

Christmas Greetings from the East!

Brethren,

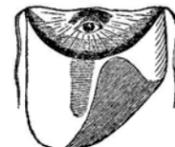
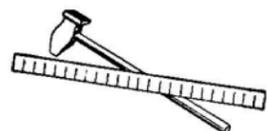
I want to wish everyone and your families a very Merry Christmas season. May your travels be safe and blessings be many. As we wind down the year and I reflect upon the workings of the Lodge for my duration as Master, I am very grateful to be associated with such compassionate and giving Brothers. We have accomplished much this year and have had an overall good attendance in regular meetings-24 stated and 24 emergent, 30 Thursday night practices, 4 Lodge of Sorrows and 7 funerals or internments, 9 First degrees, 2 Second degrees, 3 Third Degrees, 2 Bloodmobiles, 7 certified lecturer training classes on Sunday afternoons, and 8 special events: A Lodge of Instruction, Pancake breakfast, St. John's Day in Oxford, Family Day, Oxford Home Boys visit, Grand Lodge, Past Masters Night, and the Awards Night Banquet. This is 120 days out of 365--fully one third of the year devoted to Masonic work. All of course, which could not be done without the support of my excellent officer line and the participation of the lodge members. Thank you all for making my year as Master of the Lodge an easy job!

I want thank everyone that attended the Awards Night this year. That was one of the best crowds I have seen at the Lodge in a long time! Our Junior Warden, Richard Rozzelle, did outstanding work in selecting the entertainment and hosting the event. The dinner provided by The Eastern Star was great. Congratulations to all the 25 and 50 year award recipients for the Blue Lodge and York Rite. Congratulations to Brother Lee Spach for being awarded Mason of the Year and to Susan Brandon for being chosen as Wife of the Year.

In closing, it has been a pleasure to serve Hickory Lodge #343 as Master for this year. Thank each of you for your confidence in me and I look forward to many more years working with you all.

God Bless,
Worshipful Master Dr. Grimes Byerly, PM

CARING REPORT: The Brandon Family, Dusty Holland, Carl Isenhour, David Duncan, Darrell Chapman, Jack Lingerfelt, Shelby Teague and Family, Jerry Johnson's daughter, Jack Bridges, Gregg Conley, Herbert Chilton Jr. , Bob Gregg, Click Truitt, Bob Patton, Charles Meadows, Jim Rader, Don Hudson, Richard Rozzelle's son, A.W. Morris, Jim Barker, Kimberly Austin, Rufus Smith, and Bruce Pope all need our prayers and attention.



OFFICERS 2007

Worshipful Master	W. Grimes Byerly	324-8678
Senior Warden	J. David Abernethy	323-8349
Junior Warden	Richard L. Rozzelle	294-3013
Treasurer	W.J. "Buz" Hunley	ul 256-7633
Secretary	Kevin D. Johnson	465-5619
Trustees Chairman	Jeffrey P. Kuykendall	495-0039
	Lawton H. Hatley	294-0910
	David L. Brandon	294-2124
Senior Deacon	Daniel J. Rolon	313-2461
Junior Deacon	James R. Hope II	ul 465-0063
Senior Steward	G. Lee Spach	446-1924
Junior Steward	James L. Johnson	328-1679
Chaplain	Bradley R. Ingles	499-0438
Tyler	Robert B. Bickel	294-6619

LIVING PAST MASTERS

J.N. Cagle	1973	J.P. Hilton	1994
J.L. Johnson	1974	D.L. Reep	1995
E.W. Beckom	1978	P.C. Ray	1996
J.F. Taylor	1979	L.D. Huffman	1997
J.H. Elmore	1981	W.G. Byerly	1998
J.C. Bridges	1983	D.J. Wallace	1999
T.L. Hartman	1984	H.W. Walker	2000
E.C. Cline	1986	J.W. Davidson	2001
J.E. Vaught	1987	M.D. Hale	2002
J.H. Elmore	1988	W.J. Hunley	2003
C.E. Isenhour	1989	J.P. Kuykendall	2004
E.W. Masche	1991	D.L. Brandon	2006
J.D. Crawley	1993		

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Name	Date	Name	Date	Name	Date
John Cauble	12/01/1933	John Cansler, Jr.	12/10/1927	Dean Brittain	12/21/1939
Jerry Triplett	12/01/1943	Lander Johnson	12/13/1921	Charles Lookadoo	12/23/1931
Jimmy Lingerfelt	12/03/1951	Arlie Graves	12/16/1928	Jeffry Bivens	12/24/1973
Ronald Hampton	12/06/1946	Michael Pope	12/17/1969	James Huffman	12/25/1932
Ted Rhyne	12/07/1926	Clyde Pope	12/18/1941	James Weaver	12/28/2943
Charles Meadows	12/07/1930	Jospeh Grzesiak	12/18/1952	Carroll Carpenter	12/29/1937
Ronald Hicks	12/07/1954	Jeffery Kuykendall	12/20/1966	Alfred Lathan	12/31/1940
Michael Norris	12/08/1955	Ray Ross	12/21/1929	Lee Spach	12/31/1969



**Dedicated to the Stewards
By: Worshipful Brother Dan Rolon**

T' was the night before “stated” and here at the lodge,
 No car could be seen not even a Dodge.
 The aprons were hung by the Tyler's door chair,
 In hope that some Masons soon would be there.
 The night turned to day, then on to afternoon.
 Those aprons knew Masons would be there real soon.
 Then all of a sudden there came with such clatter.
 Two men at the door, one tall and one fatter.
 The back door swung open and what did appear,
 but Lee Spach and James Johnson with food and some cheer.
 They came in quite beat down from a day hard at work,
 To put on some coffee and leave it to perk.
 They made meats and veggies for many to eat.
 Looked more than enough to feed every seat.
 The brothers rolled in at a quarter past six.
 The kitchen was ready, the food was all fixed.
 We gave thanks to the Master, On High up above.
 Lee gave the order to “eat”, "don't push and don't shove".
 We rolled out of our chairs like some over fed ticks.
 To greet another Brother who got lost in the mix.
 We lined up to sign in and go through the door.
 Some turned around to visit the restroom once more.
 Dispatch of business was the order of the day.
 The gavel fell and we were on our way.
 The work was presented word for word as before.
 We welcomed the visitors who came through our door.
 We remembered those men no longer with us.
 Then over the lodge comes a respectful hush.
 The minutes were read and the closing charge given.
 To better the world is why we are livin'.
 A phrase or two of this might stick in your head.
 Tonight at home, while you're tossing in bed.
 'cause that's why we're here one for the other.
 In happiness, sadness because we are
Brothers.



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34th NC Masonic District

HICKORY LODGE NO. 343

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
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 828-322-8016

www.hickorymasoniccenter.org
secretary@hickorymasoniccenter.org

Lodge Events Calendar

DECEMBER 2007

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 6:30pm Meal 7:30pm Stated OFFICER ELECTIONS	4 7:30pm OES	5	6	7	8
9	10 7:00pm Officer Installations	11	12 6:30pm Meal 7:30pm York Rite	13	14	15
16	17 6:30pm Meal 7:30pm Stated	18 7:30pm OES	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29