

**Synopsis of the
233rd Annual Communication of the
Grand Lodge of AF & AM of North Carolina**

The 233rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of AF & AM of North Carolina met at the Winston Salem Masonic Center in Winston-Salem and other district locations on September 25, 2020. Delegates met at a central location in each of their districts with their respective District Deputy Grand Masters. Each district's central location established two-way audio and video streams to the Masonic Center in Winston-Salem via secure telecommunication software. Social distancing and CDC guidelines were followed at all locations due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

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|------------------------|---------------------|
| P. Shaun Bradshaw | Grand Master |
| R. David Wicker, Jr. | Deputy Grand Master |
| Larry B. Thompson, Jr. | Senior Grand Warden |
| Kevan D. Frazier | Junior Grand Warden |
| Lewis R. Ledford | Grand Treasurer |
| T. Walton Clapp, III | Grand Secretary |
| Donald E. Kehler | Senior Grand Deacon |
| Robert W. Rideout | Junior Grand Deacon |
| Steve M. Norris | Grand Marshal |
| Gilbert D. Bailey | Grand Steward |
| Michael A. Register | Grand Steward |
| Mark M.N. Vickers | Grand Chaplain |
| Gary D. Handy | Grand Tyler |

Worshipful Brother Benjamin G. Wallace gave the oration.

Most Worshipful Dwight M. (Mack) Sigmon, PGM, delivered his final address covering his year as Grand Master in 2019. Most Worshipful Shaun Bradshaw, Grand Master, delivered his interim Grand Master's address.

The proposed 2021 budget of the Grand Lodge was approved.

The Credentials Committee reported the attendance of 1,065 delegates.

The following grand lodge officers were elected or appointed for the year 2021, to wit:

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|------------------------------|---------------------|
| R. David Wicker (750) | Grand Master |
| Larry B. Thompson, Jr. (127) | Deputy Grand Master |
| Kevan D. Frazier (118) | Senior Grand Warden |
| Donald E. Kehler (409) | Junior Grand Warden |
| Lewis R. Ledford (27) | Grand Treasurer |
| T. Walton Clapp, III (237) | Grand Secretary |
| Robert W. Rideout (155) | Senior Grand Deacon |
| Steve M. Norris (727) | Junior Grand Deacon |
| Gilbert D. Bailey (693) | Grand Marshal |
| Michael A. Register (493) | Grand Steward |
| Phillip R. Johnson (10) | Grand Steward |

Paul Menard (750) -----Grand Chaplain
Calvin A. Rogers (231)-----Grand Tyler
Herbert C. (Dicky) Lyon (210)-----Grand Lecturer
Daniel R. Finch (122) -----Grand Historian
Oscar Alleyne -----Grand Orator
T. Marcus Browne III (352) -----Judge Advocate

The installation of the above named elected and appointed Grand Lodge Officers will be held on Saturday, December 5, 2020, in Oxford, NC. At this time, plans are not finalized due to Covid-19.

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations reported on a request from Enfield Lodge No. 447 to changed its name and location due to a merger with Scotland Neck Lodge No. 689, Scotland Neck. The requested name of the merged lodge is Scotland Neck Lodge No. 447 located in Scotland Neck, NC. This motion was approved.

The Committee received a request from Cherryville Lodge No. 505 for a duplicate charter to replace the original which has become illegible. The motion was approved.

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations also received a request from Rolesville Lodge No. 683 to change its name to W.G. Arnold Lodge No. 683 after a long-time, very active member. The motion was approved

Three foreign grand lodges requested recognition.

Grande Loja Maçônica do Estado do Maranhão
Grand Orients Paulista and
The Grande Orient of Rio De Janeiro.

These requests were **tabled** until the 2021 Annual Communication.

The Committee on Appeals submitted its report. The two applications for restorations were **tabled** until the 2021 Annual Communication.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence presented its report. The Grand Lodge approved the six Orders of Past Master Dwight M. Sigmon. The Grand Lodge also approved the Orders and Opinion to date of Grand Master Shaun Bradshaw.

The following amendments to *The Code* were considered, along with the results of each amendment group.

Amendment Group 1

This amendment would allow the election of a chairman for the Finance Committee prior to the installation of Grand Lodge Officers.

This amendment group was **approved** by the Grand Lodge.

Amendment Group 2

This amendment would require lodges to fully insure their property as per NC law. Failure to do so would disallow any lodge to seek assistance from other lodges.

This amendment group was **tabled** by the Grand Lodge until 2021 Annual Meeting.

Amendment Group 3

This amendment would allow members who do not live within the state to serve on Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

This amendment group was **approved** by the Grand Lodge.

Amendment Group 4

These amendments would require additional qualification for Grand Lodge Officers.

This amendment group was **approved** by the Grand Lodge.

Amendment Group 5

This amendment would allow a lodge to vote on petitions for the degrees collectively.

This amendment group was **tabled** by the Grand Lodge until 2021 Annual Meeting.

Amendment Group 6

This amendment would increase the size of the Commission to five members, up from the present three. Upon adoption, the Deputy Grand Master will appoint three members to the Commission on the terms that he selects, e.g. one for three years, one for four years and one for five years. This amendment will become effective on adoption.

This amendment group was **approved** by the Grand Lodge.

Amendment Group 7

This amendment would allow a lodge if it wanted to, to open on the First Degree and conduct its business.

This amendment group was **tabled** by the Grand Lodge until 2021 Annual Meeting.

Amendment Group 8

This amendment proposes to resolve a conflict in the Code concerning motions to close debate in a subordinate lodge.

This amendment group was **tabled** by the Grand Lodge until 2021 Annual Meeting.

Amendment Group 9

This amendment would require lodges that are consolidating to execute its deed to the consolidated lodge. Also, would allow the lodge Trustees to fulfill the role until all property is sold or transferred.

This amendment group was **tabled** by the Grand Lodge until 2021 Annual Meeting.

Amendment Group 10

This amendment proposed to allow a deceased member's family (estate) who died in good standing to purchase an Endowed Membership. It would also increase the cost of Veteran's (Fifty Year Members) and Memorial endowed membership.

This amendment group was **tabled** by the Grand Lodge until 2021 Annual Meeting.

Amendment Group 11

This amendment would allow the creation of Chaplain of Distinction.

This amendment group was **approved** by the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,
Walt Clapp
Grand Secretary