

### Greetings from the East!

Brethren, it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve you this year.

It has been gratifying to hear comments from Past Masters after several emergent communications that the quality of our work has been in accordance with tradition in Hickory Lodge. I don't think that our line officers can expect to hear any finer commentary on their work. I look forward to their continued excellence in the coming year.

Our pancake breakfast fundraiser was more successful this year than any in the recent past. One reason was that the project was thoroughly discussed, and many brothers contributed valuable

ideas. I commend this example for use in future lodge projects.

The work in refurbishing the lodge library, and the event of its dedication on Family Day, was an inspiration to all who participated. I especially appreciate the efforts of Grimes Byerly, Past Master, who accomplished this task.

Many brothers and officers made outstanding contributions during the year. Space here does not allow them all to be listed. I am grateful for all of them.

A question might be asked: why use our time in Lodge work? We could be using that time on behalf of other organizations that have laudable objectives. One answer is that the primary objective of Freemasonry is to make good


men better; a school of virtue, if you will. In the lodge ritual, a person can regularly hear the English language at the height of its development. Wise and serious truths are taught using not only beautiful and solemn language, but expressive symbols which can bring home those truths to those even of rudimentary understanding. Learning, as well as virtue, is upheld as the goal of the good person; the whole person. All of these factors contribute to a fellowship based on sound values. Surely, such a fellowship is worth preserving in the modern world.

I hope that each of you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,  
David Abernethy, Master



## 2nd Annual Brookford Community Toy Drive




*Due to the great success of last's years Toy Drive for the needy families in the Brookford Community our Lodge has committed to help again this year. Please bring toys for all ages of boys and girls and money donations to the lodge. Donations can be left in the collection area in the dining hall. James Johnson, Jr. Deacon, is organizing this event again this year. Feel free to contact him with any questions! God Bless.*

OFFICERS 2008			LIVING PAST MASTERS			
Worshipful Master	J. David Abernethy	323-8349	J.N. Cagle	1973	L.D. Huffman	1997
Senior Warden	Richard L. Rozzelle	294-3013	J.L. Johnson	1974	W.G. Byerly	1998
Junior Warden	Daniel J. Rolon	493-3543	E.W. Beckom	1978		2007
Treasurer	W.J. "Buz" Hunley	ul256-7633	J.F. Taylor	1979	D.J. Wallace	1999
Secretary	Kevin D. Johnson	465-5619	J.H. Elmore	1981	H.W. Wallker	2000
Senior Deacon	G. Lee Spach	446-1924	T.L. Hartman	1984	J.W. Davidson	2001
Junior Deacon	James L. Johnson	328-1679	E.C. Cline	1986	M.D. Hale	2002
Stewards	Eddie Elliott Paul Aulbach Ed Zammarelli		J.H. Elmore	1987	W.J. Hunley	2003
			J.E. Vaught	1988	J.P. Kuykendall	2004
			E.W. Masche	1991	D.L. Brandon	2006
Chaplain	James Hope ul	465-0063	J.D. Crawley	1993		
Tyler	Robert B. Bickel	294-6619	J.P. Hilton	1994		
Trustees	Chairman		D.L. Reep	1995		
	Lawton H. Hatley	294-0910	P.C. Ray	1996		
	David L. Brandon	294-2124				
	W. Grimes Byerly	324-8678				


DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS					
John Cauble	12/01/1933	Michael Norris	12/08/1955	Jeffery Kuykendall	12/20/1966
Jerry Triplett	12/01/1943	John Cansler, Jr.	12/10/1927	Ray Ross	12/21/1929
Allen Norman	12/05/1966	Jacob Abernathy	12/12/1934	Charles Lookadoo	12/23/1931
Ronald Hampton	12/06/1946	Lander Johnson	12/13/1921	Jeffry Bivens	12/24/1973
Ted Rhyne	12/07/1926	Arlie Graves	12/16/1928	James Huffman	12/25/1932
Charles Meadows	12/07/1930	Michael Pope	12/17/1969	James Weaver	12/28/2943
Ronald Hicks	12/07/1954	Clyde Pope	12/18/1941	Alfred Lathan	12/31/1940
Mark Abernethy	12/07/1966	Jospeh Grzesiak	12/18/1952	Lee Spach	12/31/1969

**Caring Report:** Betty Burch, Glen Henline, Jack Sains Family, Noland Yount and Wife, Misty London, Denise Wallace, David Chastain, John Wilson, Don Hudson, Jack Lingerfelt, Bill Deitz, John Harden's wife, David Duncan, Darrell Chapman, Gregg Conley, Herbert Chilton Jr., Bob Gregg, Click Truitt, Charles Meadows, Richard Rozzelle's son, A.W. Morris, Kimberly Austin, Rufus Smith, Charles Lookadoo, Todd Cline, August Masche, David Early, Joe Vaught, Clyde Price, and Bruce Pope all need our prayers and attention.



## Sweetheart Dinner

sponsored by the Hickory York Rite



**Saturday—February 14, 2009—6:30 PM**

**\$15 per couple. RSVP to Bro. David Brandon**

**All Masons and friends are invited to attend!**

Awards Night 2008

By Lee Spach

The weather was brisk and cold but the fellowship and food was fraternal and delicious for our lodge’s annual awards night. The celebration was on held on Thursday November, 20 with about 75 in Masons, friends, and family in attendance.

Dr. Grimes Byerly, PM led us in prayer to open the event and was followed by Colin Rolon, Emma Spach, and Griffin Spach leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country. Afterwards the Order of the Eastern Star served a fantastic meal consisting of roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, cold slaw, bread, and pumpkin pie.

Once everyone was stuffed with food (in usual Masonic tradition for all meetings and events) the Philadelphia Hand Bell Choir entertained with several Thanksgiving and Christmas music selections. Following the delightful music there was a tribute to the living Past Masters of the Lodge and to all the widows in attendance by Brother Dan Rolon and Brother Lee Spach.



Blood Drive at Hickory Lodge #343

Friday—January 2, 2009  
2:00pm—6:30pm

Worshipful Brother David Abernethy, Master of the Lodge, then proceeded to honor the recipients of the 25 and 50 years service awards and certificates. This years recipients are:

Blue Lodge- 25 year

Michael James Benfield

Hugh Wayne Hedgepath

Oliver Harold Miller

Clayton Eugene Rawn

Tony Brittain White

Blue Lodge—50 year

William Paul Donkel

Charles Davidson Lucas Jr.

Jack Kuehner Suther

Brother Wayne Walker, York Rite, then proceeded to honor the recipients of the 25 and 50 year York Rite body awards. The recipients for this year are:

York Rite—25 year

Wofford Cordell Harris

Hollis Carlton Henderson Jr.

Lawrence David Huffman

Pinkney Evoyd Hull

Fred Lee Sherrill Jr.

York Rite—50 year

Adolphus William Morris

Jack Kuehner Suther

The final awards for the evening to be present were The Mason of the Year and Wife of the Year. The Worshipful Master selected Brother Dan Rolon, Junior Warden and his wife, Kim as the respective and well deserved award winners.


The event concluded with a closing prayer from Dr. Grimes Byerly, PM and much fellowship followed before everyone went back out into the cold night air to return to their homes.

Congratulations again to all those that were recognized for their service and work and we look forward to see you all at next year’s award night celebration.

AD 1874

CONSTITUTED

AL5874



34th NC Masonic District

HICKORY LODGE NO. 343

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
P.O. Box 451  
Hickory, NC 28601  
828-322-8016

[www.hickorymasoniccenter.org](http://www.hickorymasoniccenter.org)  
[secretary@hickorymasoniccenter.org](mailto:secretary@hickorymasoniccenter.org)

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Hickory, NC 28601  
PERMIT NO. 86

Lodge Events Calendar      DECEMBER 2008

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 6:30pm—Meal 7:30pm—Stated OFFICER ELECTIONS	2 7:30pm—OES	3	4	5	6
7	8 OFFICER INSTALLATION	9	10 6:30pm Meal 7:30pm York Rite	11	12	13
14	15 6:30pm—Meal 7:30pm—Stated	16 7:30pm—OES	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27
28	29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE	1/1/09	1/2/09 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE	