



REPORTS

2014

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Twin City Quarter
Winston-Salem
North Carolina

September 26-27, 2014

227th Annual Communication

Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted
Masons of North Carolina

Friday, September 26, 2014

- 10:00 A.M. Open Grand Lodge,
Grand Pavilion
- 10:30 A.M. Address of Grand Orator,
Mansour Hatefi, PGM (DC)
- 12:00 P.M. Lunch Break
- 1:30 P.M. Necrology
Report of Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo
Miscellaneous Business
- 4:30 P.M. Adjourn First Day

Saturday, September 27, 2014

- 9:00 A.M. Grand Lodge Reconvenes,
Grand Pavilion
Miscellaneous Business
- 12:00 P.M. Close Annual Communication

Vendors Available in Gaines Ballroom
8:00 A.M. Until Adjournment Each Day

Secretary Seminar on Thursday, September 25.

Reports

of

The Grand Master

The Grand Treasurer

The Grand Secretary

Boards, Commissions and Committees

at the

227th

Annual Communication

of

The Grand Lodge of

Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

of North Carolina

at

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

September 26–27, 2014

Report of the Grand Treasurer

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

I submit this interim report as of June 30, 2014. Included in this report is the total receipts and disbursements, special funds, and the securities held by this Grand Lodge.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Total Funds available 01/01/2014 General Funds & Special Funds) | \$ 984,290 |
|---|------------|

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Total Receipts YTD | 754,411 |
|--------------------|---------|

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Total Disbursements YTD | (479,109) |
|-------------------------|-----------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Cash To Be Accounted For | \$ 1,259,592 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|

| <u>Deposits:</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Maturity</u> | <u>Issue Date</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Petty Cash | | | | \$ 100 |
| 1st Citizens Bank (operating account) | | | | 19,419 |
| Certificate of Deposits: | | | | |
| Yadkin Valley Bank | 2.23% | 9/5/2014 | 9/5/2012 | 100,253 |
| Fidelity Bank | 1.05% | 10/8/2014 | 10/8/2012 | 100,940 |
| Capital Bank | 2.23% | 8/7/2014 | 12/7/2012 | 125,591 |
| Vantagoouth Bank | 0.75% | 9/1/14 | 3/1/2013 | 103,067 |
| Money Markets: | | | | |
| Fifth Third Bank | VARI | | | 112,435 |
| North State Bank | VARI | | | 101,414 |
| PNC Bank | VARI | | | 112,816 |
| Suntrust Bank | VARI | | | 125,368 |
| BB& T - CD | VARI | | | 106,337 |
| Harrington Bank | VARI | | | <u>101,852</u> |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Total Cash Accounted For | \$ 1,109,592 |
|--------------------------|--------------|

| Securities: | Principle | Previous Value | 06/30/14 |
|------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Cash Balances | | 409 | 76,503 |
| General Motors Stock | 75,000 | 16,315 | 17,501 |
| Dow Chemical | 75,000 | 75,830 | 75,685 |
| Royal Bank of Scotland | | <u>74,972</u> | - |
| Total Securities YTD | \$ 150,000 | \$ 167,526 | 169,689.45 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Cash & Principle Securities YTD | \$ 1,259,592 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|

| <u>Special Funds Summary</u> | 01/01/2014 | 06/30/14 |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Special Contingency Reserve | \$ 200,000 | 200,000 |
| Emblems and Awards Reserve | 8,265 | 8,265 |
| Automobile Reserve | 84,968 | 46,178 |
| Book Reserve | 143,801 | 129,246 |
| Building Reserve | 207,371 | 139,247 |
| Office Equipment Reserve | 7,958 | 3,922 |
| Charity Fund | <u>78,076</u> | <u>66,941</u> |
| Total Special Funds | \$ 730,439 | \$ 593,799 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Total Special Funds 06/30/14 | 593,799 |
|------------------------------|---------|

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total General Funds Available | <u>\$ 665,793</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Total Of All Funds | \$ 1,259,592 |
|---------------------------|---------------------|

Report of the Grand Secretary

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

I herewith submit my interim report as Grand Secretary as of June 30, 2014, including a suggested budget for calendar year 2015.

| | Budget 2014 | Proposed Budget 2015 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------|
| INCOME | | |
| 35,400 Estimate Master Masons @ \$20 for 2015 | | 708,000 |
| 36,675 Actual Master Masons @ \$17 for 2014 | 623,475 | |
| 1,420 Endowed Members | 19,000 | 19,000 |
| 1,300 Initiation Fees @ \$21.00 [1,238 actual] | 27,300 | 26,000 |
| [NC Charities @ \$10.00] | (13,000) | (12,380) |
| [GL Building @ \$5.00] | (6,500) | (6,190) |
| [GWNMA @ \$5.00] | (6,500) | (6,190) |
| Initiation Fees Retained [@\$1.00] | | |
| Membership Services | 41,880 | 41,880 |
| Penalty for Late Returns | 800 | 400 |
| Dividends and Interest | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Background check billed | 21,000 | 18,600 |
| Miscellaneous Income | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Total Income | \$ 717,455 | \$ 799,120 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| 800-00 Philanthropy | | |
| 800-01 Masonic Home for Children | 12,500 | 12,500 |
| 800-02 Masonic and Eastern Star Home | 12,500 | 12,500 |
| 800-03 Charity | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| 800-04 Hospital Visitation (MSA) | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| 800-05 Hospital Visitation (NC) | 300 | 300 |
| 800-06 Masonic Youth Organizations | 4,250 | 4,250 |
| 800-07 Wilkerson College | 2,400 | 2,500 |
| Total | \$ 37,950 | \$ 38,050 |
| 810-00 Salaries and Fees | | |
| 810-01 Grand Secretary | 85,228 | 87,359 |
| 810-03 Office Personnel | 88,916 | 86,106 |
| 810-04 Retirement/Health and Life Insurance | 39,872 | 45,258 |
| 810-05 Social Security Tax | 16,010 | 17,286 |
| 810-06 Unemployment Tax | 520 | 520 |
| 810-08 Assistant to the Grand Secretary | 35,136 | 52,500 |
| 810-09 Summer Intern | 2,500 | 1,500 |
| 810-10 Drewry Memorial Grand Secy. Fund | (20,000) | (20,000) |
| Total | \$ 248,182 | \$ 270,529 |
| 820-00 Administration Costs | | |
| 820-02 *Printing (Routine) | 10,500 | 14,000 |
| 820-04 Office Expenses | 15,000 | 10,000 |
| 820-05 Postage | 8,500 | 8,500 |
| 820-06 Office Equipment | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| 820-07 Office Equipment Maintenance | 8,500 | 8,500 |
| 820-08 Telephone | 7,000 | 7,000 |

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| | | | | |
|--------|---|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| 820-09 | MORI Data Base Program Maintenance | 39,500 | | 39,500 |
| 820-11 | Auditing | 11,000 | | 10,000 |
| 820-13 | Legal Fees | 0 | | 3,000 |
| 820-14 | Background check expenses | <u>15,000</u> | | <u>16,100</u> |
| | <i>*List of lodges book (purchased every 5 year for lodges)</i> | | | |
| | Total | \$ 118,000 | | \$ 119,600 |
| | | | | |
| 830-00 | Building Expenses | | | |
| 830-01 | Utilities | 10,000 | | 10,000 |
| 830-02 | Building Grounds Maintenance | 15,500 | | 15,500 |
| 830-03 | Equipment Maintenance | 5,000 | | 5,000 |
| 830-04 | Hazard Insurance | 8,000 | | 8,000 |
| 830-05 | Transfer to Building Reserve | <u>1,000</u> | | <u>10,000</u> |
| | Total | \$ 39,500 | | \$ 48,500 |
| | | | | |
| 840-00 | Membership Fees and Dues | | | |
| 840-01 | Masonic Service Association | 2,250 | | 2,250 |
| 840-02 | Conference of Grand Masters | 750 | | 750 |
| 840-03 | GMC Committee on Recognition | 100 | | 100 |
| 840-05 | Northeastern Regional Masonic Conf. | <u>900</u> | | <u>900</u> |
| | Total | \$ 4,000 | | \$ 4,000 |
| | | | | |
| 850-00 | Travel and Officers Expense | | | |
| 850-01 | Grand Master's Travel | 11,000 | | 10,000 |
| 850-02 | Grand Master's Automobile | 9,000 | | 6,000 |
| 850-03 | Grand Master's Office | 1,250 | | 1,250 |
| 850-04 | Grand Secretary's Travel | 6,500 | | 7,500 |
| 850-05 | Grand Secretary's Automobile | 7,500 | | 4,500 |
| 850-06 | Travel - Other | 7,500 | | 7,500 |
| 850-07 | DDGM/DDGL Orientation | <u>0</u> | | <u>5,000</u> |
| | Total | \$ 42,750 | | \$ 41,750 |
| | | | | |
| 860-00 | Boards, Commissions, and Committees | | | |
| 860-01 | Board of General Purposes | 3,500 | | 4,000 |
| 860-02 | Board of Custodians | 4,000 | | 4,000 |
| 860-04 | Masonic Public Relations | 1,500 | | 5,000 |
| 860-05 | Finance Committee | 500 | | 500 |
| 860-06 | Code Commission | 300 | | 300 |
| 860-07 | Lodge Service Commission | 100 | | 100 |
| 860-08 | Masonic Education / Wardens Boot Camps | <u>4,000</u> | | <u>3,000</u> |
| | Total | \$ 13,900 | | \$ 16,900 |
| | | | | |
| 870-00 | Out-of-State Visitation | | | |
| 870-01 | Visiting other Grand Lodges | 3,000 | | 3,000 |
| 870-02 | Conference of Grand Masters | 6,500 | | 6,500 |
| 870-03 | Conference of Grand Secretaries | 2,000 | | 2,000 |
| 870-05 | Regional Conference (NE) | 3,000 | | 3,000 |
| 870-06 | **World Masonic Conference | <u>0</u> | | <u>4,000</u> |
| | Total | \$ 14,500 | | \$ 18,500 |
| | | | | |
| | <i>**World Masonic Conf.-San Francisco</i> | | | |
| | | | | |
| 880-00 | Annual Communication / GLO Installation | | | |
| 880-1 | Lump sum costs | 65,000 | | 68,000 |
| | Total | \$ 65,000 | | \$ 68,000 |

Reports

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|--------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| 890-00 | Miscellaneous Expenses | | |
| 890-01 | Awards, Aprons, and Emblems | 13,000 | 13,000 |
| 890-02 | Grand Master's Portrait | 500 | 500 |
| 890-04 | Miscellaneous / Contingency | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| 890-06 | Grand Lodge Library & Archives | 1,000 | 3,000 |
| | Total | \$ 15,500 | \$ 17,500 |
| 900-00 | Communications | | |
| 900-01 | Communications Director | 24,888 | 25,510 |
| 900-02 | Social Security Tax | 1,904 | 1,952 |
| 900-03 | Printing | 44,000 | 44,000 |
| 900-04 | Postage | 41,500 | 41,500 |
| 900-05 | Retirement/Life and Health Insurance | 6,050 | 5,596 |
| 900-07 | Travel | 3,000 | 4,000 |
| 900-08 | Equipment and Supplies | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| 900-09 | Internet Services | 2,250 | 2,250 |
| | Total | \$ 127,592 | \$ 128,808 |
| 910-00 | Development Program | | |
| 910-01 | Accounting Specialist | 48,171 | 49,375 |
| 910-02 | Social Security - Accounting Specialist | 3,685 | 3,777 |
| 910-03 | Retirement/Life and Health Insurance | 8,453 | 8,530 |
| 910-04 | Travel Expenses | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| 910-05 | Telephone | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| 910-06 | Postage | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| 910-07 | Office Supplies | 4,500 | 4,500 |
| 910-08 | Miscellaneous Expense | 0 | 0 |
| 910-09 | Office Equipment | 4,500 | 4,500 |
| | Program Development | \$ 76,309 | \$ 77,682 |
| 910-12 | Program Reimbursement from NCMF | (76,309) | (77,682) |
| | Total | 0 | 0 |
| Acct. | EXPENSE SUMMARY | | |
| | Philanthropy | 37,950 | 38,050 |
| 800-00 | Salaries and Fees | 248,182 | 270,529 |
| 810-00 | Administration Costs | 118,000 | 119,600 |
| 820-00 | Building Expenses | 39,500 | 48,500 |
| 830-00 | Membership Fees and Dues | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| 840-00 | Travel and Officers Expense | 42,750 | 41,750 |
| 850-00 | Boards and Committees Office and Travel | 13,900 | 16,900 |
| 860-00 | Out-of-State Visitation | 14,500 | 18,500 |
| 870-00 | Annual Communication | 65,000 | 68,000 |
| 880-00 | Miscellaneous Expenses | 15,500 | 17,500 |
| 890-00 | North Carolina Mason | 127,592 | 128,808 |
| 900-00 | Development Program | 0 | 0 |
| 910-00 | Total Expenses (Series 800 - 910) | \$ 726,874 | \$ 772,137 |
| | ESTIMATED SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | \$ (9,419) | \$ 26,983 |

Membership Statistics

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Membership 1/1/2013 | 43,311 |
| Initiated | 1,223 |
| Raised | 1,019 |
| Admitted | 416 |
| Restored | 391 |
| Total Gains | 1,826 |
| | |
| Expelled | 8 |
| Suspended UMC | 1 |
| Excluded NPD | 1,173 |
| Demitted..... | 333 |
| Died | 1,154 |
| Total Losses | 2,669 |
| | |
| Membership adjustments | 28 |
| Total membership 12/31/2013 | 42,296 |

Service Awards for 2014

| | |
|---|-----|
| Twenty-Five-Year Service Awards presented | 661 |
| Fifty-Year Veteran Awards presented | 447 |
| Sixty-Year Awards | 246 |

Respectfully submitted,
T. Walton Clapp III, Grand Secretary

Report of the Committee on Charity

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on Charity wishes to report the following disbursements for the calendar year 2013–2014:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| To Brother BP..... | \$750 |
| To Brother DMP..... | 200 |
| To Brother WSP | 500 |
| To MSA (Grand Lodge of Serbia, flood)..... | 3,000 |
| To MSA (GL of Phillipines, hurricane)..... | 5,000 |
| Total | 9,450 |

Respectfully submitted,
Grover Lackey, Chairman

Report of the Grand Historian

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

A Brothers' War: North Carolina Masons and the Civil War

Anyone even remotely familiar with the American Civil War has heard it referred to as a conflict that often pitted "brother against brother" or, less often, that it was a "brothers' war." The phrases are usually intended to convey the tragic idea that the war, as civil wars often do, ripped many families apart. As Freemasons, the terms, especially the "brothers' war," has a different and profound meaning. During the Civil War thousands of Freemasons took up arms for the cause they believed in, for the cause they felt was worth fighting for, for the cause they believed was, if necessary, worth the last full measure of devotion. For North Carolina Masons, the Civil War absolutely was a "brothers' war."

In the decade prior to Abraham Lincoln's election in 1860, the Craft grew significantly in North Carolina. That was not unique to the Old North State. As brother Michael Halleran has demonstrated in his excellent book, *The Better Angels of our Nature: Freemasonry in the Civil War*, interest in Freemasonry was on the rise all over the country and most especially in the South during the 1850s. In that decade eighty-two new lodges were formed in the state, which was a tripling of the number of new lodges chartered in the 1840s. On the eve of the war, there were some 5,000 Masons in North Carolina or about 4.3 percent of the male population between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. To put that in perspective, that would be a little over 200,000 Masons in the state based on the 2010 census. Without a doubt Freemasonry was on the rise in the state as the war approached and given the membership numbers, many Tar Heel regiments would have significant numbers of Masons in them.

How North Carolina Freemasons reacted to Lincoln's election and how they felt about seceding and joining the seven Deep South states that formed the Confederacy between December 1860 and February 1861 varied widely, as it did in the other Upper South states like Virginia and Tennessee. Many from the eastern part of the state and especially in the Cape Fear region warmly supported immediate secession, seeing in Lincoln's victory nothing but the loss of individual rights and liberties. As a contributor to the *Wilmington Herald* saw the situation, Republican ascendancy signaled the inevitable "sweeping away of all the guarantees of...equality in the Union." Other North Carolinians disagreed, believing that having lost an election was not, by itself, justification for destroying the nation and risking a bloody war. One state official asked how North Carolina could prepare to secede, "upon the ground that we have been outvoted in an election in which we took the chances of success...?" A piedmont area Tar Heel rejoiced "that in North Carolina there are but few, very few, who regard the election of Lincoln...a sufficient cause of disunion." Nowhere was this split among North Carolinians, and Masons, better illustrated than by the two governors who led the state during the secession crisis and for the majority of the war, John Ellis (Fulton Lodge No. 99) and Zebulon Vance (Mt. Hermon No. 118).

The fraternity, as we all know, is not a political organization and has no interest in how the Brethren vote or what their political inclinations are; in fact political discussions are discouraged lest political differences of opinion bring discord into the lodge. Thus, being a Mason did not mean that one was more or less inclined towards secession upon Lincoln's election. A better in-

indicator of where a Mason stood was political party affiliation. Masons who were Democrats, like Governor Ellis, were more pro-secession. Throughout the secession crisis Ellis worked hard to move North Carolina into the Confederacy and put the state on a war footing. While unsuccessful at convincing the citizens or General Assembly to secede because of the election returns, he did do much to increase the state's military preparedness by convincing the legislature to approve his proposals to create a state army of 10,000 volunteers and to provide agents with some \$300,000 to purchase arms.

Whigs such as Vance were far more likely to take a cautious approach to the secession question. As a writer from Wadesboro put it: "Peaceable secession is an impossibility. The State that secedes must pass through a baptism of blood, in which the garments of her surrounding sisters will be freely dipped...." A Greensboro Whig was more blunt, saying, "the man who speaks lightly of dissolving the Union, is a simpleton or a demagogue." Whigs tended to believe that Southern rights were better protected in the Union than out of it and that a suitable compromise to diffuse sectional animosity could be reached. After all, similar sectional crises had come up in the past through the Missouri Compromise and the Compromise of 1850. Thus, before doing anything rash, before doing anything that might cause garments to become freely dipped in blood, North Carolina Whigs held firm to the idea that Lincoln deserved a chance to prove that he was not a threat to Southerners' rights and that all compromise proposals had been exhausted. Indeed, Vance worked tirelessly throughout the state during the secession winter preaching for a "wait and see" approach in the months leading to Lincoln's inauguration in March 1861.

Brothers may have disagreed about whether or not to secede over a lost election, but moderate Whiggish Masons were not staunch Unionists or "submissionists" as their Democratic enemies often dubbed them. Rather, as Vance's positions and career illustrate, their Unionism, such as it was, was largely conditional. So long as Lincoln did not overtly threaten Southerners' rights (as they defined them) or attempt to physically force or coerce the Deep South back into the United States secession/revolution was not justified. However, when Lincoln called for 75,000 troops after the firing on Fort Sumter, whatever "Unionism" remained among more moderate Masons in the state virtually disappeared. When Ellis received Lincoln's request for North Carolina's quota of the 75,000 soldiers, he called the levy of troops "for the purposes of subjugating the States of the South" unconstitutional and a "gross usurpation of power." He informed Lincoln that as governor, "I can be no party of this wicked violation of the laws of the country and to this war upon the liberties of a free people. You can get no troops from North Carolina." Such chiding was unsurprising from Ellis given his Democratic convictions. But most Whigs came to largely the same conclusion. While in the middle of a speech calling for patience, compromise, and time, Vance received confirmation of Lincoln's call for troops. As he explained some years later, at that moment, "my hand came down from that impassioned gesticulation [for patience and compromise], slowly and sadly by the side of a Secessionist." Virtually all Whig-leaning Masons in the state were, like Vance, transformed into Confederates the moment they heard of Lincoln's call for what they viewed as coercion. And, again like Vance, they volunteered their services and offered their lives to the cause of their new nation if they were physically able.

In the spring and early summer of 1861 as North Carolina moved towards

secession, local military companies formed to defend the state. These early companies were generally drawn from the same county, often from a single town or hamlet, where young men volunteered alongside family members and friends they had known since childhood. In many cases as well, as Halleran has demonstrated, lodge brothers joined together. Brother Masons often banded together sharing tents, forming messes, and providing much-needed brotherly love and support when sick (something all too common in military camps of the time). It must be remembered that most of these young Tar Heels had never been outside their hometown in their whole lives or away from friends and family. Being able to rely and lean on their brothers was vitally important during this stage of their military life.

As the war dragged on the Confederacy had to resort to conscription to maintain its regiments. With conscription came certain changes. Where at the beginning of the war companies tended to be from the same general area where most members were known to one another, companies during the second half of the war often had newly conscripted members from areas of the state that were hundreds of miles from where the company originated. Soldiers that entered state and Confederate service via conscription had a double burden. In veterans' eyes they were suspect because they had failed to volunteer. Conscripted soldiers had also not proven themselves to their fellow comrades in battle. One can imagine the difficulty of being "a conscript," the derisive term many veterans used for draftees. He entered under a cloud among his fellow soldiers and he probably had few if any friends to help him learn the ropes. For Brothers, this transition was eased considerably by being able to make their membership in the fraternity known to fellow Masons who helped them find a home in the regiment.

Throughout the war grand lodges gave dispensations or special permission for military lodges, attached to certain units, to operate and conduct labor. Virtually every state's grand lodge permitted them, though a few, like South Carolina, were concerned that military lodges would dilute the membership by allowing in candidates who would not have "made the cut" back home under normal circumstances. In 1864 the North Carolina Grand Lodge approved dispensations for six military lodges to operate: J.E. Avery Military Lodge No. 1 (attached to the 6th North Carolina Regiment); Zeb Vance Military Lodge No. 2 (40th Regiment, Heavy Artillery); Vance Brothers Military Lodge No. 3 (43rd NC); 3rd North Carolina Cavalry Military Lodge No. 4 (3rd NC Cavalry); Chickamauga Military Lodge No. 5 (21st NC); and the J.C. McDowell Military Lodge No. 6 (1st NC Battalion). These, of course, were not the only units that had Masons in them. They were merely the only ones that went to the trouble to get a dispensation to operate as a lodge and to procure or make jewels and furniture. No doubt when the J.E. Avery Lodge initiated an Entered Apprentice or raised a brother to the sublime degree of Master Mason, Masons from the 57th North Carolina (other Tar Heels brigaded with the 6th) were there.

In fact, Masons from a variety of states, not just North Carolina, probably attended meetings run by North Carolina military lodges just as North Carolina soldiers might attend a meeting held by a Virginia or Georgia military lodge. Then as now, visiting other lodges was perfectly acceptable and welcome. Tar Heel Masons who did not happen to camp near a North Carolina unit with military lodge most assuredly took advantage of attending other states' military lodges during the war. As Halleran has pointed out, "...the wartime lodges...provided for a spiritual experience, comradeship, aid, and

succor and supplied a conduit for his energies and thoughts from the brutal business at hand to less sanguinary activities." Given that, it is difficult to imagine Masons giving up participation in Freemasonry unless it was in a military lodge from their home state.

Some of the most distressed worthy brothers were those who found themselves in the unenviable position of being prisoners of war. Despite claims to the contrary, neither side intended to use their prisons as "death camps," but at the same time prisoners were at the bottom of each government's "to do" list and nobody had experience operating huge holding centers for thousands of enemy soldiers. The result was that, on both sides, they tended to be crowded, unsanitary, and potentially deadly. The Union government permitted Confederate prisoners to receive aid and supplies from friends and family on the outside. For Masons, an efficient means of securing outside relief packages and aid was through contacting members relatively close to whichever prison they were confined. At Johnson's Island, an officers-only prison in Ohio, North Carolina Captain Joseph Davis of the 47th North Carolina was the head of the installation's Masonic Prison Association. Davis had been wounded in the Pickett-Pettigrew Charge at Gettysburg and, along with many Tar Heels, was captured in its wake. Referring to "the diffusive charity inculcated by our order [that] extends to all and should embrace even an enemy in distress and relieve him with a hearty good will," Captain Davis asked the commandant's permission to procure items for sick prisoners. Through Davis's efforts, many a Confederate prisoner at Johnson's Island benefitted. It should be noted as well that no distinction was made between Mason and non-Mason in distributing or administering the aid to sick prisoners, an excellent example of a Davis's living up to that noble charge that every human being has a claim upon our kind offices.

One of the larger prisons run by the Confederacy was a tobacco warehouse owned by the firm Libby and Sons, hence the more famous name, Libby Prison, in downtown Richmond. According to an article in a Masonic magazine in Ohio, a captain in the 123rd Ohio related that he had been captured at Winchester, Virginia in mid-June 1863 and sent to Libby Prison. While there he came into contact with a guard who was from North Carolina, a D.D. Munro of the 3rd North Carolina and they both determined quickly that they were fellow Masons. According to the story in the magazine, Brother Munro made sure that the Ohioan's relief packages always got to him in a timely manner and without being rummaged through. Munro also used his influence with officials to get the Ohio soldier's name on the prisoner exchange list, helping to secure his release the following March. As Halleran has pointed out in his book, such actions were not uncommon at all during the war. They were examples of Freemasons taking their obligations very seriously and doing all they could, without undermining their own cause or subverting their duty, to help a distressed worthy brother. Nothing Munro did in helping the Ohio Mason violated his duty or hurt the Confederate effort in any way.

North Carolina lodges often benefitted from help and protection provided by Northern Masons. When Federal troops campaigned in Eastern North Carolina in 1862 and 1864 individual lodges were in danger of being ransacked and looted, and sometimes were. In late 1862, Dr. William Hinds, a surgeon attached to the 17th Massachusetts Regiment entered Hamilton, North Carolina and found, "that that building occupied by the Masonic Fraternity [Conoho No. 131] had been broken open by some New York soldiers, and much of the

regalia, and all of the Jewels carried off. With assistance of some Brethren I succeeded in getting a guard placed over what was left, while the troops were in the town." He found the charter and sent it to the Grand Lodge in Massachusetts for safe keeping and told the Grand Secretary that if he ever found the jewels, "I will send them to you to be deposited with our Grand Lodge until such time as they can be returned."

In April 1864 a lodge in Washington, North Carolina was broken into and looted. Union General Innis Palmer, said to have been a Mason, was incensed by the vandalism and robbery and did what he could to recover the lodge's jewels and regalia. The regiments thought to be guilty were ordered to endure full dress parades every day for ten days or until the items were returned. During the parade, the soldiers and officers were compelled to listen to General Order Number 5 wherein Innes condemned those guilty of "...bursting open the doors of the Masonic and Odd Fellow's lodges, [and for having] pillaged them both, and hawked about the streets the regalia and jewels." The order further castigated those involved as "thieves and scoundrels, dead to all sense of honor and humility, for whom no punishment can be too severe." Halleran does not say if the jewels or regalia were recovered, but his larger point was that Northern Masons were quick to protect Southern lodges, their jewels, and their furniture out of a sense of honor and duty towards their fellow Brothers regardless of the fact that they were military and political enemies.

Many Southerners would perhaps be surprised to learn that a person as infamous as General Benjamin Butler should be positively remembered by North Carolina Masons. Often referred to by wartime Southerners, and some since, as "Beast Butler," he was a fellow Mason and a firm friend to the fraternity. In Spring 1864 many lodges in and around New Bern had been broken into and looted. Upon hearing of the break-ins Butler intervened and ordered Major General John Peck to locate and return as much Masonic property and items as he could find. Whatever else one wants to say about "The Beast," he never forgot he was a Brother; and he actively used the full extent of his authority in occupied Eastern North Carolina to protect Masonic lodges and property.

No organization is composed of completely perfect individuals who always do the right thing and Freemasonry has certainly never been the exception. However, as Brother Halleran has convincingly argued, during the Civil War Freemasons lived up to the fraternity's nobler ideals and teachings far more often than not. For those who joined in that time period, being a Mason was extremely important as evidenced by the fact that they did not put the fraternity on the back burner until the war was over but kept their involvement up through military lodges whenever possible. The example of Joseph Davis illustrates a Brother accepting the Masonic charge to help all human beings in need whenever possible. D.D. Munro and numerous Northern Masons in North Carolina demonstrated that Freemasonry can (and should) transcend politics. These Brothers, and many others like them during the Civil War, put their Freemasonry into practice under the most trying and bitter circumstances imaginable. As with much from the past, there is a lesson in that.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Gillespie, Grand Historian

Report of Lodge Service Commission

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The following is a report on the various applications and inquiries that have been made to the Lodge Service Commission during 2014.

Winston-Salem Temple Corporation is presently putting together a submission concerning the financial investment plan and funding of their proposed new facility. The plan has changed since our first approval and will require a new application to the LSC.

Asheville Temple Corporation has submitted a revised set of by-laws for review which have been tabled until a final decision has been issued from the Grand Lodge concerning certain rules established in our drafted by-laws from two years ago.

The proposed formation of a new Temple Corporation in Charlotte, NC involving Excelsior Lodge 261 and Temple Lodge 676 has likewise been tabled until the ruling is made by the Grand Lodge concerning adoption of the LSC proposed by-laws.

The Greenville Masonic Temple has adopted a new set of by-laws as they could not find a copy of their original by-laws. These changes were made to update by-laws that were at least 40 years old and to address the concerns of the various associated masonic bodies utilizing the building as well as the use of the building by another Masonic lodge not holding a share of ownership. It would appear that this change in the by-laws was never submitted to the LSC for review and approval. A subsequent submission may likewise have to be tabled until the current suggested uniform Temple Associations by-laws as drafted by the LSC are found to be valid in their current form.

With the above examples it is clear that this issue is one that should be given a high priority in order to allow for these mentioned bodies to get on with business. The Lodge Service Commission obviously believes that the drafted by-laws that were presented to the Grand Lodge after many hours of research do indeed provide an avenue for uniformity within our various Temple Corporations across the state. We do not hold these by-laws to be perfect but these documents can be modified as new and as yet unforeseen circumstances arise. The problems that have arisen within these bodies in the past would appear to have developed because of lack of institutional control by having a required format for by-laws. Our intent was to place an importance on the already existing or newly created Temple Corporation as if it were a living entity that would then expect to be supported by its subordinates. We believe that as Masons we should hold ourselves to a higher standard than might be expected in the corporate world in general. Previous interpretations of the code have had various ideas as to what happens to the equity that a member of the corporation may hold and the disposition of that equity should a member withdraw from the corporation for whatever reason. We believe that a member should not be unduly penalized if it decided that its individual path would be better served by withdrawal from the corporation. Our proposed by-laws allowed for the exiting of a body with their current equity in a manner that would not allow them to harm the corporation by their withdrawal. They should expect to receive their equity but it may be over a period of time as the corporation may be able to afford without injury to itself.

We ask that the Grand Lodge look to a quick decision and we hope you will see the merits of our proposed by-laws. As we have been charged to submit to

the government of the country in which we reside so have we agreed to abide by the laws resolutions and edits of the Grand Lodge. Perhaps James Madison said it best in the Federalist Papers when he stated "If all men were angels there would be no necessity of government."

The proposed creation of a Durham Temple Corporation has been withdrawn. As a direct result of that action the LSC has now been informed that Fellowship Lodge 687 is in the process of putting together an application for the approval of the Lodge to purchase a new property.

We have also been contacted by members of Durham Lodge 352 indicating that they are likewise in the process of submitting an application to purchase a new property for their Lodge.

Cherokee Lodge 146 is in the process of selling their existing property and purchasing a new property

Hibriton Lodge 262 is also in the process of selling their existing building and purchasing a new property.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, we wish to thank you for the service you have given our great fraternity and to thank you for the opportunity you gave us to serve the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully and Fraternaly,
David J. Stapleton
Chairman, Lodge Service Commission

Report of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

During the past year, formal requests for recognition have been received from four grand lodges. This Grand Lodge subscribes to the services of the Commission on Information for Recognition of the Conference of Grand Masters in North America to gather information and investigate whether the grand lodge in question satisfies the conditions of regularity. The Commission's guidelines or Standards for Recognition are as follows:

- Legitimacy of origin
- Exclusive territorial jurisdiction, except by mutual consent and/or treaty
- Adherence to the Ancient Landmarks – specifically, a belief in God, the Volume of Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the furniture of the lodge, and the prohibition of the discussion of politics and religion.

Grand Lodge of Cameroon

The Grand Lodge of Cameroon was consecrated by the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise on September 15, 2001 consisting of the four lodges that were chartered by the GLNF. Presently today, there are ten lodges operating under this grand lodge. It is the opinion of the Commission on Information and Recognition the Grand Lodge of Cameroon is regular and entitled to recognition. It is the recommendation of this committee to approve recognition of this Grand Lodge.

Grande Loja de Pernambuco (Brazil)

We have received a request for recognition from the Grande Loja de Pernambuco of Brazil. This is one of only 27 state grand lodges approved by the Commission on Information and Recognition of the Grand Master's Conference

of North America. They were founded October 6, 1932. This grand lodge is a member of the confederation of Regular Grand Lodges of the nation of Brazil. It is the recommendation of this committee to approve recognition of this Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge of Montenegro

We have received a request for recognition from the Grand Lodge of Montenegro. This grand lodge was legally constituted on May 12, 2007, from three lodges that worked under the auspices of the Regular Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia and was chartered by the United Grand Lodge of Germany. There are now four working lodges working under this obedience. It is the opinion of the Commission on Information and Recognition the Grand Lodge of Montenegro is regular and entitled to recognition. It is the recommendation of this committee to approve recognition of this Grand Lodge.

Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland

A request was received from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland. The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence has been assured that the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland is recognized by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of North Carolina and they are assured that they are regular in all respects. It is the recommendation of this committee to approve recognition of this Grand Lodge.

Gran Logia Simbolica del Paraguay

We have received a request for recognition from the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Paraguay. Over the last six years, the Grand Master's Conference's Commission on Information for Recognition has continued to study the split in the Grand Lodge of Paraguay that resulted in the two Grand Lodges. The information the Commission has gathered leads it to the conclusion that the Grand Lodge Symbolic whose Grand Master is M/W Bro Euclides, is the only Grand Lodge in Paraguay that meets the standards for recognition. It is the recommendation of this committee to approve recognition of this Grand Lodge.

Grande Logia Del Estado "Andres Quintana Roo" (Mexico)

We have received a request for recognition from the Grande Logia Del Estado "Anres Quintana Roo." This is one of 24 state grand lodges of Mexico approved by the Commission on Information and Recognition of the Grand Master's Conference of North America. It is the recommendation of this committee to approve recognition of this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles A. Lewis, Jr., PGM
Fraternal Correspondent

Petitions for Restoration

BRM (Docket No. 765), formerly a member of Rainbow Lodge No. 479, Arapahoe, was expelled for un-Masonic conduct on January 19, 2012. He filed for restoration with the lodge on June 2, 2014 and with the grand secretary on June 4, 2014.

JTH (Docket No. 783), formerly a member of Grantham Lodge No. 725,

New Bern, was expelled on March 5, 2009. He filed for restoration with the lodge on February 4, 2014 and with the grand secretary on March 17, 2014.

RSB (Docket No. 826), formerly a member of Round Peak Lodge No. 616, Mt. Airy, was expelled for un-Masonic conduct on April 25, 2011. He filed for restoration with the lodge on June 2, 2014 and with the grand secretary on March 28, 2014.

WLS, Jr. (Docket No. 837), formerly a member of Rainbow Lodge No. 479, Arapahoe, was expelled for un-Masonic conduct on January 19, 2012. He filed for restoration with the lodge on June 2, 2014 and with the grand secretary on June 4, 2014.

Report of the Judge Advocate

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

This report is prepared as of 1 August 2014 and most respectfully submitted for your information and disposition.

Docket No. 855, 9 September 2013 – Brother BKN, a Master Mason and member of Kedron Lodge No. 387 was expelled by the Judge Advocate after he pleaded guilty to conspiracy, extortion, bank fraud, perjury and money laundering in Federal Court on 1 March 2011. Brother FKN did not answer the Masonic charges against him.

Docket No. 856, 19 September 2013 – Brother JBR, a Master Mason and member of Bula Lodge No. 409 was expelled by the Judge Advocate after he pleaded guilty to 15 felony charges involving sex with a minor in the Superior Court of Alamance County on 12 August 2013. Brother JBR did not answer the Masonic charges against him.

Docket No. 857, 21 October 2013 – Brother AGK, a Master Mason and member of Kedron Lodge No. 387 was expelled by the Judge Advocate after he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud in Federal Court on 1 March 2011. Brother AGK did not answer the Masonic charges against him.

Docket No. 858, 26 February 2014 – Brother JKR, a Master Mason and member of Mint Hill Lodge No. 742 was expelled by the Judge Advocate after he pleaded guilty to felony embezzlement in the United States District Court, Western District of North Carolina. Brother JKR did not answer the Masonic charges against him.

Docket No. 859, 8 April 2014 – Brother JGR a Master Mason and member of Hamlet Lodge No. 532 was expelled by the Judge Advocate after he was found guilty of felony possessing, promoting and distributing child pornography in the Circuit Court of Worcester County, Maryland. Brother JGR did not answer the Masonic charges against him.

Docket No. 860, 19 June 2014 – Brother DEM a Master Mason and member of Pleasant Hill Lodge No. 304 was expelled by the Trial Commission after he was found guilty of having illegal carnal communication with another Master Mason's wife. Brother DEM pleaded not guilty and was heard by the Trial Commission. The Complainant in this case appointed his own attorney and the Judge Advocate observed the trial but did not prosecute it.

Docket No. 861, 6 June 2014 – Brother RNA a Master Mason and member of Catawba Valley Lodge No. 217 was expelled by the Judge Advocate after he pleaded guilty to statutory rape, a felony in the Superior Court of Burke

County. Brother RNA, through his power of attorney, answered the Masonic charges and admitted them.

Docket No. 862, 6 June 2014 – Brother NGC a Master Mason and member of North Wilkesboro Lodge No. 407 was expelled by the Judge Advocate after he entered a plea other than not guilty to Felony possession of a Schedule VI Controlled Substance in the Superior Court of Wilkes County. Brother NGC answered the Masonic charges and admitted them.

Docket No. 863, 2 July 2014 – Brother RDS a Master Mason and member of Bula Lodge No. 409 was expelled by the Judge Advocate for having illegal carnal communication with another Master Mason's wife. Brother RDS did not answer the Masonic charges against him.

Respectfully submitted,
James R. Stevens, Judge Advocate

Report of the Committee on Bylaws

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges reports that amendments to the by-laws of the following lodges were approved during the year 2013–2014. They are listed in lodge order.

| Lodge Name | Article Description |
|------------------------|--|
| Caswell Brotherhood 11 | Art 8 changing meeting nights of lodge |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$75 plus per capita |
| Lafayette 83 | Art 9 initiation fee raised to \$200 plus investigation fee |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$80 plus per capita tax |
| Joseph Warren 92 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Millbrook 97 | Art 9 initiation fee raised to \$105 plus the cost of background check |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$90 |
| Fulton 99 | Art 10 dues increased to \$100 plus per capita |
| Franklin 109 | Art 19 institute special ballot procedures |
| Lincoln 137 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Cherokee 146 | Art 9 initiation fee raised to \$150 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$60 plus per capita |
| | Art 11 affiliation fee increased to \$50 |
| Whitestone 155 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Williams 176 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Balfour 188 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Granite 191 | Art 10 dues increased to \$80 plus per capita |
| Cleveland 202 | Art 8 changing the meeting night to third Thursday |
| | Art 9 initiation fee increased to \$110 plus investigation fee |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$60 plus per capita |
| | Art 11 obsolete affiliation fee |
| Lebanon 207 | Art 10 dues increased to \$70 plus per capita |

Reports

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|-----------------------|---|
| William G. Hill 218 | Art 5 appointing an assistant treasurer |
| | Art 8 annual meeting in November |
| | Art 9 initiation fee increased to \$200 |
| | Art 11 affiliation fee increased to \$100 |
| | Art 19 institute special ballot procedures |
| Corinthian 230 | Art 8 annual meeting in November |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$75 |
| Catawba 248 | Art 10 dues increased to \$80 plus per capita tax |
| Fuquay 258 | Art 10 dues increased to \$85 plus per capita |
| Excelsior 261 | Art 20 obsolete |
| | Art 22 ban smoking in building |
| Tabasco 271 | Art 9 initiation fee raised to \$125 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$50 plus per capita |
| Laurinburg 305 | Art 8 changing meeting night of lodge |
| Eureka 317 | Art 15 compensation of secretary and treasurer |
| Fairview 339 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Durham 352 | Art 9 initiation fee increased to \$200 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$80 plus per capita effective 2015 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$85 plus per capita effective 2016 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$90 plus per capita effective 2017 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$95 plus per capita effective 2018 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$100 plus per capita effective 2019 |
| | Art 11 affiliation fee increased to \$100 |
| State Line 375 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Orient 395 | Art 10 dues increased to \$75 plus per capita |
| Harmon 420 | Art 9 initiation fee increased to \$200 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$100 |
| Oconee 427 | Art 10 dues increased to \$100 |
| Stokesdale 428 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Seaside 429 | Art 10 dues increased to \$80 plus per capita tax |
| Vanceboro 433 | Art 10 dues increased to \$60 plus per capita |
| Biscoe 437 | Art 9 initiation fee increased to \$100 |
| | Art 10 dues increased to \$75 plus per capita |
| | Art 11 affiliation fee increased to \$25 |
| Sonoma 472 | Art 10 dues increased to \$100 plus per capita |
| Grimesland 475 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Polk County Unity 482 | complete revision of bylaws |
| Traphill 483 | Art 10 dues increased to \$60 |
| Southern Pines 484 | Art 8 meeting time changed to 7pm |
| | Art 8 address of lodge corrected |
| Mooresville 496 | Art 8 changing meeting night of lodge |

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|--|
| Camp Call 534 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$60 plus per capita |
| Corinthian 542 | Art 19 | election process to Temple Board |
| Casar 579 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$65 |
| Bethel 589 | | complete revision of bylaws |
| Riverside 606 | Art 13 | charity during recess increased to \$300 |
| Round Peak 616 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$50 plus per capita |
| John H. Mills 624 | Art 19 | institute special ballot procedures |
| Robbinsville 672 | Art 19 | institute special ballot procedures |
| Temple 676 | Art 8 | changing location of lodge |
| Providence 678 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$60 |
| Cherry Point 688 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$110 |
| Garner 701 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$80 plus per capita |
| | Art 11 | affiliation fee increased to \$35 |
| Conover 709 | Art 8 | changing meeting nights of lodge |
| Advance 710 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$90 |
| | Art 11 | affiliation fee increased to \$50 |
| Liberty 714 | Art 10 | dues increased to \$80 effective 2015 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$85 effective 2016 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$90 effective 2017 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$95 effective 2018 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$100 effective 2019 |
| West Gate 738 | Art 9 | initiation fee increased to \$175 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$75 plus per capita effective 2015 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$90 plus per capita effective 2018 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$105 plus per capita effective 2021 |
| Truth 749 | | complete revision of bylaws |
| Enterprise 752 | Art 9 | initiation fee raised to \$135 |
| | Art 10 | dues increased to \$100 plus per capita |
| | Art 11 | affiliation fee increased to \$100 |
| Federal Point 753 | | complete revision of bylaws |
| Mosaic 762 | Art 8 | changing meeting night of lodge |
| Knights of Solomon 766 | Art 8 | adjusting meeting dates and annual meeting |

Respectfully submitted,
T. Walton Clapp III, Chairman

Report of the Committee on WhiteStone

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

We are pleased to report that this past year WhiteStone: A Masonic and Eastern Star Community celebrated 100 years of care for our elderly brothers, sisters and family members in need. Thanks to the ongoing support of

individual brothers, their lodges and the Grand Lodge, that beautiful tradition continues today to an extent the Home's founders could not have imagined. From its humble beginnings in 1913, serving a few residents and employing a small staff, WhiteStone today serves 310 residents, employs 250 full-time and part-time employees and operates on a \$14 million annual budget.

Our committee is charged with visiting the Home in Greensboro and reporting to the Grand Lodge on conditions and management. Committee members sat in on board meetings, participated in the annual Family Day in May and met with Executive Director Mark Kolada. We are grateful for Brother Mark's assistance with our work and for his consistently excellent leadership throughout the year. We also extend our thanks to the Home's staff for their dedication and service to residents.

We are pleased to report that the Home is financially strong, the condition of the property is excellent and operations are efficient and professional. Occupancy is high, with 98 percent of units sold and only four units remaining to be filled to reach the 100 percent mark. The independent living expansion and renovation has been a resounding success, with the new 46-unit independent living building reaching capacity ahead of projections. More than 20 people are on the waiting list for the newer units. By filling these units quickly, WhiteStone was able to pay off a series of short term bonds almost a year earlier than projected.

Committee members were impressed with WhiteStone's extensive services and amenities and the quality of life enjoyed by the residents. Outside agencies agree. In 2013 the Care and Wellness Nursing Center (CWC) received a deficiency-free survey from the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services and a 5 star rating from the Center of Medical Services. Both of these designations place our CWC in the top 10 percent of all nursing homes, in North Carolina and nationally, in quality of care, staffing levels and adherence to regulations.

The committee thanks our generous brethren, their lodges, the Grand Lodge and the N.C. Masonic Foundation for their continued support of our beloved charity.

Fraternal giving was slightly higher in 2013, with approximately \$1 million collected in overall donations, of which \$371,000 came from Masonic support. In 2012 approximately \$966,000 was given, of which \$321,000 came from Masonic support.

Masonic Contributions in Fiscal Years 2011 Through 2013

| Masonic Charities | FY 2013 | FY 2012 | FY 2011 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Blue Lodge Donations Directly to WhiteStone | \$119,043 | \$268,233 | \$243,520 |
| Blue Lodge Donations Directly to NC MESH Foundation LLC | \$119,829 | | |
| NC Masonic Foundation Directly to WhiteStone | \$39,899 | \$34,155 | \$95,271 |
| NC Masonic Foundation Directly to NC MESH Foundation LLC | \$79,798 | | |

| | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Grand Lodge Directly to WhiteStone | | \$17,500 | \$14,715 |
| Grand Lodge Directly to NC MESH Foundation LLC | \$12,500 | | |
| Other Masonic Bodies | \$300 | | \$ 1,564 |
| Masonic Total | \$371,368* | \$321,452 | \$353,506 |

* Does not include \$106,000 contributed to the LLC's brick drive in 2013. Donors included individuals, lodges, the Grand Lodge, the Masonic Foundation and the Eastern Star Foundation.

In 2013, WhiteStone reported that financial assistance was provided to 43 fraternal residents in the form of room and board, medical supplies, pharmacy needs and other expenses that they otherwise could not afford. The community subsidized 25 Eastern Star Members, two Masonic members and 16 Masonic-affiliated family members at a total estimated cost of \$1,334,000. Of these 43 residents, 21 were in Medicaid nursing home beds partially subsidized by the state and WhiteStone, and 22 lived in residential apartments. In addition to the subsidies that either our charities or the state provide, the residents contribute as much as they can afford toward the costs of their care.

In 2012 the N.C. Masonic Foundation established a new entity, the N.C. Masonic and Eastern Star Home Foundation LLC. Its purpose is to collect fraternal donations and provide direct financial assistance to fraternally related residents as well as to those seeking financial support to enter the Home. The LLC ensures that every donated fraternal dollar benefits fraternal residents in need while protecting WhiteStone from discrimination claims by non-fraternal residents who might request charity. In 2013, we saw an increasing number of lodges contribute directly to this new LLC and we hope to see even greater participation by the end of 2014. In 2013 the LLC directed \$340,000 to WhiteStone compared to \$98,000 the previous year.

In 2013 WhiteStone and the LLC developed a buy-a-brick campaign to commemorate the Home's 100th anniversary and raise funds to help fraternal members who don't have the financial means to pay WhiteStone's full entrance fee. Thanks to the generous support of individuals, lodges, the Grand Lodge, the N.C. Masonic Foundation and the Order of the Eastern Star, more than \$115,000 has been raised for this purpose, including \$25,000 from the Grand Lodge. We expect the bricks to be installed by winter and proceeds from the project distributed to worthy fraternal applicants by year end.

This year the WhiteStone board of directors and the LLC agreed to make available to deserving Masonic and Eastern Star members four one-bedroom and two studio apartments in the Bennett Building. This means that we are again offering charitable assistance to brothers and sisters wanting to enter WhiteStone after a hiatus of several years made necessary by insufficient charitable support. In July the LLC managers approved five requests for charity, including two for these new spaces in the Bennett Building. It is expected that by the end of 2014, four or more of these units will be occupied with new fraternally related residents receiving financial support from the LLC.

If you hear a brother say "I'll never be able to move to WhiteStone because I can't afford it," or "The Home only admits people with money," please tell him about this exciting new development. Applications for assistance are on the Grand Lodge website under News and Events/Media Articles and are also

available from the Grand Secretary's office.

WhiteStone also helps fraternal members across the state with its medical equipment loan and information hotline. The Home routinely loans surplus equipment to fraternal members and provides guidance for members and their families who need information on Medicaid, Medicare and VA support and services.

As we submit this report WhiteStone's board is launching a strategic planning process to set priorities and identify potential growth areas and additional services which may be offered over the next three, five and 10 years. Watch for new ideas and services to emerge from this process.

See for yourself what Masons have built for our elderly brothers and sisters. Consider holding a lodge meeting at WhiteStone to enjoy fellowship with Masonic residents who aren't able to travel to meetings. And think about adopting a resident. Lodges can provide love, personal attention and direct financial support to their adopted residents. They visit, write letters, send holiday and birthday cards, and provide small gifts and monetary contributions to help residents pay for personal items and provide extra spending money. This is a small investment of time and resources that yields tremendous personal rewards for the recipients as well as those who give. Contact Mark Kolada if you'd like to explore this idea.

Our committee thanks the Grand Lodge and WhiteStone's residents and staff for giving us the opportunity to learn more about our Home and its charitable work. We hope you will take the opportunity to visit our Home and see for yourself the impact of our fraternity's involvement.

Respectfully submitted,
Speed Hallman, Junior Grand Deacon, chairman

Report of the Grand Lodge Committee on MHC0

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford visited our children's Home on May 9, 2014 in accordance with Reg. 34-18 of The Code. We found a vibrant, spiritual, healthy, joyous and nurturing community, worthy of much pride and praise. We also found a professional, knowledgeable and helpful staff, ready to assist any in need, and to assist all Masons in our mission at the Home.

As of the date of the submission of this Report, we have a total of 56 children in our care. Specifically, 38 children are receiving Direct Care, and 18 are in our Independent Living Program (ILP). The average age on campus is 14.8 years. And most importantly, it must be noted that the average cost per child is \$122 per day.

This past year, 100% of eligible high school students graduated, and there was a 97% advancement rate. 17% of students ended the 4th Quarter on the Honor Roll, 17% ended the 4th Quarter on Honorable Mention, 17% increased their GPA by five points or more in the 4th Quarter, and 31% maintained a GPA of 90 or above. Of special note, one ILP resident graduated with a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice from North Carolina A&T State University. The Home also had its first Early College Graduate, receiving a High School Diploma and Associates Degree together. Three Direct Care residents have graduated to the Independent Living Program.

It is evident to all, that the staff of the Home, with the loving and generous support of our great fraternity, is providing the type of environment that provides not only for the individual daily needs of our children, but are preparing them to succeed in life.

But as with any great success story, there remain many challenges. Our greatest needs at this time are: finding qualified house parent couples; refinement and expansion of services; obtaining sufficient revenue for operations; and the cultivation of planned gifts.

Without being able to bring in qualified and dedicated house parent couples, our Home simply cannot grow. The Home has incorporated various electronic searches and has support from brethren and friends of the Home through these various sources and avenues, as traditional print ads have had very limited success. There are also numerous major factors that have limited candidate consideration, but our diligent staff is working on solutions to all of these issues.

Programmatically, the Home is looking to continue to develop our services and our service delivery. This includes cultivating additional counseling services, development of the Individual Service Plan, adopting a different assessment tool, and offering more structured after care services. In addition, the Home is collaborating more with community groups. This allows the Home to utilize existing resources to house programs and groups who not only benefit the community at large, but offer services that can be accessed by our children and families.

One service enhancement has been the addition of the Vocational Counselor. Through these efforts we now have over 85% of our residents aged 16+ employed off campus. Learning how to be a responsible employee is a tremendous life skill. Adjustments have to be made to help accommodate the increased transportation needs and availability for scheduled activities and programming. One adjustment has been the partnership with Wheels4Hope. Two ILP residents have received reliable transportation for a nominal sales price. We have a third ILP resident in line to receive a vehicle through Wheels4Hope.

Financially, the Home has had to use our investment gains over the past two years to cover expenses. Planned gifts are the Home's life line. Being able to inform groups about the Home's mission and results is expanded through the development of a Marketing Committee with the Board. Sharing information will help bring more interested parties to the Home who could help support through a variety of means.

Will the Masons of North Carolina respond to these challenges? Will we openly express our love for our great Home, yet fail to address these needs? Will we proudly talk about the success story that is our Home, yet fail to act by the giving of our time, talents and blessings? The Committee thinks not. Masons have always risen to the occasion, as is evident ever since the Home's founding in 1873. But now is the time to respond with more energy, passion, conviction and support than ever before. For us; for Masonry; for our children.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jimmie B. Hicks, Jr., Chairman
James E. Britt
Earl A. Daughtry
Ryland E. Grissom
Jeff Taylor

Resolution of the Committee on Finance

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Finance shall be the first order of business at the morning session of the Grand Lodge held on Saturday, September 27, 2014, and,

Resolved further, That all resolutions, motions, and reports asking for or carrying appropriations and expenditures not included in the 2015 proposed budget, shall be placed before the Grand Lodge before 4:00 p.m. on Friday September 26, 2014, and,

Resolved further, That all such matters offered after 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 26, 2014, be carried over to the next business communication of this Grand Lodge when the 2016 budget will be considered.

Respectfully submitted,
Grover Dees, Chairman

Resolution for Oconee Lodge 427 to Receive a Duplicate Charter

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

WHEREAS, Oconee Lodge No. 427, AF & AM located in Bryson City, NC is a regular lodge chartered January 15, 1890 by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, and

WHEREAS, the chartered history of Oconee Lodge No. 427, AF & AM remains unbroken, and

WHEREAS, Oconee Lodge No. 427, AF & AM has been operating under a certified photographic copy of its charter, and

WHEREAS, the original charter has been lost, and

WHEREAS, the required fee of \$150 has been submitted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Oconee Lodge No. 427, AF & AM, Bryson City, NC hereby petitions the Grand Lodge of North Carolina for a duplicate charter. It also acknowledges that if the original charter is found it will be surrendered to the Grand Secretary's Office as required in Regulation 41-4.2.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark D. Mabe, Master
Oconee Lodge No. 427

Petition for a Charter from Sophia Lodge U.D., Salisbury

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The subscribers hereto respectfully represent that, on the twenty-third day of October, CE 2013, AL 6013, a dispensation was issued by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina for the establishment of a new lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, at Salisbury in the County of Rowan, by the name of Sophia Lodge, and that said lodge has worked regularly since that time as appears from the transcript of its records, bylaws, and returns herewith presented.

They, therefore, now pray that a charter be granted to the said lodge, with the following officers, to-wit: Brother Larry Bogan Thompson, Jr., Master; Brother Benjamin Grady Wallace, Senior Warden; and Brother Ronald Kevin Combs, Junior Warden. And they do promise, as heretofore, in strict conformity to the edicts of the Grand Master, and to the Constitution and laws of the Grand Lodge.

Given under our hands on this the 27th day of August, CE 2014, AL 6014.

Respectfully submitted,
The members of Sophia Lodge U.D.

Report of the Committee on Unfinished Business To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The following various orders issued during the terms of Grand Master Dewey R. Preslar, Jr. and Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo are to be considered during this Annual Communication.

Preslar Order 4

It has been brought to my attention by the Grand Secretary that Cherry Point Lodge No. 688 held a Stated Communication on October 17, 2013, and balloted on a Proposal for Life Membership on Brother BJB. The Master declared the ballot clear when at least one black cube had been deposited. The Code requires unanimous consent approval for Life Membership.

I have determined two errors in the procedure on this ballot. The Master erred in approving a Life Membership that contained at least two or fewer black cubes. The Master was under the assumption that the proposed changes to Regulation 77-9 had been approved at the 2013 annual meeting. The vote on that proposed amendment failed. Even if the proposed amendment was approved, this ballot declaration would still have been illegal since all amendments unless otherwise stated become effective on the first of January following the date approved. No other ballot was taken on this Proposal for Life Membership.

68-3.13. In case only one black cube appears, the Master shall not then declare the result but immediately at the same communication order a re-ballot without discussion on the part of the members or any intervening act or business, the result of the re-ballot shall be declared, and it shall be final except as provided in Regulation 68-8.

In this situation, the Master did not order a re-ballot as required in 68-3.13.

68-3.20. After the Master declares the result of a secret ballot, no further balloting on that particular petition or application or specific proposition just balloted on shall take place, except by order of the Grand Master as provided in Regulations 68-8 and 68-8.2.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order another ballot in cases under Regulation 68-8, I hereby ORDER a re-ballot and grant a dispensation to Cherry Point Lodge No. 688 to ballot again on the Proposal for Life Membership of BJB at the stated communication of December 5, 2013.

Also, in compliance with Regulation 78-01 of THE CODE, I hereby ORDER you to notify all of the members of your lodge by first-class mail under sealed cover of the re-ballot on the Proposal for Life Membership of BJB and

the date of the said re-ballot, being certain to give the members at least ten days notice.

This Order shall be read to the lodge at the stated communication to be held on November 21, 2013, entered on the minutes of that communication and a proper notation made on the margin of the minutes for October 17, 2013 referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal at Salisbury, North Carolina this the 13th day of November, 2013.

Mayo - Official Opinion No. 1

The question has been presented by WB Brian K. Stamey, Master of Lovelady Lodge No. 670 in Valdese, North Carolina as to whether Regulation 43-3.3 of the CODE prohibits a lodge from leasing real property owned by the lodge to tenants that may possess, consume or serve alcoholic beverages when the real property to be leased is separate and distinct from the real property used by the lodge for its regular stated communications, emergent communications or any other lodge functions. A review of the Grand Lodge archives reveals that this question has not been previously addressed. Agreeable to Section 8-6.3 of the CODE, I hereby offer this Official Opinion in response to the question raised.

Regulation 43-3.3 of the CODE states that "A lodge shall not, by any pretext, or for any purpose, or by any subterfuge introduce intoxicating liquors or beverages, or permit their use as a beverage on any of its premises, nor shall it rent any of its premises to any one who therein sells intoxicating liquors with the exception of a pharmacist." The portion of Regulation 43-3.3 that must be interpreted to answer answering WB Stamey's question is "its premises."

There is nothing special about any premises or location. As we know from our Masonic teachings, any premises or any location can become a Masonic lodge. We have been taught that our ancient brethren held their lodges on high hills and in low dells, not in a building with no windows. In addition to their usual meeting place, lodges often obtain dispensations to hold lodge meetings in barns, rock quarries, pastures, boats, caves, sand quarries and even at Whitestone.

A location only becomes a "lodge" and thereby subject to the CODE provision in question when that location is used for Masonic purposes. Therefore, we must determine when a location becomes a "lodge." For this answer, we again turn to our Masonic teachings. We know that a lodge is a certain number of Masons that are duly assembled and meeting with a charter or warrant that empowers them to work. There must be an altar with the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses displayed and officer stations present. When these things occur, and only when these things occur, does Regulation 43-3.3 of the CODE apply. If a lodge wishes to hold a degree in a rock quarry (or any other location that is not its usual meeting place), then while the quarry is being used for a Masonic purpose, the quarry becomes the lodge "premises" and Regulation 43-3.3 will apply to that location and alcohol will then be prohibited. It must, therefore, be equally true that Regulation 43-3.3 of the CODE does not apply to property that is not used for Masonic purposes, even if that property happens to be owned by a Masonic Lodge.

Lovelady Lodge is the owner to 2 separate and distinct properties. One property is used as the lodge meeting location. This property is owned and

used by a tax exempt organization and is not subject to city and county property taxes. This property falls under the definition of "premises" in Regulation 43-3.3 of the CODE. The other property is rental property. It is not used for any lodge function. The second property is subject to city and county property taxes. Under these facts, the second property would not fall under the definition of "premises" in Regulation 43-3.3 of the CODE.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED AND DECREED that rental property owned by a lodge that is separate and distinct from property used by the lodge for its regular stated communications, emergent communications or for any other lodge function is not subject to Regulation 43-3.3 of the CODE.

Entered this the 27th day of March, 2014.

Mayo Order No. 1

It has been brought to my attention that Matthews Lodge No. 461, AF & AM, Matthews, held a stated communication on August 14, 2014 and balloted on the petitions for the degrees for Mr. JAH and Mr. JHG who were subsequently rejected.

During that communication, there appears to be some confusion within the membership of Matthews Lodge over this ballot by noting the following:

- (1) The Worshipful Master did not clearly identify the individuals being balloted.
- (2) A member of the lodge could not freely cast his ballot as the ballot box did not contain enough balls and cubes which is in violation of Regulation 68-10 of *The Code*.
- (3) Members in attendance were offering suggestions from the sidelines to the member at the ballot box who raised the question of the lack of balls and cubes whereby the Master should have stopped the balloting immediately and destroyed the vote as provided in Regulation 68-3.18 of *The Code*.

Regulation 68-8 of *The Code* states that when positive evidence of improper balloting has occurred, the Grand Master is permitted to declare the ballot null and void and order another ballot.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order another ballot, I hereby declare the ballot August 14, 2014 to be Null and Void. I hereby Order a re-ballot on the petition for the degrees for Mr. JAH and Mr. JHG to be held at the stated communication for September 11, 2014.

Also, in compliance with Regulation 68-8.2, I hereby Order you to notify all members of your lodge of the re-ballot on the petition for the degrees by first class mail under sealed cover and date of said re-ballot, being certain to give the members at least ten day's notice.

This Order shall be read to the lodge at the stated communication to be held on September 11, 2014, entered on the minutes of that communication and a proper notation made in the margin of the minutes of August 14, 2014 referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of August, 2014.

Mayo Order No. 2

It has been brought to my attention that Lowell Lodge No. 590, AF & AM, Lowell, held a stated communication on August 19, 2014 and balloted on a petition for the degrees for Mr. JMB who was subsequently rejected.

During the communication, there appears to be some confusion within the membership of Lowell Lodge over this ballot. The Worshipful Master was unsure of the ballot process as this lodge had previously adopted the alternative balloting procedure under Regulation 68-3.13. The Master did not declare the ballot results immediately as required under Regulation 68-3.17 of *The Code*.

Regulation 68-8 of *The Code* states that when positive evidence of improper balloting has occurred, the Grand Master is permitted to declare the ballot null and void and order another ballot.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order an another ballot, I hereby declare the ballot August 19, 2014 to be Null and Void. I hereby Order a re-ballot on the petition for the degrees for Mr. JMB to be held at the stated communication for September 16, 2014.

Also, in compliance with Regulation 68-8.2, I hereby Order you to notify all members of your lodge of the re-ballot on the petition for the degrees by first class mail under sealed cover and date of said re-ballot, being certain to give the members at least ten day's notice.

This Order shall be read to the lodge at the stated communication to be held on September 16, 2014, entered on the minutes of that communication and a proper notation made in the margin of the minutes of August 19, 2014 referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of August, 2014.

Amendment Group 1

The following amendments have been proposed by Albemarle Lodge No. 703.

These proposed amendments would allow an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to only attend the business meetings but not allow them to participate in any of the business transactions of the lodge until they become a member after being raised.

REG. 45-2 STATED COMMUNICATION.

...

4. A lodge, regularly opened on the first or third degree for an emergent communication on the day of a stated communication at an earlier hour than that named in its by-laws for that stated communication, may be changed to a stated communication without going through the ceremonies of closing and again opening in the following manner.
 - A. At a time not more than thirty minutes after the hour named in the bylaws for the stated communication, the Master shall announce in open lodge that "the hour for the stated communication having arrived, and the lodge having been opened on the degree of Entered Apprentice or Master Mason, further work in the emergent communication will be deferred and the business of the stated communication taken up."

REG. 45-8 QUORUM.

Seven Master Masons, members of the lodge, one of whom shall be authorized to open the lodge and preside, shall constitute a quorum to open the lodge on any degree and for the transaction of any business that may lawfully come before an Entered Apprentice or Master Mason's lodge. The Tyler, if a member

of the lodge, may be one of the seven.

REG. 45-9 DEGREE ON WHICH LODGE OPENED.

All business shall may be transacted in an Entered Apprentice's or Master Mason's Lodge, except proficiency examinations and degree work in the first and second degrees, or the discipline of Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts as provided in Chapter 100. If a lodge chooses to transact business in an Entered Apprentice lodge it would be opened for the transaction of business in lieu of work and instruction.

...

REG. 45-18 MASTER MASON'S LODGE CLOSED.

Every Master Mason's lodge shall be closed *until the next stated communication unless sooner convened*. Lodges of Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons shall be closed without date unless conducting business in a lodge of Entered Apprentice in which case it shall be closed until the next stated communication unless sooner convened.

REG. 51-1 MODES OF AVOUCHMENT.

No brother shall vouch for another unless, in addition to the knowledge that the visitor is a Mason, the brother is also satisfied that the visitor is at the time in good standing. [87-5].

1. There shall be three four modes of avouchment of a brother as follows: [39-2.6.F.(3)].
 - A. By sitting together in a regular lodge of Master Masons recognized by the Grand Lodge.
 - B. By an examination authorized by the proper officer of a lodge.
 - C. By one Mason definitely stating to another whom he knows to be a Master Mason that he vouches for a third brother then and there present with them as a Master Mason in good standing. The Mason who is vouching for the visitor shall state the *manner* in which he acquired the knowledge on which he makes the avouchment.
 - D. By sitting together with an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft during the conferring of their respective degree.

REG. 59-2 MASTER.

Some, but not all, of the *powers* of the Master of a lodge which are also duties to be performed by him, or at his direction and under his supervision, are as follows:

16. After having opened his lodge, he may place any capable Master Mason in the East and permit him to confer any of the degrees, the Master being present. If any regular officer is absent, his office should be filled *pro tempore* by a Master Mason.

...

REG. 84-4 HOW AND BY WHOM CONDUCTED.

Any of the ceremonies provided for in this chapter may be conducted by the

Grand Lodge or by a subordinate lodge at the discretion of the Grand Master, but the Grand Master or his duly appointed representative shall preside. The lodge making the request for such ceremonies shall bear the entire expense thereof.

1. The Grand Lodge, or a subordinate lodge, shall be opened on the Degree of Entered Apprentice or Master Mason, the usual ceremonies conducted and instruction and information given relative to the special ceremonies to be conducted. The minutes shall be read, approved and the Grand Lodge or subordinate lodge shall be closed, after which the special ceremonies shall be conducted. The charter of the subordinate lodge need not be removed from the lodge hall if the special ceremony is conducted in another location.

...

Amendment Group 2

The following amendment has been proposed by the Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693.

This proposed change would permit a member of a Grand Lodge Board, Commission or Committee to live outside the state of North Carolina.

REG. 27-3 ELIGIBILITY TO SERVE.

A brother to be eligible to serve on any board, commission, or committee of this Grand Lodge shall be and remain a member in good standing in a subordinate lodge of this Grand Lodge ~~and shall continue to be a resident of this state~~ during his tenure. Failure to do so will create a vacancy.

Amendment Group 3

The following amendment has been proposed by the Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693

This proposed amendment would clarify any question of residency requirements for District Deputy Grand Master by only requiring him to be a member of a lodge in the district.

REG. 26-2 QUALIFICATIONS.

There shall be only one District Deputy Grand Master in each district, and he shall be appointed and commissioned by the Grand Master annually.

2. Each District Deputy Grand Master shall be and remain ~~a resident of his district and~~ a member of a subordinate lodge therein.

Amendment Group 4

The following amendment has been proposed by the Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693

This proposed amendment will allow a lodge trustee to be elected or retain his office if he is living or has moved out of state of North Carolina.

REG. 60-2 QUALIFICATIONS.

Each trustee of a lodge who is not also the Master, or the Senior Warden, or the Junior Warden shall be and remain at all times during his term as trustee a member in good standing therein ~~and a resident of the State of North Carolina~~. If his membership in the lodge should cease for any cause, ~~or if he should remove permanently from the state~~ he shall, *ipso facto*, and at once, cease to be a trustee. He shall not be reinstated as such trustee of the lodge by restoration to membership therein ~~or by return to the jurisdiction of the lodge~~, but before he shall again serve as trustee, he shall be elected and qualified as such trustee.

Amendment Group 5

The following amendment has been proposed by the Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693

This proposed amendment will allow a grand lodge officer who is elected or appointed retain his office if he is living or has moved out of state of North Carolina.

REG. 11-5 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS.

In addition to other qualifications imposed in THE CODE an officer of the Grand Lodge shall have the following general qualifications.

1. Each officer of the Grand Lodge shall have and maintain membership in a subordinate lodge under its jurisdiction as provided for in Section 3-2.
 2. No brother shall be eligible for the offices of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or a Grand Warden, who is not a Past Master of a subordinate lodge. [3-3.2; 12-1; 57-8].
 3. ~~A brother shall be a resident of North Carolina to be eligible for office in the Grand Lodge, and should he move his residence out of the state his office shall be vacant. [12-1; 12-4].~~
- 4-3. Each Grand Lodge officer shall wear the jewel and apron of his respective office, to be properly clothed. [89-9.8].

Amendment Group 6

The following amendment has been proposed by the Lebanon Lodge No. 391 and Junaluskee Lodge No. 145.

This proposed amendment would allow to hold an additional fundraiser for a special lodge project. Before the second project is approved, it would require a lodge to hold a charitable fundraiser for an approved charity.

REG. 43-12 FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES.

A subordinate lodge desiring to conduct fund-raising activities for Masonic Charity or its own benefit may do so provided the following conditions are met.

- ...
7. A subordinate lodge desiring to conduct any fund-raising activity for its own benefit or any fund raising activity other than those specified in Regulation 43-12.3 or in a manner other than that specified in Regulations 43-12.1 and 43-12.2 shall first submit an application detailing the planned project

and purpose to the Commission on Special Activities and must receive its approval before actively undertaking the project. A lodge may request to have more than one (1) fund raising activity during a calendar year for lodge use, provided that prior to having a second fund raising activity for lodge use, that a charitable fundraising activity be held and 100% of the net proceeds going to an approved organization. [32-4.3].

Amendment Group 7

The following amendment has been proposed by the Grand Secretary.

This proposed amendment will limit plural members to serving as master of one lodge at a time. Special circumstances will be allowed only by dispensation of Grand Master.

REG. 53-2 QUALIFICATIONS.

The qualifications of the officers of a lodge shall be as follows: [11-6].

...

10. A member who is otherwise qualified by law cannot serve the office as Worshipful Master in more than one lodge at the same time except by dispensation of the Grand Master.

Amendment Group 8

The following amendment has been proposed by Mt. Hermon 118

Allow limited use of alcohol by non-Masonic renters.

REG. 43-3 LIMITATIONS.

Some, but not all, of the limitations of powers and authority of a subordinate lodge are as follows. [4-2; 4-6].

...

~~3. A lodge shall not, by any pretext, or for any purpose, or by any subterfuge introduce intoxicating liquors or beverages, or permit their use as a beverage on any of its premises, nor shall it rent any of its premises to any one who thereon sells intoxicating liquors with the exception of a pharmacist. [43-7; 86-2.30; 86-2.31].~~

3. Alcoholic beverages are forbidden in Lodge rooms, except for ritualistic purposes. The service or consumption of any beverage having a recognized or indicated alcohol content in any Lodge room, ritualistic purposes excepted, shall be deemed an offense against the Body of Masonry. This does not preclude lodges from renting their facilities, except Lodge rooms, to groups where alcoholic beverages are consumed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina, and upon such terms and standards as may be set by the grand lodge or grand master.

Amendment Group 8a

The following substitute amendment has been proposed by Charity 5

Allow limited use of alcohol by non-Masonic renters but also provide an optional bylaws amendment wording for those lodges that want to prohibit use of alcohol

on its premises by adopting in its bylaws.

REG. 43-3 LIMITATIONS.

Some, but not all, of the limitations of powers and authority of a subordinate lodge are as follows. [4-2; 4-6].

...

~~3. A lodge shall not, by any pretext, or for any purpose, or by any subterfuge introduce intoxicating liquors or beverages, or permit their use as a beverage on any of its premises, nor shall it rent any of its premises to any one who thereon sells intoxicating liquors with the exception of a pharmacist. [43-7; 86-2.30; 86-2.31].~~

3. Alcoholic beverages are forbidden in Lodge rooms, except for ritualistic purposes. The service or consumption of any beverage having a recognized or indicated alcohol content in any Lodge room, ritualistic purposes excepted, shall be deemed an offense against the Body of Masonry. This does not preclude lodges from renting their facilities, except Lodge rooms, to groups where alcoholic beverages are consumed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina, and upon such terms and standards as may be set by the grand lodge or grand master.

REG. 44-7.4 UNIFORM BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE 22, SECTION R. (Optional) No alcoholic beverages to include beer, wine, spirited or fermented drinks shall be permitted within lodge property for any occasion.

Amendment Group 9

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reviewed the Trial Code as submitted. It is the recommendation of the Committee to return the Trial Code back to the Code Commission for further review.

Amendment Group 10

The following amendment has been proposed by the Board of Custodians

This amendment would authorize the Board of Custodians to present specialized certificates of proficiency as they see fit. This would allow explorations of new approaches to improving access to quality ritual work across the state.

REG. 29-11 CERTIFICATES.

No Lodge nor any brother shall issue any certificate or letter of proficiency in the Authorized Work or any part thereof.

...

4. The Board of Custodians from time to time may present a Certificate of Proficiency to a member who has satisfactorily passed a thorough examination

in the ritualistic work pertaining to any group of the ritual work the Board may deem suitable and is in the best interest of the craft.

Report of the Representative to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association was held in Baltimore, Maryland, on February 17, 2014. Our Grand Lodge was represented by Grand Master Mayo and a delegation from North Carolina.

The Memorial gladly accepts donations and is worthy of consideration when planning to make charitable gifts to Masonic organizations. The Memorial is promoting a one dollar per member campaign to raise funds for the upkeep of the property. There are currently 20 grand lodges participating in this program. Many other grand lodges, including North Carolina, have committed to contributing \$5.00 per initiate. It is recommended that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina remain a member of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association and continue to contribute \$5.00 per initiate annually.

There are numerous opportunities for individuals and lodges to contribute to the work of the Memorial, through memberships in the Memorial Society, through the Perpetual Remembrance Program, and through purchase of various items of jewelry, clothing, Christmas ornaments, etc. to show your Masonic spirit and remember this illustrious leader of our Country and Craft. Much additional information regarding the George Washington Masonic National Memorial and its activities and programs is available at <http://gwmemorial.org>.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bryant D. Webster, SGW, Representative

Report of the Representative to the Masonic Service Association

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Masonic Service Association (MSA) was founded in 1919 for the purpose of providing important educational and service information to Grand Jurisdictions with which it maintained a formal relationship.

The 2014 meeting of the Masonic Service Association was held during the North American Conference of Grand Masters in Baltimore, Maryland, February 15-18. The theme of this year's conference emphasized the need for greater civility toward one another both in government, the lodge, society, and in all of our relationships with others.

One of the most interesting offerings of the Masonic Service Association is the "Short Talk Bulletins," which provide information and educational material of interest to lodges for their meetings. It contains an essay about various topics of current or historic interest. Likewise, the "Emessay Notes" that normally accompany the "Short Talk Bulletin" provide quick talking points for programs of interest to individuals and to lodges. It is a piece of mail worthy of our time and effort as we learn and improve ourselves in masonry.

Another feature of the Masonic Service Association is the Masonic Information Center (MIC). Regular one sheet publications in the same mailing which contains the "Short Talk Bulletin" and "Emessay Notes" titled "Focus," now celebrating twenty years of service to Freemasonry, gives additional and relevant information concerning the work of the Craft. The MSA Website reports:

The Masonic Information Center (MIC) was founded in 1993 by a grant from John J. Robinson, well-known author, speaker, and Mason. Its purpose is to provide information on Freemasonry to Masons and non-Masons alike and to respond to critics of Freemasonry.

Inquiries about Freemasonry to the Masonic Information Center come from around the world—by phone, fax and email. The inquiries vary from information on how to become a Mason, to wanting more information about the Fraternity, answering specific questions about the ritual or Masonic protocol and genealogy.

"The Short Talk Bulletins" have now been collected and published in hardback. Volumes 1-15 or 1923-1937 are available in hardback. The next book comes out later this year. The cost for all "Short Talk Bulletins" as a set is \$432.00 and can be purchased by contacting the Masonic Service Association of North America, 3905 National Drive, Suite 280, Burtonsville, Maryland 20866. The telephone number is (301) 476-7330. The fax number is (301) 476-9440. The email address is msaoffice@msana.com.

Another point of emphasis supported by the Masonic Service Association is the "Hospital Visitation Program." There are four VA medical centers in North Carolina. Each year, the Most Worshipful Grand Master makes a visit to these hospitals to encourage and show support for our sick and wounded military members. There are more than a half a million volunteers in the VA hospitals around the country. Many of them are Masons!

You will recall how earlier this year an appeal was sent out to every lodge to provide assistance in the Philippines. Fund raisers were held all over the country and as of the latest report on June 28, 2014, the Masonic Service Association had sent over \$185,000 to that devastated island nation. North Carolina showed its generous and benevolent spirit contributing \$5000!

Please note that Grand Lodges are by choice members of the Masonic Service Association. Individuals may support MSA through a \$12.00 annual subscription through the webpage www.msana.com. Credit card payments can be received and the flow of information begins! To find out more about the Masonic Service Association, please visit the website or go to the Facebook page and "like" it.

Better yet and in addition to learning more about how to improve yourself in masonry, how about another kind of passion? Consider being a volunteer in the Hospital Visitation Program and show your brotherly love to those who are just waiting to share a smile, a moment, and as much brotherly love as we can share!

Respectfully submitted,
A. Gene Cobb, Jr., SGW
Masonic Service Association Representative

Report of the Committee on Necrology

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

REG. 82-1 DUTY OF THE MASTER. It shall be the duty of the Master of each lodge on the death of a member or a sojourning Master Mason, Fellow Craft or Entered Apprentice, qualified therefore to ascertain if Masonic rites would be agreeable, and to take measures accordingly. A lodge should bury a deceased member with Masonic rites if requested by him during his life or by his near relatives after his death. In all other cases Masonic rites may be granted or withheld by the Master of the Lodge.

The Grim Reaper continues to claim our members and this is a fact of life we all have to accept. We will have our annual Necrology Service on Friday of our Annual Communication and are pleased that PGM and Reverend David Cash (Preacher Dave) has agreed to offer the eulogy. We did not know each brother who has gone on to his reward but we can remember them and contemplate their many valuable contributions to our great fraternity. They have lived respected and died regretted by all those who knew them as brothers. May they all rest in peace.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Wood, Grand Chaplain

Report of the Code Commission

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Chair of The Code Commission for 2014. I have been honored to have served with me on The Code Commission Brothers Brian M. Bullard, Randy Sharpe, Larry Thompson, Jr., and Todd Trivette.

The Code Commission met by telephone on April 23, 2014 to review a number of proposed amendments to the Code. This report outlines the actions taken by The Code Commission at this meeting.

The first group of Amendments was presented by Albemarle Lodge 703, and included a number of provisions that would permit an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to attend business meetings of a subordinate Lodge, but neither an E.A. nor a F.C. would be permitted to participate in the business conducted. To that end, there are a number of proposed Amendments that will allow the business of the Lodge to be transacted in an Entered Apprentice Lodge, including an additional method of avouchment, which would be added to Regulation 511. These proposed Amendments were considered by The Code Commission and are now included as Amendment Group 1.

Amendment Group 2, proposed by Charles M. Setzer of Lodge 693, would permit a brother to be eligible to serve on a board, commission, or committee of the Grand Lodge, even if the brother is no longer a resident of North Carolina. This proposed Amendment can be found in Amendment Group 2.

Amendment Group 3, also proposed by Charles M. Setzer of Lodge 693, would allow a similar change so that a District Deputy Grand Master need not remain a resident of his district, although maintaining his membership status in a subordinate Lodge located in that district. A similar Amendment to Regulation 602, also proposed by Charles M. Setzer of Lodge 693, can be found in Amendment Group 4, and would eliminate the requirement that a trustee

remain a resident of North Carolina during his tenure. Likewise, Amendment Group 5, amending Regulation 115, would permit an officer of the Grand Lodge to continue to hold his office, although his residence from the state has changed.

A change proposed by Lebanon 391 to Regulation **43.12** would permit a Masonic Lodge to conduct fundraising activities for its own benefit, in addition to the benefit of Masonic charity, and would allow a Lodge to conduct more than one fundraising activity during a calendar year for Lodge use, provided the Lodge first conducts a charitable fundraising activity with 100 percent of the net proceeds going to an approved organization. This proposed change can be found in Amendment Group 6.

Amendment Group 7 would prohibit a brother from serving as the Worshipful Master of more than one subordinate Lodge at the same time, unless granted a dispensation to do so by the Grand Master.

Finally, Amendment Group 8, proposed by Mount Herman Lodge 118, would permit a subordinate Lodge to rent its facilities, under certain circumstances, to groups where alcoholic beverages may be consumed, and would reiterate that alcohol beverages are forbidden in Lodge Rooms, with the exception of use for ritualistic purposes. This change to Regulation 43.3 would alter the current strict prohibition on the introduction of alcohol onto any Lodge premises.

The final group of Amendments contained in Amendment Group 9 was proposed by the Judge Advocate. This Amendment Group constitutes an extensive re-write of many provisions of the Trial Code, contained in Chapter 90. As most of you are no doubt aware, Chapter 90 is not included in the code books published by the Grand Lodge, but is available to all members via the Grand Lodge website. The Code Commission reviewed these proposed changes and found no issues with the form of the changes as proposed by the Judge Advocate. Because of the extensive nature of these proposed Amendments, The Code Commission, after reviewing the Amendments for form, felt it best to refer the Amendments, intact, to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence for further action and recommendation to the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,
C. David Creech, PM, Chairman
Code Commission

The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The investments of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation are recovering nicely from the recession. At the Foundation Board of Director's January 14, 2014 meeting our (larger) Equity Fund's report reflected a 30.6 percent increase in value; the (smaller) Income Fund recorded a modest loss of 1.1 percent due to the poor interest rate environment during the year. The Board spent the year reviewing and selecting market segments and fund management partners to obtain these positive results. Under-performing managers were culled. The Board is constantly interviewing other managers in search of better gains while controlling volatility and ensuring a high quality portfolio. A copy of the statement of value of our foundation and position is attached.

Following the Code amendment passed at the Annual Communication in

2013 concerning nominations to the Foundation's Board, the Board rewrote and adopted the new bylaws and made alterations to its Corporate Charter to reflect the amendment's changes. The Board is pleased to report that these changes to the Charter have been duly filed with the Secretary of State and the new bylaws were adopted at the July 7, 2014.

The Board completed the update and/or establishment of an official Investment Policy for both of the MHCO and WhiteStone as well as the Foundation in collaboration with each of those entities respective boards.

The Board is pleased to announce that this past year the non-profit Masonic and Eastern Star Home Foundation, LLC began receiving tax deductible funds to support Masons and Eastern Star members or their family at WhiteStone. The funds were given by lodges, Masons, Eastern Star members, and others.

The Foundation received numerous requests from lodges to jointly invest their savings and portfolios in the North Carolina Masonic Foundation so their investments would obtain a higher rate of return. The Board worked with the Nottingham Company (a reporting company) and our attorneys to create a "subscription agreement" for those lodges. The subscription agreement is now complete and will soon be available to lodges for their participation.

In collaboration with the MHCO and WhiteStone the Board began studying the benefits of establishing a Development program. The Board is reviewing and analyzing the workings of several other Grand Lodges' foundations as potential models for our own program. A development program would seek prospective donors to support out three charities as well as assist our lodges' in their own fundraising efforts.

**THE NORTH CAROLINA MASONIC FOUNDATION, INC
AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**Consolidated Statements of Financial Position
December 31, 2013 and 2012**

| | 2013 | 2012 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Cash | \$ 52,435 | \$ 25,865 |
| Agency cash | 232,186 | - |
| Certificates of deposit | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Investments | 16,399,878 | 12,858,376 |
| Accrued interest | - | 13,719 |
| Accounts receivable | 83,805 | 79,575 |
| Loan receivable | 3,663,092 | - |
| Note receivable | - | 421,056 |
| Prepaid expenses | 6,419 | 7,971 |
| | 20,487,815 | 13,456,562 |
| Real Estate: | | |
| Land | 2,102,992 | 2,102,992 |
| Commercial building | 520,700 | 520,700 |
| | 2,623,692 | 2,623,692 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | 112,777 | 99,426 |
| | 2,510,915 | 2,524,266 |
| Total Assets | \$ 22,998,730 | \$15,980,828 |

Liabilities and Net Assets

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 125 | \$ 5,569 |
| Agency liability | 232,186 | - |
| Accrued interest | 3,467 | - |
| Deferred interest | 2,050 | 2,050 |
| Note payable | 3,140,000 | - |
| Total liabilities | 3,377,828 | 7,619 |
| Net Assets | | |
| Unrestricted | 18,876,297 | 15,304,194 |
| Temporarily restricted | 744,605 | 669,015 |
| Total net assets | 19,620,902 | 15,973,209 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$ 22,998,730 | \$15,980,828 |

Respectfully submitted,
 Leonard Y. Safrit, Jr, President
 The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc.

The Board of Publication of the *North Carolina Mason*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The *North Carolina Mason*, the official newsletter of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, continues to be a vital link between our state organization and the rank and file members of our fraternity. At the same time, we realize that communication and information channels are constantly evolving in our modern times. To that end, your board is beginning the process of finding a path to the future of our communications. That includes working on a survey of members to help up on this journey.

The biggest change this past year for the *N.C. Mason* is the new status of our editor, Ric Carter. For the past several years Ric has been a vital part of the office staff for our Grand Secretary. This year he retired from that position, but will continue his editorship of the *N.C. Mason* and work with our Grand Lodge website (www.glnc.us). Your board will be evaluating how best to support and assist Ric in this new arrangement.

We remind members that if you don't want to wait for post office delivery of the *N.C. Mason*, you may download a color PDF version from our website. There you may also subscribe to receive an email notice whenever the latest edition has been posted.

A last reminder to all brethren: please send us information about your lodge's activities and make sure we are on your newsletter's mailing list. Our publication works best when everyone keeps us informed of local work.

We wish to thank our Grand Lodge officers for their help and support. The Graphic Arts and Design Center of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford deserves our special thanks for its outstanding service.

Respectfully submitted,
 John Pea, Chairman

Report on the Committee on Masonic Education

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education was established by Grand Master Dalton Mayo in January, 2015. The Committee consists of ten members throughout North Carolina.

The initial meeting was convened at the Grand Lodge in February. This meeting was established to determine the following:

1. What is the role of this committee.
2. What do we want to accomplish in 2014 as a Committee
3. What action steps must be taken to accomplish those goals
4. How do we track our progress
5. How do we know what we are accomplishing is of benefit to the Lodges we serve

Activities for 2014 were established to be that we would:

1. Review and determine the use of the existing materials on the GL website under Masonic education
2. Update several of the Masonic vignettes and provide them to the Lodges to determine the use and acceptance in the Lodges as a form of Masonic education during their Stated Communications.
3. Update and revise the Officers Handbook so that it would be a useful tool to the Master, Wardens, and Officers of all Lodges.
4. Support and market the Warden's Boot Camps and assist in expanding their number and reach throughout NC.
5. Support and help market Wilkerson College throughout NC.

Five conference call meetings have been held for the Committee throughout 2014. The following are the accomplishments of the Committee.

1. The Committee has reviewed the educational materials and has made a report of what should be retained and what should be eliminated from the GL Lodge website.
2. The Committee has completely re-written the Officers Handbook and it is presently under review and subsequent approval for delivery to all lodges in NC.
3. The Masonic vignettes are being revised by Brother Dan Worthington at the time of this report.
4. The Wardens Boot Camps will be delivered through the leadership of Brother Kevin Combs and Brethren from Wilkerson College. They are scheduled on October 18 in Salisbury; November 15 in Asheville; and November 22 in Jacksonville with an additional offering proposed in the Rocky Mount area.

Discussions have been held with the Grand Secretary, Grand Master, and Grand Master-Elect on ways to better position this Committee in support of Masonic Education given the efforts of Wilkerson College and the Wardens Boot Camps. This effort is being done to eliminate duplication of time and resources and to ensure this committee serves the masons of NC as effectively as possible in accomplishing its Mission.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven V. Cates, Chairman

Report of Committee on Public Relations

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on Public Relations convened on September 26, 2013 during the Annual Communication. It was agreed the committee should seek media coverage to raise awareness for our fraternity in North Carolina and for the Oxford Home for Children via its Homecoming on October 10th and 11th. Additional strategies were discussed including a possible UNC Television documentary on Masonry in North Carolina featuring notable Masons from the state, and a feature story in Our State Magazine focusing on historical lodges and Masonic buildings in North Carolina. The committee will explore all possibilities and report back to the Grand Master.

The committee also discussed ways to reverse the decline in our membership. These ideas included designing a new membership and informational brochures entitled, "Freemasonry—What it's All About;" developing a Power-Point presentation for DDGMs and Lodge Officers to present to community and civic organizations; produce videos for our website that would target to non-Masons and be educational in nature; and better utilize social media to promote Masonry. The committee also discussed ways to promote Masonry to Enter Apprentices in order to reduce attrition and explore ways that the Grand Lodge could work with NASCAR driver David Ragan to promote Masonry in North Carolina.

The Committee on Public Relations convened on March 19, 2014 at the Grand Lodge of North Carolina at the request of Grand Master Dalton Mayo. The committee again discussed new public relations opportunities and reviewed the proceedings of the committee's annual meeting. The Grand Master suggested that the committee look into the possibility of producing informational videos that could be used to educate communities on Masonry in North Carolina. The possibility of obtaining a feature in Our State magazine was discussed in deeper detail as one of the committee members has a relationship with the publisher. The committee decided to inquire into the possibility of filming the annual Pig Jig. Brother Jeff Shipp volunteered for the task and subsequently shot over 12 hours of footage and will begin editing it in the near future. Once edited, it was recommended these videos be posted on the Grand Lodge website.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary D. Walker, Chairman

Report of the North Carolina Masonic Youth

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Youth Committee's mission is to educate and assist Lodges and Districts in the promotion the interest of Masonic youth programs in North Carolina, particularly the DeMolay for young men and Rainbow for young ladies—both organizations were founded by Masons in order to give young men and women a moral foundation based on faith, service, and patriotism. Both youth groups are devoted to community service hours and charitable endeavors. With this information, we hope to encourage Masons to support existing DeMolay Chapters and Rainbow Assemblies, as well as establish new ones.

North Carolina's Masonic youth have been very active in 2013 and 2014.

In addition to their stated meetings, the DeMolay attended 15 state official events. Likewise, the Rainbow attended 12 state official visits. Both youth groups joined ranks at 12 different joint state-wide events. Below is a listing of the events the Masonic youth groups participated in this year.

Rainbow Statewide Events:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 28 Sep 2013 | School of Instruction in Goldsboro, NC |
| 10 Oct | Speak at Grand Court of NC, Order of the Amaranth in Winston-Salem, NC |
| 8 Mar 2014 | Grand Worthy Advisor's Homecoming in Wilmington, NC |
| 9 Mar | Grand Worthy Advisor's Church Service in Wilmington, NC |
| 24-25 May | Shakespeare on the Green in Wilmington, NC |
| 31 May | Open House in Charlotte, NC |
| 22-24 Jun | Grand Assembly 2014 in Raleigh, NC |
| 12 Jul | Official Visit and Sleepover in Winston-Salem, NC |
| 25 Jul | Ice Cream Social for Supreme Family hosted by NC Rainbow in Baltimore, MD |
| 26-30 Jul | Supreme Assembly in Baltimore, MD |
| 16 Aug | Official Visit in Greensboro, NC |
| 30 Aug | Institution of Lenoir Assembly, Lenoir, NC |

DeMolay Statewide Events:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 10 Oct 2014 | Grand Court of NC, Order of the Amaranth in Winston-Salem, NC |
| 9 Nov | Wilkerson College in Greensboro, NC |
| 16 Nov | State Quarterly Meeting and Sports Weekend with the Residents of MHCO in Oxford, NC |
| 8 Dec | York Rite Christmas Service in High Point, NC |
| 21 Dec | Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas in Spartanburg, SC |
| 11-12 Jan 2014 | Brotherhood Weekend in Richmond, VA |
| 15 Feb | Patriots Day Program in Winston-Salem, NC |
| 1-2 Mar | DeMolay Leadership Conference in Greensboro, NC |
| 9 Mar | Official Visit in Jacksonville, NC |
| 16 Mar | Devotional Day at MHCO in Oxford, NC |
| 10 May | Laser Tag in Kersey Valley, NC |
| 24-25 May | Camping Trip in Asheboro, NC |
| 16-22 Jun | International Congress in Kansas City, MO |
| 10 Jul | Official Visit in Fayetteville, NC |
| 7-10 Aug | Conclave 2014 in Ellerbe, NC |

Combined DeMolay and Rainbow Events:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 12 Oct 2013 | MHCO Homecoming, Oxford, NC |
| 26-27 Oct | Halloween Party at the Jones Masonic Campus in |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| | Swansboro, NC |
| 24 Nov | Seasonal Celebration at WhiteStone in Greensboro, NC |
| 7 Dec | King Christmas Parade, King, NC |
| 14 Dec | Peppermint Ball to benefit the Masonic and Eastern Star Home Foundation, LLC in Greensboro, NC |
| 31 Dec | New Year's Eve Party in Raleigh, NC |
| 15 Feb 2014 | Valentines Dance in Winston-Salem, NC |
| 12 Apr | Rockin' for Research Amaranth sponsored Diabetes Awareness program in Burlington, NC |
| 3 May | Triad Highland Games in Greensboro, NC |
| 23 Jun | Grand Assembly Pool and Pizza Party in Raleigh, NC |
| 18 Jul | Carowinds with SC DeMolay, Charlotte, NC |
| 9 Aug | SMC Ball at Conclave in Ellerbe, NC |

Two Grand Lodge Youth Scholarships were awarded this year. Sadly, only three individuals applied. We will endeavor to ensure our youth, their parents and guardians, and our state youth leaders are aware of these scholarships in the future.

In conclusion, I submit for the Grand Master's consideration the following:

1. That the Grand Master annually appoint two youth-orientated Master Masons to fill a three year term on the Masonic Youth Committee.
2. That the committee consist of six members.
3. That the chairperson be elected annually by the members of the committee.
4. That the committee members serve a term of three years.

This is being recommended so the committee members would be familiar with the business of the committee from year to year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin Joseph Kubacki, Chairman

Report of the Board of Custodians

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The members who served on the Board of Custodians during the year 2014 were: E. Earl Wells, Grand Lecturer; Michael F. Powell, Chairman; L. David Potts, Secretary; J. Luigi Ammons; Gilbert D. Bailey; Thomas W. Dolinger II; and Dwight M. Sigmon. M... W... William L. Dill, Past Grand Master, served as liaison with the Board of General Purposes.

The Board of Custodians met regularly during the year, with meetings held on January 17, April 10, July 18 and September 25, 2014. The fall meeting is scheduled to coincide with the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in Winston-Salem.

Certified brethren qualifying for the Laudamus Certificate in 2014 are: Thomas Preston Dolinger II, P.P. Turner Lodge No. 746; Tony Randell Hawkins, Zion Lodge No. 81; Rick Earl Jackson, Wilmington Lodge No. 319; Joseph Aaron Manning, Sr., Forsyth Lodge No. 707; Robert Wayne Morton, Asheboro Lodge No. 699; and Jerry Reginald Walker, Cherryville Lodge No. 505.

District Deputy Grand Lecturers qualifying for the Past District Deputy Grand Lecturer Certificate in 2014 are: Leroy Mitchell Spruill, District No. 1; James Leroy Sanderlin, District No. 5; David Lee Browning, District No. 16; Thomas Arnold Pope, Jr, District No. 17; Raymond Francis Fulgaro, District No. 18; Samuel Eugene Myrick, District No. 21; Bradley Wayne Morton, District No. 24; Royal Sanford Jarvis, District No. 27; Warren Earl Dover, District No. 32; Thomas Gary Brooks, District No. 35; William David Thomas, District No. 40; and Charles Elmo McCowan, District No. 41.

The 2014 Certified Lecturer examinations were held according to the following schedule: August 9: Greenville and Greensboro; August 16: Wilmington and Charlotte; August 23: Fayetteville and Asheville. The examinations continue to be offered on Saturday in an effort to be more accommodating to our certified brethren who have work conflicts. The Board expresses its sincere appreciation to the brethren at the six locations who donated the use of their facilities for the examinations. At the end of the 2013 examinations the number of certified brethren was 376. This consisted of 343 Class "A" Certified Lecturers and 33 Class "B" Certified Instructors. Unfortunately the total number had declined by July 2014 with eight members passing, one member demitting, and one NPD for a total roster of certified brethren as of July 31, 2014 now standing at 366. Forty-five brethren were required for re-examination in 2014 not including the 4 brethren that received one-year extensions in 2013. Of the forty-five required, eleven qualify for the "Waiver" option for being certified for twenty-five years or more if requested by the brother. The final 2014 results will be available after the last exams are held on August 23rd and will be printed in the 2014 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge publication.

In 2014 the Board continued to support the program "Raising the Instructive Tongue" which was instituted by Mack Sigmon, then Secretary of the Board, in 2013 at the behest of M... W... Dewey R. Preslar, Jr. in conjunction with his breakthrough thinking program. The program has been promoted at all District Meetings.

The booklet "Important Information Concerning the Certified Lecturers" is posted on the Grand Lodge website and is available to anyone with access to the Internet. A web page sponsored by the Board of Custodians is also being maintained on a regular basis. This page includes information of interest concerning their history, latest corrections to the OSW and Bahnson Manual, rules governing the Lecture Service and OSW/Vocabulary, various application forms and a current roster of those certified.

In 2014 the (5) five-hour mandatory Lecture Service was continued for the one hundred seventy seven even numbered lodges throughout the state. As a reminder, the Lecture Service rules were updated in 2011 to formally indicate the continuation of this mandatory five-hour service until otherwise notified. Odd numbered lodges will have their next five-hour requirement in 2015. Also as a reminder, all lodges must participate in one five-hour district School of Instruction each year as long as the mandatory Lecture Service is required or until determined otherwise by the Board.

At its September 26, 2013 meeting, the Board approved the addition of an amendment to the Code as Reg. 29-11.4 that would give the Board of Custodians, if requested and determined to be in the best interest of the craft, the authority to implement proficiency exams on specific sections and or parts of the ritual; and upon satisfactory completion, the authority to issue associated proficiency certificates as it may determine appropriate. These would include,

but not necessarily be limited to, proficiencies for Coaches and Chaplains. Such exams would be administered in the various districts.

To continue a practice reestablished in 2011, the Board again unanimously recommended that the Lodge System of Masonic Education program be recommended for use by all lodges and that they fully participate in this program to properly instruct their candidates as they begin and journey through their Masonic degrees.

At its January 17th meeting, the Board approved a set of slide illustrations for Acacia Lodge No. 764 to be used during degree lectures provided one designated slide be omitted. At the July 18th meeting, the Board also approved PowerPoint presentations to be used during degree lectures for James K. Polk Lodge No. 759 as long as eight designated slides were removed. In both cases, the designated slides depicted scenes or items not present in the Bahnson manual.

A request to use alternative music during the opening of lodge and conferring of the three degrees of Symbolic Masonry was made by William G. Hill Lodge No. 218. The Board rejected this request at its April 10th meeting.

The Board of Custodians expresses its appreciation to Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo, CL, for his enthusiastic support of the Board of Custodians and the Certified Lecturer program; and to Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III and Ric Carter, Assistant to the Grand Secretary, for their valuable assistance during the year. The Board also expresses its appreciation to Grand Lecturer E. Earl Wells for his efforts as the Grand Lecturer for 2014. To all our certified brethren throughout the state, especially for your support of the "Raising the Instructive Tongue" program and your vigorous support of the Certified Lecture program, we extend a sincere "thank you" for your continued faithful service to our beloved Fraternity.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael F. Powell, Chairman
L. David Potts, Secretary

Report of the Miscellaneous Ceremonies Committee

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on Miscellaneous Ceremonies has been working on updating the Masonic Ceremonies book. We are beginning this process with the lodge officer installation ceremony. The committee, as well as others, have felt this ceremony needed to be more refined. The changes are small. A few sentences have been deleted we felt were wordy or just too vague. However, these revisions are recommendations and lodges may continue to use the older installation ceremony if they are more comfortable with it.

As other ceremonies are reviewed, they will be brought before the grand lodge for consideration. This book will be a work in progress over the next several years.

On behalf of the committee we would like to personally thank everyone involved for their efforts in working on this project. We feel very good about being able to offer our lodges an alternative ceremony to shorten and possibly make the evening of an installation better attended, more interesting, and more meaningful.

We have long since felt that whatever positive things we can do in the

public eye will greatly enhance our visibility and membership in the future. Therefore, it is imperative the impressions we make on the mind of the public will not be short lived, but long lasting. In a small way this project will help perpetuate the continuance of our fraternity, and instill in the minds of non-masonic participants that good, God fearing men are still at the helm of our society.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Pridgen, Chairman

INSTALLATION CEREMONY

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Secretary, you will announce the names of the officers duly elected and appointed to serve this lodge for the ensuing year who, as their names are called, will take their positions according to rank in a line West of the Altar, the position of the Senior Warden-elect being at the North end of the line, the Master-elect standing at the Altar.

After seeing that the officers are properly placed, the Marshal takes his place at the north end of the line. The Marshal returns to this place after conducting each officer to his station or place. If necessary, a double line may be formed at the Altar, with the appointive officers in the rear.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Worshipful Master, are these brethren, who have been selected for their respective offices, qualified for those offices in accordance with the provisions of THE CODE, including the provisions as to proficiency in the Catechism of the degree of Master Mason?

RESPONSE OF THE MASTER: Note: If all are so qualified, the Master answers, "They are." If any are not, he so states and explains. Any officer not qualified cannot be installed.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brethren, Behold your officers-elect. Pause If there is no objection, we will proceed with the installation. Pause, then continue.

Each of the officers to be installed will place his right hand over his heart and repeat after me, in unison, the official declaration.

I promise on the honor of a Master Mason that I will, to the best of my ability, conform to and abide by the Ancient Landmarks, regulations, and usages of Masonry, the Constitution and laws of The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and the laws of this lodge and that I will faithfully perform the duties of the office to which I have been selected.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Master-elect.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master I now present Brother _____, who has been elected or appointed Master of this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: My Brother, kneel for the purpose of prayer. *The Master-elect kneels facing the East, with hands on the Great Lights. The Marshal stands North of the Altar, facing South.*

INSTALLING OFFICER: *Calls up the lodge for prayer.* Brother Chaplain, approach the South side of the Altar and lead our devotions. Brother Chaplain, approach the South side of the Altar and lead our devotions.

PRAYER

CHAPLAIN: Most holy and Glorious Lord God. We approach You with reverence and implore Your blessings over this lodge and these brethren about to be invested with its government. Fill their hearts with Your fear, that their tongues and actions may pronounce Your glory. Make them steadfast in Your service. Animate their hearts and strengthen their endeavors. May they teach true and faithful servants. May they be endued with wisdom to instruct their brethren in all their duties.

May brotherly love, relief, and truth, always prevail among the members of this lodge; and may this bond of union continue to strengthen the lodges throughout the world. Bless all our brethren, wherever dispersed; and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed. We affectionately commend to You all the members of Your whole family. May they increase in grace, in knowledge of You, and in love with each other. Finally, may we finish all our work here below, with Your approval; and then have our transition from this earthly abode to Your heavenly temple above, there to enjoy light, glory and bliss, ineffable and eternal. Amen.

INSTALLING OFFICER: *Seats the lodge and addresses the Master-elect:* Arise, my brother. Previous to your investiture, it is necessary that you should signify your assent to those ancient charges and regulations which point out the duty of a Master of a Lodge.

- I. You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.
- II. You agree to be a peaceable subject, and cheerfully conform to the laws of the country in which you reside.
- III. You promise not to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against government, but patiently to submit to the decisions of the supreme legislature.
- IV. You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrates, to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorably by all men.

- V. You agree to hold in veneration the original rules and patrons of the order of Masonry.
- VI. You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess.
- VII. You agree to be cautious in carriage and behavior, courteous to your brethren, and faithful to your lodge.
- IX. You Promise to respect genuine brethren, and to discountenance impostors and all dissenters from the original plan of Masonry.
- XI. You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagatate the knowledge of the art.
- X. You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master and to his officers when duly installed, and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge, or general assembly of Masons, that is not subversive of the principles and groundwork of Masonry.
- XI. You admit that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.
- XII. You promise a regular attendance at the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge, on receiving proper notice, and to pay attention to all the duties of Masonry, on convenient occasions.
- XIII. You admit that no new lodge shall be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge, and that no countenance be given to an irregular lodge, or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, being contrary to the ancient charges of the order.
- XIV. You admit that no person can be regularly made a Mason or be admitted as a member of any regular lodge without previous notice and due inquiry into his character.
- XV. You agree that no visitor shall be received into your lodge without due examination and without producing proper vouchers of his having been initiated into a regular lodge.

These are the regulations of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

My Brother, do you submit to these charges and promise to support these regulations, as Masters have done in all ages before you?

MASTER-ELECT: I do.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____, in consequence of your cheerful conformity to the charges and regulations of the Fraternity, you are now to be installed Master of this Lodge in full confi-

dence of your care, skill and capacity to govern the same.

Brother Marshal: Invest the Master with the jewel and apron of his office.

The installing officer approaches the Altar and continues:

Worshipful Master, you will now receive the furniture and various implements used in your lodge. They are emblematic of our conduct in life, and on this occasion are carefully enumerated.

The Holy Writings, that Great Light in Masonry, will guide you to all truth; it will direct your path to the temple of happiness, and point out to you the whole duty of man. However men may differ in creed, yet all men agree that within the pages of those Holy Writings are found the principles which lay the foundation upon which to build a righteous life. Freemasonry would take all men by the hand and, leading them to its Altar, would point to the open Scriptures and urge each faithfully to direct his steps through life by the Light he shall find therein. If, from our sacred Altar, the atheist or irreligious man should ever wrest this Book and thus remove, or even obscure, the great Light of Freemasonry, that Light which has been for centuries the rule and guide of all Masons, then we could no longer claim the proud title and rank of Master Mason. As long as that sacred Light shines upon our Altar, as long as it illumines and brightens the pathway of the craftsman by the golden rays of truth; so long will Freemasonry live and shed its beneficent influence among men. Guard, then, my Brother, this sacred Book as you guard your life. Defend it as you would defend the flag of your country. Live according to its sublime precepts; govern yourself that you may be able to teach; for justice, moderation, and decorum should mark the acts of an upright man.

The Square teaches us to regulate our actions by rule and line, and harmonize our conduct by the principle of morality and virtue.

The Compasses teach us to limit our desires in every station; that, rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected and die regretted.

The Rule directs that we should punctually observe our duty, press forward in the path of virtue, and, neither inclining to the right nor to the left, in all our actions have eternity in view.

Installing officer returns to the East.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, conduct the Master to the East by the South side of our Altar. *After this is done, he continues:* It is fitting that you should be covered when presiding over the lodge. *Hands the Master his hat and uncovers as the Master covers.*

INSTALLING OFFICER CONTINUES: Worshipful Master, I now place in your hands the gavel, an additional insignia of your rank and

authority. Wield it, my Brother, with prudence and discretion—firmly, but never arbitrarily—to the end that good order and harmony may be preserved.

INSTALLING OFFICER: *Omit if Charter is to be presented by the Installing Officer:* The retiring Master of _____ Lodge No. _____ will now present the Charter of the lodge to the newly installed Master.

RETIRING MASTER or *Installing Officer:* Worshipful Master, I now present to you the Charter of _____ Lodge No. _____ and charge you that you must preserve it with unfailing care and deliver it to your successor in office.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Secretary, record in the minutes of this communication that the charter of _____ Lodge No. _____ or legal substitute thereof has been delivered to Worshipful Brother _____, Master.

INSTALLING OFFICER CONTINUES: The BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS and the By-Laws of your lodge, you are to search at all times. Cause them to be read in your lodge that none may pretend ignorance of their excellent precepts.

CHARGE ON THE INSTALLATION OF THE MASTER OF A LODGE

INSTALLING OFFICER: Worshipful Master, being selected Master of this lodge, you cannot be insensible of the obligations which devolve on you as their head, nor of your responsibility for the faithful discharge of the important duties annexed to your election. Furthermore, by a diligent observance of the by-laws of your lodge, the constitutions of Masonry, and above all, the Holy Scriptures, which are given as a rule and guide to your faith, you will be enabled to acquit yourself with honor and reputation, and lay up a crown of rejoicing, which shall continue when time shall be no more.

The Master returns the gavel to the Installing Officer and uncovers while the Installing Officer recovers and continues.

THE SENIOR WARDEN

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, Present the Senior Warden-elect at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother _____, who has been elected or appointed Senior Warden of this lodge for the ensuing Year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Senior Warden with the jewel and apron of his office. *After this is done, the Installing Officer continues.*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____, you have been elected appointed in the case of a new lodge Senior Warden of this lodge and invested with the ensign of your office. The Lev-
el demonstrates that we are descended from the same stock, partake
of the same nature, and share the same hope.

Your regular attendance at our stated communications is neces-
sary. In the absence of the Master you are to govern his lodge; in his
presence, you are to assist him in the government of it. I firmly rely
on your knowledge of Masonry and attachment to the lodge for the
faithful discharge of the duties of this important trust.

—Look well to the West! Brother Marshal, conduct the Senior
Warden to his station.

THE JUNIOR WARDEN

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Junior War-
den at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother
_____, who has been elected or appointed Junior Warden of this
lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Junior War-
den with the jewel and apron of his office. *After this is done, the Installing
Officer continues:*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____ you have been
elected appointed, in the case of a new lodge Junior Warden of this lodge
and invested with the badge of your office. The Plumb admonishes us
to walk uprightly in our several stations, to hold the scales of justice
in equal poise, to observe the just medium between intemperance and
pleasure, and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the
line of our duty.

Your regular and punctual attendance is particularly requested.
I have no doubt that you will faithfully execute the duty which you
owe to your present election.

—Look well to the South! Brother Marshal, conduct the Junior
Warden to his station.

THE TREASURER

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Treasurer
at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother
_____, who has been elected or appointed Treasurer of
this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Treasurer with the jewel and apron of his office. *After this is done, the Installing Officer continues:*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____, you have been elected *appointed, in the case of a new lodge* Treasurer of this lodge.

It is your duty to receive all money from the hands of the Secretary, make due entries of the same, pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master and the consent of the lodge.

I trust your regard for the fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office. Brother Marshal, conduct the Treasurer to his station.

THE SECRETARY

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Secretary at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother _____, who has been elected or *appointed* Secretary of this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Secretary with the jewel and apron of his office. *After this is done, the Installing Officer continues:*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____, you have been elected *appointed in the case of a new lodge* Secretary of this lodge for the ensuing year.

It is your duty to observe all the proceedings of the lodge, to make a fair record of all things proper to be written, to receive all monies due the lodge, pay them over to the Treasurer, and to take his receipt for the same. Brother Marshal, conduct the Secretary to his station.

THE SENIOR DEACON

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Senior Deacon at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother _____, who has been appointed or *elected* Senior Deacon of this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Senior Deacon with the jewel and apron of his office. *After this is done, the Installing Officer continues:*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____ you have been ap-

pointed Senior Deacon of this lodge. You are to act as messenger of the Master in the active duties of the lodge, to give fraternal attention to visiting brethren, to receive and conduct candidates into the different degrees of Masonry. The Square and Compasses, as badges of your office, I entrust to your care, not doubting your zeal and attention. Brother Marshal, conduct the Senior Deacon to his place.

THE JUNIOR DEACON

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Junior Deacon at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother _____, who has been appointed or elected Junior Deacon of this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Junior Deacon with the jewel and apron of his office. *After this is done, the Installing Officer continues:*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____, you have been appointed Junior Deacon of this lodge. It is your duty to act as messenger of the Senior Warden in the active duties of the lodge, to have special care to see that the lodge is properly tyled. If you cannot personally vouch for each person in the lodge room as a Master Mason at the time the lodge is being purged, you shall proceed forthwith in the proper manner to satisfy yourself to that effect. The Square and Compasses as the badge of your office, I now entrust to your care. I do not doubt your vigilance and attention. Brother Marshal, conduct the Junior Deacon to his place.

THE STEWARDS

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Stewards at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother _____ and Brother _____, who have been appointed or elected Stewards of this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Stewards with the jewel and apron of their office. *After this is done, the Installing Officer continues:*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brothers _____ and _____ you have been appointed or elected Stewards of this lodge. It is your duty to provide for the comfort of the brethren, to assist the Deacons and other officers in performing their duties, to perform such other duties as may be required by the usage and custom of the craft, or as may be required by the ritual, by the Master, or by the Junior War-

den. Your regular and early attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal and attachment to the lodge. Brother Marshal, conduct the Stewards to their places.

THE CHAPLAIN

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Chaplain at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother _____, who has been appointed Chaplain of this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Chaplain with the jewel and apron of his office. *After this is done, the Installing Officer continues:*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____ you have been appointed Chaplain of this lodge. It is your duty to perform those solemn services which we should constantly render to our infinite Creator and which may, by refining our souls, strengthening our virtues, and purifying our minds, prepare us for admission into the society of those above, whose happiness will be as endless as it is perfect.

That Holy Book which rests upon our Altar is the great light in Masonry and forever sheds its benign rays upon every lawful assembly of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. From it we may learn our duty to God, our neighbors, and ourselves. Teach us from its life-giving precepts and you will faithfully have fulfilled your sacred and important trust. Your good inclination to Masonry and your lodge will induce you to discharge the duties of your office with fidelity. By so doing you will merit the esteem and approval of your brethren. Brother Marshal, conduct the Chaplain to his place.

THE TYLER

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, present the Tyler at the Altar for installation.

MARSHAL: Worshipful Master, I now present Brother _____ who has been appointed Tyler of this lodge for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, invest the Tyler with the jewel and apron of his office. *The Marshal does NOT invest the Tyler with the sword until instructed to do so by the Installing Officer.*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother _____, you have been appointed Tyler of this lodge. It is your duty to guard the entrance to the lodge, to report all brethren for admission to the Junior Deacon, to announce the name, number and location of his lodge, to see that each

brother who enters is duly qualified and properly clothed, to keep a register of visiting brethren, to perform such other duties as may be required by the laws and customs of the Craft or by order of the Master. The Marshal will now invest you with the implement of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Tyler to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and suffer none to pass or re-pass but such as are duly qualified.

Your Early and punctual attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal for the institution. Brother Marshal, conduct the Tyler to his place.

CHARGE TO THE BRETHREN OF THE LODGE

INSTALLING OFFICER: *Raps up the lodge:* My brethren, such is the nature of our constitution, that as some must of necessity rule and teach; so others must, of course, learn to submit and obey. Humility in both is an essential duty. The officers who are appointed to govern your lodge are sufficiently conversant with the rules of propriety and the laws of the institution. They are to avoid exceeding the powers with which they are entrusted; and you are of too generous dispositions to envy their preferment. I therefore trust that you will have but one aim: to please each other, to unite in the grand design of being happy, and to communicate happiness.

Finally, my brethren, as this association has been formed and perfected in harmony for which we greatly rejoice, so may it long continue. May Kindness and brotherly affection distinguish your conduct, as men, and as Masons. Within your peaceful walls may your children's children celebrate with joy and gratitude the transactions of this splendid occasion. May the tenets of our profession be transmitted through your lodge, pure and unimpaired, from generation to generation.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother Marshal, I now declare the several officers of this lodge duly installed. You will proclaim this to the South, West, and East.

MARSHAL: By order if the Installing Officer, I declare the officers of this lodge for the ensuing year duly installed. I make this proclamation to the South Junior Warden *raps once:* to the West Senior Warden *raps once:* and to the East Installing officer *raps once.*

INSTALLING OFFICER: Worshipful Master, behold your brethren. Brethren, behold your Worshipful Master.

The Installing Officer presents the gavel to the Master and uncovers. The Master recovers and seats the lodge.

Oration, if desired.

End of Ceremony

(Revised 8-27-2014 by The Committee on Miscellaneous Ceremonies)

Report of the Committee on Personnel

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo has constituted a special committee of the Grand Lodge on Personnel to provide guidance for personnel matters arising from the employment of staff by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. That committee consists of Senior Grand Warden Bryant D. Webster, Chairman; Junior Grand Warden A. Gene Cobb, Vice-Chairman; Past Grand Master Graham W. Pervier; Past Grand Master Richard Moore; and Worshipful Brother Joey Transou. It is expected that a similar committee will continue under the administrations of future Grand Masters, with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman being the Senior Grand Warden and Junior Grand Warden, respectively.

The primary charge of that committee has been to review and revise the personnel policy of the Grand Lodge which was last adopted in 2008, to update that policy and ensure its compliance with State and Federal law and regulations. Additionally, the committee is charged with implementing a procedure for annual employee reviews, to include the Grand Secretary, and to make salary and benefit recommendations to the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance. The committee is charged with certain obligations to handle grievances and appeals of employment decisions.

The committee has met, and has secured the assistance of experienced administrators, attorneys, and human resources professionals to consider and make changes to our personnel policies for the protection of the Grand Lodge and its employees. A proposed revised policy has been drafted and as of this writing is being finalized and prepared for submission to the Board of General Purposes for consideration at its September meeting in conjunction with the Annual Communication.

It is the guiding principle of the committee that nothing contained within the Personnel Policies at this or any future time shall interfere with any of the provisions of authority of the Grand Master or Grand Secretary as established in the Code. Accordingly, everything contained therein shall aid and assist the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina by giving guidance relative to employment policies, procedures, benefits, and other matters, which may be required by law or for the benefit of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. From time to time, changes in personnel policy may occur. Questions regarding these policies are appropriately directed to the Senior Grand Warden or a member of the Personnel Committee as such assistance may be needed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bryant D. Webster, SGW, Chairman

Report of the Scholarship Committee

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Scholarship Committee convened in Raleigh on March 24 and April 14 to receive and evaluate 215 applications for the Charles E. Cathey Scholarship. This year we were privileged to award eight \$1,000 scholarships. Re-

ipients' names were published in the May/June issue of *The North Carolina Mason*.

The scholarships, started in 2000 by Grand Master Cathey and funded by gifts from the Freemasons of North Carolina, reward outstanding high school seniors. A recipient must have a 3.0 or higher grade point average and be enrolled in an accredited North Carolina high school. The committee weighs factors including scholastic achievement, participation in extracurricular and civic activities, involvement in the community, and letters of recommendation. The scholarship payment is made to the university, college, community college, or trade school in which the recipient enrolls.

The awards went from the furthest High School (Ocracoke) in the East, to the furthest in the West (Hiwassee Dam). Congratulations to these recipients from across the State.

The Committee suggests that a fund raising effort begin so that we can support more young people in their educational pursuits.

The Committee encourages the Brethren to continue supporting the Scholarship with financial support so that more students can benefit from it, and to get involved by getting the information to future applicants.

Respectfully submitted,
L. C. Jones
Stephen A. Holt
Mark A. Kolada
Christopher M. McLamb
J. David Cashion, Chairman

Report of the Commission on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on Special Activities is pleased to report that 2014 will equal, or exceed last years reported Fund Raising applications. As of July 22, the Committee has received 107 applications from the Lodges across the State, 82 were for Charity, and 25 for Lodge use. Education of the District Deputies and Lodge Officers has been a great asset in helping the Lodges stay within the guidelines while conducting their charitable activities.

The secretaries are encouraged to check the Code and the Guidelines for changes and updates that might occur.

The Committee is ready to assist ANY Lodge, at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Luigi Ammons
Todd E. Trivette
J. David Cashion, Chairman

Report of the Committee on Permanent Building

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on Permanent Building met at the Grand Lodge Office Building to review the building and make plans for future upgrades. The Com-

mittee discussed the price of replacing the remaining glass on the front and two sides of the building with insulated thermal pane. While this is an expensive undertaking, it is a project that could be extended over a three year period. The other areas of discussion were landscaping around the sign and contacting the city of Raleigh to discuss improvements to the "bike lane" that is in major disrepair in front of the building.

The roof on the grand lodge was recently replaced. While this was an expensive project, funds were set aside from prior years' investment in the Building Reserve Account to pay for this project. We have been extremely fortunate that our previous roof lasted thirty years. The committee felt it was best to go ahead and prevent damage to the interior by replacing it.

The Grand Lodge sign has taken another beating. On July 29, 2014 an accident on Glenwood Avenue resulted in a car knocking the 4.5 ton stone off its foundation. While we have returned the stone to its original position, it will need to be replaced. We are in the process of negotiating with the insurance company and with the stone company for a replacement.

Our Masonic headquarters is once again the magnificent beacon it was when it was built in the 1950s. We invite you to come see its splendor.

Respectfully submitted,
Earl Cheek, Chairman

Report of the of the Library Committee

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

2014 has been a productive year for the Library Committee. The committee and office staff have worked together to identify a new organizational system for the Grand Lodge's many rare books, manuscripts, photographs, and artifacts. The new catalog system is a free web browser-based application that will allow the Grand Lodge's library and historical collections to be shared online with the membership and the general public. A physical reorganization of the Grand Lodge's holdings will be ongoing and in time will make our library holdings more easily accessible to visiting members and scholars. The committee anticipates the new online system to debut in late 2014 or early 2015.

The committee is also working with the faculty of the History Department at North Carolina State University to recruit capable graduate students to assist in cataloging the Grand Lodge's collections. In addition to obtaining some much needed assistance, we look forward to partnering with the University and providing a platform for its graduate students to hone their skills within the scope of their degree programs.

The committee is scheduled to begin digitizing many of its materials this October through a partnership with the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center (DigitalNC), located in the Wilson Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. DigitalNC is a statewide digitization and digital publishing program housed in the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. DigitalNC works with cultural heritage institutions across North Carolina to digitize and publish historic materials online. The Digital Heritage Center provides libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, and other cultural heritage institutions with the opportunity to promote and increase access to their collections through digitization. The Center is supported by the State Library of North Carolina with funds from the Institute

of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, and by the UNC-Chapel Hill University Library. These services will enable the Grand Lodge to digitize the *Children's Friend* and the *Orphan's Friend* (precursors of the *North Carolina Mason*) which dates to back to 1875, as well as our early proceedings, and various other publications and historic photographs. The committee looks forward to working with the state's subordinate lodges to borrow historic photographs and papers and digitally preserve them online through this free service. All materials utilized by DigitalNC are placed on loan to the institution and will be returned to the Grand Lodge and its subordinate lodges. Examples of the kinds of materials made available online can be viewed at <digitalnc.org>

The committee also contracted with Etherington Conservation Services based in Bear Creek, North Carolina to digitize the microfiched copies of several decades of subordinate lodge annual returns. Unfortunately, the original returns were destroyed following their photographic transfer to microfiche in the 1960s. The microfiche is deteriorating at a rapid rate and necessitated the transfer to a modern medium of preservation. This work is being paid for by the Grand Lodge.

The committee is also proud to announce several new additions to our library collections, but namely a first (printed 1807) and second (printed 1822) edition of Frederick Dalcho's *Ahiman Rezon*, the first Code of Regulations for the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. Dalcho's work was so widely admired that it became the basis for several grand jurisdiction's Code of Regulations, including North Carolina. The second edition, of which only 24 volumes were published, was printed at the request of the 24 existing grand lodges within the United States in 1822.

Though still in a state of transition, the committee invites and welcomes visitors to the Grand Lodge's Library and looks forward to donations of historic records, books, and photographs that will shortly be available to the membership and public and act as a bridge between generations of Masons as well as the public, academics, and students of Freemasonry and North Carolina history.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jonathan A. Underwood
Assistant to the Grand Secretary

Final Report
of
Grand Master
Dewey R. Preslar Jr.
to
the
Grand Lodge
of
Ancient, Free and Accepted
Masons
of North Carolina
at
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
September 26, 2014

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, officers of constituent lodges, voting delegates to the Communication, Brethren all:

As prescribed in The Code, I am pleased to make this report of my activities as your grand master in 2013. It has truly been my honor and privilege, as well as a most humbling experience, to serve as the 160th grand master in this grand jurisdiction.

It was a wonderful journey across this beautiful state of ours, meeting and making new friends and celebrating our Masonry. I can't claim that I have traveled from Murphy to Manteo as the old saying goes, but I can lay claim from Robbinsville to Elizabeth City. I am grateful for the kindness, the warm welcomes, and expressions of brotherly love that I experienced in my travels. My bride of 36 years has commented multiple times about how lucky we have been these last nine years to meet such wonderful people and create lasting friendships during this journey. My brothers, you made this possible, and I thank you again for the confidence you had in this poor boy who grew up in Stanly County.

The State of the Craft

We talked about causing a breakthrough in our Masonry in 2013. We were out to cause something that might not exist, we wanted to enroll others in our cause, and we wanted to cause and inspire passion. In my travels, I witnessed great passion and enthusiasm for our beloved fraternity. Brethren were proud to talk about the happenings in their lodges, their support for our charities, and work within their communities. One of the things that we were out to cause was to maintain, retain, and grow our membership. Last year we dropped 1173 members due to non-payment of dues, and one in five initiates did not continue to the degree of Fellow Craft. During the district meetings, I asked that the masters and secretaries go back to their lodges, seek out the Entered Apprentices who didn't continue, and try getting them re-engaged.

We also talked about more Lodges doing charity projects in support of our Homes. I submitted that if you do it for the fellowship that the charity would take care of itself. I understand from the Commission on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities that we experienced an increase in the number of projects in 2013.

There is no doubt that Masonry is alive and well in North Carolina! I certainly drew my energy and passion from being just a small part of it.

Necrology

During the past year, we lost 1154 brothers to that Temple not made by hands eternal in the heavens. We mourn their passing, but celebrate the life that they led as husbands, fathers, grandfathers, friends, and brothers. We were also saddened by the loss of our dear friends and brothers, Past Grand Treasurer, Judge Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM and Past Grand Master William H. Simpson. We will truly miss their wit, friendship, words of wisdom, and good counsel. Let light perpetually shine upon them all.

DDGM and DDCL Area Meetings

During October and November 2012 I hosted six meetings with the district officers in Warsaw, Tarboro, Siler City, Waynesville, Statesville, and Salis-

bury. These meetings with the incoming grand master are valuable and accomplished a couple of things. First, it is a great meeting, being able to greet and share the incoming grand master's thinking, as well as an opportunity to engage others in the work. As direct representatives of the grand master, it is important that we have shared and viewed the plans upon our trestle boards. I thank the district officers for their dedication and acceptance of what we were out to accomplished in 2013.

Honorary Title of Past District Deputy Grand Master

| Name | Lodge | District |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Philip R. Johnson | 106 | 1 |
| R. Loren Jones | 680 | 4 |
| Johnny C. Surles | 81 | 7 |
| Ronnie D. Graves | 138 | 12 |
| Ryland D. Grissom | 128 | 13 |
| Michael R. Cashion | 218 | 14 |
| William A. Dowd Jr. | 730 | 17 |
| James E. Britt | 643 | 18 |
| Thomas P. Dolinger | 746 | 23 |
| James B. Rutledge Jr. | 420 | 26 |
| Derek C. Clodfelter | 752 | 27 |
| Frederick L. Barkley | 253 | 30 |
| Bobby R. Huffman | 573 | 33 |
| Terry B. Moore | 462 | 36 |
| Lloyd Hise | 554 | 37 |

Honorary Title of Past District Deputy Grand Lecturer

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----|----|
| Hyler Wayne Cox | 294 | 2 |
| William Dennis Campbell | 708 | 6 |
| Dale Allen Krueger | 688 | 7 |
| John Robert Franks | 112 | 10 |
| Edward Earl Wells | 98 | 11 |
| Isaac Hubert Williamson, Jr. | 229 | 13 |
| Herbert Currie Lyon | 210 | 19 |
| Paul Francis Kelly | 151 | 20 |
| Murray Marrell Skeen | 344 | 23 |
| Phil Dennis McCraw | 322 | 25 |
| Wayne Ray Rummage | 637 | 29 |
| Michael Stephen Kerhoulis | 573 | 33 |
| William Gary McKinney | 544 | 36 |

I recommend that this Grand Lodge grant the honorary title of Past District Deputy Grand Lecturer and District Deputy Grand Master to these men in accordance with the Code, each of whom have served the Craft well.

Reports

District Meetings

We held twenty-six meetings beginning in late January and ending the middle of May. I thought the meetings were very well attended and, of course, we were well received. I could tell as I drove into the parking lots of the lodges that the evenings were going to be enjoyable. I am not used to having a designated parking place, but when it occurred, it was most appreciated. To those in attendance, thank you again for the reception, the attentive ear, and the patience with me as I delivered my message.

I want to also thank those that were with me along the way. First, to Walt Clapp, our grand secretary; Ric Carter, assistant to the grand secretary; Mark Kolada, WhiteStone administrator; Chris Richardson, development director and assistant to the administrator at MHCO; David Potts, grand lecturer; and Steve Schenk, grand tyler. You learn a lot of things about people and their character when you spend this much time together.

The following is a list of the district meetings:

| District | Date | Host Lodge |
|----------|------------|--------------------|
| 26 | January 30 | Winston 167 |
| 15 | February 6 | Hiram 40 |
| 13 | 7 | Henderson 229 |
| 29 | 11 | Kilwinning 64 |
| 21 | 12 | Carthage 181 |
| 17 | 27 | Phoenix 8 |
| 19 | 28 | Mosaic 762 |
| 35 | March 5 | Cleveland 202 |
| 31 | 6 | East Gate 692 |
| 34 | 7 | Catawba 248 |
| 6 | 19 | Grifton 243 |
| 9 | 20 | Corinthan 230 |
| 11 | 21 | Mill Creek 125 |
| 41 | April 8 | Robbinsville 672 |
| 37 | 9 | Vesper 554 |
| 39 | 10 | Mt. Hermon 118 |
| 33 | 11 | Snow 363 |
| 5 | 15 | American George 17 |
| 1 | 16 | Eureka 317 |
| 17 | 3 | Atlantic 294 |
| 4 | 22 | Newport 706 |
| 12 | 23 | Federal Point 753 |
| 18 | 24 | Chadbourne 190 |
| 23 | May 13 | Greensboro 76 |
| 25 | 14 | Elkin 454 |
| 28 | 15 | Andrew Jackson 576 |

Joseph Montfort Medals

In December of 2012, at the Awards Banquet at my lodge, Andrew Jackson, I presented my first Joseph Montfort medal to Floyd M. Burton. Brother Floyd was master of my lodge the year I was born—1955. He has served the Craft in many capacities and was instrumental in causing a positive outcome in many children's lives. In July, I presented my second medal to my dear brother J. David Cashion, whom I have come to know well over the past several

years. His passion for, and execution to his work, is certainly a model for others to follow. Finally I presented my third Montfort at our Annual Communication to my masonic father, Past Grand Master Graham Pervier, who claims to be a "vanilla mason" but is by far, much more than that.

Physical Disabilities

Based on the investigation of the DDGMs in the respective districts, I approved seven requests for waivers of physical disabilities from petitioners for the degrees in Masonry. The DDGMs reported to me that the petitioners had limitations, but would be able to comply with the provisions of The Code. I thank the DDGMs for their investigations into these matters.

Dispensations Granted

As of this date of this writing, I have granted dispensations for the following purposes:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Elect junior warden | Cherry Point 688 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Greensboro 76 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Goldsboro 634 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Stokes 32 |
| Elect officers | Mosaic 762 |
| Elect junior and senior wardens..... | Queen City 602 |
| Stated communications..... | Wilkerson College 760 |
| Elect master..... | Fuquay 258 |
| Elect junior and senior wardens..... | Forsyth 707 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Greensboro 76 |
| Other place | Columbus 102 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Person 113 |
| Outdoor degree | King Solomon 138 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Ocean 405 |
| Elect senior warden..... | Renfro 691 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Lebanon 39 |
| Outdoor degree | Tabasco 271 |
| Outdoor degree in Tennessee..... | Fairview 339 |
| Elect master..... | Clay 301 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Millbrook 97 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Mosaic 762 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Perquimans 106 |
| Elect master..... | Fuquay 258 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Zion 81 |
| Emergent at WhiteStone | Eagle 19 |
| Elect senior deacon..... | Orr 104 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Wilmington 319 |
| Stated at WhiteStone..... | Wilkerson College 760 |
| Stated at another lodge..... | Rehoboth 279 |
| Elect master..... | Nichols-West Asheville 650 |
| Stated at another lodge..... | Orphans 761 |
| Emergent at another lodge | Youngsville 377 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Andrew Jackson 576 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Kedron 387 |
| Outdoor degree | Cranberry 598 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Elect junior and senior wardens..... | Horse Creek 719 |
| Stated at another lodge..... | Piedmont-Pioneer 685 |
| Stated at WhiteStone..... | Corinthian 542 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Berne 724 |
| Emergent at another lodge..... | Burnsville 717 |
| Stated at another lodge..... | Salem 289 |
| Emergent at another lodge..... | Mosaic 762 |
| Outdoor degree..... | Mt. Lebanon 117 |
| Outdoor degree..... | Grassy Knob 471 |
| Dispense with stated..... | Person 113 |
| Outdoor degree..... | Cannon Memorial 626 |
| Outdoor degree..... | Hibriten 262 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Clemmons 755 |
| Elect junior warden..... | Garner 701 |
| Dispense with stated..... | New River 736 |
| Elect junior and senior wardens..... | Roman Eagle 550 |

Emergent Communications

An Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held in the Salisbury Masonic Temple, Salisbury, North Carolina on Saturday December 1, 2012 for the purpose of installation of Grand Lodge officers.

An Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held in the Columbus Masonic Lodge, Pittsboro, North Carolina on Saturday April 20, 2013 for the purpose of rededicating the cornerstone of the Chatham County Courthouse.

An emergent communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held in new building for Franklinton Lodge No. 123, AF & AM in Franklinton, North Carolina, on Saturday, June 22, 2013 for the purpose of laying the cornerstone of the new building.

An Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held in the Asheville Masonic Temple, Asheville, North Carolina on Tuesday, July 9, 2013 for the purpose of centennial dedication of laying the cornerstone laying of the Asheville Masonic Temple.

Instituted a new lodge on Wednesday, October 23, in Salisbury by the name of Sophia, UD.

An emergent communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held in the New Philadelphia Moravian Church's old parish house on Monday November 4, 2013 for the purpose of laying the cornerstone for the new Winston-Salem Masonic Center.

WhiteStone, A Masonic and Eastern Star Community

I commend for your information the report of the Committee on WhiteStone. In so doing, I want to personally thank Mark Kolada, administrator, for his work and passion for our Home in Greensboro. Mark and his team are to be congratulated on the completion of the new apartments. Also, congratulations to Mark and his staff for receiving a five star rating, which is the highest rating in the industry. Thanks to Past Grand Master Gene Jernigan for his leadership, diligence, and continued work to cause this positive outcome at our Home as chairman of the Board of Directors. Separately, I want to thank the

team that worked diligently to create the North Carolina Masonic and Eastern Star Foundation, LLC that provides for our fraternally related residents at WhiteStone. Last year we celebrated 100 years at WhiteStone, and if you haven't visited lately, I encourage you to do so.

Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

Things are going well at our Home in Oxford with the census being higher than it has been in a number of years. We, as Board members, are quite pleased with the progress and look forward to the future of our Home with all of its promising opportunities. Also, a big thanks to one of our alumni Past Grand Master Dan Rice, chairman of the Board, for his leadership and dedication to my "adopted" Home.

As a side note, I had the honor and privilege of raising our Administrator Kevin Otis to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

The third annual Homecoming Festival at Oxford was a huge success. Many thanks to both Chris Richardson and Johnny Surles for causing such a wonderful outcome. Please place on your calendars October 10-13, 2014 for the 4th annual Homecoming Festival at Oxford. Please come in support of our Home, bring someone who has never been there and especially bring your children and grandchildren for fun and fellowship.

Finally, my heartfelt thanks to all that have supported, loved, and have a passion for our Home that has existed for over 140 years and serve more than 10,000 children. Truly, God has blessed us in this place that we call the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. And, thank you to the Alumni as well for making me an honorary member of your group, you will never know how much this means to me.

Veteran Hospital Visits

I visited two VA hospitals, one in Salisbury and the other outside of Asheville. I want to thank our brothers who volunteer with the Masonic Service Association for their work.

Last year, with the leadership of our senior grand warden, we have instituted a Veteran's Service Award and Recognition. Thanks to Brother Doug Caudle and his team for their work on this, and to Doug, for being our representative for the Masonic Service Association.

Conference of Grand Masters of North America

Between February 16-20, I had the honor of representing our Grand Lodge at the Conference of Grand Masters of North America which was held in Kansas City, Missouri. In addition to the member Grand Lodges from Canada, Mexico, and the United States, there were representatives from around the world. Leaders of many of the appendant bodies were also present. It was a great opportunity to make new friends, build lasting relationships, and learn from each other. Other representatives from North Carolina included Deputy Grand Master Dalton Mayo; Senior Grand Warden Doug Caudle; and Junior Grand Warden Bryant Webster. With the Conference of Grand Secretaries being held concurrently, Grand Secretary Walt Clapp also traveled to Kansas City.

Northeast Grand Masters Conference

This year's conference was held in Connecticut the weekend of July 19.

Senior Grand Warden Doug Caudle represented our Grand Lodge of North Carolina and reported that this was a wonderful opportunity to continue relationships and conversations from other grand jurisdictions.

Legislative Reception

We have on occasion held a reception for those Masons who are serving in the General Assembly in order to thank them for their public service. We once again co-hosted this event with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of NC on April 3 at our Grand Lodge building on Glenwood Avenue in Raleigh. We felt that this was appropriate, since we completed the renovation work and celebrated the 225th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Lodge in 2012. The reception was well attended and was a most enjoyable evening.

Visitation and Special Activities

Brethren, there is so much that I would like to report here, but I will try my best to summarize. This is quite difficult due to the many lodges I visited, the hundreds of brothers who were all so gracious to me, in addition to the many special honors and awards bestowed upon me.

I was officially received and recognized at a number of lodges, attended a number of lodge charity events, and actually participated in degree work. I installed officers in eighteen lodges, with nine being installed in Greensboro at one event and five in Greenville. I had the great honor and privilege of visiting shut-ins, as well as presenting a number of service awards, including one that was for 75 years! I was an invited guest to the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas, attended two Shrine installations, the SASA mid-winter event in Greensboro, and was a distinguished guest of Imperial Potentate Alan Madsen at the Imperial Shrine in Indianapolis where I was asked to speak. Scottish Rite events include being honored by the Charlotte Scottish Rite at a table lodge event and attending the AASR Supreme Council in Washington DC. As far as York Rite events, I attended the Grand York Rite Chapter in New Bern, the York Rite District Meeting in Salisbury, and attended the Summer Assembly in Maggie Valley for the sixth year in a row.

It was a joy to represent the Grand Lodge at the Halifax Resolves celebration where I was received the same day at Royal White Hart Lodge. Rainbow events included the first annual Fun Day at Camp Rainbow as well as the Rainbow Assembly in Raleigh. I had the honor of constituting a new lodge in Jacksonville, conducting a cornerstone laying in Franklinton and Winston-Salem, leading a centennial cornerstone ceremony at Mt. Hermon Lodge in Asheville, and instituting a new Lodge in Salisbury. I spent an evening at the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in Raleigh, then traveled to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford to have dinner the following night with the six graduating seniors.

It was also my honor to attend and present a duplicate charter to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee as they were celebrating their 200th anniversary. At all of these events, I was called upon to speak and share my thoughts for our fraternity where I truly draw my energy and passion.

Finally, it was my honor to speak at the reception marking an exhibit opening at UNC Chapel Hill. This exhibit was co-sponsored by the University's Library and our Grand Lodge and showcased the involvement of Freemasons in the university's founding and early years.

Recommended Legislation

For consideration, the ability at the annual meeting of this Grand Lodge to be able to conduct the business of the Finance Committee on Friday if time permits.

Acknowledgement and Thanks

Brethren, as I have often shared I am a third generation Mason. I became a Mason primarily because I wanted to associate with the types of men with whom my grandfather and father associated. As you either know or guessed, the majority of them were Masons.

When I was called to serve in any capacity, I willingly accepted appointments to serve our beloved fraternity. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought that one day I would be appointed to the grand line and eventually serve as grand master. I'm still not sure what Graham Pervier saw in me when he asked me to be his appointment, but I pray that I didn't let him down. Thank you again, my Masonic father, for the trust and confidence that you bestowed upon me.

I want to acknowledge with appreciation all the honorary memberships, awards, recognition, and lifetime memberships, which include my home lodge, my Shrine Club, National Sojourners, and Oasis Shrine.

Credit needs to be given to my Grand Historian Grady Hall, who spent countless hours researching and writing a history of "Mother Masonic Lodges of Rowan County," which we published and gave to all the lodges in Rowan County as well as to Grand Lodge.

To the Past Grand Masters, for your leadership and good counsel when needed, my heartfelt thanks.

To the Grand Line officers, I can't thank you enough for your constant support and the close relationship we have. There is no doubt in my mind that each of you will continue to cause a breakthrough in our Masonry.

A very special thanks to our Grand Lodge staff—Walt, for your expertise, experience, good counsel, and for just being my good friend, I can't thank you enough. To Ric, Cornelia, and Vicki thank you for ALL you do and for having patience with this rookie grand master.

To my home lodge brothers at Andrew Jackson 576 who have supported me along my way in this life journey, I appreciate all you have done. I cannot overlook the three special Ds: David Carmichael, David Potts, and Dennis Sims, who have always been where I needed them to be at the right time and place.

To Terrie, my bride of 36 years, who without her love, support, and understanding, would have made this a difficult journey. We enjoyed many travels and good times together whenever possible.

Finally, to you my brethren who have supported me and shown me the true meaning of brotherly love and affection I truly appreciate the opportunity to have served as your grand master!

Respectfully submitted,
Dewey R. Preslar Jr.
Own and Deliver Your Masonry

Interim Report
of
Grand Master
Dalton w. Mayo
to
the
Grand Lodge
of
Ancient, Free and Accepted
Masons
of North Carolina
at
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
September 26, 2014

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina, grand line officers, past grand masters, officers of constituent lodges, voting delegates to this Annual Communication, and brethren all:

Welcome to the 227th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of AF & AM of North Carolina. Welcome to Winston-Salem which, for the time being, will be our home away from home for a couple of days while we work and fellowship together.

Thank you for the trust you have reposed in me as your Grand Master. It has been a most rewarding experience and one that I will never forget. It has been my pleasure to meet many of you as I have traveled across the state. I hope your year in Masonry has been as good as mine and that, like me, you will have many fond memories of your labors in the quarries.

Pursuant to the requirements of the CODE, I present this Interim Report. It will give you an idea of some of the events it has been my pleasure to participate in as well as the status of our Masonic institutions.

The State of the Craft

There is a lot of degree work going on. It would lead one to believe that there is a resurgence of interest in our craft and this does seem to be the case. While we do have many lodges that are very busy, we have others that rarely have any degree work and this makes a bold statement about their future prospects. There are some lodges that are consolidating and others that are in the thinking stage. However, in the case where two weak lodges consolidate, their work is cut out for them. Consolidation does not automatically solve the problems that led to their decline in the first place. It's takes strong leadership and determination to make the new consolidated lodge work.

One of our goals continues to be reaching the break-even point and putting a stop to our membership decline. A problem that we have nationally and in North Carolina is that the number added to the rolls each year is about equal to the number who die. This leaves us with two other statistics to consider, the NPDs and the demits. It would appear that this is the area over which we have the most control. In many cases we are simply not aggressive enough in our collection of dues and drop brothers without any type of personal contact except an impersonal letter. We had an almost 900 member decline in 2013 and it seems that, with some additional effort, we should be able to overcome that type of deficit. It's something we need to work on.

We have 370 lodges in our grand jurisdiction and at this annual communication we will be adding one more - Sophia Lodge in Salisbury. This lodge is based on the Traditional Observance concept. The Traditional Observance Lodge is true to our ritual but it has added elements designed to add dignity and decorum to the proceedings. It is not for everyone but is for those who are looking for something a little different while still faithful to the basic teachings of our order. This does come at a price as, in the case of Sophia, dues are set at a dollar a day.

In July we said farewell to Brother Ric Carter, Assistant to the Grand Secretary since 1991. He will stay on as editor of *The North Carolina Mason* and work primarily out of his home in Washington, NC. We thank him for all of his contributions and wish him the very best as he enjoys semi-retirement. Ric

has been replaced as Assistant to the Grand Secretary by Brother Jonathan Underwood of Albemarle. We welcomed Jonathan to the Grand Lodge office in early June. We have a strong office staff and Brother Underwood will make it even stronger as he learns his way around.

Our fraternity is a wonderful brotherhood and for me a source of pride everywhere I go. No matter where I have been, I have felt like I was at home. I think this is probably the highest compliment one can pay to the greatest fraternity on earth.

Necrology

REG. 82-1 DUTY OF THE MASTER. It shall be the duty of the Master of each lodge on the death of a member or a sojourning Master Mason, Fellow Craft or Entered Apprentice, qualified therefore to ascertain if Masonic rites would be agreeable, and to take measures accordingly. A lodge should bury a deceased member with Masonic rites if requested by him during his life or by his near relatives after his death. In all other cases Masonic rites may be granted or withheld by the Master of the Lodge.

The Grim Reaper continues to claim our members and this is a fact of life we all have to accept. We will have our annual necrology service on Friday of our Annual Communication and are pleased that PGM and Reverend David Cash (Preacher Dave) has agreed to offer the eulogy. We did not know each brother who went on to his reward but we can remember them and contemplate their many valuable contributions to our great fraternity. They have lived respected and died regretted by all those who knew them as brothers. May they all rest in peace.

DDGM and DDGL Area Meetings

Five area meetings were held during the period October 28 - November 6, 2013. The locations were: Waynesville Lodge No. 259, Waynesville; Statesville Lodge No. 27, Statesville; Siler City Lodge No. 403, Siler City; Concord Lodge No. 58, Tarboro; and Warsaw Lodge

No. 677 in Warsaw. At these meetings we went over my plans for the year and what I would be emphasizing at the district meetings. These area meetings were attended by the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer as well as Brothers Mark Kolada and Kevin Otis or Chris Richardson of our two Masonic homes. This will likely be the last year we'll be using the five area meetings format but instead we will alternate yearly with meetings at WhiteStone in Greensboro and the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

District Meetings

Our 26 district meetings were scattered throughout our great state from Franklin in the mountains to Cape Hatteras on the coast. Our first meeting was held on January 27 in Hamlet and the final one on May 21 in my home lodge, Hiram 98 in Clinton. It was risky starting in January but we believed the chances of interference by wintry weather were slim by beginning in the Sand Hills and the eastern part of the state. However, this did not work out as planned. We attended the first district meeting and had to reschedule the next two. We attended the next meeting and again had to reschedule the next two. We were told by a very observant brother that we could have prevented this calamity simply by referring to the Farmer's Almanac when we laid out

our schedule. According to this good brother, the Farmer's Almanac was right on the money with its weather forecast. Perhaps we need to remember this when planning for next year.

It has been a real pleasure traveling throughout the state and meeting brothers and renewing acquaintances with those I had not seen for a while. The attendance was very good and everyone was most attentive and hospitable. I attempted to impart some "words of wisdom" to the brethren and, as usual, I learned from them. All in all, the district meetings were a great experience and I was happy to see all the good work that is going on in many of our lodges across the state.

My thanks go to Brother Walt Clapp who attended most of the meetings and to Brother Ric Carter who was his occasional backup. I also want to thank Grand Lecturer Earl Wells who attended most meetings and promoted the Certified Lecturer/Instructor program. I'm sure we will get new certified brethren because of his encouragement. I also want to thank him for being my chauffer for a good part of my time on the road.

I want to express my appreciation to Brother Mark Kolada for attending the meetings and giving us an inspirational talk about WhiteStone, our home in Greensboro. If you did not leave the meeting feeling proud of what we have accomplished at what was formerly known as MESH, then you simply weren't listening to Mark. He did a masterful job representing our home.

The same can be said of Brothers Kevin Otis and Chris Richardson. They alternated their attendance at the meetings and inspired us with stories about the children at our home in Oxford. If you have not been to Greensboro or to Oxford, then you need to go and find out what you have been missing. You will leave knowing that both of our homes are in very good hands.

Emergent Communications

The Grand Lodge has called three Emergent Communications to date. The first was on December 7th in Clinton and was called for the purpose of installing the officers of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year. The second was on May 3rd and was for the purpose of dedicating a new cornerstone at the Chatham County Court House in Pittsboro. The third on August 16th was for the purpose of rededicating the cornerstone of the Steele Memorial Library in Mount Olive.

Joseph Montfort Medals

Each Grand Master has the privilege of presenting three Joseph Montfort medals. I presented the first one to Edwin Craig Howard, Past Master of Coharie Lodge No. 379 in Salemburg on the occasion of the final district meeting held in Clinton on May 21st. Brother Howard, a Past District Deputy Grand Master, has for years been a strong supporter of Masonry in his lodge and throughout Sampson County. He is a fine example of the type of Mason all of us should aspire to be. The remaining two medals will be presented at a later time.

Physical Disabilities

In the case of petitioners having physical disabilities, the CODE requires the District Deputy Grand Master to conduct an investigation and advise the Grand Master as to whether the petition should proceed through its normal

channels. Up to this time, there have been twelve investigations and in each case, based on the information provided by the DDGM, the petitions were approved for processing. In some cases, accommodations were required but in most of them they were not. The CODE provisions are there for the purpose of determining whether an applicant is physically able to go through the initiatory process and whether he would become an immediate financial burden on the lodge. My thanks go to the District Deputy Grand Masters who took the time to make the investigations and make their report.

Dispensations Granted

Occasionally, lodges request dispensations to elect officers, hold stated communications in various locations or dispense with a stated communication. Listed below are the twenty four dispensations that have thus far been granted.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Lincoln 137 | Elect Junior Warden |
| 2. Farmville 517 | Elect officers |
| 3. Creasy Proctor 679 | Elect Senior Warden |
| 4. Knights of Solomon 766 | Stated communications various locations |
| 5. Mosaic 762 | Move location |
| 6. Ocracoke 747 | Elect officers |
| 7. Fulton 99 | Elect Master and Senior Warden |
| 8. LaFayette 83 | Elect Junior Warden |
| 9. East LaPorte 358 | Elect officers |
| 10. Wilkerson College 760 | Stated communications various locations |
| 11. Cliffside 460 | Meet at another location |
| 12. Thomas M. Holt 492 | Dispense with stated |
| 13. King Solomon 138 | Outdoor degree |
| 14. Queen City 602 | Dispense with stated |
| 15. Phalanx 31 | Elect Senior Warden |
| 16. Dillsboro 459 | Dispense with stated |
| 17. Mosaic 762 | Meet at another location |
| 18. Ashlar 765 | Move location |
| 19. Mooresville 496 | Elect Junior Warden |
| 20. French Broad 292 | Outdoor degree in Tennessee |
| 21. East LaPorte 358 | Go dark June, July, and August |
| 22. Zion 81 | Dispense with stated |
| 23. Roman Eagle 550 | Elect Senior Warden |
| 24. Cranberry 598 | Outdoor degree |

Honorary Title of Past District Deputy Grand Master

| Name | Lodge | District |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Christopher J. Tenpenny | 698 | 2 |
| James R. Burch, II | 17 | 5 |

Reports

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|----|
| Richard C. Best | 187 | 9 |
| Richard C. Stroud, Jr. | 304 | 10 |
| Raymond L. Turner, Jr. | 13 | 11 |
| David R. Ellis | 117 | 16 |
| Wesley C. McIntyre | 532 | 21 |
| William B. Safrit | 283 | 28 |
| Rodney B. Hinson | 205 | 31 |
| John C. Trail | 742 | 32 |
| Mark T. Fortner | 427 | 40 |

Honorary Title of Past District Deputy Grand Lecturer

| Name | Lodge | District |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Mitchell L. Spruill | 7 | 1 |
| James L. Ssnderlin | 90 | 5 |
| David L. Browning | 320 | 16 |
| Thomas A. Pope, Jr. | 730 | 17 |
| Raymond F. Fulgaro | 114 | 18 |
| Samuel E. Myrick | 555 | 21 |
| Bradley W. Morton | 699 | 24 |
| Royal S. Jarvis | 214 | 27 |
| Warren E. Dover | 759 | 32 |
| Thomas G. Brooks, Jr. | 202 | 35 |
| William D. Thomas | 453 | 40 |
| Charles E. McCowan | 529 | 41 |

WhiteStone, a Masonic and Eastern Star Community

WhiteStone, our Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro turned 100 years old last year. It has been substantially renovated and now is a true showplace. The next time you are in the area, please stop by and take a look around. It will give you a wonderful feeling to see what your donations are supporting.

Historically, it was our intention to admit only those residents who had Masonic connections. We were able to make this model work until about eight years ago when we ran into severe funding problems and almost lost our home. When you admit someone into our home and promise them a lifetime of care regardless of their ability to pay, you have done a wonderful thing, but it has to be paid for. We reached the point that our income was not sufficient to do this and we either had to change our way of doing business or we had to shut our doors. By admitting those who were able to pay, regardless of whether they had Masonic affiliations or not, we were able to cover our bills and keep our home in operation. This was a drastic move, but I hope you understand that it was absolutely necessary.

We have about 35 residents with Masonic connections who were admitted to WhiteStone over the years whose expenses are being supplemented

or completely paid for by your donations. When you plan your charitable fundraisers or personal donations, please keep these residents in mind. They are still depending on us to maintain the level of support we promised when they entered our home.

I am happy to tell you that, thanks to the hard work of Brother Mark Kolada and his staff, and Most Worshipful Brother Gene Jernigan, Chairman of the Board at WhiteStone and his dedicated board members, we have reached the point where we are accepting a limited number of residents with Masonic connections who cannot afford to pay the full costs of living there. We are hoping that this is just the beginning of our return to those days when charity was our byword. To make this dream a reality, a foundation has been established called the Masonic and Eastern Star Home LLC. Donations to this foundation made out to MESH Foundation LLC will guarantee that these funds will go to support only Masonically connected residents.

Thank you for your support of our home in Greensboro. Keep in mind that the day may come when you will want to call it your new home. I personally think it would be a wonderful place to live. If you are approaching the age where this might be a possibility for you, go to WhiteStone and take a look around.

Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford is there for the specific purpose of helping children who need a stable, caring and loving home. It is not meant to replace a family but it does provide a family environment. It teaches, guides, nurtures, shares and focuses on life both at the home and after the child leaves Oxford. MHCO strives to help a child determine his or her own path for the future. MHCO is state licensed and nationally accredited and uses a family-living model that provides the children with individual living spaces, essentials needed for daily living, support if they have special needs, and a promise for full development and learning from infancy to young adulthood.

If you know of a child in need, notify the home right away. It is not required that the child have any type of Masonic connection since all are welcome as long as they are within the scope of the type of children that the home is qualified to serve. Current enrollment averages from 50 to 60 at any given time. The number fluctuates as parents or guardians can remove them from the home at will. The number is also limited by the availability of house parents for each of the cottages. If you and your wife are interested in being house parents, or know someone who is, it is very important that you let the home know.

Our home at Oxford is supported through both Masonic and private donations and legacies. Please keep this in mind as you and your lodge plan your giving for the year. The children are counting on us and we are of too good a disposition to let them down.

Please don't forget the annual homecoming festival which is scheduled for the second weekend in October. Late Friday afternoon and Friday evening we will have food and entertainment available on the grounds. Delicious barbeque will be cooked during the night and will be available on Saturday. Saturday is also the day for the big Shrine parade which is graciously provided for us by the three Shrine Temples in North Carolina: Sudan, Amran, and Oasis.

This is certainly a highlight of the entire weekend and we are truly indebted to our Shrine-Mason brothers for donating their time and parade equipment for the enjoyment of all the children, both young and old.

VA Hospital Visitation Program

The Veteran's Administration Hospital Visitation Program, sponsored by the Masonic Service Association, is carried on entirely by voluntary contributions. Contributions are received from Grand Lodges throughout the United States who vote special funds or assessments. Visitation is limited by the fact that veterans who are Masons must volunteer that information because privacy rules do not allow us to ask.

North Carolina has four Veteran's Administration Hospitals: Asheville, Salisbury, Durham, and Fayetteville. I was able to arrange visits to the hospitals in Asheville and Salisbury.

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America

This conference is an annual meeting of the Grand Masters of Masons in North America. Currently the membership is the Grand Lodges of the Provinces of Canada, the States of the United States of America, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, the States of Mexico, and the American-Canadian Grand Lodge of Germany. These Grand Masters represent some two million Freemasons in North America. Grand Masters from countries throughout the world also attend to join in fellowship. The Conference is the largest gathering of Grand Masters in the world. In 2014 the conference was held in Baltimore, Maryland, and in 2015 it will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Northeast Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries

The Northeast Conference consists of the states of: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia. The conference in 2014 was held in the nation's capital. As with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America, a variety of breakout sessions are held dealing with topics of current interest. North Carolina, as a member state, is well received at both conferences and it is highly recommended that we continue the participation of our Grand Lodge.

World Conference of Grand Lodges

The XIII World Conference of Grand Lodges, the largest Masonic meeting ever organized in Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe took place in Romania in May. The event was hosted by the National Grand Lodge of Romania. On May 17, 2014, Most Worshipful Grand Master Radu Balanescu passed the office of Executive President of the World Conference to the Grand Master of California. The event was attended by delegations from Europe, North and South America, Asia and Africa.

The World Conference of Grand Lodges is held once every eighteen months. The last meeting took place in India; however we did not attend since it was during our Thanksgiving holiday. Romania received the right to host this event in 2011, in Columbia, when it won against Russia.

Masonry is truly a worldwide fraternity. I could not have been treated

any better by my home lodge than I was by the Masons in Romania. Some of the differences noted were that Masons in Romania and in Europe in general believe in dressing formally for lodge meetings. They believe in charging higher fees than we do. They do not believe in rushing candidates through the degrees. Candidates are expected to learn the lessons of each degree in detail before they proceed further.

It is truly an educational experience to learn how Masons in other parts of the world compare to what we are accustomed to in the United States. The next conference will be held in San Francisco, California, in November 2015. Presumably, there will be a large attendance from grand jurisdictions in the United States and Masons from other parts of the world will have a great opportunity to learn how we do things.

Special Visitations

It was my pleasure to attend the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas in Spartanburg, South Carolina, in December 2013. This is an annual event which raised funds for the Shriner's Hospitals. I also attended the Imperial Shrine Annual meeting as a guest of the three Shrine temples in North Carolina. This year the meeting was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and next year it will be in Houston, Texas. The Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star graciously invited me to attend their annual communication and offer remarks on behalf of our Grand Lodge. Because of a schedule conflict, I was unable to attend the meeting of the International Order of the Rainbow for girls but Worshipful Brother Speed Hallman, Junior Grand Deacon, kindly went in my place.

In December, RW Brother Douglas Caudle, Deputy Grand Master, and I were the guests of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of their Grand Lodge. Originally, North Carolina had jurisdiction over the area of Tennessee but we relinquished that control in December 1813. This was a very well planned event and gave Brother Doug and me an opportunity to visit with our Masonic friends across the state line.

Honorary Memberships

It has been my distinct pleasure to receive honorary memberships from seven lodges during my tenure as Grand Master. Certainly none were expected and all are appreciated more than I can express.

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Blue Ridge 435 | Montgomery 426 |
| Cliffside 460 | Mount Hermon 118 |
| Glenville 551 | Phoenix 8 |
| Numa F. Reid 344 | Pleasant Hill 304 |
| Monroe 244 | |

Wilkerson College

Wilkerson College is sponsored jointly by the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Orient of North Carolina, and the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina. The college was created with a single mission in mind: to provide Freemasonry with the best trained leaders possible. It was named in honor of retired General H. Lloyd Wilkerson who was formerly Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Scottish Rite in North Carolina.

Each class is limited to 36 students. Admission preference is given to lodge deacons with the idea that our best investment in the future lies within

those officers who have several years to work and plan for their year as Master of the lodge. Though part of a deacon's time at Wilkerson College is devoted to the origins and traditions of Freemasonry, students receive the majority of their training in how to become effective leaders within their lodges. Subjects such as budgeting, lodge operations and membership services will be new to some whose notions of a Masonic education stop at ritual and memorization. It is the goal of Wilkerson College to provide each student with a well-rounded exposure to the tools that are needed to be a confident and effective leader in his lodge, the fraternity, and in his community.

The three sessions are held at our homes in Greensboro and Oxford and conclude at the Grand Lodge office building in Raleigh. This gives participants an opportunity to have a tour of all three facilities. If your lodge has never sent a deacon to Wilkerson College, it is something you should strongly consider. Talk to some of those who have been and you will find that they consider it time well spent.

Recommendations

I do not offer any specific recommendations for new legislation. If you look at our CODE you might well think we have enough legislation already. However, as I emphasized at my district meetings, I recommend that you keep in mind the following:

- Help each member find his place in the lodge.
- Remember that nothing gets accomplished until someone takes responsibility.
- If you really want to do something, you will find the time.
- Great things can be accomplished if we don't care who gets the credit.

I recommend that each lodge have at least one charity fund raiser each year in support of our two homes and the Masonic Foundation. Try it and you will find that it's work but it's also fun. The satisfaction that you will get from working together and seeing how much good you can do in the process will be pay enough for your efforts.

I recommend that you continue encouraging your brothers to work toward becoming certified lecturers and instructors. I also want you to encourage a least one member of your lodge to learn the Masonic burial rites. Every lodge needs someone who can perform this valuable service and thus keep a promise that we made to our brothers when they first came into the lodge, sometimes many years ago.

Acknowledgements and Special Appreciations

Serving as Grand Master is not a solitary endeavor. There are many that were called on to help carry the load and make the burden lighter and for this I will be forever grateful.

My thanks go to PGM Gene Jernigan and his most gracious wife Charlla for all their help during the year, beginning with the installation of grand officers in December. Without their assistance the installation week-end could not have gone off as the success that it was. The same is true of the Grand Lodge Annual Communication and I will be eternally grateful for Charlla's help with the banquet and 'he ladies' luncheon. Planning for such things is not something I find intuitive but she made it look easy. Charlla, I don't know how I can ever repay you for all that you have done for me and our

Grand Lodge.

A big thank you goes to Johnny Surles and Bobby Meadows for being so helpful with the logistics of the grand lodge installation ceremony. All I had to do was be there and they took care of everything else. Thank you for all you did in making such an important day go so smoothly and seem so effortless. I know at one time Brother Johnny was afraid my apron was going to fall off. That didn't happen but since then I've had it adjusted by the vendor and all is now well.

A tip of my homburg goes to those lodges that gave me honorary memberships. I consider these a special gift which I will always treasure. I also extend a special thanks for the other gifts that were so generously bestowed on me. I thank all of you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

I want to give a word of appreciation to Grand Lecturer Earl Wells for being so helpful to me during my travels. The ride on your helicopter to American George Lodge in Murfreesboro will be something I will remember very fondly as I reflect on my year as Grand Master.

A word of appreciation goes to all the members of the boards and committees who worked so hard to see that everything was carried out as planned. I especially want to thank the District Deputy Grand Masters and District Deputy Grand Lecturers who fulfilled the duties of their respective offices and were such a big help to me in seeing that we had a good year. Although you may not always think so, your efforts are noticed and your contributions are truly appreciated.

I offer a special thank you to Walt, Ric, Cornelia, Vicki, and April at our Grand Lodge headquarters for your support. Without the support of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Lodge office staff I could not have carried out my duties. I commend each of you for all you do support our Grand Master and our Grand Lodge.

My thanks go to the Grand Lodge officers and Past Grand Masters who have been so supportive during my time as Grand Master and the years leading up to it. We are truly a family and by our actions we show that we are. It has been a rewarding experience to get to know each one of you better and I will always be appreciative of how you have come to my aid whenever needed. Please let me know if I can ever do anything for you.

My thanks also go to the members of Hiram Lodge No. 98 who expressed such pride in having one of their own as Grand Master. I particularly want to thank Brothers Mike Bass, Jerry Bradshaw, Mike Thornton, Ken Sutton, and Earl Wells for their contributions to the building project. Everything looked great when it came time for our district meeting and I was proud to have brothers come in and have a look around. The lodge never looked better thanks to their efforts.

Brethren, I thank all of you for your support and friendship. It's been a great year because of you and I wish all of you the very best as you continue your labors on behalf of our beloved fraternity.

Respectfully submitted,
Dalton W. Mayo, Grand Master

Service of Necrology*Opening the Grand Lodge of Sorrow*

MASTER: What man is he who lives, and shall not see death?
Shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? (Psalm 89:48)

RESPONSE: Man walks in a vain shadow; he heaps up riches and cannot tell who shall gather them.

MASTER: When he dies he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him.

RESPONSE: Naked he came into the world, and naked he must return.

GRAND MASTER: I now declare the Grand Lodge of Sorrow for the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina open. Let all who are present join with us in remembering our deceased brethren.

O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

Special Remembrance

The eulogy for our departed brethren will be given by Past Grand Master David Cash.

Roses placed and Candles lit for:

- Entered Apprentices
- Fellow Crafts
- Master Masons

A Time of Naming All Deceased Brethren

GRAND MASTER: I now declare the Grand Lodge of Sorrow for the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina closed. May our deceased brethren rest in peace.

Grand Lodge Officers

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Dalton W. Mayo..... | Grand Master |
| Douglas L. Caudle..... | Deputy Grand Master |
| Bryant D. Webster..... | Senior Grand Warden |
| A. Gene Cobb, Jr..... | Junior Grand Warden |
| Lewis R. Ledford..... | Grand Treasurer |
| T. Walton Clapp, III..... | Grand Secretary |
| Jimmie B. Hicks, Jr..... | Senior Grand Deacon |
| C. Speed Hallman..... | Junior Grand Deacon |
| Dwight M. Sigmon..... | Grand Marshal |
| P. Shaun Bradshaw..... | Grand Steward |
| R. David Wicker..... | Grand Steward |
| T. Michael Bass..... | Grand Tyler |
| Andrew B. Wood..... | Grand Chaplain |
| James M. Gillispie, Jr..... | Grand Historian |
| E. Earl Wells..... | Grand Lecturer |
| Mansour Hatefi..... | Grand Orator |
| James R. Stevens..... | Judge Advocate |

Past Grand Masters

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Norburn Creighton Hyatt..... | 1985 |
| Lee Roy Thomas, Jr..... | 1988 |
| Bunn Tate Phillips, Jr..... | 1990 |
| Lester Poindexter Martin, Jr..... | 1991 |
| Richard Groves Moore..... | 1993 |
| William Bailey Brunk..... | 1994 |
| Gerry Theodore Smith..... | 1997 |
| Thomas Warren Gregory..... | 1998 |
| Charles Marshall Ingram..... | 1999 |
| Charles Edward Cathey..... | 2000 |
| William Graham Mathis..... | 2001 |
| Jerry Reginald Tillett..... | 2002 |
| Charles Albert Lewis, Jr..... | 2003 |
| Leonard Yearby Safrit, Jr..... | 2004 |
| Graham Wiles Pervier..... | 2005 |
| Gene Tart Jernigan..... | 2006 |
| Wallace Berry Rigdon..... | 2007 |
| David Ronald Cash..... | 2008 |
| Dan Charles Rice..... | 2009 |
| William Lynn Dill..... | 2010 |
| Lewis Ray Ledford..... | 2011 |
| Robert Elvis Gresham, Jr..... | 2012 |
| Dewey Ralph Preslar, Jr..... | 2013 |

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