

NORTH CAROLINA THE MASON

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*By Beth Grace
Mason Editor*

Newly installed Grand Master Larry B. Thompson Jr. did not arrive in this place by accident.

“Providence is what brought me to this stage,” he told a gathering of brothers, sisters, friends and family shortly after he was installed with fellow Grand Line officers at the historic Meroney Theater in the

heart of Salisbury.

Through some college reading, his interest in the Craft began to take hold. He found himself talking about Masonry at his mom and dad’s house ... and was stunned to learn that his family had been filled with brethren for years. He had just never known.

But once he did, he was fully involved.

During his year in the East, brethren can expect to often hear about a Masonic revival. MW Thompson has a five-point plan he will unveil.

“We’re going to get everyone excited about Freemasonry again,” he said.

The highest office in Masonry carries with it some strict requirements.

Installing Grand Officer PGM Doug Caudle told him the office carries with it “all the power and authority to govern the craft without dictation or pressure from any source. ... You are invested with powers and prerogatives which are well-nigh absolute.”

His installation was marked with some tears – and a few laughs.

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INSTALLATION, from page 1

Shortly after his father presented him with a pocket watch inscribed specially for his son, he teared up as he talked about learning that so many men in his family had been Masons.

He hesitated for a moment.

"Anyway, I didn't plan on *this*," he said, dabbing at an eye.

The audience chuckled as one of his mentors, PGM Billy Dill, acting as assistant Grand Marshal, placed the jewel and collar of office over Thompson's head. MW Thompson had to lift his now-famous beard to make sure the collar laid flat beneath it.

The crowd laughed and applauded when MW Thompson stepped offstage and into the audience to present his wife, Angie, seated in the audience, with her First Lady's pin. "She told me I had better not call her up on stage," he said.

The gathering paused to remember the outgoing Grand Master.

PGM Gene Jernigan presented the Past Grand Master's jewel, telling the audience that "Freemasonry is better today because of R. David Wicker Jr." He thanked MW Wicker for his work, and MW Wicker's wife, Susan, and their family for giving up so much family and personal time in service of Freemasonry.

During the installation ceremony, elected and appointed members of the Grand Line stood facing the stage, hand over heart, and promised to "faithfully perform the duties to which I have been elected.

Also installed were: Deputy Grand Master Kevan D. Frazier; Senior Grand Warden Donald E. Kehler; Junior Grand Warden Robert Rideout; Grand Treasurer Lewis R. Ledford; Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood; Senior Grand Deacon Steve M. Norris; Junior Grand Deacon Gilbert D. Bailey; Grand Marshal Michael A. Register; Grand Steward Phillip R. Johnson; Junior Grand Steward Clyde Alvin Billings Jr.; Judge Advocate T. Marcus Browne III; Grand Tyler Joel M. Howard; Grand Chaplain James G. Jones Jr.; Grand Historian Steven A. Campbell; Grand Lecturer Randy Browning; and Grand Orator Worth Leon Rippy. ⚡



▲ The Assistant Installing Grand Marshal, PGM Billy Dill, makes sure the new Grand Master's beard clears his officer jewel.

◀ PGM Douglas Caudle, who served as Installing Grand Officer, hands Thompson his hat as the new Grand Master's father looks on.

Photos by
Michael Harding

New Grand Master awards first Montfort to William Bruton

By Beth Grace
Mason Editor

William Baldwin Bruton was clearly not expecting it when his friend, the new Grand Master, summoned him to the stage from his perch in the balcony.

The look of disbelief on his face told the tale, as MW Larry Thompson pinned the Montfort Medal, NC Masonry's highest honor, on his jacket.

WB Bruton has been a Mason for 28 years, raised at Blackmer #127 in Mount Gilead – Thompson's home lodge. He has served as a District Deputy Grand Master, Grand Tyler, and a member of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

His real superpower, MW Thompson says, is his interest in improving Masonry. Among other innovations, he led his lodge to be among the first to support Wilkerson College by sending a young Thompson to the first class. Thompson has said attending Wilkerson changed his life and his Masonic direction.

"He the kind who stirs the pot," MW Thompson said. "He is always pushing and provoking. He had me go through every door open to me."

Thompson, newly installed as Grand Master, then looked at his friend. "So I am partly *your* problem," he said with a grin.

Brother Bruton, clearly not

expecting the honor, told the audience he was "very, very, very surprised."

"I expect every Grand Master makes a mistake," he said. "I didn't know he would start off with me," he said, to a round of laughter and applause.

Each Grand Master may give three Montfort medals during his tenure. Since 1940, 258 medals have been awarded, honoring Joseph Montfort, 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. ⚡



Bruton receives his Montfort Medal

Goal for new Steward: Be active, passionate

By Beth Grace
Mason Editor

For the newest member of the Grand Line, it's all about passion.

Passion to serve. Passion to work. Passion for Masonry.

Clyde Alvin Billings Jr. – better known to brethren simply as Alvin – came to Masonry a bit later than others, but he has been around and influenced by the Craft all his life. His grandfather and father were Masons.

And of course ... there was the ashtray.

"I would go to see my grandfather – he died when I was 24 – and he would pull out his Masonic ashtray. I still have it. He would bring it out only for me. I never asked why he did that. I learned later, after he died, was that he pulled it out so that I would ask. In the old days, to become a Mason, you had to ask the question three times. He wanted me to ask.

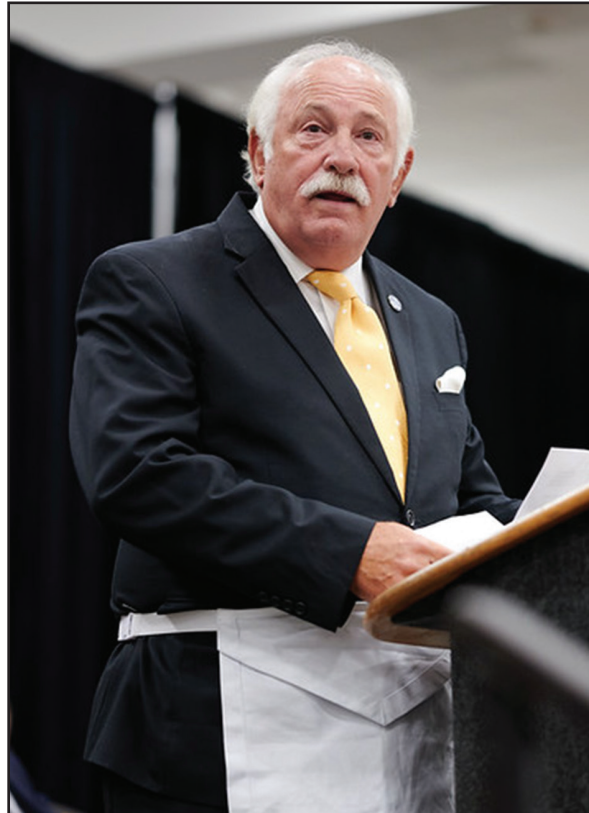
"Now, my dad was big in the Shrine and at the time, I felt Masonry was his generation's game.

"I never felt part of his crowd, so I never asked the question. Fast forward to 2008 and we're eating Christmas Eve dinner. My dad tells me that he had a great time at a Shrine event ... then says you have to be a Mason first. I asked him: 'How do you become a Mason?'

"What are you asking me?' He made me ask two more times.

"He says, 'It's about time.' He called his friend Don Kehler and says, 'Well, I finally got him.'

Billings, now a past master of Bula #409, past District Deputy Grand Master and Illustrious



Alvin Billings Jr. speaking at the Annual Communication

Potentate, filled out his petition in January 2009. He was raised the following May. That same year, he joined the Shrine and Scottish Rite. He later joined York Rite.

He began to work at his Craft, and he worked hard. He moved through the chairs in his lodge,

took on some Grand Lodge assignments and rose through Amran Shriners.

"The passion factor was always there. I wasn't thinking about legacy. I wanted to serve."

As he served, he found a special connection with both of our Masonic homes.

He had no connection to WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community until his father moved in late in life. The kindness of the staff and managers there, and the friendships his father formed while living there, filled Brother Alvin's heart. His connection to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford was immediate. The annual MHCO Homecoming Parade and the Christmas festivities that included visits with the kids in their cottages drew him in immediately.

His appointment to the Grand Line came as a surprise. He says he and new Grand Master Larry B. Thompson have been friends for years.

"I knew Larry before he had a beard," he says with a smile. He says the Grand Master asked him during dinner at the summer Board of General Purposes meeting in June. "I was in shock. My wife Fran and I talked it over for a full day before I called Larry that Sunday night."

Brother Alvin has been married to Fran for 39 years. They have two daughters and are expecting their first grandchild in May 2022.

His goals during the next years as he moves up the line: "Be active, be passionate, be seen. I've visited about 70 lodges – I've got about 300 to go. I'll hit every lodge in North Carolina before I'm done." ❖

From the Grand Historian

Masons always endeavor to do our duty

By Steven A. Campbell
Grand Historian

Our fraternity is centuries old and time tested.

We should never question the intentions of any man who makes the sincere commitment of becoming a Freemason. The tenets of brotherly love, truth and relief are well known to all.

Perhaps, however, one important facet we tend to overlook is one of the cornerstones of Freemasonry: that of developing leaders.

For whilst equality is a virtue of our Fraternity, a lodge needs to be led or it will flounder. A lodge is a forum for the development of

leadership. Throughout the world's history, Freemasons have led the way when called upon by mankind and have done their duty.

The officers of each lodge are that lodge's leaders and it is they who, along with contributing members, must fulfill their duties so that a lodge may flourish and not wilt away.

As a man decides to assume



an officer's chair in a lodge his responsibilities increase, and as it is the duty of each member to be a positive, supportive, and productive Freemason, so it is also the duty of each officer to fulfill their responsibilities to the Fraternity, the lodge and its members.

Going "through the chairs" is not something to be taken lightly. The men who are elected by their fellow brethren to serve as lodge officers take on the mantle of leadership and responsibility to perform those duties prescribed.

Each one of us in each lodge look to our officers to "do the right thing" – to faithfully perform those duties

as a good leader, making our lodges better, and to properly prepare the men who are to follow them to be good leaders.

For if they fail to do so, here is dwindling hope for the continued success of our Fraternity. Hence as a member or as a serving officer, always endeavor to do your duty.

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**NOTE: If your lodge would like to schedule a Masonic-related program from the Grand Historian, please contact me either through the Grand Lodge Speakers Bureau site at <https://www.grandlodge-nc.org/speakers> or by email at campmckay1358@gmail.com.*

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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

You only get one shot at making a last impression

Dear 2021: Get out. Go. Don't let the door hit ya on the way out. I don't know how you feel, but I'll be glad to see the tail end of this hard year, this second year of what feels like an endless pandemic, the social distancing, the masks in decorator colors over (and under) noses of all sizes, the videos of random angry people screaming at clerks, flight crews and fellow shoppers over some slight – real or imagined.

I feel like we all need a year off. Somewhere warm, with sand between the toes and a palm tree swaying. Perhaps a libation with an umbrella nearby.

The year has been hard on everyone. Some brethren lost jobs, lost their health, lost loved ones.

But even in that loss, I am finding a light, a hope for the new year.

I give credit for that to my friend, Worshipful Brother Thomas Pope of Stedman #730. He and I have bonded over the years over our past as ink-stained newspaper reporters and in our work together on the Board of Publications.

He called me recently to tell me that his beloved father had passed. He was feeling the pain, of course, but told me that he had found a way forward by performing his Masonic rites.

I did what writers do: I asked him to write about why such rites are important, and why he did what he did. He did more than that. He wrote from the heart, and shared a video his daughter shot as he performed the rites, by heart, in the family's church.

Here's what Thomas says:

I've been performing Masonic funeral rites for 16 years. To be able to serve a brother who wanted a Masonic farewell is a blessing, and to not have that opportunity is heartbreaking.

Worse, though, is this: Prominent members of lodges in my district opted against Masonic rites because "if enough guys don't show up," it would embarrass the fraternity.

My motivation for learning the ceremony was to ensure I would be able to honor my father's request for such when he was called home.

His grandfathers and father were Masons, and their influences, combined with spiritual faith, helped make my dad the exemplary man he was.

It would literally be the last thing I could do for him, no matter the emotional hurdle to overcome.

Dad was 89 when he died Sept. 30. He was a Master Mason for 67 years, and his was the most Masonic funeral I've ever witnessed.

Two of the three speakers Dad chose, including a minister who had been a student of his at Methodist University, are Master Masons.

As the service drew to a close, a heavy rainstorm arrived. I saw it as a blessing from above.

The deluge allowed me to deliver a powerful message to a church whose pews were filled when only a handful would've endured the down-pour at the cemetery.

Thomas offered one last thought:

You only get one chance to make a first impression. By the same token, you get one chance to make a last impression, too.

What message about your Masonic experience will you convey when you're gone? Do you want the world to know you believed Masonry made you a better man? Without Masonic rites, you are, in essence, implying it didn't.

Sending wishes to all for a brighter, lighter 2022, filled with hope, fellowship and love. 🍀



By Beth Grace
Editor



Take a look at Brother Thomas' video here:
<https://tinyurl.com/yzkk55yr>

FROM THE GRAND MASTER



Freemasonry's future is up to us

By *Larry B. Thompson, Jr.*
Grand Master

For the past 20 months, we have been reeling from the punches of a global pandemic and we may

not fully know the true impact for years to come.

Some of our members have become indifferent and have gotten out of the habit of attending lodge meetings, while others are truly concerned about potential exposure and have chosen to limit their activities.

Many of our brothers have worked tirelessly to ensure that our communities and our lodges maintained some semblance of order in the face of ongoing challenges; to those men, we shall be forever grateful.

We are beginning to see a new horizon in a world that is not quite post-COVID, but that is getting ever closer. It is up to us, now, to decide what this world will look like.

It is up to us to decide what Freemasonry will look like.

We have a wonderful opportunity before us to re-engage our members, strengthen our fraternal ties, grow our membership, and become relevant once again in our communities.

This will not happen without focused efforts. It is up to each of us to help revitalize our lodges and gain a renewed sense of purpose and relevancy in 2022.

It is my desire to see our lodges implement a planned approach to re-engaging the craft, creating a quality lodge experience, and enjoying the growth that they deserve.

I would suggest concentrating on five action items that have proven to generate success for our lodges in the past: Personal Contact, Quality Lodge Experience, Membership Selection, Mentoring, and Community Involvement. Each of these action items work together and should be implemented simultaneously.

Personal Contact

Are your lodge officers making phone calls to your members and the widows of our deceased

brothers? If not, why not? As a Craft, we have talked about the importance of this for years. Don't make our cherished brothers and widows wait a moment longer to hear from us. Create a calling committee today!

It is imperative that we contact our members and widows on a regular basis. These have been challenging times and there may be needs that we could help with. If you have members who have not attended a meeting recently, ask them to commit to attending a minimum of four meetings next year. If you ask, they will come.

Quality Lodge Experience

This is not difficult and there are so many opportunities. We need to provide our members with a reason to come to lodge other than simply paying our bills.

re·viv·al

/rə'vīvəl/

noun

1. an improvement in the condition or strength of something.

○ **an instance of something becoming popular, active, or important again.**

○ **a new production of an old play or similar work.**

If your lodge does not provide a program of interest at each meeting, start there. Our Grand Lodge website has a plethora of educational resources that can be used and there are brothers on our Speakers Bureau who are willing to come to you. Take advantage of those resources.

When it comes to our degree work, have you considered altering the lighting (candlelight) or adding music? A candlelight degree with music is impressive and leaves a lasting impression upon the candidate.

Does your building look uninviting or, worse yet, run down? Create a lodge improvement project. Nothing generates interest and excitement like a lodge project where the appearance of your property is improved or drastically altered.

This is an opportunity that also qualifies you for the Grand Masters Lodge of Excellence level within the Lion and Pillar program. Need help? Matthew Robbins, NC Grand Lodge

Outreach Coordinator, will help you create a vision and plan that will improve your lodge aesthetics on a budget.

Membership Selection

One of the byproducts of an active lodge with members who become excited about the direction that they are headed is new member petitions. Enthusiasm is contagious. Our biggest responsibility during the process is selecting those men who will be a good fit for our lodges.

Unfortunately, not every man is a good candidate for Freemasonry, and it is our job to thoroughly vet every man who knocks on our door. As you have heard before, we can take good men and make them better, but we cannot make good men – especially those who are not prepared for the transformative process that our system of degrees offers. Guard the West Gate.

Mentoring

I recently received a two-page email from a brother who was raised in 2020. He was intrigued by an article Beth Grace published in the last issue of the NC Mason. Sadly, this brother had more questions than answers and it was apparent that he did not have a good mentor during his advancement through the degrees.

Once you have new members coming in it is imperative that we take the time to assign them a good mentor. This can be someone in addition to their coach.

The Lodge System of Masonic Education is a valuable tool in this process. It is available on the NC Grand Lodge website for download and printing, or you can connect the candidate to the podcasts which are available through the same web page. This system had all of the answers to the questions I was asked by this brother!

Community Involvement

Sadly, we are not as relevant in our communities as we used to be. I often ask where the local Masonic lodge is located when I visit towns in my travels. Most people do not know what I am referring to.

We need to be involved in our communities. Your lodge should be participating in every community event that is open to you. In

■ see THOMPSON, page 7

OUR MASONIC CHARITIES AT WORK

GOT GIVING QUESTIONS?

George Marut, NCMF's development head



Q. We hear you're a Mason! Tell us your story and share what Masonry means to you?

I am a Mason! I am thrilled to be working in a professional capacity to share my knowledge and expertise with the Craft to help them carry out their personal philanthropy on any and all levels.

Masonry to me is phrases I have come to hear, see and learn over the years: Brothers helping brothers. Extreme friendship. Brotherly love, where we stretch forth a hand to raise the weary and fallen, aid in relief and practice compassion. Thoughtfulness for others. Kindness in the community. Honesty in business. Courtesy in society and fairness in all things.

I was surrounded by Masonry my entire life, my father was raised in George M. Dallas #531 in 1982 and I was raised in Mozart #436 in 2011. Both lodges are in Pennsylvania. The journey to and through Masonry has been an incredible experience and I look forward to continuing it here, with you.

Q. Why is it important that we give through the foundation?

Giving through North Carolina Masonic Foundation puts your hopes for a better today and tomorrow into action. We are your partner in Philanthropy. You love Masonry, and your brothers and sisters – and so do we.

Giving Your Way: As your partner in giving, NCMF offers the best of both worlds. We offer the simplicity and tax advantages of a public charity, yet the personal recognition, involvement, and flexibility of individual philanthropy.

Growing Your Giving: Would you like to access the expertise and investment experience of our board of directors, professional donor services of our staff, and the stability we build to impact our charities for decades to come? We manage your fund, invest it for growth and always honor your philanthropic wishes. Funds you endow at NCMF will be granted to charity as you have directed, now and forever.

Q. I don't know much about estate planning or annuities or anything like that. Can you help me figure out how to leave something behind for my family and my Craft?

For nearly a century, we have partnered

with hundreds of individual Masons to channel charitable dollars to their most effective uses. Whether you want to create a charitable fund to meet the needs of the community, provide a steady income stream or find help to more effectively and efficiently carry out your family's philanthropy, we are ready to work with you.

Q. Do you ever meet one-on-one with brothers, sisters and widows to talk about financial planning and giving to our charities?

It's always a pleasure to meet with brothers, sisters and their family members. I would love to set a time to connect to create a personal charitable giving plan, now and through your estate. Establish a fund or contribute to an existing fund that matches your charitable goals.

You can depend on our knowledge and trust in our long history of responsible investing and financial stewardship.

Q. We're hearing a lot about a campaign for WhiteStone. What's happening there? Why is giving to WhiteStone important to the Craft?

During the 1800s and early 1900s, Freemasonry grew dramatically. At the time the government had provided no social "safety net."

The Masonic tradition of foundation orphanages, homes for widows, and homes for the aged provided the only security many people knew.

Today that tradition continues, and the Campaign for Whitestone is the latest iteration of our tradition, in the belief that we have a responsibility to make the world a better place. Through our culture of philanthropy, we make a profound difference for our brothers, our families, our communities and our future.

All gifts count in this effort and to learn more about naming opportunities that are available and how you can leave a legacy into perpetuity contact NCMF Regional Development Director Chris Richardson or me.

Q. Will you come speak at my lodge? We'd love some brother-to-brother education about NCMF. How can we get in touch?

It would be an honor and pleasure to connect with you at your lodge. Email me today at gmarut@mfnc.org to schedule. ♠



Teen buys, paints bags for MHCO kids

Inspired by her mom, 16-year-old Nyjah Turner raised the money to buy duffel bags for kids at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford – then hand-painted them for each recipient.

She says her mom knows that foster kids often carry their belongings in a trash bag, and has always told her how important it is to show children that they matter.

So the junior at Cleveland High School in Clayton decided to take the MHCO kids on as a project this year. She does something like this every year as a way to give

back.

This year, she raised more than \$600 through Together We Rise, a non-profit that helps foster children. That was enough money buy 20 duffels and stuff each with a blanket, teddy bear, coloring book and crayons. With the help of her family, she decorated each one with a unique picture.

“My hope is that the children receiving the bags will feel special and know that they are valued and loved no matter their circumstances,” Nyjah says.




GREENSBORO – “The craftsmen have performed their duty.” Grand Lodge Officers and other brethren, led by Grand Master R. David Wicker Jr., conducted a Cornerstone Ceremony on Nov. 12 at the Care & Wellness Center at WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community. The stone, which carries Past Grand Master Shaun Bradshaw’s name in honor of his year of leadership, will anchor the new facility which will be finished in late 2022. The stone also honors Louise Taylor, Worthy Grand Matron, Order of the Eastern Star. During the ceremony, brethren certify the stone is plumb, level and square and present corn, wine and oil as emblems of plenty, joy and peace. The expansion at WhiteStone is a labor of love for Masons around the state, honoring brothers and sisters who have stayed there with charitable help from the Craft, and lived out happy lives in safety. About 150 people gathered for the ceremony, honoring the ongoing work to expand our home in Greensboro. Saturday’s ceremony came one day shy of the 22nd anniversary of the original dedication of the building. Interested in giving to the Campaign for WhiteStone? <https://mfnc.org/our-charities/campaign-for-whitestone>



OXFORD – The staff of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford was truly “in the pink” in October as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. MHCO staff honored the women on who have bravely fought this deadly disease. Learn more about prevention or how you can help at breastcancer.org.

THOMPSON, from page 5

addition to being visible at community events, consider sponsoring a youth sports team or band, hosting a blood drive, volunteering with the Habitat for Humanity or Meals on Wheels. There are numerous ways to become involved and that pays dividends in the long run!

Brethren, we have a wonderful opportunity before us to re-engage our members, strengthen our fraternal ties, experience positive growth, and become relevant once again in our communities. With a little work, we will enjoy all of these things and more ... a Masonic revival, if you will! 



Closing moment

Newly installed Grand Lodge officers bring the ceremony to an end with the Closing Charge.

Relationships the key to Masonry's future

Transitions are a part of life. Some we can plan for, and some we cannot. But the most important piece of any transition are the relationships you make along the way.

In September, you honored me by electing me Grand Secretary. Thank you. I want you all to know that I cherish every one of your congratulatory notes, phone calls, and prayers. Know that in everything I do, I will strive to be worthy of your trust.

There are more than 250 years of history, tradition, and responsibility behind our institution, and a living strength that shapes our future as a Grand Lodge. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate each of you for your guidance in determining what our future will be.

But, I want to especially thank my mentor, predecessor, and friend, Walt Clapp, who taught me that we must always move forward and plan for nobler deeds, higher thoughts, and greater achievements – that which betters our society.

Below is his speech of thanks delivered at the Annual Communication this past September.

Brethren,

It is an honor to stand before you today. I had the honor to serve this Grand Lodge for 42 years — 25 of which you honored me as your elected Grand Secretary.

Friends, please know how much I value the trust you vested in me to

represent you. Your confidence is what equips your Grand Lodge office and your Grand Lodge Officers to work and work effectively. It was always my intention to serve you.

It was not always easy. Brethren, I know I challenged you. I know I frustrated some of you. But, truthfully, at times you frustrated me, too! Truly, you challenged me and I take criticism and concerns as a way to improve myself — to understand a different point of view, to approach a problem and a solution in a different light. And, I hope you did, too.

It is very important for any office to have a good staff. We had and have a great Grand Lodge office staff. After I was elected Grand Secretary, following the death of then-Grand Secretary Pete Dudley, it became apparent that I had to bring in an assistant.

I was not looking for someone that would always agree with me. I wanted someone who would challenge me. The person I selected was Ric Carter. Ric became a special friend. I appreciated his insights on many issues and ability to find solutions. We worked as a team and I have to credit Ric with my successes. Now, that is not to say it was all rosy ... Ric can be opinionated at times!

I am proud of the many accomplishments that occurred during my years in the Grand Lodge office. However, I think the most important success we were able to obtain as a Grand Lodge was the recognition and relationship we developed with our Prince Hall brethren.



By Jonathan Underwood
Grand Secretary

The recognition of Prince Hall Masonry was a turbulent 12-year process, and started the year I became your Grand Secretary. However, it was an issue I believed in, and one from which I was not going to shy away.

That whole time and afterward reminds me again of our Grand Lodge staff. Being able to work in an office environment where everyone feels like family is a blessing.

Cornelia Doherty and Frankie Harles and others just help the world go 'round a little smoother. Also, I think about the office as generational. Cornelia and I started about 1980 — we were the new kids! And, worked alongside Pete Dudley, Jean House, and Joyce Watson, who all arrived on the scene about 1960. And, man, I thought they were old then!

Your current staff in the Grand Lodge office is second to none. As people resigned or retired we moved forward, hiring new individuals with new talents. This next generation includes Vicki Lam, Hayley Moll, and Matthew Robbins — all of whom are superbly genuine and talented people, and they brought skills to the table I did not have, but needed. They challenged me to think different and to work differently. And, for that I feel confident in saying our Grand Lodge office is in good hands.

Brethren, support them. Help them. Challenge them as you challenged me. I am delighted to have been part of this family and say "thank you" to each of them.

Brethren, we all recognize the time in our lives when it is time to step aside and out of the way. Several years back, we had a young man come to the office to do some research. He came by a number of times and we got to know him well.

When Ric Carter told me he was going to retire and mentioned I should keep an eye out for a new assistant, he mentioned this person. After conversing with Dalton Mayo, then Grand Master (who informed me it was in my best interest to hire a new recruit in case I was hit by a log truck), we hired Jonathan Underwood.

Jonathan has been a wonderful addition to the Grand Lodge staff, and we developed a similar collegial relationship as I had with Ric.

Now it's time to pass the baton. Brethren, whether it is your lodge or your work, I'll ask you what I so often asked myself: "Who are you passing the baton to?" And, "Did you prepare them for the challenges ahead?"

Since at least the 1890s, it has been the tradition of the Grand Lodge office to train up the next man. For me, I remember Grand Secretary Charlie Harris, who hired Pete Dudley, who hired me. And, like each of them, I feel confident in passing the baton to Jonathan. He has a firm grasp of your Grand Lodge's operations, and I am confident of his vision for the future. I wish him well and also stand by willing and able to assist him in any way possible.

Finally, brethren, I miss the day-to-day relationship with you. I always enjoyed our phone conversations, visitors dropping by the office, and seeing you at district meetings.

I can honestly say I will not miss hearing a Grand Master's message at a district meeting — I heard the same talk between 18 and 65 times a year, every night — but I will miss YOU.

Thank you again for your love and for your support. I'll be around, but it'll be in jeans and a T-shirt and I'll likely have a good IPA in my hand. ✦



From the
Grand
Lodge
Medical
Committee

Bounce back from the COVID couch

The Covid 19 Pandemic has had us confined to our homes which has not only resulted in various psychological issues but our physical fitness as well.

Folks that were active and enjoying their "normal" life prior to March 2020 suddenly found their gyms closed, walking paths and greenways closed due to the

lockdown, working from home, etc.

So many found themselves sitting and watching TV or other non-active things, sometimes for months.

Not only did we lose muscle tone but not having much cardio workout activity gained some extra weight and unless we maintained some activity may have become a

■ continued next page

New award honors Lodge leadership

A new annual award has been established to honor the work of Blue Lodge leaders in remembrance of a beloved past grand master who made leadership his hallmark and life's work.

The Thomas Warren Gregory Award was unanimously approved by the Board of General Purposes at its September meeting. Most Worshipful Gregory was 1998-1999 Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina. He passed away last October at the age of 74.



GREGORY

The award will be given each year to up to three Blue Lodge Masons nominated by Masonic leaders (see rules below). No past grand masters or Grand Line officers are eligible. Applications will be available on the Grand Lodge web page, www.grandlodge-nc.org. The entry period begins Jan. 1 and ends April 15. Recipient names will be sent to the Grand Master by July 15.

The proposal to establish the award noted that while MW Gregory might be well-remembered for his great laugh, his achievements speak of his strong leadership. He organized Wilkerson College and created the state's largest Masonic blood drive, but was equally well known and respected for his gifted coaching, his charity for brethren in need, and his work with struggling lodges.

"Brother Tom was humble and unassuming, a family man, a great

storyteller, a hunter and fisherman, a leader in his church, a Gideon, a Rotarian and a highly respected member of the business community.

"As grand master he wielded his authority with grace always, and with steel when necessary."

He took on some difficult tasks during his tenure. "Though he might have ignored or downplayed the racial issues that were simmering among the Craft, he met them head-on and took the heat – at times vituperative and ugly – and faced his opponents with patience and grace.

"At the end of his term, he thanked his friends for standing by him and thanked his foes for making him a better man and Mason, remarking that 'over these last 12 months, this ashlar got a bit smoother.'"

As a past grand master, he rarely wore the apron and jewel of the office. At the Annual Communication he preferred to tie on a white apron and sit offstage and on the level with his brothers.

In 2015, the Grand Lodge declared Aug. 15 "Thomas W. Gregory Day" and saluted the "honor of the sacrifices and dedication of that outstanding past grand master; a man of vision and toleration, who turned the other cheek and gave brotherly forgiveness in the face of stringent attack and misunderstanding; who blazed a new trail for our fraternity, awakening it to the 21st century."

A delegation of past grand masters, grand line officers and Masonic leaders from across the state filed into Statesville #27 to surprise Tom and pay tribute to the man who gave so much to his beloved Craft.

Thomas Warren Gregory Masonic Leadership Award

Entry Rules

The Thomas Warren Gregory Masonic Leadership Award is presented annually to up to three NC Masons who embody Blue Lodge Masonic Leadership.

Examples of Leadership: Consistent and demonstrable Blue Lodge leadership with an emphasis on servant leadership is paramount to this award. Some examples of this type leadership include but are not limited to: Lodge turnaround, Lodge engagement, fundraising for Masonic charities, coaching of candidates and officers, community outreach, or other Blue Lodge leadership.

Eligibility: Any North Carolina Master Mason with a minimum of five years' service in a Blue Lodge leadership capacity.

Ineligible: Any Past Grand Master or NC Grand Lodge Line Officer.

The award will consist of a handsome plaque, medal, lapel pin, and nameplate added to a perpetual plaque on display at the Grand Lodge office.

The award will be presented at each annual communication by a Gregory family member, past recipient, or the Grand Master.

Who may nominate: Lodge Masters, District Deputy Grand Masters, District Deputy Grand Lecturers, Grand Lodge Line Officers, and Past Grand Masters.

The application form for this award will be available via the Grand Lodge website.

Applications will be received from January 1 to April 15 each year for consideration of that year's award. The application will be a form that will include general information about the candidate, i.e. Lodge information, dates, etc., and an area for an essay type description of the applicant's demonstrable leadership qualities.

Selection Committee: Consists of five NC Masons as appointed by the Grand Master. Their terms will be for five years with the Grand Master appointing one member each year as well as any unexpired term vacancies. The initial committee members by random draw will serve five-, four-, three-, two- and one-year terms.

Meeting Times: The selection committee will meet beginning in April each year to review submitted nominations. The committee will appoint a Chairman each year whose duties will include:

- Determining the location and format of each meeting
- Calling subsequent meetings as needed for application review
- Casting the deciding vote for any ties
- Submitting the name of the winner(s) to GL staff and the Grand Master in a timely manner so that awards can be printed and engraved.

The recipient(s) will be submitted to the Grand Master by July 15 each year.

couch potato.

If you find yourself in any of those categories, be active – and careful – as things open up more and more.

Get out and do some light exercise with slow, short walks. Gradually, you will pick up your old pace and distance.

There are many exercises we can do at home in our

own time without having to join a gym or pay for a trainer.

The key thing is to get up and get to moving. Take care of yourself and continue to be safe while following the necessary guidelines.

Get out and support your lodge as the pandemic has taken a toll on attendance if you feel safe in attending. Just refrain from all the hand shaking and close

contact.

Remember the three Ws:
Wear a cloth mask
Wait six feet apart
Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer

By Rick Patton, Co-Chair

NEWS OF THE CRAFT



▲ **GREENSBORO** – Brother William DeForest Maness got a very special 100th birthday surprise in September. Brothers of Revolution #552 celebrated his birthday and his 70th year as a Master Mason with a banner on his front lawn, some cake and a lovingly delivered version of the Happy Birthday song. Before the pandemic hit, Brother Maness would attend every meal and meeting and was still proficient in the degrees.



▲ **JEFFERSON** – Past Master Jim Judson presents the 60-year Diamond Jubilee Award to Brother John W. Hodges III at his home in Jefferson in October. Brother Hodges was raised in Snow #363 in Boone on Oct. 14, 1961. He is a third-generation Mason and currently is a member of Ashe #594 in West Jefferson.



▲ **BROADWAY** – Worshipful Brother Garland Eugene Smith, Past Master and Past Deputy District Grand Master, was presented his 50-year Certificate and pin at Friendship #763. Among attendees was Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan, who presented WB Garland with his certificate. Other masonic dignitaries included (from left), WB Jonathan S. Johnson, PM, DDGM; WB Dr. Hubert Warren, PM, PDDGM; Jernigan; Smith; WB Donald Collins, PM and WB Rudolf L. King, PM, DDGL (20).



◀ **CHARLOTTE** – Monroe #244 fired up the grills in October to prepare a thank-you breakfast for local first responders. Members of the Charlotte Chapter Order of DeMolay helped assemble and deliver 175 breakfast platters to various emergency service agencies around Union County. The DeMolay members had an opportunity to meet and talk to law enforcement officers and other first responders throughout the morning.

▼ **ROXBORO** – The brothers of Person #113 joined with Boy Scouts and family members in September to host a tasty and successful fish fry to raise funds for our Masonic charities.





◀ **NEWTON** – After several years of hard work, Prometheus #775 received its charter in October from Grand Master R. David Wicker Jr. In attendance were almost 50 Masons: the officers and members of Prometheus, along with RW Jonathan Underwood, Grand Secretary, WB Mike Register, Senior Grand Steward, and WB Matthew Robbins. Also in attendance were MW Doug Caudle and MW D. Mack Sigmon, Past Grand Masters. PGM Sigmon granted Prometheus Lodge its original dispensation in 2019. Prometheus, a traditional observance Lodge, is located in Newton, where it shares a building with Catawba #248. This new lodge is the fourth traditional observance lodge in North Carolina and enjoys membership from multiple districts. The focus for Prometheus Lodge is to share Masonic Philosophy, Masonic Education, and developing fraternal bonds.



▲ **BOONE** – Snow #363 raised three new brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason outdoors in September at Camp Gray Rock in Foscoe. Camp Gray Rock is an encampment owned by the Order of the Eastern Star surrounded by trees and nature. The departure from standard ritual practices and, in keeping with the simplicity of the venue, rustic furnishings, gavels, and staffs were provided by the brothers of Cranberry #598, Elk Park. The Lodge could be tiled on the third degree due to the isolated nature of the stage and seating area. Brothers from lodges in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania were in attendance. Brothers Kevin Cruz and Nathan Lukas were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Brother Paul Lucas represented Grand Master Hiram Abiff. Brother Lucas was then raised by his father, Charles Lucas of Snyder #756, Snyder, Pa. The new brothers are, from left, Kevin Cruz, Paul Lucas, and Nathan Lukas.



▲ **COOKVILLE** – Cookville #502 presented Brother Douglas Metz his 50- Year Veterans Award in October. On hand, from left, are: Brother Dick Gardner, Brother Alan Lutz, Brother Douglas Metz, WB Frederick H. Cloninger and WB Dan Beal.



◀ **DURHAM** – Bill Cole from Durham #352, right, receives his 60-year Diamond Jubilee Certificate from Worshipful Master Tom Forquarean.

NEWS OF THE CRAFT



WILMINGTON – “I am building this bridge for him ...” The North Carolina Masonic Foundation and Grand Master of Masons R. David Wicker Jr. on Oct. 5 honored Brother Mike Faulkenbury at his home lodge, Wilmington #319, as the newest inductee into the NCMF Bridge Builder Society. His daughter, Megan Faulkenbury was there to witness the presentation. The planned giving recognition society – named after an inspirational poem the late PGM Charles Cathey would read at his district meetings – recognizes those who have made gifts to our Masonic charities through the foundation with an award of a sterling silver Tiffany compass. Read more about the society and the poem that inspired at <https://mfnc.org/how-to-give/bridge-builder-society>



▲ GREENSBORO – October 22 was a special day at WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community when brothers and others treated residents to some award-winning barbecue. The menu included hickory-smoked pulled pork and sauce; BBQ potatoes; smokey baked beans with apples; BBQ slaw and cole slaw; hushpuppies and homemade banana pudding. Brothers who made the thank-you meal possible were: George Troxler, WhiteStone resident and PM Salem #289; Joey Transou, West Bend #434 and WhiteStone Board member; Cliff Pranke, Salem #289 and Donna Pranke; Jonathan Black, Andrew Jackson #576, Phil Wynne, West Bend #434. Gracious help and coordination were offered by Jonathan Szarke, executive chef and WhiteStone Food and Beverage director; Katie Beverly, Dining Room manager; Angel Santos and Denver Whatley, executive Sous Chef & Sous Chef; Dani Valentine, Assistant Dining Room manager; Servers, Lauren Perdue, Day Slack, David Splawski, Kaelah Wiggins; Full & Part Time kitchen stars, Betty Reese, Shaq White, David Long, Camuari Grady, and Jonathan Perez.



▲ HAMPSTEAD – Ashlar #765 Master Binh Q. Nguyen, right, presents the Eagle Scout Badge to Noah Seth Witkowski at a special event in October.



▲ OXFORD – Lux Libertas #772 partnered with the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford to throw a Carolina football-themed party in September. The kids played football, enjoyed some pizza and watched the Tar Heels demolish Virginia 59-39. The lodge gave every child a commemorative T-shirt, a game day program from the UNC Athletic Department, swag from the Rams Club and goodies collected by lodge members. The lodge takes MHCO residents to a Carolina football game every other year and throws a viewing party for WhiteStone in the alternate years. This year's visit to Kenan Stadium was scrubbed on account of COVID.



▲ **CHARLOTTE** – Steele Creek #737 broke bread and had fellowship at the Oct. 4 Stated Communication with members from four different Prince Hall lodges in the Charlotte area and a few members from Charles M. Setzer #693.



▲ **GREENSBORO** – The music of two Master Masons was featured on Oct. 31 – Reformation Day – at Graham Presbyterian Church. Brothers Dave Thomas and Kyle Dortch, both members of Greensboro #76, played the bagpipes and the timpani, respectively, and led the tunes “Amazing Grace” and “Highland Cathedral” during the Reformation Day service.



▲ **KENANSVILLE** – It’s all about family. Members of Past Grand Master Charles Ingram’s Grand Line “family” gathered in September at St. John’s #13 to honor their friend/mentor on his 50-year service anniversary. On hand, left to right, were Grand Steward Phil Johnson; Grand Master R. David Wicker Jr., PGM Dalton Mayo, PGM Gene Jennigan, PGM Ingram. PGM Ingram was raised at St. John’s and served as Grand Master in 1999.



▲ **YADKINVILLE** – Yadkin #162 has initiated and passed its two youngest-ever candidates. Brother Tyler Reinhardt, 20, and Brother Jaron Sears, 18. Both are Eagle Scouts and Order Of The Arrow Vigil Honor.



◀ **RALEIGH** – It was all about health – and community – at the Grand Lodge in September when Life Line Screening, a company that conducts screenings for a variety of health issues, welcomed senior citizens in for free screenings. The event was a way to give back to the community, says Grand Secretary Jonathan Underwood. “We want our lodges to open their doors to the community, and the Grand Lodge is happy to do that,” he says. The Grand Lodge is interested in hosting more events and even renting out space occasionally to generate funds that will help maintain the building. All Masons are welcome and encouraged to visit and tour the Grand Lodge.

REDEDICATION:

'The Craftsmen have performed their duty' at Roanoke Rapids HS

By Beth Grace
Mason Editor

ROANOKE RAPIDS – History truly repeated itself on a sunny fall afternoon as NC Masons gathered for the second time in 100 years to dedicate a cornerstone.

In 1921, amidst a flu pandemic, residents of Roanoke Rapids gathered – probably keeping some social distance – to dedicate the cornerstone of their local high school and seal a time capsule inside the stone.

North Carolina's Freemasons were there to conduct the cornerstone ceremony, led by Grand Master James C. Braswell.

On a crisp Saturday in October 2021, NC Freemasons were at the school again, gathered with masked residents and dignitaries, to rededicate the cornerstone and unseal the time capsule – and the keepsakes within.

After opening Grand Lodge in a nearby building, brethren wearing dark suits, white gloves and aprons, processed down the street to the cornerstone.

As he opened the ceremony, Grand Master R. David Wicker Jr. told the large crowd gathered outside the school that the brothers were conducting the exact same ceremony today as they did 100 years earlier.

During the ceremony, brothers ascertained that the cornerstone was found to be square, level and plumb.

"I therefore declare the stone to be well-formed, true and trusty and correctly laid," MW Wicker said. The elements of consecration – corn, an emblem of plenty; wine, an emblem of joy and gladness; and oil, an emblem of peace – were scattered and


poured.

Later, Grand Secretary Jonathan Underwood gingerly removed items from the time capsule. Most were intact, while some of the paper items were worn with time.

Inside the time capsule: an article from the local paper about the 1921 cornerstone dedication – which ran next to a story about how the Roanoke Valley was still fighting the Spanish flu pandemic. Also found inside was a 1920 copper penny, a 1921 Bible, a 1915 Masonic code book.

Returned to the time capsule was the 1921 Bible. New keepsakes added included: a Roanoke Rapids High School facemask, a ticket to this year's 100th commencement in May, an RRHS keychain, a commemorative edition of the Roanoke Rapids Herald, a ceremony program, photographs, letters written for the occasion, a 2021 penny, a 1921 and a 2021 silver dollar, an RRHS mug, a pin from Grand Master R. David Wicker Jr., a Masonic ceremony book, and pin commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the provincial grand lodge.

Widow's Son #519 participated in the 1921 dedication and assisted in the rededication.

Cornerstone ceremonies are few and far between in modern times. This was the first of two such ceremonies scheduled for NC Masons in recent weeks. The second was held in November, marking progress of work on the expansion at WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community. (See separate item in this issue) 



Above, Grand Master R. David Wicker and Grand Secretary Jonathan Underwood conduct a ceremony rededicating Roanoke Rapids High School's 100-year-old cornerstone. Right, NC Freemasons process to the cornerstone after opening lodge in a nearby building. Dozens of area residents gathered for the ceremony and heard from dignitaries from around the state. For many, it was the first time they ever witnessed a Masonic cornerstone ceremony.

(Photos by Beth Grace)



Wilkerson College namesake passes

It's safe to say that Maj. General Lloyd Wilkerson was no mere spectator.

To the legendary military leader and author of the autobiography *I Was an Observer of The Greatest Generation*, leadership was his watchword and his purpose in life.

Known simply as "Major" to friends and family at WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community, where he moved in 2003, Brother Wilkerson passed away on Oct. 11, just shy of his 102nd birthday. He was active to the end, working on projects and investing in his lifelong love for Freemasonry.

Herbert Lloyd Wilkerson, USMC (ret.) was a Freemason over 73 years. He served as master of two lodges and as the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Scottish Rite in North Carolina.

Brother Wilkerson was born Oct. 13, 1919, in Troy, Tennessee, the son of farmer Fred Wilkerson and his wife, Susan. His father died when Lloyd was 14 and the 67-acre family

farm was lost. With the assistance of their father's Masonic brothers, Lloyd and younger sister were able to attend Erskine College. He graduated in 1941 and later enlisted in the Marine Corps.

He participated in the capture of Guadalcanal, advanced through the enlisted ranks to Platoon Sergeant, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant in April 1945.

After having served in combat in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam where he commanded the First Marines, the oldest regiment in the Corps, he became Chief of Staff, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune.

In 1972, he was promoted to Brigadier General and became



WILKERSON

Commanding General of that Base. Subsequently, as a Major General, he served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development and Studies at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps in Washington; Commanding General of the Third Marine Division, and Commanding General of the III Marine Amphibious Force in the Far East.

His final assignment, prior to retirement in 1978, was Director of Personnel Management Division/ Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower at Marine headquarters in Washington DC.

He was a graduate of the Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the U. S. Army War College. He served as an Assistant Professor on the faculty of Duke University (1960-1962).

Wilkerson served Erskine College as a member of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association and joined the Erskine Board of Trustees, serving as chairman.

Among many Masonic honors, he was the inaugural master of Wilkerson Lodge, a travelling lodge devoted to Masonic education. From that lodge, Wilkerson College was born and named for him.

But beyond all of his accomplishments, his family, friends and brothers knew him as a caring man devoted to family, country and Craft ... with a great sense of humor to keep him and others going.

He was preceded in death by his first wife of 69 years, Jeanne Coffin Wilkerson. He is survived by his second wife, Lillian Gibson; three sons: Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Wilkerson, USMC (ret), Richard N. Wilkerson, Chairman and President (retired) Michelin North America, and Fred C. Wilkerson, chef and graduate of the New England School of Culinary Arts; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Brother Wilkerson will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. ♦

THE PRAYER CORNER

By Rev. James G. Jones Jr.
Grand Chaplain

Great Architect of the Universe, we pause for a moment in our busy lives to give you thanks for Grand Master R. David Wicker Jr. and all the members of the Grand Line. We also give you thanks for all the Worshipful Masters and leaders in our Blue Lodges and our appendant bodies for the many ways they have led our great fraternity this past year.



We give you thanks for their willingness to serve the Craft during a difficult time in our society marked with stress and division. We give you thanks for how they have challenged us to be better men and better Masons and how they have led by example.

They have reminded us of the lessons our Craft offers. They have challenged us to live to the high standards to which you

call us. They have reminded us to keep the widow and the orphan in our thoughts and prayers. And they have reminded us that everyone has a claim upon our kind offices.

As our thoughts turn to a new year, we ask that your blessing rest on all those leaders in our Craft who will be assuming new leadership roles in Masonry.

We especially ask for your blessing to rest on Larry B. Thompson Jr., that Sharp-Dressed Man, who will assume the duties and responsibilities as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

Imbue him with your wisdom as he leads us in the best Grand Lodge in the Southern Jurisdiction during the upcoming year.

And in all things, may we be seen as constantly striving to improve ourselves not only in Masonry, but also in those tasks, which in our society, unite us in the one common bond of care for our neighbor.

May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us.

SMIB and AMEN.

WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

Coffey, Nicholas Peter	1	St John's	Ireland, Michael Lee	479	Rainbow
Grieder, Luke Jordan	8	Phoenix	York, Michael D'Wayne	479	Rainbow
Carter, William Coleman, Sr	31	Phalanx	Greene, Stoney Scott	483	Traphill
Harrington, Terrance Elliot	31	Phalanx	Parfitt, Joseph Anthony	484	Southern Pines
Hitt, Christopher Leith	31	Phalanx	Meza, John Joseph	491	Hominy
Riggins, Tyler Lee	31	Phalanx	Netherton, James Rhea	491	Hominy
Pikarsky, Chase Jordan	40	Hiram	Knically, Taylor Samuel	496	Mooresville
Elliott, Owen Taylor	53	Hall	Marsh III, Marvin Dayne	496	Mooresville
Close, Jason Edward	58	Concord	Rebollo, Kevyn Javier	496	Mooresville
Smith, James Randall	76	Greensboro	Dial, Patrick Henry	501	Red Springs
Soufia, Rami	76	Greensboro	Carpenter, Michael David	505	Cherryville
Bridgeman, Byron Connor	114	St. Alban's	Randall, William Avery	505	Cherryville
Hardee, James Wesley	114	St. Alban's	Richard, Larry Shane	505	Cherryville
Pride, Matthew Paul	118	Mt. Hermon	Walters, Austin	505	Cherryville
Costner, Steven Scott	137	Lincoln	Fowler, Matthew Aaron	550	Roman Eagle
Stevenson, Gary Trevor John	137	Lincoln	Hardee, Jonathan Clifford	563	Tabor
Nall, Charles Quentin	143	Mt. Vernon	Norris III, Archie McCoy	563	Tabor
Cobb, Joseph Shawn	145	Junaluskee	Morrison Jr, Ronald Fred	564	Richlands
Morgan, Tyler Jordan	145	Junaluskee	Perry, Jonathan Sidney	573	Mt. Pleasant
Parlor, Timothy Tiko	145	Junaluskee	Edmundson, John Donald, III	613	Home
Sellers, Trevor	190	Chadbourn	Bruce, Joshua Dane	626	Cannon Memorial
Burtness, Norman Dean	218	William G. Hill	Corum, Joshua Spence	626	Cannon Memorial
El Aawar, Marc	218	William G. Hill	Pickler, Darrell Wayne	626	Cannon Memorial
Newton, Robert Lewis	229	Henderson	Britt, Troy Dalton	643	Proctorville
Westmoreland, Cody Auman	271	Tabasco	Garland, Charles David	672	Robbinsville
Macon, Luke Jeffery	271	Tabasco	Prescott, Aaron Michael	680	Semper Fidelis
Bevill, Travis Allen	272	Bingham	Brown, Jason Kenneth	686	Angier
Hart, William Allen	305	Laurinburg	Miller, Dustin Lee	686	Angier
Cooke, Travis Garrison Frederick	319	Wilmington	Martin, Patrick Kelley	688	Cherry Point
Cooke, Travis Keith	319	Wilmington	Perry, Austin Lee	709	Conover
Cruz, Kevin	363	Snow	Drye, Chris Jonathan	720	Cabarrus
Lucas, Paul Andrew	363	Snow	Serraro, Trevor Salvatore	727	Shalotte
Lukas, Nathan James	363	Snow	Summerfield, Shawn Patric	751	Old Town
Clontz, Tyler Steven	374	Campbell	Tatum, Clarence Webb	751	Old Town
Pruitt, Kevin Webb	388	Friendship	Struble, William Andrew	759	James K. Polk
Harbison, James Ian	391	Lebanon	Baker, Chad Matthew	762	Mosaic
Major, Marc Nicolas	391	Lebanon	Daniels, Laterrence Devorge	762	Mosaic
Bowman, William Lejay	403	Siler City			
Moorefield, Daniel Michael	409	Bula			
Murphy, Edward Elias, IV	429	Seaside			



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Newest member of Grand Line's goals



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Meet the new director of our Masonic Foundation



page 14

Grand Lodge rededicates school cornerstone

On the cover

Newly installed Grand Master Larry B. Thompson Jr. speaks to the guests in attendance at the Meroney Theater in Salisbury. Photo by Michael Harding

The North Carolina Mason
The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, AF&AM
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