

NORTH CAROLINA

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THE MASON



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



CELEBRATING MASONIC REVIVAL

WITH ANCIENT
TRADITIONS

Masonry is
Philanthropy

GM Offers Cigars
for Charities

Campaign for
WhiteStone



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ON THE COVER: The Grand Master isn't blowing smoke with his annual charitable fundraiser this year. Read more inside!



*Larry B. Thompson Jr.
Grand Master*

Masonry IS the Real Thing. Welcome to the Revival!

Do you remember when the Coca-Cola Company released New Coke? It was widely considered a major failure, marketing blunder of the century. The original formula was reintroduced just 79 days later, and the company soared to new heights.

Why am I writing about Coke? To make a point. We all know that change for the sake of change can be detrimental... but engaging in the practice of continuous improvement? Now that's a different story.

The magazine you hold in your hand is the product of continuous improvement. Through the years the *North Carolina Mason* has evolved in both size and with the addition of full color.

Now your Board of Publications has helped realize the dream of many brothers by converting the *Mason* into a very high-quality periodical. We can all be very proud of the new format, and it certainly checks the box for quality — and you have heard me preach on delivering “quality” since being installed as your Grand Master!

Speaking of quality, this is the essence of the Masonic Revival that we are currently experiencing in our state. Our brothers and new members are

seeking the best that we have to offer, whether it be in lodge appearance, our educational programs, our meals, or other special events that we promote. This was also a driving force in bringing the Grand Master's Table Lodge meetings to the major urban areas in our state. Our observant lodges have enjoyed huge success with their table lodge programs and when asked if we could do this on the state level, the answer was a resounding YES! At this writing, we have had the opportunity to host two table lodge events and quite a few brothers have come to me after the dinners, or emailed me the day after, asking if their lodge could host their own version of a table lodge. My answer: a resounding YES!

Regarding lodge appearance, have you considered implementing a lodge improvement project for the year? If not, why not? In many cases, the appearance of our lodge buildings deliver that first impression — good or bad.

Once you identify a project and start working toward accomplishing the goal, you will have implemented a team-building exercise that will pay dividends, and one that qualifies for the Grand Master's Lodge of Excellence recognition within the Lion and Pillar program.

If you need help identifying a project, reach out to Worshipful Brother Matthew Robbins at the Grand Lodge office. Brother Matthew has been doing amazing work in our lodges by helping our brothers realize the potential of their buildings and make their meeting space uniquely their own.

In our regular District Meetings, we have been broaching the sometimes uncomfortable subject of our lodge expenses, long-term maintenance needs (roof and HVAC systems to name two) and planning for the future. We now have a web-based "Lodge Dues Calculator" to help with this process. The calculator factors in your lodge facility's health (the age of your roof and HVAC system) and other systems based on age and square footage, your lodge's savings and expenditures, and your lodge's dues structure based on the number of dues paying members.

The calculator eliminates the need for guesswork. Once you enter your data, you will see the dollar amount required per paying member to ensure your lodge's financial health. The Lodge Dues Calculator can be found at: <https://bit.ly/3KfQNib>.

I am also pleased to report that the Grand Lodge Public Relations Committee and Masonic Education Committee have been working jointly to develop the new member packages we approved funding for at this past year's Annual Communication. We are set to deliver the final product to our newest members in June. The new member package will be loaded with great information for the newly made Master Mason and will be available for purchase through the Grand Lodge office if you would like to have a copy for yourself.

MW Brother Benjamin Franklin is quoted as saying "without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."

We have a unique opportunity to experience a Masonic Revival like this state has never seen, but it requires work. We must seek out every opportunity for continuous improvements in our processes, planning, and delivery.

In all things quality should be our ultimate goal. Do not be afraid to try new things.

Yes, the Coca-Cola company made a major marketing mistake in 1985. But they did what it took to rectify the situation, to revive a failing product. And they came back from it – and then some!

**Just like Coke – we're the real thing.
Welcome to the revival!**

Tempus Fugit!

By Jonathan Underwood, Grand Secretary



Time is a theme I've written about before. Of course, the measure of time is key to our ritual and our teachings, yet (at least for me) it never ceases to confound my senses.

Where does the time go?

The pandemic didn't help matters, and many friends and colleagues have acknowledged a sense of displacement.

One sometimes wonders if 2020 and 2021 existed at all, yet here we are halfway through 2022. It still seems surreal that I was honored to be installed your Grand Secretary a year ago. Have I really been here that long?

As a historian, I'm intrigued by the narrative of the past. I would venture to say that most of us find some measure of comfort in a story or reminisce from childhood. Nostalgia, real or invented, is a powerful force. It's what helps ground us in our beliefs and habits. It's also a lesson for our minds; we know what we're doing because we know what to expect.

The ritual of Freemasonry is a potent reminder of tradition. And, well it should be.

But while our ritual is largely fixed, the meaning behind its words are anything but. Freemasonry is futuristic. It always has been. For instance, Freemasons played a significant role in the Enlightenment, building and supporting ideas and

methods of thinking that, to the people of a previous generation (and even some contemporaries), seemed radical and reckless. But they paved a way for the future, and our lodges provided a safe space in which to imagine what comes next. They had to, it's what our ritual teaches us to do.

The message I want to convey is that Masonry is continuing to evolve, like its members. New ideas are what keep us alive and moving forward. Some of the ways we're changing can be found in our Grand Masters' messages: Be a true brother. Get to know your candidates. Take pride in your ritual.

And participate in your communities – help the elderly and our youth. The message is simple, and is rooted in our own ritual, but we have to look toward new ways of doing and giving our time, talent, and treasure.

The central tenet of Freemasonry is transformation and how you leave this world a better place through love – charity.

In the Grand Lodge office, we're working to simplify the business of Freemasonry through new electronic forms, e-signatures, and automatic payment options.

We're moving toward a new era of Masonic Temples and making Freemasonry a destination as well as a transformative experience. By partnering with our Foundation, we're striving to make giving easy in order to best support our causes to provide cutting edge elder care and child care.

Our goal is to embrace technology and facility as the most positive experience possible for you on your journey, wherever it may lead. There's much work ahead, but Freemasonry is work and we're in "revival" mode.

I hope it looks easy. That's another piece of the process – seamlessness.

Permit me to offer the analogy of the duck gliding across the glassy surface of a lake. One would assume he's merely powered by the breeze as he floats by. Yet, let's not forget all the paddling going on underneath to negotiate the water's current, the wind, and avoid the occasional hunter.

We hope you'll journey with us. We need your input and guidance. Our future is whatever you want to make it. *What do you want to accomplish for the next generation?*

One Thing We Can Rely On: Everything Changes

By Beth Grace, Mason Editor Emeritus

*For last year's words belong to last year's language,
And next year's words await another voice.
And to make an end is to make a beginning.*
– T.S. Eliot

Not all endings are sad. Some are welcome, a herald of new things to come – new thoughts, new plans, new ways of being.

That's my favorite kind of ending: the kind that bursts into a room unannounced, hollers the news with gusto, and then gets down to work.

That's what's happening here in the *North Carolina Mason*, right before your very eyes. We look different but the same rule holds true now as it did before: We cover North Carolina Masonry. We bring it home, right to your door.



This new look has been a long time coming. There have been many changes in the way the publication looks over the years. From a black and white broadsheet to a tabloid, then finally to a full-color tabloid. Go back even farther – the *Mason* started out as *The Orphan's Friend*, a product of the print shop at what would become the Masonic Home for Children.

But changing tastes have had us wondering how we could improve things, make the *Mason* better-looking and more informative to attract readers inside and outside the Craft. When Grand Master Larry Thompson asked what we could do to make the paper into a coffee-table-worthy magazine that would celebrate and promote the ideals of Masonry, the Board of Publications got right to work.

Led by board Chairman/Grand Marshal Mike Register, the five-member board has taken on the planning, writing and organizing. This frees me to move over from what were my two part-time jobs (*Mason* editor and NCMF Communications Director) to become the full-time NCMF communicator.

That doesn't mean I'm off the *Mason* team. I'll continue to write regular stories and features. Now, I'll be telling you (and the world) stories about the good work our charities are doing – and the outstanding work our lodges are doing to support them. Our goal at the foundation is to spread the word of Masonic philanthropy. I am delighted with this new opportunity!

From the day I took over as *Mason* editor – almost six years ago now – I have loved this work and getting to know all the brethren with whom I have crossed paths.

Here's to a new beginning, a new voice. Here's to Masonry!



Celebrating Masonic Revival with Ancient Traditions

By Jonathan Underwood, Grand Secretary • Photos by Mike Harding

Grand Master Larry B. Thompson Jr.'s Year of Masonic Revival has formally reintroduced a couple of ancient Masonic traditions back into North Carolina – the Harmony and the Table Lodge.

Historically, at least in North Carolina in the 18th and early 19th Centuries, lodges typically met quarterly. Since most lodges did not own a lodge building like we do now, “business” was minimal. In fact, the only business lodges really focused on was making new Masons and celebrating old friendships. Masonic meetings were social events, and dinner was a time to introduce guests, visitors, petitioners, and active candidates.

Informal lodge gatherings were (and still are) called Harmonies. Typically, the members and guests would sit at large, long tables. The

Grand Master or lodge Master and his deputies would introduce guests and toast their health. Camaraderie was built by singing popular songs together, telling stories, and mingling about the room to re-engage old friends.

Table Lodges are more formal affairs and typically consist of the members sitting around a U-shaped table. In some jurisdictions, these meetings are governed by strict ritual and are tyled.

The lodge officers are posted strategically around the table, in line with their stations in a lodge. The wardens have toasts and call on the deacons or stewards for assistance. Of course, the tyler ensures the wait staff only enter when the lodge can be at ease, and labor is dispensed instantly by a knock at the door and a rap of the gavel. The dinner is more

structured, and gavel raps denote who stands and when and for what purpose.

Grand Master Thompson's formal district meetings are more in line with Harmonies, and friends, wives, and other non-Masons are encouraged to attend to get a feel for some of our traditions and ritual.

The first such meeting this year was held in the Scottish Rite room of the Greensboro Masonic Temple, where the atmosphere was set by the backdrop of a gothic castle, burning tapers, and dramatic lighting.

The Harmonies are proving popular, and permit a more relaxed mood where we can celebrate our friendship, champion our charitable endeavors, and have a little fun in the process.



Masonry is Philanthropy

Holly Springs Lodge Honors Brother in Endowed Gift

By Beth Grace
NCMF Communications Director

Nathan Williams never wanted anyone to know how generous he was. Turns out, everyone knew it. They just never let on.

The 57-year Mason, who died five years ago at 89, left behind a legacy of generosity that changed – and continues to change – countless lives. He gave to others in need often, always in secret, and as Scripture recommends, with one hand not knowing what the other was doing.

But his brothers at Holly Springs #115 have long felt that it's only right that their beloved past master, this generous benefactor to all those in need, should be recognized in a way he might have (reluctantly) approved.

“He always made it a point to help others, who for whatever reason could not help themselves. And he never ever wanted the limelight for anything he did for anybody, never asked for anything,” says lodge Past Master Tim Merritt. “He would specifically tell people, ‘Do not put my name out there for doing whatever it is I’m doing.’”

So how would he feel about this charitable endowment being named in his honor?

“Well, I expect he’d be fussing at us about it,”



Master Stephen Curry says with a smile. “But I hope he’d be happy with what we’re trying to do.”

The lodge, working with the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, has created *The Nathan Williams Memorial Charitable Endowment*, a fund that will grow to support the award of an annual grant to a non-profit community organization that serves Holly Springs. This is the first North Carolina lodge to create an endowment dedicated to helping its community.

The lodge, just back to meeting regularly again and ready to rejoin the community, announced the endowment in March and treated the community to an open house, a tour of the beautifully restored and maintained lodge, and a free bowl of some very tasty Brunswick stew. More such events welcoming the public into the lodge may be scheduled. Becoming more involved in our communities is one of the goals of Grand Master Larry Thompson’s theme of “Masonic Revival.”

“Holly Springs has the exact right idea,” MW Thompson says. “Becoming part of our communities in a vital and interesting way like this – in such a way that it truly helps others and raises the profile

of our local Masonic lodges – is a wonderful way to show that Masons are truly great neighbors who believe in putting philanthropy first.”

A committee of Holly Springs brethren will, each year, accept applications from area non-profit organizations and review the requests. A percentage of the endowment will be set aside to fund the grants. At least one award will be given each year. Depending on how the market behaves, more might be given as the invested fund grows. The committee will recommend which organizations should receive an award and the full lodge will cast the final vote.

Creating the endowment and working on renewing a relationship with the community are high priorities for Holly Springs brothers, Merritt says.

“When I ask new brothers why they want to be Masons, I would say 99 percent of them always say they want to give back to the community.”

We have struggled in the past a little bit to keep a solid line of communication ... there are a thousand different reasons why that is, but we have all talked seriously about making this the time to strengthen that relationship.”

And that’s something Brother Nathan Williams would have welcomed, they said. If someone was in trouble, if there was something in need of repair, if there was anyone in need – he would be somewhere in the background, repairing the broken, fixing the problematic, filling the needs of those who had nothing. Now, in thanksgiving for a generous brother gone, the lodge will try as best it can to keep his legacy alive and follow his good example.

Interested in finding ways your lodge can connect with your community? Call us at the NC Masonic Foundation. We have ideas and we want to hear yours! Email Chief Development Officer George Marut at gmarut@mfnc.org or Director of Development Chris Richardson at crichardson@mfnc.org.



Brother Eric Green welcomes visitors to Holly Springs lodge.



GM Offers Cigars for Charities

If you enjoy the occasional cigar – and doing good deeds – check out the latest fundraising initiative for our Masonic charities: a premium hand-rolled Dominican cigar called the *Revival*.

Grand Master Larry B. Thompson Jr. began to consider the possibility of a custom-blended cigar several years ago after taking note of just how many brothers were bonding over cigars following meetings and other gatherings. With a little research, he also learned that since 2000, cigar consumption in the United States has increased by a whopping 85.2 percent!

Thompson contacted Brother Larry Payne of the Gold Leaf Cigar Lounge. He, in turn, reached out to Brother Fouad Kashouty of Hiram and Solomon Cigars. Brother Fouad's wife, Remy, developed the blend that was ultimately selected to be the *Revival* cigar, and it was an instant hit!

The cigar has been so well received that Hiram and Solomon has added it as a main line that is now being carried by retailers across the country! When asked about the cigar's success, MW Thompson responded:

“I knew we had the right blend as soon as I sampled the first cigar. It was incredible. What's even more incredible is to see so many pictures on social media of the cigar being enjoyed by others in so many states! I would love to continue this initiative by releasing a new blend next year.”



Wrapper: Ecuadorian Habano Claro; Binder: Ecuador;
Filler: US Broadleaf, Seco Dominican FDR2, Ligerero
Dominican FDR2 Corojo

The cigar was released at the Gold Leaf Cigar Lounge in Mooresville on March 12. Brother Fouad and Remy made the trip to North Carolina and joined 127 brothers and friends for the cigar launch. Holly Hopkins entertained the packed house with jazz and blues selections in between speeches and drawings for free gifts.

More about the cigar: *“A smooth, creamy medium body cigar with moderate strength that produces a thick smoke with roasted cashew notes and dry black soil. Crafted exclusively in the Dominican Republic at the PDR factories by Abe Flores, a member of the Elite Pro Cigar (Association of Dominican Cigar Manufacturers), for MW Larry B. Thompson, Jr., Grand Master of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in North Carolina.”*

To purchase a box of “Revival” cigars, contact Brother Larry Payne at: 704-400-9712 or visit the Gold Leaf Cigar Lounge online store at <https://www.goldleafcigarlounge.com/shop>.

The Grand Historian's Courier Case To Be a Peaceable Citizen

By Steven Campbell, Grand Historian

As a member of our fraternity we are called upon “to be a quiet and peaceable citizen, true to your government and just to your country” (NC Lodge Manual by Charles F. Bahnson, pg. 38). Yet what does it mean to be a citizen of the United States? What privileges and duties accompany such a position?

Since the beginning of our Republic, there has always been discussion and disagreement regarding the citizenship of the men, women and children who have arrived upon the shores of the United States. Today is no different. Webster defines *peaceable* and *citizen* as:

Peaceable: *Disposed to peace – quietly behaved – marked by freedom from strife or disorder.*

Citizen: *One entitled to the rights and privileges of a freeman – a native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to reciprocal protection from it.*



If one is fortunate enough to be born in the United States, citizenship is bestowed upon them. If someone from another nation wishes to immigrate to the United States, there are specific laws, rules and regulations set forth by the government. Once a person qualifies to become a naturalized citizen they must swear/affirm to a prescribed oath:

Naturalization Oath of Allegiance to the United States of America

"I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God."

Thus, even today, as ever since ancient times, when a person takes an oath, obligation, or vow they give their word of honor. Such is a facet of the obligation each Brother takes when he swears to be a peaceable citizen of our Nation. Our Fraternity has played a major role in the history of the United States and it is each member's responsibility to treasure the right bestowed upon us as a citizen of our country and to abide by Masonic guidance along with laws of the land. Being a citizen of the United States should not be taken for granted and we as Freemasons, as always, shall lead the way in serving as model citizens of our Republic.

When a person qualifies to become a naturalized citizen of the United States, they must undergo and successfully complete a prescribed test. There is a pool of 100 questions from which a prescribed number are asked. Let's see how well versed we are, shall we?

1. What is the supreme law of the land?
2. What are the first 10 amendments to the Constitution called?
3. How many amendments are there to the U. S. Constitution?
4. What are the three branches of the U.S. government?
5. How long are the terms of: the President; U. S. House Representatives; U.S. Senator?
6. How many members are on the U.S. Supreme Court and how long is their term?
7. Who are the two NC U.S. Senators?
8. How old do you have to be to vote?
9. At what age does a man have to register with the Selective Service Board?
10. When was the U.S. Constitution written?
11. How many original states were there?
12. Who was the first President of the United States?
13. Name one war the U.S. fought in the 1800s.
14. Why are there 13 stripes on the U.S. flag?
15. Name one war the U.S. fought in the 1900s.
16. What nations did the U.S. fight in World War II?
17. Name one of the longest rivers in the U.S.
18. Name one U.S. territory.
19. What states border Mexico?
20. Name two U.S. legal holidays.

Answers: 1) U.S. Constitution; 2) The Bill of Rights; 3) 27; 4) Executive, Legislative, Judicial; 5) President, 4 years, House, 2 years, Senator, 6 years; 6) Nine, lifetime; 7) Richard Burr and Thom Tillis; 8) 18; 9) 18; 10) 1787; 11) 13; 12) George Washington; 13) War of 1812, Mexican American War, Civil War, Spanish American War; 14) denoting original 13 states; 15) WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam, Gulf War; 16) Germany, Japan, Italy; 17) Missouri, Mississippi; 18) U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, American Samoa; 19) Arizona, Texas, California, New Mexico; 20) New Year's Day, MLK Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.

The Discovery at the Grand Master's Dinner

By Worshipful Brother Don Barrier, Derita #715

June 7, 2019 is a day that changed my life forever. On that Friday, I began a journey within a journey that I never imagined.

The day began like so many, hurrying from work then traveling to a Masonic function, driving in the rain, sitting in the rocking chair being second in a line of traffic, singing along with the radio, when out of nowhere a black SUV appeared between me and the pickup I had been following for the last five miles, and hit me head-on, both of us doing 60 mph.

I was awake, saw, and remembered every detail of the accident. When my car spun to a stop, I looked around, had one of those “what the heck just happened?” moments, then passed out. I woke up a couple of times, once when a fellow who identified himself as a doctor told me I was badly injured and was crushed, being pinned in, and to not try to move. The second time was when a young rescue technician cut off my door so I could be extricated, and the rescue captain stuck his head in and told me they were getting me out. I passed out again, was resuscitated in the ambulance due to blood loss, and was in and out of consciousness for the following three days in the Trauma ICU until I was stable. I was in the hospital for about four months and bedridden for five.

My recovery has been long and challenging. I am still in pain, disabled, but now walking with a special cane. But my accident has left me a better

person, placing everything in its proper perspective, and I am bonded closer to my friends, my family and my God. Life is good. I have met some wonderful people along the way and have been given so much brotherly love and support by my lodge brothers, brethren from around the state, and the Grand Lodge. So many have done so much for me, more than I deserve. I am beginning to become active in Masonry again. Last month, I even attended the Grand Master's Dinner at the Charlotte Speedway Club. It was great to see many of my brothers that I have missed so much. It was a great night of good food, drink, song, and fellowship. I tried to catch up with so many brothers before the meeting I stood too long and had to sit down and recover.

While sitting at a table, four brothers from Albemarle Lodge were standing behind me. After a while, I joined into their conversation when I realized that two of them were volunteer firemen and offered I was with the Charlotte Fire Department. We began talking about that, and



about being on rescue ops, so to put it from a very different perspective, I added, "I was in a bad auto accident in Stanley County." One of the brothers looked at me twice, and asked, "When?" I replied, "June 7, 2019." He asked, "Where?" I looked at him and his face seemed a bit more familiar, and I responded, "A couple miles east of the river on Highway 24." He asked, "What were you driving?" And by then, we both began to realize...I responded, "A 2016 gold Lincoln MKC." And he with eyes wide open in disbelief responded, "...and the car that hit you was a black SUV!" By then we both were freaking out and I exclaimed,

"Oh my Lord, no way you were there!" He said, "I was, I just recognized you, I was on the rescue squad that responded to your accident!" And I said, "And you were the one that tore off my door!"

By then finally recognized each other and we both were freaking out with tears of joy in our eyes. We shook hands and hugged and held each other like loving brothers who had made an incredible personal discovery. Later that night, after speaking to the gathering about how brethren had aided and

supported me during my recovery, I was able to tell of the incredible serendipitous chance – some say providential – meeting between us that evening and acknowledge Greg Harwood, my Brother that literally saved my life.

Two nights later, I was delighted to see Brother Greg at Sophia Lodge's Master Mason degree in Salisbury. The pro-tem Master, Grand Master Larry Thompson, acknowledged the incredible meeting between Greg and me at his Grand Master's Dinner, and the Senior Warden, Worshipful Brother Ken Wical, on behalf of Sophia Lodge expressed their gratitude and presented him with a box of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina Cigars. That too was another incredible experience I will never forget.

You see, life can change forever in the snap of a finger, when you least expect it. It can happen to any one of us and will happen to most all of us. Difficult times tend to bring the most valuable lessons and cut away the superfluous. You never can really know the effect of the good you do, sometimes it only nourishes your soul, most times it nourishes others in ways you will never see. The key to light is love, created by God, and expressed in the many ways you can and how you can. What love you give comes back multiplied and it is the light we most desire. That, my brothers, is what Masonry is about... God Bless the brethren of North Carolina and God bless the Craft.



Campaign for WhiteStone

Bruce Ayres: “At WhiteStone, Everyone is Family.”

By Beth Grace, NCMF Communications Director

What’s in a name? For Worshipful Brother Bruce Ayres, names are important.

For one thing, where he lives – everybody knows his name. And he knows everyone else. At WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community, there are no strangers.

Some residents are brothers; some are sisters. But all residents are family, and they care for each other in kind.

The 19-year past master of Clemmons #755, who joined the Craft in part to make sure he one day would be eligible to live at WhiteStone, feels strongly about his home and its future.

He and his family have made WhiteStone their home – his in-laws moved here and lived happy lives for decades.

“My grandmother-in-law loved it here. She lived a long and happy life. It made my wife and I want to live here,” he said.

Ayres and his wife, Patsy Livingston, have lived here for almost a year. His sister resides nearby in the Care & Wellness Center. Since he and his sister both suffer with genetic neurological issues, both were interested in planning for their medical futures. WhiteStone answered all needs, he says.

He also is very active at the home, through his lodge at WhiteStone and via the many committees that help keep the

WhiteStone
A MASONIC & EASTERN STAR
COMMUNITY  EST. 1912
Founded on fellowship. Inspired by you.



home a haven. “Sometimes people come to committee meetings and ask why there are so many Masons on the committees,” he says with a smile. “That’s because Masons work hard. Masons are important to this home and we know it.”

The former WhiteStone board member is so committed to the future of the home he loves, he has become a strong donor and supporter of WhiteStone and its work. He wonders if you would consider doing the same.

He is among a growing number of Masons – and lodges – committing time and resources to supporting the WhiteStone expansion, a project in progress that converts many semi-private rooms to private in the Care & Wellness Center, adds 36 resident rooms in a new assisted living building which includes memory care and independent living complex. A renovated pool for residents of the Care & Wellness Center also is in the works.

Working with the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, WhiteStone and its Board of Directors are engaged in a \$1 million campaign for WhiteStone to help fund the expansion.

Lodges, brothers, residents and friends are committed to the expansion of the home they love. Around the state, some lodges are

hosting fundraisers dedicated to the Campaign for WhiteStone.

Residents plan to gather with the NC Masonic Foundation for lunch in July to pledge their support of the plan to increase the charitable services available to Masons and members of the Order of the Eastern Star.

There’s a way for you to leave your name and establish your own legacy at WhiteStone. Remember a loved one, a dear friend, or commit to your own legacy by naming a building, an apartment, a section of this top-notch senior living community.

“I celebrate successes in life or when someone passes away, I send a gift to the North Carolina Masonic Foundation,” Ayres says. “Sending flowers to a funeral is a wonderful idea, but this is a great way to remember the people you love.”

If you have questions about the WhiteStone legacy opportunities, contact Development Director Chris Richardson at crichardson@mfnc.org or call him at 919-690-5996.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Check out a new video from Worshipful Brother Bruce Ayres on our Facebook page (@NCMasonsGive) and our website, www.mfnc.org.

We call on you now to cement your legacy in the halls of WhiteStone and continue to honor and fulfill our obligation. Use the envelope or QR code to make your gift today.

Legacy Recognition Opportunities

BEACON OF LIGHT
\$5,000

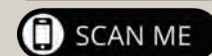
MASTER
\$2,500

CRAFTSMAN
\$1,000

BUILDER
\$750

APPRENTICE
\$500

VISIONARY
\$250



Discovering Masonry & What It Means to Me

By W. Leon Rippy, Grand Orator



Forty-five years ago, my father raised me to become a Master Mason. I'm sure it was one of the proudest moments of his life, as it was for me.

I wanted to grow up to be like my Dad. He had an auto parts business with a machine shop in Rock Hill, SC. We raised beagles, went to field trials, and when I was 10 years old, he put me in the seat of a competitive go-kart. It was my first passion, and has resurfaced in a big way. I now have a collection of 15 vintage go-karts.

Being an only child, I'd always wished I had a brother to pal around with, but this was not to be. On occasion I'd hear Dad call some of his friends "Brother," which seemed strange, as he only had one, a mysterious man who lived in Montana. As I became older I asked him about the men he called "Brother" and the insignia on their rings. A brief explanation was enough to satisfy me, as I was still young and there seemed all the time in the world in front of me.

A few years later, Mom and Dad divorced and I was to live with Mom. Racing dreams faded, the beagles were gone, Cub Scout friends and so many other things were no more. Mom and I were now living in the big city of Charlotte. New friends were made, but not like my old ones. Mom remarried and shortly after, I was shipped off to military school.

Mom found out her husband was a ne'er-do-well, got rid of him and shut the door on this part of her life. Now, once again I was living with Mom, starting public high school and enjoying the freedoms young boys desire. There were no strict rules to follow.

I started to become a problem for Mom so, at 15, I quit school, ran away from home and neither Mom nor Dad knew where I was for three months. YIKES!! Hitchhiking here and there, Florida, West Virginia, Ocean Drive Beach, South Carolina, etc. This was my coming-of-age time. After my adventures were over, I was told of my Dad's alcohol problems, which had been there for years. I never knew how severe they were.

I made the decision to move in with Dad, to try to help him through his addictions and finish school. Not an easy few years. He was in and out of rehab, his business was starting to falter. Still, I managed to finish school and develop a new passion in a high school play: acting. Also, there were more pretty girls involved in theatre than in racing circles.

And so, through my efforts and those and many of those same men he'd called "Brother," Dad became sober and remained so for the final 24 years of his life. His focus shifted strongly toward Masonry and the Shrine, eventually becoming Potentate of Hejaz Temple in Greenville, SC, and having a 33rd degree bestowed upon him. Indeed, his Masonic roots were strong enough to make him a better man than he would have been without them.

Naturally I became more interested in Masonry, inspired not only by him, but by the men who stood by him during his troubles. The day I told him I wanted to become a Mason, we were driving to lunch. He pulled to the side of the road. I can still see the tear on his right cheek. A red-letter day for both of us.

As for myself, I followed my second passion and became an actor. Many years later I was having lunch while working on a TV series, *Deadwood*, and there was a tap on my shoulder from our director. I turned to see him standing beside Ernest

Borgnine, about to introduce him to me. I quickly stood, shook his hand and said, “Brother Ernest.” He looked at my hand and smiled that wonderful smile, knowing that we were Brothers. We had a lengthy conversation about many things, especially our concern for our diminishing numbers in Freemasonry.

I am so very thankful to have so many Brothers worldwide, when I once thought I had none.

Brother Rippy is an accomplished actor who has appeared in numerous film and TV productions such as The Patriot; The Alamo; Saving Grace; Deadwood; Firestarter; The Color Purple; Maximum Overdrive; Universal Soldier; Walker, Texas Ranger; Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil; Alcatraz; and Eight-Legged Freaks. And, he continues to pursue his passion of racing vintage go-karts.

Robbins Appointed Assistant to Grand Secretary

By Beth Grace, NCMF Communications Director

Matthew Robbins, the Grand Lodge’s Outreach Program Coordinator and Administrative Assistant, has been appointed assistant to Grand Secretary Jonathan Underwood.



WB Robbins has led the Grand Lodge’s successful Outreach Program, which is designed to help lodges seeking to repair and rebuild their buildings, since 2022. He has also created numerous historic displays on view for all visitors to the Grand Lodge.

He will continue to handle those duties, in addition to assisting RW Underwood in all his extensive duties as Grand Secretary.

That includes developing a deep knowledge and understanding of The Code. All 413 pages of it. “I have many goals in this work,” Robbins says. “One of those is to become intimately acquainted with the

Code, to be able to quote chapter and verse without looking it up.”

A native of Winston-Salem, Robbins was raised as a Master Mason in 2008 and is a member of State College #770. He holds a B.A. in Communication Media and one in Arts Studies, and a Master’s in Architecture, all from NC State University.

He will continue his work in Outreach, assisting lodges working hard to maintain and improve the buildings in which they meet. He can help with all the preliminary work needed to create a plan to fund and to carry out a lodge renovation program. He currently is working with four lodges on such plans.

Another project on the horizon is a campaign to raise funds to install a state-of-the-art library shelving system to preserve precious historical documents in the Grand Lodge’s care.

Maintaining Grand Lodge archives is part of the work an assistant to a Grand Secretary does. To that end, he has been working to find a way to install shelving that is critical to protecting delicate, one-of-a-kind documents from North Carolina’s lodges. He spotted the exact sort of shelving the Grand Lodge needs while visiting the archives at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford.

The shelves are non-combustible and will preserve darkness for files in archival folders, preventing fading. Among the treasures that will be stored are the minutes from Unanimity Lodge’s stated communication at Hornblow’s Tavern in Edenton on July 4, 1776, copies of the Bahnsen Manual from virtually every era since Masonry began in North Carolina, and OSWs from our history will be stored in the new shelving.

Original, handwritten membership cards from our early years will live on in the shelves as well. (Thanks to brethren from all over the state, those cards have been entered into our digital databases, but the originals will be preserved.)

The Grand Lodge and the North Carolina Masonic Foundation will work together to secure the funding from private donors.



Join us for the 2022 Masonic Homecoming Festival at MHC O!

After a 2-year hiatus, the 10th Annual Masonic Homecoming Festival is set for October 7 and 8. Please join us as we celebrate our children, our Home, and the Masons of



North Carolina. While here, tour our campus, enjoy the annual Shrine Parade featuring many local community groups, sample delicious BBQ prepared for the annual BBQ Cookoff, choose from the food trucks on hand for a delicious lunch, and shop from the cottage booths or purchase new OO and MHC O merchandise. Don't forget to stick around to listen to Too Much Sylvia on the main stage! In addition, many of the traditional Alumni events will be happening.

So, make your plans now and visit <https://mhc-oxford.org/masonic-homecoming-festival/> for more information!



Put Your Best Feet Forward with MHC SOCK Fundraiser

Stepping out somewhere special? The sharp-dressed man knows what to wear: MHC socks! Proceeds from the sale of these colorful, specially designed socks will benefit our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. This program is just part of Grand Master Larry Thompson's efforts to help raise awareness and some money in his year for our Masonic charities.

The design – the Grand Lodge square and compasses – is based on a drawing submitted by one of the kids for the 2022 MHC calendar.

The socks are available in two sizes: Large (size 10-13) and X-Large (12-14) and in three colors: Bahnsen Black, MHC Yellow, and Code Blue. The price is \$15 per pair. You can pick your order up at the Grand Lodge or have it shipped (add \$1.50 for shipping and handling).

To buy socks, link through the Grand Lodge to this site: bit.ly/3OPQTiu

2022 Cathey Scholarship Winners Selected

Fifteen students have been awarded the Charles Edward Cathey Scholarship for 2022. Each student receives a scholarship of \$1,000.

In 2000, then-Grand Master Charles Cathey initiated a drive to raise money for scholarships that could be awarded to deserving North Carolina students. NC Masons generously supported his call to help send graduating high school seniors to college. Because of his tireless efforts on behalf of education, the scholarship was named in his honor.



Winners are:

- David Allen III of Matthews, David Butler HS
- Grant Barefoot of Roseboro, Midway HS
- Tyler Boswell of Selma, North Johnston HS
- Bella Branham of Cashiers, Highlands School
- Kaylee Faison of Efland, Orange HS
- Mallory Flythe of Lasker, Northeast Academy
- David Henry of Winston-Salem, North Forsyth HS
- Austin Hunt of Morganton, Freedom HS
- Ashley Novak of Wake Forest, Millbrook HS
- Thomas Phippen of Washington, Washington HS
- Ashlyn Ramsey of Columbus, Polk County HS
- Amelia Spell of Pittsboro, Northwood HS
- Gerald Tripp of Angier, Cape Fear Christian Academy
- Hailey Vandergraff of Warrensville, Ashe County HS
- Corinna Workman of Burlington, Western Alamance HS

PHILANTHROPY: OUR MASONIC CHILDREN



On April 12, MHC hosted the **MedAssist Drive-thru Pharmacy** out of the gym. MHC staff volunteered to help with the effort as an estimated 1,100 needy families came through to pick up over-counter medicines, receive medical information, and get information about services in our area. MHC was allowed to place an information brochure in each bag that was handed out. This wonderful collaboration was made possible by the introduction of **Triangle North Healthcare Foundation** to connect MedAssist with MHC. Triangle North Healthcare Foundation has graciously provided two grants toward MHC's implementation of the **Cornell University CARE Trauma Informed Model of Care**.



On April 23, **Mrs. Sheila Biggs** led a car wash fundraiser for **Mrs. Cammie O'Dell**. The car wash included inside and outside cleaning and the opportunity to purchase Smithfield donated sandwiches and desserts made by staff. Ms. Cammie needed a new kidney, and former CCW Laura Powell generously donated one of hers. The campus gathered for a big check presentation on April 29.

On February 12, MHC was honored to host guests as the **H. Lloyd Wilkerson DeMolay Chapter** was Chartered. Representatives from the Scottish Rite, York Rite, and Grand Line were present to install the advisors. Nine MHC youth were initiated into DeMolay. CCWs and Brothers Prime Miley and Charlie Porter are advisors and have helped build enthusiasm with the youth. Ms. Winter Watson was recognized and received the "Hats Off" award from the DeMolay for her work in getting the boys signed up with parental permission.



On April 8, the Administrator hosted certain dignitaries with the Appendant Bodies for dinner and fellowship at the Administrator's House. Included were **Imperial Sir Jerry Gantt** and **Lady Lisa**. The evening was wonderful, and much appreciation is given to **Ms. Kevin**, who continues to provide wonderful dining and entertaining experiences for various groups. The dishwasher broke earlier in the day and Imperial Sir Jerry washed dishes with the Administrator. The topic of a satellite program for the Shrine was proposed. Their satellite programs must be connected to a medical site to be considered. Follow-up is needed to see if Duke or Granville can assume a role to make this possible at MHC.

The **Appendant Body Leadership Retreat** was held on April 9. It was also a very positive event and generated enthusiasm from the attendees. Individual follow up is needed to help begin their campaigns for a 150th Anniversary donation and supports for their designated events.



The **Ambassador Orientation** was held on April 22 and 23. Six Ambassadors attended. An Alternate Orientation Webinar was held on April 26, which nine Ambassadors attended. A MHC

MHC update webinar was held in May to get veteran Ambassadors up to date on the Home and all that is developing.

On April 21, the Administrator was honored to attend **Oxford Preparatory Kindergarten** to receive a donation. The kindergarteners raise chickens at school and sell the eggs. Monthly they designate a different charity to receive their donation. We got a picture with the big check, gave out wristbands, and shared information on the Home. We invited them to do a field trip to see our museums and galleries. Special thanks to **Ms. Jade Currin** and all the kindergarteners.



On April 6, MHC was honored to meet with **Mrs. Jean Wilson**. She lost both her adult children and wanted to give to the children at MHC. Mrs. Wilson provided a \$25,000 memorial donation designated to dental and medical needs for the children. It was a very touching meeting.



MHC is currently recruiting for **Childcare Worker Houseparent Couples**. Being a Houseparent Couple is a great opportunity for families in the right point of their lives. Just ask **Mary Jane and Charlie**



Porter. The two high school sweethearts raised two sons and worked together at a bank, until their positions were eliminated and both needed employment.

A Mason and member of Widow's Son #75, Charlie had received the MHC Calendar for years. When he and Mary Jane were looking for work, Charlie suggested they consider MHC as Houseparents. Charlie had worked with First District Ambassador Doug Brickhouse, who also recommended they consider MHC.

In June 2018, they were hired and told each other they would give a year and see. Four years later we are very pleased they are still at MHC and doing great work with the children. Brother Charlie is an Advisor for the DeMolay Chapter that just began at MHC this year.

Both acknowledge there are good days and not-so-good days working with children who are going through such difficult times. But as Mary Jane says, "There are many more rewarding days." Both recognize that MHC is a great place for folks to consider placing their children, it is very friendly, and they receive ongoing supports and encouragement with their work.

Thank you, Mary Jane and Brother Charlie, for taking such good care of the children.

MHC offers amazing salary and benefits, housing for CCW's and the ability for up to two dependent children to also live in the cottages with their parents. Benefits include tractor pulls, football games, and more as Houseparents provide a positive family environment with the children. Call 919-693-5111 or visit mhc-oxford.org today.

NEWLY RAISED BROTHERS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|----------------------|
| Trendell, Christopher Michael | 8 | Phoenix |
| Walsh, Sri Arjuna Sean | 19 | Eagle |
| Cullins, Austin Glen | 19 | Eagle |
| Stroud, Ronald Ty | 64 | Kilwinning |
| Teal, Truman Topping | 64 | Kilwinning |
| Clarke, Matthew Ian | 81 | Zion |
| King, Perry Allen | 98 | Hiram |
| Bradsher, Thomas Edward | 113 | Person |
| Hall, Douglas Mason | 113 | Person |
| Calhoun, Duncan Allen | 114 | St. Alban's |
| McKinley, Tracy Brett | 114 | St. Alban's |
| Lewis, Norman Lee | 115 | Holly Springs |
| Davis, Kevin Tebbe | 118 | Mt. Hermon |
| Gale, David Matthew | 118 | Mt. Hermon |
| Vance, James Michael | 118 | Mt. Hermon |
| Miley, Prime | 122 | Oxford |
| Peters, Austin Gray | 122 | Oxford |
| Genth, Bruce Charles | 127 | Blackmer |
| Freeman, Christopher Alan | 129 | Dan River |
| Hutson, Gene Matthew Lee | 129 | Dan River |
| Parker III, John Bunyan | 136 | Leaksville |
| Nichols, Jamie Adam | 146 | Cherokee |
| MacDonald, Zachary Shane | 147 | Palmyra |
| Nelson, Jeremy Caine | 151 | Sanford |
| McKay, Travis Creed | 172 | Buffalo |
| Duncan, Jordan Morris | 176 | Williams |
| Little, Jesse Hardin | 176 | Williams |
| Evans, Lane Scott | 202 | Cleveland |
| Jeanes, James Webster | 208 | Mt. Olive |
| Piatt, Joseph David | 210 | Eno |
| Gregory, Robert Dorian | 217 | Catawba Valley |
| Pasell, Paul Andrew | 217 | Catawba Valley |
| Britt, Charles Chester | 218 | William G. Hill |
| Valleccorsa, Kevin Ernest | 218 | William G. Hill |
| Taylor, Benjamin Blake | 231 | William T. Bain |
| Heriegel, Paul John | 237 | Mystic Tie |
| Wilson, Randall Gene | 237 | Mystic Tie |
| Hemingway, John Michael | 259 | Waynesville |
| Williams, Blaine Lewis | 259 | Waynesville |
| Ashburn, Justin Lane | 262 | Hibriten |
| Ashburn, Trent Lee | 262 | Hibriten |
| Carter, Luke Griffith | 265 | Farmington |
| Parks, Bradley Michael | 265 | Farmington |
| Mahoney, Nathaniel David | 267 | Dunn's Rock |
| Owen, Drake Kyndall | 267 | Dunn's Rock |
| Ritter, Michael Allen | 277 | Green Level |
| Gibbs, Victor Chase | 294 | Atlantic |
| Smith, Joseph Daniel | 294 | Atlantic |
| Beechum, Brian | 301 | Clay |
| Lancaster, Ricky | 301 | Clay |
| Mull, Gary Nathan | 301 | Clay |
| Peek, Steve Johnny | 301 | Clay |
| Stillwell, Anthony David | 301 | Clay |
| White, Michael Erwin | 301 | Clay |
| Grady, Richard Dean | 304 | Pleasant Hill |
| Chatman, Lawrence Michael | 314 | New Lebanon |
| Lis, Dmitry Mikhail | 319 | Wilmington |
| Powell, Benjamin Weldon | 319 | Wilmington |
| Dixon, Hunter James | 319 | Wilmington |
| Russell, Jonathan Chandler | 339 | Fairview |
| Crowley, Eugene Anthony | 339 | Fairview |
| Davis Jr, Kenneth Allen | 339 | Fairview |
| Johnson, Eugene Derek | 339 | Fairview |
| Baker, Ronald Eugene | 343 | Hickory |
| Young, Randy Lawrence | 352 | Durham |
| Rowland, Stephen Philip | 357 | Bakersville |
| Holland, Ashley Vernon | 379 | Coharie |
| Ramer, William Jeffrey | 387 | Kedron |
| Neason, William Michael | 388 | Friendship |
| McDaniel, David Matthew | 388 | Friendship |
| D'Acquisto Jr, Steven Salvatore | 395 | Orient |
| Hewett, Daniel Blake | 395 | Orient |
| Stokes, Jayme Bruce | 395 | Orient |
| Stump, Bobby Junior | 397 | Bald Creek |
| Woodul, Brandon Kyle | 429 | Seaside |
| Brown, Howard Marvin | 437 | Biscoe |
| Harris, Timothy Gray | 437 | Biscoe |
| Lewis, Christopher Hopkins | 447 | Scotland Neck |
| Pullen, Jonathan Charles | 462 | South Fork |
| Seagle II, James Michael | 462 | South Fork |
| Colley, William Clark | 473 | Lexington Memorial |
| Reep, Phillip Maxwell | 473 | Lexington Memorial |
| Walker, Reginald Matthew | 473 | Lexington Memorial |
| Byrd, Jerry Franklin | 483 | Traphill |
| Dills, Andrew Lee | 486 | Lawndale |
| Pinkerton, Richard Dewitt | 491 | Hominy |
| Alvis, Daniel L | 492 | Thomas M. Holt |
| Boggs, Benny Eugene | 492 | Thomas M. Holt |
| Fargis, Brad Christopher | 492 | Thomas M. Holt |
| King, Cameron Harrison | 492 | Thomas M. Holt |
| Qualls, Quintin Dale | 492 | Thomas M. Holt |
| Elliott, Brandon Barber | 500 | Raleigh |
| Hardin, David Michael | 500 | Raleigh |
| Honour, Cameron Stancil | 500 | Raleigh |
| Patterson, William James | 500 | Raleigh |
| Wallace, Richard Blake | 500 | Raleigh |
| Tetterton Jr, Tobin Jay | 509 | Belhaven |
| Teague, James Michael | 515 | Whetstone |
| Chastain, Devlin Barclay | 525 | Rodgers |
| Walters, Jason David | 525 | Rodgers |
| Denton, Rufus Scott | 544 | Mount Holly |
| Johnson, Kerry Keith | 544 | Mount Holly |
| Washburn, Miles C | 550 | Roman Eagle |
| Graves, Derrick Stephen | 552 | Revolution |
| Parker, Dustin Preston | 556 | Neill S. Stewart |
| Scott, Mark Randall | 564 | Richlands |
| Kubicki, Coleman Thomas | 565 | Wendell |
| Allen, Dallas Warren | 568 | Doric |
| Osborne, Derek Allen | 573 | Mt. Pleasant |
| White, Travis | 579 | Casar |
| Sutton, Luke Brandon | 583 | Ionic |
| Loftin, Alex Glenn | 592 | Maiden |
| Bullock, Nathaniel Andrew | 602 | Queen City |
| Pelletier, Andrew Joseph | 602 | Queen City |
| Thorpe, James Alexander | 602 | Queen City |
| Williams, Gregory Tolston | 602 | Queen City |
| Andrasko, Matthew Paul | 617 | St Patrick's |
| Price, Thomas Jeffrey | 646 | Bladen |
| Staten, Ryan Tyler | 650 | Nichols-W. Asheville |
| King, Andrew James | 657 | Keller Memorial |
| Davis, Christopher Andrew | 657 | Keller Memorial |
| Fisher, John Alex | 657 | Keller Memorial |
| Zalinsky, David Mark | 657 | Keller Memorial |
| Abdul, Muhammad Ali | 667 | Ft. Bragg |
| Donn, Geoffrey Clayton | 669 | Kernersville |
| Wright, Daniel Lee | 669 | Kernersville |
| Atkinson, Byron | 675 | Washington |
| Warner, Billy Anthony | 679 | Creasy Proctor |
| Puff II, Dale Alton | 688 | Cherry Point |
| Mason, Trey Matthew | 694 | Gate City |
| Safrit, Nelson James | 699 | Asheboro |
| Kimball, Chase Alexander | 708 | Crown Point |
| Robles, Christopher Figueroa | 708 | Crown Point |
| Sellers, Adam Dean | 727 | Shalotte |
| Spackman, Arthur Fredric | 736 | New River |
| Spahr, Samuel Jeffrey | 736 | New River |
| Hodges, Lee Wesley | 740 | Charles B. Newcomb |
| McNeill, Jeff Hendrick | 743 | J. J. Crowder |
| Johnson III, Edward Reginald | 745 | Vandora |
| Kimbrell, Jamie Eden | 751 | Old Town |
| Manning, Brandon O'Neal | 757 | Denver |
| Nofsinger, Harold Wesley | 757 | Denver |
| Frometa, Vladimir A.G. | 759 | James K. Polk |
| Neville, Ethan Randy | 759 | James K. Polk |
| Smith, Jonathan David | 763 | Friendship |
| Pynduss, Jon Eugene | 765 | Ashlar |
| Creal, Richard Lee | 765 | Ashlar |

A New Era

Mixed with Rich History Awaits at WhiteStone

As a community built by Masons and Eastern Stars, we're proud of our history and heritage. So proud, in fact, we're expanding to bring more levels of care and more peace of mind to seniors and their families.

Founded in 1912 as a Masonic and Eastern Star senior living community, WhiteStone was the first Masonic Fraternal Home in the U.S. created solely to care for older adults – as well as being the first Continuing Care Retirement Community in North Carolina.

Today, WhiteStone is open to everyone and is proud to remain steadfast in our values and heritage – no matter how we expand and change to meet the needs of older adults.

Experience WhiteStone for Yourself

Are you ready to see how WhiteStone can enrich the lives of your brothers and sisters and provide peace of mind and opportunities for friendship? Join us for our next quarterly Fraternal Friendship Presentation and Luncheon.

Come learn more about our proud Masonic history from our leadership team, see the excitement of our expansion for yourself, and enjoy a delicious lunch.

While you're here, get an inside look at our brand-new one- and two-bedroom independent living residences, view changes to our Care and Wellness Center, and see the brand-new assisted living and memory care addition.

A Friend in Need Is a Fraternal Friend Indeed

As Masons and Eastern Stars, we pay our blessings forward. We live by faith, find motivation in hope, and share our hearts through charity.

RSVP today for our next quarterly Fraternal Friendship Presentation and Luncheon.

Or schedule a private presentation or luncheon.

Since 2016, the Masonic and Eastern Star Home Foundation LLC (MESH LLC) Fraternal Friendship program has provided support and assistance to qualified Masons and Eastern Star Members in WhiteStone or in their current home.

Made possible by donations from generous brothers and sisters like you, our Fraternal Friendship program helps qualified and fraternally affiliated families cover the costs of WhiteStone's entrance fees, room and board, meals, prescriptions, and health care expenses, helping them make a smooth transition to the community.

For those in need of support who want to remain in their own homes, the Fraternal Friendship program also offers outreach assistance with at-home services for qualified members, spouses, and close family members who are at least 60 years of age.

If you or a brother or sister you know needs help, or to make sure you qualify, schedule a consultation with WhiteStone or join us for our upcoming event.

Reserve your space or learn more today by calling 336-701-6525.

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NORTH CAROLINA
THE MASON

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