

Greetings from the East,

I am happy to report that this year is moving along very well. We have seen much growth in the lodge in several areas, including membership, education, attendance, and charity. These areas are very important to the future of our craft. Freemasonry seems to be attracting a young, energetic type of individual, willing to work hard in the lodge and eager to learn the ancient teachings of friendship, morality, and brotherly love. Of course education may be found in countless resources of materials. But it may hold its greatest weight in the examples of Mason's whose work is good and square work. The showing of this example begins in attendance. Attendance we are told in our first degree charge is "earnestly solicited". Thankfully, I have seen brothers from days gone by, occasionally darken the door of the lodge. The obligation beholden upon all Masons, is to support the lodge in all their lawful Masonic workings. So I hereby charge all members to make a reasonable effort to attend. This will allow you to be sure that your tools of the craft are true and square. As for charity, many opportunities are missed to support our charities if you do not attend lodge. A small collection is received from the brethren at every communication. The brethren assembled give what they can afford. This added to the support from the other charitable brothers across the state of North Carolina has allowed our homes to prosper since the first three residents were admitted in 1873. I don't think this has been only for the reason that this is in our obligation. Our showing of Love transcends all boundaries including time and distance, wealth and poverty. At times when you may recall your obligations, meditate on them, and although you most solemnly swore to keep and perform, they are, in simplest terms, "the right thing to do". This terminology extends to payment of membership dues. The Hickory lodge, in an effort to save on some mailing costs, had notified the brethren in the newsletter of the need to pay their dues. We still have a number of brothers outstanding in this regard. We will publish a list of members owing dues in the next newsletter. Should you be willing to send your dues by mail, the address is provided for you on the cover of this mailing. The cost is \$77.00 for the Blue Lodge. Secretary Kevin Johnson may be contacted by telephone for other payment arrangements. Enough said on that!

Now for some of the things we have been working on in the lodge. The kitchen has been upgraded to include a double oven, cook top griddle and 6 burner stove, a dishwasher, and two new freezers. These upgrades have allowed us to make great strides in our food preparation for meetings and fundraising events. We have 13 candidates in the pipeline. We made three Fellowcrafts and one Master Mason thus far. Several Hickory lodge members attended the Grand Master visit to the new Maiden lodge and we were fortunate enough to be able to make a monetary donation and present a plaque to them as well. We have had great attendance at the school of instruction held at the Catawba Valley Lodge in Morganton and also had many motivated brothers in attendance at the certified lecturer's classes held throughout the district. We squared away our accounts and finances and are exploring new ways to benefit from our current financial status. We have requested and received donated books for our library. We have established an internet connection and we have enjoyed Masonic education through this medium. Family movie nights have been put on and have stimulated fellowship, fun and of course we don't go without making some popcorn.

Brother Lee Spach has rejuvenated interest in our York Rite bodies and they will be having their second festival of the year in August. The York Rite Lodge room now has several of the banners of the tribes of Israel on display. Hickory Lodge also had the privilege of bestowing an Honorary membership to Worshipful Brother Wendell Powell of Lovelady lodge located in Valdese. Brother Wendell is our District Deputy Grand Master of the 34th Masonic District. Brother Powell's 46 years of labor in the quarries of the Masonic community are more than can be contained in this short writing. Brother you have my sincere thanks, and are a wonderful example to follow. I have a little over half a year left to represent Hickory Lodge as your Master and will do so with great joy and humbleness. The magic of Freemasonry is incredible to behold. Thanks to all who continue to shine the light. The power of this light is evident in our lodge. Love to all of you Brothers. May the supreme architect of the Universe bless you and your families. Thank you for your continued support.

Daniel Rolon, Master, Hickory Masonic Lodge #343



OFFICERS 2010

Worshipful Master	Dan Rolon	493-3543
Senior Warden	Lee Spach	446-1924
Junior Warden	David Brandon	638-1691
Treasurer	Terry Moore	312-1006
Secretary	Kevin Johnson	465-5619
Senior Deacon	James Hope	428-3752
Junior Deacon	Paul Aulbach	514-6994
Sr. Steward	Doug Moore	312-1012
Jr. Steward	Allen Lineberger	704-798-3691
Steward	Daniel Guthrie	310-3560
Steward	Adam Beagles	302-0616
Chaplain	Chris Jarrell	308-7762
Tyler	Robert Bickel	294-6619

LIVING PAST MASTERS

J.N. Cagle	1973	W.G. Byerly	1998
J.L. Johnson	1974	D.J. Wallace	1999
E.W. Beckom	1978	H.W. Wallker	2000
J.F. Taylor	1979	J.W. Davidson	2001
J.H. Elmore	1981	M.D. Hale	2002
T.L. Hartman	1984	W.J. Hunley	2003
E.C. Cline	1986	J.P. Kuykendall	2004
J.H. Elmore	1987	D.L. Brandon	2006
J.E. Vaught	1988	W.G. Byerly	2007
E.W. Masche	1991	J.D. Abernethy	2008
J.D. Crawley	1993	R.L. Rozzelle	2009
J.P. Hilton	1994		
D.L. Reep	1995		
P.C. Wray	1996		
L.D. Huffman	1997		



Caring Report:: The Holland Family, Bradley Ingel's son, Calvin Pittman, David Reep, Henry Holland, John Cansler, Al Swofford, Everette Beckom, Click Truitt, Don Hudson, Dean Brittain, Buz Hunley, Thad Johnson, Betty Burch, Glen Henline, Nolan Yount and wife, David Duncan, Greg Conley, Herbert Chilton Jr., Richard Rozzelle's Son, Richard Borne-man, A.W. Morris, Rufus Smith, Todd Cline, Joe Teague, Joe Vaught, and Clyde Price all need our prayers and attention.

Our sincere sympathies to the Holland family of our dearly departed brother Glenn Ray Holland who was born January 3, 1945 and died on May 17, 2010. Brother Holland was Initiated on July 24th 1967, Passed on August 28th 1967, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on September 18, 1967. Affiliated with Hickory Lodge on November 3, 1975.

Hello Brothers,

Light in Masonry is something we all try to receive on a daily basis. But brothers it does not stop at the blue lodge. Those who truly seek more knowledge and enlightenment should consider advancing themselves in the Scottish and York Rite bodies. Your education and advancement is highly recommended during your journey to the ever after. These bodies help to fill in the gaps of Masonic history where each and every one of us have an obligation to inculcate into our daily lives. Charity, Honor, Respect and Knowledge are only some of the virtues we are taught to represent in our travels.

I would like to welcome all brothers to attend the 2010 Fall Scottish Rite Reunion. It will be held on October 29th, and 30th in the Valley of Charlotte Temple. Your attendance, participation and support will be greatly rewarded.

All Master Masons are welcome to join. Please contact me with any questions you may have. And remember Brothers it is for the good of Masonry that we continue to support and participate in our endeavors to advance ourselves in Light.

Paul Aulbach, 32*
KSA, Valley of Charlotte

Notes from a newbie

Strange the way numbers keeps popping up in the month of May. More especially the number two. The number two is the only even prime number in all the vastness of numbers out into infinity. For those brothers that have not been to the lodge in the last couple of weeks there have been some new additions. The first that I would like to point out is the addition of a perfect ashlar that has been donated to the lodge by this years officers. It is a wonderful addition to the lodge and looks great sitting to the right of the W.M. on the steps. In the same vein there was a piece of an old building that was recently knocked down, it stood next to the Snack Bar in south west Hickory. The block from this building has the square and compasses just barely legible on its face and this brother is tiring to track down information on the building in question, date of construction yadda yadda yadda, you get the idea. So far all I can find is that it was built sometime in the mid 1800s but the rest of the records are hard to track down more because of my busy schedule than anything else.

Also there have been two new globes installed on the pillars in the west they looked great at the last fellow craft ceremony and are very impressive to this newbie. The new globes look great but upon examination of the old globes one has to wonder how old they might be. The state of California is not present and what we today call Iran is still listed as Persia. There are many other strange a wonderful things apparent on the older globes. The globes are still in the lodge and I would tell brother interested to take a look some of the information found thereon is truly remarkable.

One of the most remarkable things on the globes is a look back to where the understanding of our world was at the time the globe was made. South Africa is called the Cape Town colony. Some of the states are listed only as territories. These two stone and two globes let us look back at what the craft was and what it is now. To my great surprise yes it actual has changed. When the old globes and the ruff ashler where first made, and I am assuming that they were made around the same time, the lodge was used to educate the brethren in more than just the craft, but also in the basics of math, geography, and astronomy. All of the liberal arts could be studied at the lodge. In doing so a brother, who in all most likelihood had not been 30 or 40 mile outside of the town he was born and only had on average a 4th grade education could get schooling that was far out of his reach normally. Our culture had not yet put the same emphasis on these things that we find common knowledge so the lodge would step in and help a brother.

When I first entered into the craft I thought that the ideas and theories of the lodge would be ones that were old and dusty, stale and stagnant but that is not the case. With each passing step I have found that these ideas are incredible resilient and modern in their concepts and applications. Even with the weight of the ages heaped upon them. I have also found, through the examples of the two stones and the two globes that the brotherhood is progressing in its attempts at creating better men one at a time, and thus raising the standards for all peoples everywhere. The progress that our small planet has been making, over the last three hundred years in so many ways can be laid at the feet of these thoughts and practices. That the craft might very well be the fire that powers the engine of progress

I would like to ask all brothers that have not been to the lodge in a while to come on in and look around at these new additions, to consider the effects that the craft is having on the lives of the people around them and themselves. It is a great and noble practice that has been handed down thru the ages. It is as relevant today as it ever was. Until next month thank you for your time and attention.

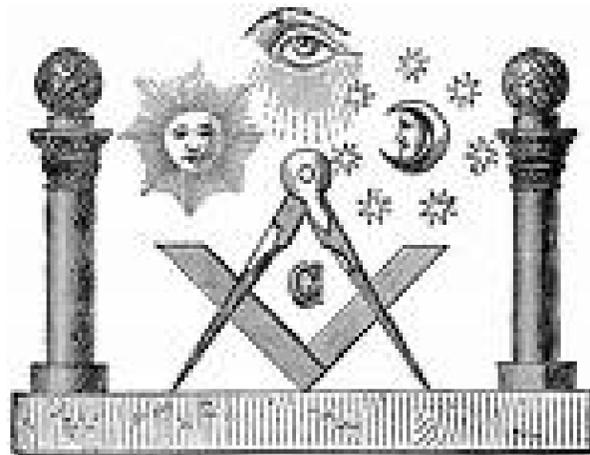
Bro. JJ Kuba

Hickory York Rite Fall Festival!

The symbolic degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, as conferred in the United States, are degrees of the York Rite. York Masonry is the oldest and best known of all Masonic Rites. This is the basis upon which our present system of Symbolic Lodge Masonry is built. You, as a Master Mason, have received the first three degrees of the York Rite. Having begun your Masonic work in the York Rite, it is natural that you should want to continue with it.

Therefore, it is with great anticipation and enthusiasm that the Hickory York Rite announces its second festival for this year. Because of the hard work, dedication, and loyalty of so many Sir Knights in our magnanimous Order we have already achieved great feats. Acting on this momentum is crucial to our continued success. If you are a Master Mason desirous of receiving "Light added to the coming Light" we earnestly request that you join us on Friday August 27th at 6:30pm and again on Saturday August 28th at 8:00am at the Hickory Masonic Center. We will exemplify degrees from the Chapter, Council, and Commandery as we initiate new members.

Initiation fees are \$150 and include your 2009 pro-rated dues. Petitions are available at the Lodge or you can email Lee Spach (leespach@charter.net) to obtain it. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have and we look forward to seeing you in August!



What changes must this quarry stone receive,
 Ere the fair stature from its folds looks out!
 Shapeless, unsightly—who can tell the form
 May yet delight the eye from this rude block?
 So with the sould that comes beneath the edge
 Of morthat implements; we cannot know
 What treasure's hidden in the Ashlar Rough,
 Until the forming, skillful stoke shall fall,
 Divesting of all superfluties
 And leaving just the image God designed

Author Unknown

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* Return Service Requested *

June 2010

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IN GOD WE TRUST

Hickory Masonic Center March Events Calendar

Stated Communication	Monday	June 7th	Dinner 6:30 pm Meeting 7:30pm
Coaches Meeting	Sunday	June 13th	3pm @ Hickory Lodge
<i>For all those that coach the catechisms this is a chance to make sure you know all the correct words</i>			
Stated Communication	Monday	June 21st	Dinner 6:30 pm Meeting 7:30pm

Mark your Calendars NOW!

Hickory Lodge #343 Family Day	Saturday	August 14th	11:00am-2:00pm
Blood Drive	Friday	August 20th	2:00pm—7:00pm
Hickory York Rite Festival	Friday	August 27th	6:30pm @ Hickory Lodge
Hickory York Rite Festival	Saturday	August 28th	8:00am @ Hickory Lodge
Chicken Pie Sale for Charity!	Saturday	November 6th	1:00pm—5:00pm
Hickory Lodge Awards Night	Thursday	November 18th	6:30pm
Officer Elections	Monday	December 6th	Dinner 6:30 pm Meeting 7:30pm