combination of education and deliberation.”

Expect to hear some good news – this year’s Lion & Pillar Lodge of Excellence honorees will be announced.

Also the Grand Master will update brothers on the blood drive under way in partnership with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and to celebrate the 10th anniversary of mutual recognition between NC’s Grand Lodge and Prince Hall’s Grand Lodge.

Grand Orator and Past Grand Master Dan Rice will speak this year about our Masonic charities, reflecting on his years growing up at the Masonic Home for Children and his family’s experiences with WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community.

Also on the schedule is a presentation by **Oscar Alleyne**, junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge

of New York and a public health expert, speaking about clandestine lodges –



some may be moved up if the schedule gets too tight and more voting time is needed.

Code amendments – 10 of them at press time – will be the focus of discussion and discernment. As proposed, the amendments are:

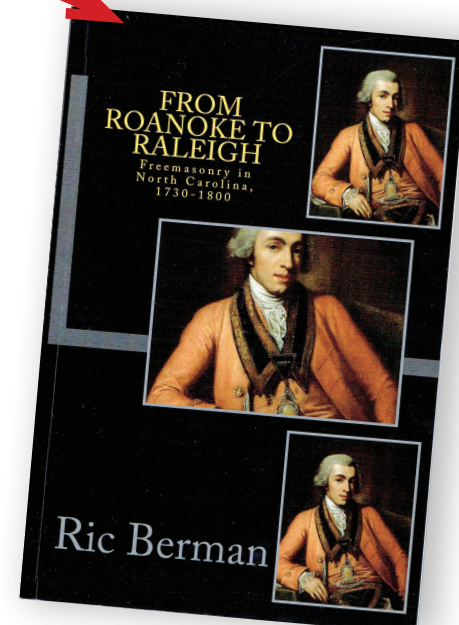
1. To create a new type of membership called Legacy Membership and replace the current Endowed Membership program.
2. To allow a lodge to hold a stated communication at a later date in the event their regular stated communication was cancelled due to inclement weather or hazardous conditions.
3. Restores qualifications inad-

■ see ANNUAL page 2

who they are and how to recognize them.

Book lovers will have a treat on Friday afternoon. **Ric Berman**, author of *From Roanoke to Raleigh: Freemasonry in North Carolina, 1730-1800* will give a reading and sign books after the day’s session adjourns.

Voting begins Friday and will continue Saturday. Grand Master Hallman has said at district meetings this year that while most voting usually takes place on Saturday,



## ANNUAL, from page 1

vertently removed from The Code: Members appointed to the Code Commission must be a past master or lodge secretary.

4. Would allow a lodge master to order a petition or application withdrawn and returned if he discovers, after it has been received, that the petitioner or applicant falsely answered any question in the petition or application.

5. Would automatically suspend a Mason criminally charged with a felony in any state court, U.S. District Court, or under U.S. Uniform Code of Military Justice.

6. Would increase the per capita to \$25.

7. Requires a lodge master to make certain the Treasurer makes a full and complete report at least quarterly to the lodge of its receipts, disbursements, account balances, and financial condition.

8. Allows the Grand Master, in cases of inclement weather, to permit a lodge to hold its annual election at a time other than a stated communication.

9. Gives a lodge the option to open lodge on the First Degree and conduct business.

10. Further defines obstructive motions.

During the breaks, take some time to learn about our three charities. Drop by for a visit with repre-

sentatives of MHCO, WhiteStone and the North Carolina Masonic Foundation. Each table will have information and goodies to give away.

And keep the holidays in mind. MHCO will offer T-shirts, hats and other logo gear for sale, while you can buy your favorite brother or family member a copy of the original "G" poster – featuring the lodge G from more than 70 lodges that contributed – at the NCMF table.



Plans also tentatively call for the debut of a new coffee table book called Sacred Retreats, produced by NCMF and featuring gorgeous photos of some of North Carolina's most historic and beloved lodges.

Watch for price and ordering information on the *North Carolina Mason* and *North Carolina Masonic Foundation*

Facebook pages.

Proceeds from all sales in the charity area go to our charities and their important work.

And while we're talking about charity ... Don't forget to bring 10 cans of food or \$10 to participate for a third year in the annual Masons Can food drive. Last year, brothers donated more than 2,200 cans of food and gave about \$3,000 in cash. ♠

## Celebrate a Decade of Mutual Recognition By Giving Life!

Let's celebrate! Ten years ago our Grand Lodge and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of North Carolina signed a Mutual Compact of Recognition, and a team representing both grand lodges is planning an anniversary celebration for this fall. Look for details soon and hold the date for a gala dinner in Raleigh on Oct. 27.

"This decade of mutual work and fellowship with our Prince Hall brethren has been joyful and rewarding," Grand Master Speed Hallman said. "Brethren and lodges across the state have formed bonds based on friendship, morality and brotherly love, and we are looking forward to an even brighter future together in the quarries."

Because Masons strive to be a

visible and positive presence in their communities, and wish to serve in as many ways possible, the anniversary planners developed a simple and effective way for us to collaborate with Prince Hall brethren and demonstrate our impact on the state.

We're asking every eligible Mason to donate blood to the American Red Cross between now and Sept. 9. We also ask lodges to report on units given by brethren and units collected through lodge blood drives since Jan. 1.

Here's how to participate and report your life-giving efforts:

1. Lodges can report the number of units collected through their Red Cross blood drives held between Jan. 1 and Sept. 9 to Past Grand Master Gene Cobb at

gcobb@glnc.us by Sept. 10.

2. Lodges can ask their members to report how many units they have given through Red Cross blood drives between Jan. 1 and Sept. 9, and report to PGM Cobb by Sept. 10. Take care to not double-count units given through your lodge's drive.

3. Eligible Masons are encouraged to give blood through a Red Cross blood drive held anywhere in North Carolina, and report their donation to the lodge secretary by Sept. 9, for the secretary to report to PGM Cobb by Sept. 10.

We want the people of North Carolina to know that Masons are committed to saving lives as well as sharing light. Please give blood this summer and let your light shine for someone in desperate need.

## ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

**WHEN:** Sept. 28-29, 2018

**WHERE:** Twin City Quarter, 425 N. Cherry St., Winston-Salem, NC 27101

### SCHEDULE

#### Thursday, Sept. 27

- Committees, various times
- Secretaries' Seminar, 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

#### Friday, Sept. 28

- DDGL Meeting, 8 a.m.
- Grand Lodge opens, 10 a.m., Grand Pavilion
- Grand Lodge reconvenes, 1:30 p.m., Grand Pavilion
- Grand Master's reception, 6 p.m.

#### Saturday, Sept. 29

- Grand Lodge opens, 9 a.m., Grand Pavilion

## Who is the Grand Lodge? YOU are the Grand Lodge!

### WHO VOTES?

- Principal officers of each lodge (only Lodges may proxy votes; all others must be present)
- Boards
- Commissions
- Committees
- Past Grand Masters
- Grand Lodge Officers
- District Deputy Grand Masters
- District Deputy Grand Lecturers

### VOTING BREAKDOWN

- All board members get a vote
- All Commission members get a vote
- All Committee members get a vote
- Living elected Past Grand Officers get a vote (27)
- Grand Lodge Officers (15)
- DDGMs (41)
- DDGLs (41)
- 373 lodges at three votes apiece = (1,119)

# taking a closer look at per capita

When delegates gather for Annual Communication in September, they will consider a request to raise the per capita by \$5 per brother. Current per capita is \$20 per year per Mason and was last raised in 2013.

The Finance Committee is considering a substitute amendment; details will be announced as they are available.

The per capita is the sole significant source of revenue for the Grand Lodge, which bases its entire budget on the revenue and funds all services, programs, honors and events.

Under the proposal, the per capita would increase by \$5 per Mason per year.

While there are more than more than 37,000 Masons in North Carolina, not all pay per capita.

For example, brothers who have been Masons for 50 years or more are not required to pay per capita. About 1,000 more Masons join those ranks every year; at press time, some 4,963 brothers were exempted.

For 2018, that represents a loss of nearly \$100,000. The last major surge in Masonic membership came after World War II.

Those good brothers are now meeting the 50-year mark, which increases the deficit for the Grand Lodge each year, and will continue to do so for some years to come.

Another loss comes from non-payment of dues. Some 882

## What would a \$5 increase actually pay for?

A \$5 per capita increase would generate enough to cover the following items – not in order of importance or size – and assist in replenishing the depleted savings fund the Grand Lodge has used to make up for past budget deficits:

- Philanthropies (Masonic Home for Children and WhiteStone).
- Salaries and related costs mandated by law.
- All Grand Lodge building operations, including utilities, maintenance of building and grounds, repairs.
- Committee funding, which pays for programs, educational events, special committee projects.
- Covers Grand Line dues owed to conferences we attend.
- Funds Annual Communication, including all related expenses, credentials, event rooms, report books and food.
- Funds creation, printing and distribution of *The North Carolina Mason* to 37,000 NC Freemasons.
- Production of candidate supplies, books, etc.
- Pays for service and Grand Master's pins, 50- and 60-year certificates, etc.
- Covers costs of filing the tax forms for lodges that allows them to maintain tax-exempt status.
- Funds archiving of treasured historic items and papers on site at the Grand Lodge.
- Makes archives, papers and Grand Lodge personnel available to help brothers and others doing genealogical studies.
- Funds the cost of negotiating surety bonds for lodges.
- Provides lodge access to a lawyer on some questions of law.

brothers were excluded for non-payment of dues in the last year, accounting for almost \$18,000.

The Grand Lodge also has for a few years, including last year, had to make up for budget deficits approved by the membership at Grand Lodge.

To make up for those deficits, spending has tightened consider-

ably at Grand Lodge over the years. Programs have been cut back or delayed; maintenance of the Grand Lodge has been slowed or put on hold.

Salary increases have been limited to cost of living, and no major purchases have been approved. ⚡

**37,000+**

Number of Masons on the rolls of North Carolina lodges

**4,963**

Number of 50-year or more Masons exempted from per capita

**882**

Number of non-payment of dues by members in 2017



## HIRAM'S WHISPER



Hiram's Whisper is a vocabulary app for the Freemasons of North Carolina.

You must be a member in Good Standing of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina in order to access this app. You will be required to submit your name and membership number to verify your affiliation.

You may then access up to 10 words within a 24-hour period.



## Masons Can!

Remember to bring 10 cans of food or \$10 to this year's Annual Communication in Winston-Salem!



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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 MAN.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

# Revamped NCMF site making charity easier

Getting the message out is what the *North Carolina Mason* and the Grand Lodge web page are all about. The Facebook pages for the *Mason*, Grand Lodge and the NC Masonic Foundation, individual lodges, as well as MORI messages round out a great communications package aimed at keeping brethren up to speed.

We're about to welcome a newcomer to the mix – an all-new NC Masonic Foundation web page.

And we have updated a number of items on the Grand Lodge page ([www.grandlodge-nc.org](http://www.grandlodge-nc.org)), including new stories from the *Mason* and other sources.

The Grand Lodge page, and the new NCMF page, were designed in partnership with a company called E-dreamz Inc.

The new site – [www.mfnc.org](http://www.mfnc.org) – has been integrated into the Grand Lodge page, so you can link via [www.grandlodge-nc.org](http://www.grandlodge-nc.org) or just surf directly to [www.mfnc.org](http://www.mfnc.org).

There is a lot to discover on the site. There's a history of NCMF and a writeup on what the foundation does – and plans to do. Check out the Meet the Team page, where you'll see who's who on the Board of Directors and the staff, with photos and contact emails and

phone numbers.

Wondering how to give directly to our charities – the Masonic Home for Children and WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community? Easy. Check out the "How to Give" page, and the all-new online giving portal. That portal allows you to give in your own name and allows you to share credit with your lodge; you can set up a recurring gift or make a donation in the name of a beloved brother or family member.

There is also a lot of news. You can link to the *North Carolina Mason* page and read the current issue (and back issues). Look for individual stories geared toward what's new at our charities and what plans they have for a bright future.

Finally, if the different ways to give astound and confuse – annuities, planned gifts, charitable trusts

– we have created a few links that will clear up any question. Check those out via the Giving Options page under How to give.

Questions, concerns or ideas? Contact any member of the development team at NCMF – Chief Development Officer Jeffrey Hensley and east and west regional Development Directors Chris Richardson and Dee Blake. Check out their contact info on our "Meet the Team" page.



By Beth Grace  
Editor



Examples of some of the pages found at the Foundation's new website.

## FROM THE GRAND MASTER



# What came you here to do?

By Speed Hallman  
Grand Master

Every year I look forward to the Wilkerson College Lodge Symposium and Ritual Competition. It never fails to be

enlightening. On June 30, with the sun blazing away at meridian, I was seated among the Craft in the cool, rarefied air of the Greensboro Masonic Temple, listening to world-class Masonic speakers and thinking about the richness of Masonic education in North Carolina.

We are blessed. We have Masons who live up to their answer to the question “What came you here to do?”

Thanks to the steady labors of a number of brethren, ranging from newly raised Master Masons to sitting Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters, our jurisdiction boasts the finest and most comprehensive Masonic education program in the country. With advances in information technology, pent-up demand for quality Masonic education and the energy of brethren who are passionate about the subject, the 21st Century has seen quantum leaps in the production of new programs in our state. The rest of the country is taking notice.

I’m not saying North Carolina Masons were groping in the dark until our generation discovered Masonic education. The **Lodge System of Masonic Education (LSME)**, issued in 1936, is one of the most impactful tools we have. With LSME, the lodge arranges for a group of experienced Masons to instruct the candidate and new Mason. As the preface to the LSME states, “It is simple, practical and employed under the direction and immediate authority of the lodge. It works where education is most needed and appreciated. The method, when used consistently and intelligently, guarantees positive results. The candidate meets with the committee once before receiving the First Degree; once after the First Degree; once after the Second Degree; and twice after the Third

Degree – five times in all.”

Here’s the cool 21st Century part: Last year the Grand Lodge Committee on Public Relations made the LSME available as a podcast. The text and audio files are on the Grand Lodge website. So is every program described here. Just click on the Educational Resources tab (<https://tinyurl.com/yd7vj3jn>).

**Program for Progress**, which dates to 1996, distills a tremendous amount of Masonic experience and common sense into a guide for

education initiatives that set us apart.

Wilkerson College is North Carolina’s school for Masonic leadership development. Its mission is to help the future lodge master prepare for his year in the east. Wilkerson meets in the spring for three weekend sessions (Friday evening through Saturday afternoon) at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, WhiteStone in Greensboro and the Grand Lodge office in Raleigh. Applications for admission are accepted beginning Oct. 1, and

deacons have first priority in admission. Students get to know Grand Lodge officers and are able to build networks with Masonic leaders from across the state.

I’ve never met a graduate who didn’t benefit from Wilkerson’s sessions on lodge management and leadership, and who didn’t value the relationships formed over those three weekends. Financial aid is available, and many lodges pay part or all of the tuition.

It’s a win for lodges to have Wilkerson graduates in the chairs. We have the data to prove that lodges led by Wilkerson College graduates perform better. Since its inception, 524 Masons have graduated. The shocker is that of 371 lodges in the state, 221 have never sent a student.

The college is named in honor of WB and retired Marine Gen. H. Lloyd Wilkerson, one of the finest men, Masons and leaders I have ever known.

Wilkerson College Lodge #760 was formed by the first class of Wilkerson College graduates. They wanted to extend their experience in the college by providing Masonic education programs across the state.

It’s a traveling lodge and meets on the second Saturday of the even-numbered months. Speakers and topics are uniformly excellent and program announcements are posted on the Grand Lodge’s Facebook page.

The annual symposium and ritual competition are usually held on the second Saturday in June unless speaker schedules dictate otherwise, as was the case this year.

■ see HALLMAN, page 9

Find out more about our educational programs at the Grand Lodge's website

orienting and educating candidates, developing leadership skills for lodge officers, and keeping members involved through communication, continuing education and activities. Every lodge officer should review Program for Progress at least annually, and act on its lessons. It is timeless and it is a goldmine.

**Wilkerson College and Wilkerson College Lodge #760** were founded in 2002 and are the catalysts for many of the newer Masonic

## OUR MASONIC CHARITIES AT WORK



# Building a foundation for our charities

What's better than getting together with friends?

Getting together with friends you haven't seen in years, sharing stories, catching up and talking about things Masonic.

Brethren and spouses gathered in Wilmington recently to spend some time talking about brotherhood, friendship and charity. Hosted by Grand Master Speed Hallman, the North Carolina Masonic Foundation and Worshipful Brother Bob Seeling of St. John's #1, brothers heard stories of love, faith and comfort from some folks our Masonic charities in North Carolina have helped through the years.

Alumni of the Masonic Home for Children were on hand to talk about their lives before MHCO – and how they have changed and blossomed thanks to the safe homes they found in Oxford and the training that taught them how to make their way in the world.

Watch for more such events around the state. The North Carolina Masonic Foundation has been working hard in recent years to promote Masonry and our charities in new and refreshing ways.



Beth Grace photos





Spurmont Lodge had all the right ingredients at this year's Pig Jig

## Virginia lodge takes top honor at Pig Jig 2018

The endless rain was an uninvited guest at the 13th Annual Masonic Carolina Pig Jig, but it didn't dampen enthusiasm during the annual battle over who makes the best BBQ.

The Pig Jig is an annual event designed to raise funds for the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford and the Central Children's Home at Oxford.

The event has raised more than \$100,000 for charity since it began.

Participants come from all over and often attend year after year. A new entry for 2018 was the NC grand line itself, manned by Grand Master Speed Hallman and other members of the Grand Line.

Winners are listed at right:

### Sauce Category:

1. Spurmont #98, Strasburg, Va.
2. Wendell #565
3. Masonic Temple or Raleigh United

### Chicken:

1. Spurmont #98
2. Oak Grove #750
3. Doric #30 of Delaware

### Pork:

1. Spurmont #98
2. Golden Star #150
3. Wendell #565

**Grand Champion:** Spurmont #98

**People's Choice:** Rhamkatte #827, Prince Hall

**Team Spirit:** William G. Hill #218



Grand Line officers formed team "Grand Swine" and tried out their cooking skills and recipes this year.

## MHCO Homecoming set for Oct. 12-14

It's not too early to mark your calendar for the Masonic Home for Children's annual Homecoming festivities! As always, the weekend – Oct. 12-14 – will feature everyone's favorites: barbecue, great music, cute kids and booths with goodies to sell. But be ready for some changes this year. The annual Shriner parade, one of the largest of its kind, will kick off later than normal. The start will be at 11 a.m. this year – two hours later than in previous years – to allow more time for Shriners to get set up and ready to charm a sea of kids and parents waiting to cheer them on as they head through Oxford to the main road into campus.

Watch for some changes in the parade route as well – details to come.

### Friday, Oct. 12

Time	Event	Location
9 a.m. - Mid-Afternoon	Chip Shots Golf tourney	South Granville Country Club
Noon-5 p.m.	BBQ Registration/Teams Arrive/Set-Up	"The Pit"
5 p.m.	BBQ Contest - Cooks Meeting	Gymnasium
5 p.m.-7 p.m.	Music: DJ Jay Productions	"The Pit"
5:30 p.m.-7 p.m.	Concessions	"The Pit"
6 p.m.-8 p.m.	Museum Open – Reception	Cobb Center
7:30 p.m.-9 p.m.	Music: The Moonlighters Orchestra	"The Pit"
9:30 p.m.	Campus Closed	

### Saturday, Oct. 13

Time	Event	Location
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	Cottage Sales (Coffee And Doughnuts)	MHCO Main Campus
9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	Cottage Sales (Merchandise And Snack Items)	
8 a.m.-9 a.m.	Orphans Lodge	Masonic Center - MHCO
8 a.m.-2 p.m.	Information Booth/Volunteer Check-In	Near Main Stage At St. John's
9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Pre-Registration Pick-Up For Alumni	Front Of Cobb Center
9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Alumni Registration	Cobb Center At Dunn Cottage
9:30 a.m.	Opening And Welcome	Main Stage At St. John's
9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	Selected Games, Activities, And Entertainment	MHCO Campus
10 a.m.	Pre-Sale Of Lunch Tickets (Arm Bands)	Entrance to "The Pit"
10 a.m.-3 p.m.	Museum Open	Cobb Center
10 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	BBQ Turn-In/Judging	St. John's Building Alcove
11 a.m.	Shrine And Community Parade	Downtown Oxford to MHCO
11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Gaming Unplugged Mobile Game Theater	MHCO Campus
11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Ragland Production Inflatables	MHCO Campus
11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Ted's Twisted Balloons	MHCO Campus
11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Scrap Exchange Creative Time	MHCO Campus
Noon-1:30 p.m.	"The Pit" Opens For Public Service	"The Pit"
Noon	Announcement Homecoming Court	Main Stage At St. John's
TBD	Announcement Of BBQ Contest Winners	"The Pit"
Noon-1:30 p.m.	Lunch - Under The Oaks	MHCO Campus
Noon-1:30 p.m.	Music: Byran Mayer	Main Stage At St. John's
Noon-2 p.m.	Open House tours – Cottage (Shuttle Provided)	TBA
1 p.m.-3 p.m.	Open House tours - School Of Graphic Arts	
3 p.m.	Campus Closed	
3 p.m.	Wilkerson College Lodge 760	Orphan's Lodge
6 p.m.-8 p.m.	Alumni Roast	MHCO Cafeteria
8 p.m.-Midnight	Homecoming Alumni Dance	Granville County Shrine Club

### Sunday, Oct. 14

Time	Event	Location
10 a.m.	Worship Service	York Rite Chapel
11 a.m.	OOAA Annual Business Meeting	York Rite Chapel
Noon-1:30 p.m.	Sunday Lunch Under The Oaks	Picnic Shelter
Noon-2 p.m.	Museum Open	Cobb Center



## A Day in the Life of the Traveling Gavels

By Richard Gelsomino

Senior Warden, Steele Creek #737

This year, the lodges of North Carolina have been very busy initiating, passing, and raising new brothers to the Fraternity.

However, there has been some added incentive for lodges to visit not only other lodges throughout their district, but throughout the state as well. The Statewide Traveling Gavel is a new addition to the traveling gavel family, joining the likes of the many District Traveling Gavels throughout the state. It is very rare, though, that the gavels ever cross paths, until now.

On Monday, June 18, the Statewide Traveling Gavel made a stop at Steele Creek #737 to attend the passing of two brothers to the degree of Fellowcraft.

While attending, the Gavel

ran into a fellow traveler, the 32nd Masonic District Traveling Gavel. The two enjoyed the degree together, witnessing it from the East. They shared their stories of the road, the lodges they had visited, and the brothers they had met.

They finished off the night with the closing charge, and took photos with eager brothers, as they often do. The Master filled out their ledgers, cementing their visits. And then it was over.

The Statewide Gavel had to return to Mooresville #496, from whom it was borrowed and happily welcomed.

The District Gavel, on the other hand, would remain with Steele Creek until another lodge from the 32nd Masonic District would be desirous enough to come and take it home with them.

## Sharing the story



Photos by Beth Grace



► See listing of new officers on Page 13

There may be other events out there like the annual Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star meeting. But it would be hard to imagine any other sparkling quite as much, bringing so many longtime, dear friends together, or creating so many meaningful moments shared by the sisters (and brothers) of OES.

Hundreds of women told their stories and heard heartfelt tales from longtime friends, visitors and associates when they gathered in June for the 113th session of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina Order of the Eastern Star.

Women young and old celebrated a year of work well done, made plans for a new year, installed new officers, welcomed distinguished guests and honored sisters who have passed.

## Cathey Scholarships awarded to 15 recent graduates

Fifteen North Carolina high school seniors have won a 2018 Cathey Scholarship, a Masonic award honoring academic achievement and community involvement.

The \$1,000 scholarships are named in honor of past Grand Master Charles Cathey, who initiated a drive to help deserving students pay their college expenses. Fellow Masons generously supported his call for help and named the scholarships in his honor. They support the honor to this day through donations to the Cathey Scholarship fund administered by the North Carolina Masonic

Foundation.

About 200 applications are received every year. A committee of brothers reviews applications and makes final selections. To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, or the equivalent average under the school's grading system, and be enrolled in an accredited North Carolina high school.

The scholarship committee also considers other factors.

Scholarship awards may be used only for tuition, fees, room, board and/or books.

This year's winners are:

- Olivia C. Benton of Millers Creek; West Wilkes High School
- Reese E. Buie of Lillington; Harnett Central High School
- Cailey G. Byrum of Camden; Camden County High School
- Brett F. Cox of Goldsboro, Southern Wayne High School
- Lauren E. Dodd of Four Oaks, South Johnston High School
- George E. Fragos of Wilmington, Eugene Ashley High School
- Daniel J. Freeman of Summerfield; Northern Guilford High School
- Kyra L. Gensel of Clarkton; Harrels Christian Academy
- George Knight of Stokesdale; Dalton McMichael High School
- Justin L. Le of Cary; Athens Drive High
- Amara L. Leak of Murphy; no high school designated
- Holden Owens of Columbus; Polk County High School
- Briana N. Richardson of Saluda; Polk County High School
- Daniel S. Ross of Clyde; no high school designated
- Kaylee A. Tackett of Lincolnton; no high school designated



## HALLMAN, from page 5

If you'd like to help shape Masonic education programs, if you're seeking leadership opportunities and if you want to meet like-minded Masons around the state, consider affiliating with Wilkerson College Lodge. The officers and members will welcome your interest, energy and ideas.

A new and powerful player in the education mix is the **William R. Davie Leadership Academy**. The academy's sessions are offered on Saturdays in each region of the state, making it accessible to more participants. It offers programs for elected and appointed lodge officers, and workshop topics include finance and budget, the art of chairing a lodge meeting, preparing for the east, and the district officer/Grand Lodge committeeman.

I've seen the impact of "the art of chairing a lodge meeting" in my home lodge. It works. Programs are continuously evaluated and adapted to student needs. Registration is handled online and the cost covers materials and lunch. It takes a lot of hands to make the Davie Academy work and it, too, would welcome your involvement.

The **Speakers Bureau**, a project of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education, currently lists 42 speakers who are offering their services to help lodges provide programs that keep members coming back.

While some speakers place limits on their travel time or mileage, every lodge in the state can find a speaker on the list who will deliver an excellent presentation. If you've developed a presentation that adds light to a lodge meeting, consider offering your services to the Speakers Bureau.

The **Middle Chamber**, the newest offering from the Committee on Masonic Education, provides an opportunity to explore the rituals and symbols of the Craft and

improve ourselves as men and Masons. Instructors are specially trained to assist each brother as he examines Masonic rituals, himself and his relationship with Deity.

The four sessions include a mix of discussion, self-study and contemplative exercises. The first class, Introduction to Masonic Allegory and Symbols, is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 5 and Jan. 12, 2019. That class is free, and students pay for study materials in the remaining sessions. The full schedule will be published by late November.

There's more on the website under Education Resources. I encourage you to look at the Officers' Handbook, the Lodge Self-Assessment Tool, Eight Easy Steps to a Vibrant Lodge Education Program, and the Investigation and Balloting Guidelines.

There's material on Masonic music for our rituals and useful information for secretaries and treasurers. You can find out how to become a Certified Lecturer, how to create a legacy through your will and how to file a request for Masonic funeral rites.

While some of these programs have been around for years, most of the recent offerings are the work of the Committee on Masonic Education. Past Chairman Ben Wallace and current Chairman Tony Rathbone have been tireless leaders, and they're now fielding inquiries from other jurisdictions who want to know how North Carolina has done so much, so quickly, and so well in the realm of Masonic education.

I tip my Grand Master's hat to them, to current and former committee members, and to the many other Masons who have helped ignite these programs.

Masonic light in North Carolina blazes like the sun at meridian on a hot June day. Your temple awaits. What came you here to do? ☩



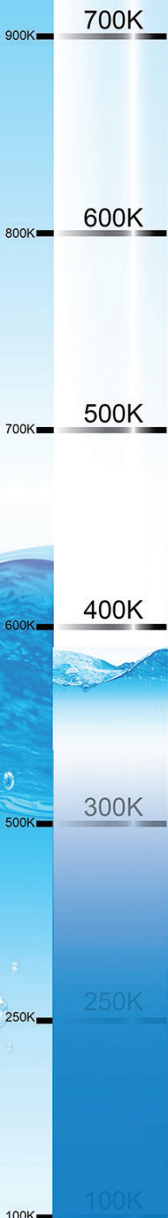
# Give Today to Help Us Fill our Pool....

## And the Lives of our Children with Wonderful Memories!

### MHCO CAPITAL CAMPAIGN- RAISING "FUN" TO BUILD A NEW POOL AND POOL HOUSE FOR THE KIDS OF MHCO!

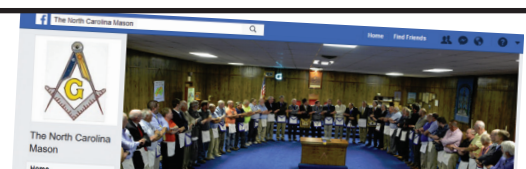
**FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN DONATE TODAY BY VISITING [www.mhc-oxford.org](http://www.mhc-oxford.org) , CALL 919-603-3906 OR MAKE A DONATION AT THE HOME'S MAIN OFFICE.**

**YOUR GIFT WILL BRING JOY, GOOD TIMES, AND GREAT MEMORIES TO THE LIFE OF A CHILD IN OUR CARE**



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# TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE

## STATESVILLE

Brethren of the 30th Masonic District joined Wesley Memorial UMC in a Saints John Day worship service, planned by several lodges. Brother Chris Fitzgerald, Harmony #299, is the minister at Wesley Chapel and suggested the service. This service was the regular service at the church and was attended by brothers and their families from various lodges throughout the district, Grand Master Speed Hallman and his wife Susan, and Wesley Memorial members as well as members of the public. Brother Bill Thompson of Mount Moriah #690 delivered the trestle board lecture for all in attendance to hear what the “secrets” of our organization are based upon. Brother Fitzgerald delivered an inspiring message about the Temple to the Lord we should all strive to build in our hearts. All of the hymns used were by Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven and brother Keith Rash of Harmony 299 delivered the Masonic closing charge as the benediction.

## DUNN

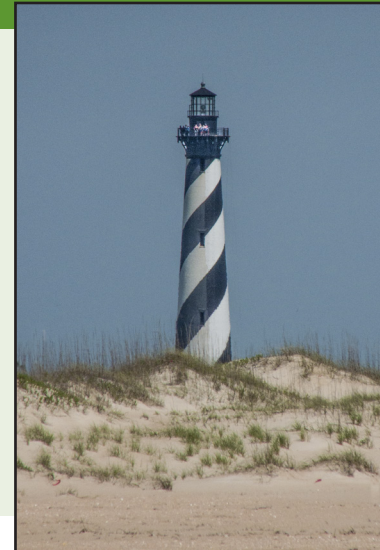
Nobody loves a tractor pull more than a kid. And some kids from the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford were no exception when they were treated recently to an evening of fun at GALOT Motorsports Park, courtesy of Brother Earl Wells of Hiram #98. Grand Master Speed Hallman and his wife, Susan, also welcomed the children, put in ear plugs, and enjoyed the tractor pulls with the group. Brother Earl made sure the children received T-shirts to remember the fun evening. Grand Master Hallman and Brother Earl were each presented with walking sticks to recognize their continued support and Ambassadorship for the Children's Home.



▲ **KERNERSVILLE** – Brothers of Kernersville #669 recently presented trophies and medals to the Kernersville Masons-Yankees, the Little League baseball team the lodge sponsors. Pictured are: (back row l-r) Rusty Niles, EA and president of the Kernersville Little League; PM and team coach Chad Delp; and Master Clifford Shrewsbury.



## NEWS FROM OUR LODGES



▲▲ **ASHEVILLE** – It was a bittersweet day for brothers who gathered for a special emergent communication at the Charles George VA Medical Center in July. The meeting was set after the Grand Master visited in April with 98-year-old Brother Wayne Carringer, one of only three survivors of the Bataan Death March living at the center. The visit was prompted in part by the 75th anniversary of the march. Sadly, Carringer passed away on July 1 but was remembered by MW Hallman, who called him “a real treasure of North Carolina Masonry,” and others during the meeting. Carringer was a Japanese Prisoner of War for more than three years. He had been a member of Robbinsville #672 for more than 70 years. MWB Simon LaPlace, executive secretary of the Masonic Service Association, and WVB Ron Sortino, past president of National Sojourners, also attended.



# TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE

Photos by Brother Larry Frank of Denton #404



▲► **DENTON** – Tractors as far as the eye could see headed out for a ride recently as part of the 48th annual Southeast Old Thresher's Reunion at Denton Farmpark. The tractor parade Grand Marshal this year was Grand Master Speed Hallman, who rode with Denton #404 WB Tim Loflin. This year's ride raised about \$15,000 to benefit the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. The Denton Farmpark has a campground and 32 Masons, including 17 PMs, camped there this year. Masons have been camping there 40 years.



▲ **SWANSBORO** – Members of Seaside #429 and other friends of WB David Holland were on hand recently to dedicate a wheel chair ramp at WB David's home in Stella. The ramp was built by the brothers and friends in the photograph. The ramp had to be completed before medical personnel would allow WB David to return home from rehab after a lawn mower accident. Many hours and much love went into the construction. Pictured on the ramp are WB David Holland (front seated), and MWB Leonard Safrit, a longtime friend. Other family members, friends and brother Masons who assisted are pictured.

## Rainbow Girls brightly shine at Grand Assembly



**RALEIGH** – Fun costumes, beautiful music, words of wisdom and the fellowship of friends marks the 81st North Carolina Grand Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. The order was created in 1922 for young women whose fathers were members of a Masonic Lodge, and their friends. Their main focus is more on the spiritual principles of being a kind and caring person. While the Rainbow practices and programs continue to evolve, the basic teachings of faith, hope, and charity remain a cornerstone of the group. Today, there are more than 850 assemblies across the world that have bimonthly meetings and carry out service projects during the year. Young women ages 11-20 are welcome.



# MILEPOSTS



## This brother truly can say ‘been there, done that’

◀ **MIDDLESEX** – At 96, WB David Jordan of Rogers #525 is not about to sit back and relax. The lodge’s 2018 Junior Warden has begun his fifth round through the chairs. Brother David is a WWII veteran and retired from the USAF with 20 years of service. Upon returning to Middlesex, he joined the local American Legion and met several men who were Masons. He was raised to a Master Mason in 1979. Soon after, he was asked to fill the chair of an absent officer. Being new, he had no idea what to say or do and decided that he would prepare for the next time. He learned every role on opening and closing on every degree. This inspired him to keep learning until he could fill any role on any degree. He loves the work and says there is nothing better than a degree done correctly. Within the last year he coached a new candidate through the degrees and did the role of SD on the first and second section of the Master Mason degree. Brother David seldom misses a meeting of his home lodge and loves to visit other lodges in the area. He says there is no fellowship like the fellowship in Masonry. He says he wonders sometimes if his memory is not as good as it once was, but he can still read his OSW like reading a magazine. His brothers say they are very proud of him and look forward to the year he becomes Master again.



**60**  
YEARS

Congratulations to our 60-year member:  
Royce Claybourne Jordan, Vanceboro #433



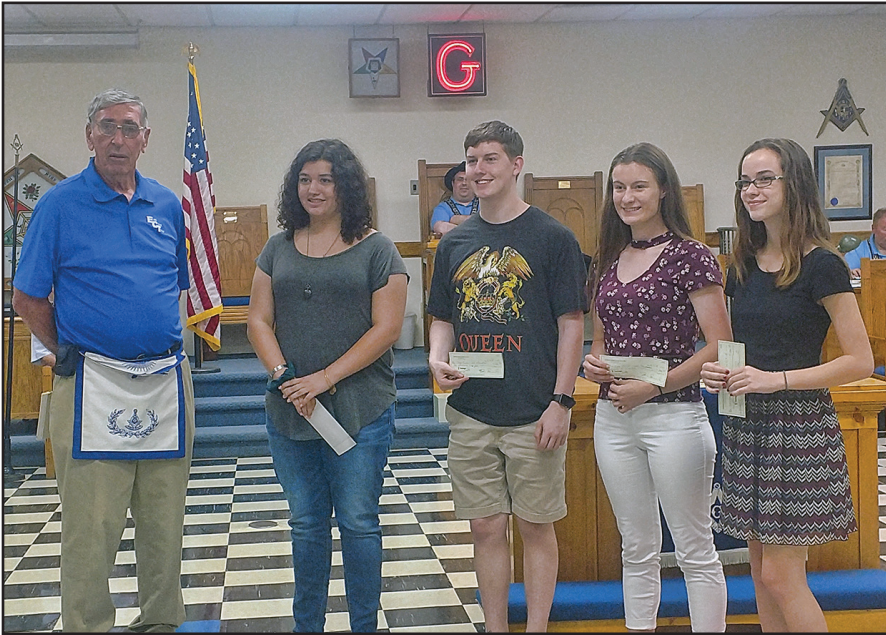
▲ **HENDERSONVILLE** – Worshipful Brother Kolen Flack of Western Star #91 in Rutherfordton, second from left, was recognized in May for having achieved 60 years as a Class “A” Certified Lecturer, one of only five to ever reach this milestone. Brother Flack was first certified on Sept. 10, 1956. He has served as District Deputy Grand Lecturer, District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lecturer (1978-1980). He served a total of 15 years on the Board of Custodians, including two years as chairman. Grand Master Speed Hallman presented the award at his district meeting in Hendersonville. L-R in the photo: Randy Flack, Kolen Flack, Deputy Grand Master Mack Sigmon, Grand Lecturer Donald Helton, and MW Hallman. Not included in the photo to the left of Randy Flack was Kolen’s other son, Jodie.



▲ **CANDLER** – How do you honor a brother who has given much to Masonry and to his community? The brethren of Hominy #491 honored Past Master Jack Ferguson by performing a cornerstone ceremony at his church, Hominy Baptist, in June. Brother Ferguson also has financially supported several other community efforts, including an academic building at Mars Hill University and at AB Tech, and the YMCA in its effort to expand into the Enka/Candler community, and to the Asheville Buncombe County Christian Ministries to expand medical services to those who can and cannot afford the cost of a doctor visit in the Enka/Candler community. The cornerstone ceremony, attended by Grand Master Speed Hallman, Past Grand Master Bryant Webster and others, honored Brother Jack’s faith, Masonry and his benevolence.



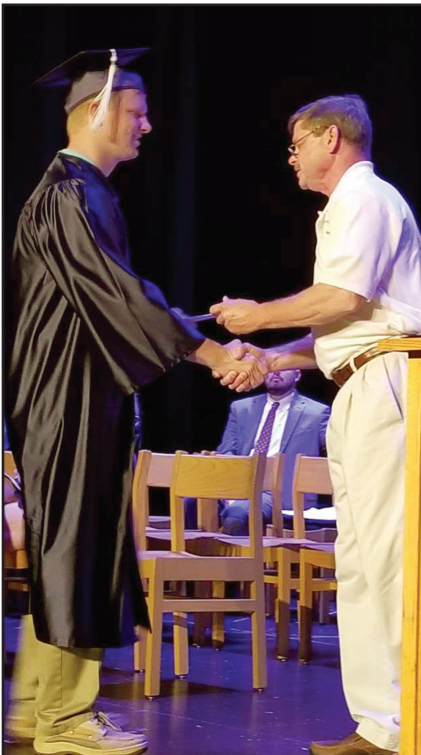
▲ **MOUNT HOLLY** – Mount Holly #544 won the city’s Community Service Award. Master Thomas J. Hally accepted the award on behalf of the lodge. The nomination letter outlined the lodge’s achievements. “The Masonic Lodge is not just a building where the Masons meet. The lodge building served for decades as the polling station for our political elections; and, it still serves as a great place for children’s birthday parties, family reunions, etc. In fact, the lodge is also a place where other local non-profit groups can host their own fundraisers.” Among other works, the letter cited the lodge’s charitable giving, primarily to the Masonic Home for Children, but also to WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community, the NC Masonic Foundation and local charities.



▲ **CHINA GROVE** – Eureka #283 organizes a golf outing every year to fund its scholarship program, and usually gives two students a scholarship of \$1,000 each to graduating seniors from two South Rowan high schools. But this year, the lodge was able to commit to four such scholarships. Brother Tom Lentz, far left, is on hand to honor students (l-r) Madson Rollins, Caleb Faulk, Amanda Patton and Kaitlyn Smith.



▲ **LENOIR** – Hibriten #262 recently presented two \$1,000 scholarships. One to Silva Mahon, graduate of West Caldwell High School, and one to Ryan Balda, graduate of Caldwell Middle College. Both students will be attending Western Carolina University in the fall. This is the first year the lodge has granted scholarships and hope to present three next year. On hand for the presentation are, l-r, Past Master Clyde Robbins, Silva Mahon, Master Tom Bridges, Ryan Balda and Senior Deacon Clint Greene. A special surprise came after the presentation when brothers learned that Silva's father was raised at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford.



▲ **GIBSONVILLE** – Master Jeff Shepherd of Tabasco #271 presents lodge scholarships to Kyle Scott Brown from Western Alamance High School and Bradley Seth Kennedy from Eastern Guilford High School. Both will be attending NC State in the fall.

## 50 YEARS

Congratulations to these 50-year members

John Masson,  
Clifford Duell #756  
Harold Narron, Rodgers #525

William Robert Watson,  
Lucama #527  
Phillip Ray Wall, Vanceboro #433



▲ **LAURINBURG** – Worshipful Master Michael Nobles presents 2018 Laurinburg #305 annual \$500 scholarships to Scotland County graduating high school seniors: George Brown who will attend Wingate University; Kayleigh Smith Locklear and Ian Montgomery Spangler, who will attend the University of North Carolina-Pembroke; and Christopher Walters, who will attend Appalachian State University.

## Grand Chapter OES elects officers for the new year

DURHAM – The following officers were elected in June at the 113th Grand Chapter Session of the NC Order of the Eastern Star:

● Worthy Grand Matron: Debbie Owen

- Worthy Grand Patron: Allen Hughes
- Associate Grand Matron: Louise Taylor
- Associate Grand Patron: Cutler Dillon
- Grand Secretary: Kay Evans

- Grand Treasurer: Norma P. Underwood
- Grand Conductress: Ellen Brooks
- Associate Grand Conductress: Betty Jo Yommer
- Grand Trustee: Janet Dorsett

From the Courier's Case

# Our memorial to the Father of our Country

By Steven Campbell  
Masonic Historian  
Blackmer #127

After George Washington's death, many of his Masonic effects were given to the Alexandria Washington Lodge No. 22. Unfortunately a fire in the Lodge resulted in the loss of numerous items.

In 1909, Brother Charles Callahan purchased several lots on Alexandria's Shuter's Hill, the site of an ancient Native American settlement, the Civil War-era Fort Ellsworth, a target practice range, and lastly a private residence, for the purpose of building a fireproof lodge.

In 1910, Virginia Grand Master Joseph Eggleston called upon all U.S. Grand Masters to meet in Alexandria to plan and fund a memorial for George Washington.

Twenty-six Grand Masters attended and the GW Masonic National Memorial was established. For a decade planning and fundraising continued. Inspiration was taken from the ancient Great Lighthouse in Alexandria, Egypt, as well as from Greek and Roman architecture (Doric and Corinthian).

On Nov. 1, 1923, the cornerstone was laid. President Calvin Coolidge, former President Brother William Taft, as well as thousands of Freemasons and fellow citizens attended. Even with the onset of the Great Depression in 1929, work continued,



Masonry's monument to George Washington looms large over the horizon of Alexandria, Va. Find out more at [gwmemorial.org](http://gwmemorial.org).

and on May 12, 1932 – the bicentennial of George Washington's birth – President Herbert Hoover dedicated the building.

The event was attended by thousands of people. Construction pressed onward, as did fundraising,

through the trying eras of the Depression, World War II, the Korean Conflict, and other challenging times. Yet, all funds raised for this worthy project came as a result of donations from Freemasons and fellow citizens, without any

form of government money.

In the 1950s, President Brother Harry Truman dedicated a 17-foot statue of George Washington. Artist Allyn Cox's life size murals also were installed in Memorial Hall, depicting events in Brother Washington's Masonic career.

This edifice serves as a symbol of freedom to all who see it.

As in the past and into tomorrow, Washington's words echo through eternity: "Let prejudices and local interest yield to reason. Let us look to our national character and to things beyond the present period."

Now, we are in the midst of restoring, preserving and perpetuating this Memorial to a most worthy man. The Landmark Century Campaign is Freemasonry's endeavor to raise funds to ensure that this beacon of faith, hope and charity will forever stay aglow.

We can support this project with financial donations and by visiting the Memorial as many Brothers have done before us. A presentation on the GW Memorial is available to Lodges and other groups. For program information you may contact one of your NC Memorial Ambassadors: Brothers Michael Aycock (Elizabethtown), Brandon Penley (Claremont), and Steven Campbell (Mount Gilead). ♠

## Brothers find fellowship even in wartime

By Jonathan Underwood  
Assistant to the Grand Secretary

One of Freemasonry's most cherished axioms declares, "The Mason, indigent and destitute, may find in every clime a Brother, and in every land a home."

Even in times of war, Freemasonry has flourished as a means to unite men in a common purpose.

The Great War was no different. Just a century ago, as the United States and North Carolina mobilized for what would become known as World War I, several enlisted

Freemasons from the old North State felt a military lodge would help alleviate the deprivations and angst of war.

By December 1917, Grand Master **Claude L. Pridgen**, physician and major in the North Carolina National Guard, wrote Grand Secretary W.W. Wilson and ordered the preparation of a dispensation to



establish a military lodge attached to the 113th Field Artillery Regiment at Camp Sevier outside of Greenville, S.C.

Grand Master Pridgen was drafted while presiding in the East, and though removed to South Carolina on active duty, he eagerly continued to oversee the work of the Grand Lodge through his Deputy Grand Master George Norfleet.

Grand Master Pridgen's official

dispensation to create Army Lodge A was issued on Jan. 4, 1918, and was confirmed by the delegates of the Grand Lodge on Jan. 16.

Army Lodge A was the first military lodge created by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina since 1864 when 6 lodges were created and attached to various units of the Confederate Army.

The lodge first met on Jan. 12 at the Masonic Temple in Greenville, S.C., where Grand Master Pridgen,

■ see ARMY LODGE next page

# WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

Wills, Thomas George	1	St John's	Selensky, Zachary John	258	Fuquay	Hatchell, Dennis Keith	484	Southern Pines	Montee, William Lee	669	Kernersville
Lintz, Philip Isaac	8	Phoenix	Lovings, Jacob Lee	271	Tabasco	Smith, Larry Howard	493	Pilot	Shrewsbury, Matthew Tyler	669	Kernersville
Phanton, Joseph Adam	8	Phoenix	Payne, Joshua Ryan	271	Tabasco	O'Neal, Jeremy Trey	495	Rockingham	Alano, Angelo Masmila	680	Semper Fidelis
Smith, Brett Ross Wilfred	8	Phoenix	Braswell, Robert Carlton	279	Wallace	Stevens, Richard Wayne	495	Rockingham	Miller II, Anthony Rudolph	686	Angier
Barrera, Jaime Victor	19	Eagle	Elmore, William Pernon	319	Wilmington	Tyler, Evan William	495	Rockingham	Parker, Charles Andrew	686	Angier
Varga, Dante Ivan	53	Hall	Franklin, James Farish	319	Wilmington	Curvin, Brian Edward	496	Mooreville	Stevens, Colby Langdon	686	Angier
Armstrong II, Michael Wayne	76	Greensboro	Hutchinson, Stephen Phillip	319	Wilmington	Blackwell, Juan Russell	502	Cookville	Neese Jr, Jerry Wayne	704	King Solomon
Armstrong, Michael Wayne	76	Greensboro	Palanza, Michael Adam	319	Wilmington	Whisnant, Michael Luke	505	Cherryville	Antinore, James Kevin	708	Crown Point
Oxford, Stephen Scott	76	Greensboro	Barringer, Zachary Jay	343	Hickory	Freeze, Luke Daniel	542	Corinthian	Williams, Gary Joseph	708	Crown Point
Bell Sr, George Robert	84	Fellowship	Delacroix, Adam Miller	343	Hickory	Forbes, Taylor Dakota	554	Vesper	Cross, Christopher James	733	Stump Sound
Harris, Joseph Perry	84	Fellowship	Kilby, Travis Shon	343	Hickory	Cox, Patrick Russell	563	Tabar	Boyle, Andre Cornelius	737	Steele Creek
Alligood, Rhys Fisher	104	Orr	Dills, Phillip Gregory	358	East LaPorte	Watters IV, James Quincy	564	Richlands	Goodwin, Jonathan Scott	741	Crissie Wright
Flanagan, Leland Sheppard	104	Orr	Outlaw, Trevor Alexander	391	Lebanon	Eller, Rodney Keith	573	Mt. Pleasant	Harris, James David	746	P P Turner
Lagcher, Christopher Scott	104	Orr	Thompson, Jimmy Allen	391	Lebanon	Klutz, Arnold Winfred	576	Andrew Jackson	Lowder, Roy Lemuel	756	Clifford Duell
Riffe, Christopher Willis	109	Franklin	Mullen III, Lewis Edward	405	Ocean	Sigmon, Bradley Scott	592	Maiden	Reinheimer, Andrew Christof	756	Clifford Duell
Byrd, Joshua Tyler	127	Blackmer	Lott, Charles Dublin	429	Seaside	Pittman, Brian Heath	613	Home	Weir Jr, David Grant	756	Clifford Duell
White, Marvin Alexander	136	Leaksville	Caudill, Wesley Brent	434	West Bend	Pittman, Bruce Spencer	613	Home	Beligrinis, Konstantinos George	757	Denver
Raynor, Joey Bennie	147	Palmyra	Knapp, Randall Steven	446	Biltmore	Humble, Ronald Lee	656	Guilford	Pruitt, Joe Berry	757	Denver
Paite III, John Kelly	190	Chadbourn	Laney, Michael Adam	461	Matthews	Mandeville Jr, Joseph Robert	656	Guilford			
Benites-Reynolds, Aguztin Cruz	214	Thomasville	Galloway, Eric Reid	484	Southern Pines	Finney, Johnathon David	669	Kernersville			

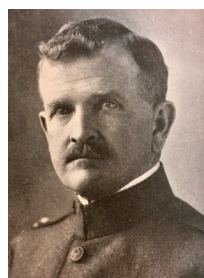
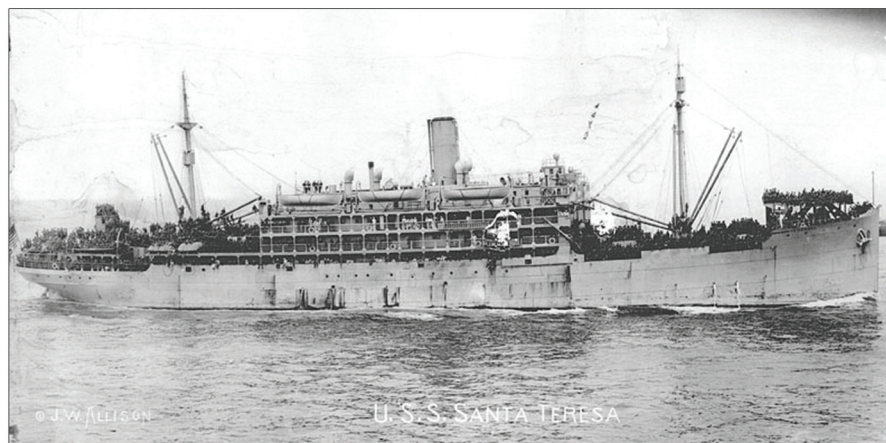
## ARMY LODGE from page 14

commander of the Medical Corps, first presided before handing over the gavel to Sgt. Joseph H. Mitchell, also of the Medical Corps. Brig. Gen. George G. Gatley, commander of the 55th Field Artillery Brigade, served as Senior Warden, and Col. Albert L. Cox, commander of the 113th Field Artillery Regiment, served as Junior Warden.

At their first meeting, the members of the lodge established their bylaws, elected a treasurer and secretary, and all subordinate roles were appointed. Army Lodge A met at the Masonic Temple in Greenville, S.C., until May 1918. On Sept. 7, 1918, Worshipful Master Joseph Mitchell opened his lodge in special communication in the little village of Sanzey on the outskirts of the 'Forêt de la Reine' and initiated three candidates.

According to a history of the lodge, the Sanzey was only a few miles from the western front "and the sound of the guns and the muffled roar of exploding shells furnished a strange accompaniment for the solemn words of the Masonic ritual."

As the end of the war approached, fighting intensified and the lodge did not meet again until Nov. 16—four days after the Armistice was signed. Besides celebrations, Col. Albert L. Cox was elected Master, Mess Sgt. Karl P. Burger elected Senior Warden, and 1st Lt.



At left, Worshipful Master Joseph Mitchell, SW George Gatley and JW Albert Cox. Above, the USS Santa Teresa transporting troops home.

Christian E. Mears elected Junior Warden.

The Lodge met across France and Luxembourg after the Armistice. The lodge's last meeting in Europe was held Jan. 18, 1919, as the 113th Artillery Regiment rejoined the 30th Division at Le Mans.

The last regular meeting of the lodge was held onboard the USS Santa Teresa (look at your dues card for a photograph of the ship) on March 15, en route from St. Nazaire, France, to Newport News, Va.

In the middle of the Atlantic

Ocean and amid a throng of Freemasons returning stateside, A. Corey, S. Nash, R. Miller, H. Thornburg, L. Norwood, C. Davis, W. Spruill, and J. Brookshire were initiated Entered Apprentices.

Upon arrival and dispersment, the members of Army Lodge A's original conditional demits went into effect and each member was returned to their home lodge in North Carolina. Those initiated aboard ship were given certificates of good standing and helped to find a home lodge in their hometown. ⚔

## Print or online? Which do you choose?

If you're reading this, you are more than likely reading it on the paper version of the Mason that arrives in your mail every other month. But we know there are many brothers who are reading this via the online version, which is posted bright and early on the first day of each month we publish.

First off – thanks for reading the Mason – in any form! We are happy to bring it to all in both forms for as long as there are brothers out there who read the paper.

But for those who prefer online reading and don't want to get a paper version in the mail, we're offering you the chance to save a tree and some postage. To stop the mailed paper, send an email to [ncmason@glnc.com](mailto:ncmason@glnc.com) with your name, lodge and the words: "OPT OUT." That's all you need to do.

Again, thanks for reading the Mason!

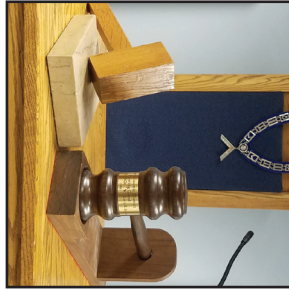


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page 3

What's the deal with per capita?



page 8

When traveling gavels cross paths



page 14

Finding brotherhood even in times of war

*On the cover*

Brothers will bring their best to Winston-Salem in September as the 231st Annual Communication get under way. All the details you need are inside!  
(Photo by Mike Harding)

**The North Carolina Mason**  
The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, AF&AM  
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# NORTH CAROLINA THE MASON

JULY/AUGUST 2018

Are you ready for  
Annual Communication?