



Cary Lodge No. 198, 1142 East Maynard Road, P.O. Box 8, Cary, NC 27512

www.carylodge198.org

Cary Lodge No. 198 Charities, Funding and Donations

Brethren,

This issue of the Trestle Board is filled with information regarding standing and new charity, funding and donation projects. As was made evident at our 2002 Budget presentation, Cary Lodge has become a leader in these activities. A great many opportunities are before us. A large part of our heritage has been the ability of Cary Lodge to stand up and be counted as an exemplar of the finest virtues of Masonry. Under the leadership of our Master, Worshipful Brother Thomas Stephenson, the Lodge has embarked on a dynamic campaign of philanthropy. For example, in our budget meeting we discussed the need for new banquet tables. Our Eastern Star sisters of Edith Chapter stepped up and have donated the purchase of 20 new tables for the Lodge. ***Thank you Edith! Now we need to do the same!*** We have opened an Apron Fund, a Temple Restoration fund, for the Raleigh Temple, and a new procedure for MHC, MESH and NC Masonic Foundation donations, as well as planning to increase our Fund Raising efforts for our designated charities. Every brother has a part to play in this great adventure and it will take every one of us to make it a success. So, let's roll up the sleeves and go to work. With that introduction, this issue is dedicated to those in need of our help.

Inside this issue:

Events Calendar	2
Raleigh Temple	3
New Apron Fund	3
Donation Cards	4
District 15 Picnics	4
Website Update	4

My Brother's Father is His Brother's Brother and my Brother Too!

Now there is a riddle! But, it is one easily solved in Cary Lodge. On June 11, 2001, Cary Lodge raised Brother Lindsay Hodges to the sublime degree of Master Mason. On that same evening, Brother Lindsay raised his son to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Following that momentous event, Brother Lindsay raised his youngest brother, Brother Horace Hodges on November 19, 2001. Then, to cap this fantastic family journey off, wearing his Father's apron, Brother Joe Hodges was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, by his brother and ours, Brother Lindsay Hodges, as his brother and nephew, his Brothers, Horace and Lance filled the steward's roles during the degree, January 21, 2002. Now, if that isn't confusing to you, let me sort it out. Brother Lindsay is the oldest of three sons (Joe middle son; Horace Jr. youngest son), born to our late Brother H. Hodges, who was a long time member of Cary Lodge 198. While he was still with us on this level of time, his grandson, Lance Hodges met with him and learned about Masonry. Lance spoke with his father, Lindsay, and together they petitioned Cary Lodge, were initiated and went through all of their catechism and degree work together, as a father and son team, two brothers linked together by the strongest of ties. Next up was Lindsay's brother and Lance's uncle, Horace, followed by Lindsay's and Horace's brother and Lance's uncle Joe. There you have it, my Lodge Brother Lindsay, is my Lodge Brother Lance's father, and his Lodge Brothers, Horace and Joe, just happen to be Brother Lindsay's brothers and Lance's uncles, and all Lodge Brothers! Easy riddle isn't it! Congratulations to the Hodges Lodge Brothers for showing what family unity is all about!

(For a treat count the number of times "brother" is seen in this article.)

Cary Lodge Spring BBQ April

The Cary Lodge 198 Spring BBQ Fund Raiser is scheduled for Friday, April 19th. With each year, this BBQ gains in its reputation for fine food and great fun! Our Senior Warden, Brother Kevin Hall, is hard at work preparing for the event. Any and all Brothers are asked to lend their support and, if possible, their labors to making this event an even greater success than in our previous years. So, let Kevin know that you can volunteer and come and join us in a wonderful, rewarding event!

Spring School of Instruction Schedule

Brethren;

The 15th Masonic District Spring School of Instruction dates and locations have now been scheduled. Like last year, the Spring session will be split into two periods. The first period will be held on Thursday, April 25, at Masters Lodge No. 754. The session will begin at 7 pm and end at 930 pm. The second period will be held at Charles B. Newcomb Lodge No. 740, on Monday, April 29, again from 7 pm to 930 pm.

The minimum required attendance from each lodge is three (3) Officers and Four (4) members. Anyone wishing to receive more instruction on the ritual work as well as other Masonic ceremonies is welcome to attend.

This is an excellent opportunity to expand our knowledge of the ritual work as well as enjoy the friendship of our fellow brothers from all around the District. If you have never attended a School of Instruction, you are encouraged to do so. The School is held only twice a year.

Like last year, Worshipful Brother Walter Highsmith, District Deputy Grand Lecturer for the 15th Masonic District has once again put together an excitable and educational program that you will not want to miss.

March 2002

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- ? Spring BBQ Apr 19th
- ? 15th Dist Oxford Picnic May 4th
- ? 15th Dist MESH Picnic Jul 13th
- ? Fall BBQ Oct 4th

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 York Rite Festival	2 York Rite Festival
3	4 Cary 198 Meeting	5	6	7 Scottish Rite	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Cary 198 Meeting	19	20 Dist 15 Picnic Planning Meeting	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Cary 198 Meeting	2	3	4	5 York Rite	6
7	8	9	10	11 Scottish Rite	12 Scottish Rite Reunion	13 Scottish Rite Reunion
14	15 Cary 198 Meeting	16	17	18	19 Cary Lodge BBQ!	20
21	22	23	24	25 Dist 15 School of Instruction	26	27
28	29 Dist 15 School of Instruction	30				



Cary Lodge No. 198, 1142 East Maynard Road, P.O. Box 8, Cary, NC 27512

Cary Lodge No. 198 Steps Up To The Plate!

Brethren,

Over the past several years, a landmark building to all Masons of this area, indeed a Masonic symbol throughout the State of North Carolina, has struggled to stay afloat. Sadly, the number of major projects and renovations the Raleigh Temple needs has presented a very high mountain to climb. Many of us know this building well. It has been our Scottish Rite home, our York Rite home and the meeting place for numerous appendant bodies. All are organizations that do much to benefit Masonry throughout the State. Over those same years, the Raleigh Temple's owners, alone, have struggled hard to maintain this once and future beautiful structure. But, the mountain is extremely steep and they need our help.

Worshipful Brother Thomas Stephenson, our Master, made perhaps the most profound statement on the situation. "If we cannot do something about this, it will not only be a mark against the Rites, but a strike against all Masons in this area and throughout the State, if we cannot maintain one of the most important buildings of our Fraternity. We must do something to help!" Under Brother Thomas' leadership, we have decided to give the mountain as big a push as we can. This year we have opened a donation fund for the Raleigh Temple Restoration Project. Any brother of Cary Lodge who wishes to contribute any amount he is able to give is welcome to do so. We have no ultimate goal in amount, we have no set quota to achieve, and no time limit or deadline. We are simply asking for any donations you wish to make, from time to time. Before the end of this year, we will contribute to the Raleigh Temple Board all the funds designated for this Project we have collected, in the name of Cary Lodge No.198, to be used solely for their restoration project. This fund will stay open for as long as the brothers of the Lodge wish it. No funds will be taken from our budget. This entire project will rest solely on the square shoulders of the individual brother, with the charge that we have fellow Masons in our community that need our help and we will relieve them as best we can. To those who may ask why? Our answer is, that is what Masons do, no more, no less. If you wish to contribute, please forward your donation to our Lodge Secretary. Throughout the year we will report back to you on the growth progress the fund is making.

Brethren, Cary Lodge is stepping out front on this issue. We are leading the way and it may be lonely for a while. We know of no other Lodge, outside of those housed at the Temple, that is doing this. Our sincere hope is that others may join us in the future. But, for know, as leaders and as Masons, we have an opportunity to live up to one of our Lodge Closing phrases..."Has any brother anything to offer for the good of Masonry?" We would like Cary Lodge to do all it can to answer that question. Thank you.

Yours Fraternally,
Brother Dave Milidonis

Apron Fund Is Half Way There!

Cary Lodge has ordered new aprons for the Brothers and Officers. In order to reduce, if not eliminate any budget expenditures for this purchase, we have started an Apron Donation Fund. Any Brother who wishes may donate any amount to this fund. Simply give your check/donation to our Secretary, Carson Clippard and specify to him that the donation be earmarked for the Apron Fund. If you have been to the Lodge recently, you will have seen or worn the new aprons with the elastic band. These are a much more comfortable and durable apron.

It is our hope that in the course of this year, the entire Apron purchase can be made through the philanthropy and benevolence of the brothers within the Lodge. The entire Apron project cost is estimated at approximately \$1,100. To date we have collected close to \$600, so we are over half way there. By funding the project in this manner, we will increase our flexibility to manage our other Masonic and Building expenses throughout the year. Our 100% funded goal is in sight! Thank you for all of your support!



Cary Lodge No. 198, 1142 East Maynard Road, P.O. Box 8, Cary, NC 27512

New Process For Charity Donations

In addition to all of the fun events that take place throughout the year, focusing on fund raising for our three sponsored charities; MHC, MESH and the NC Masonic Foundation, we are adding one more avenue for you to consider. Starting with this issue, you will notice that the back page has now been formatted with donation cards. Simply fill out the card of your choice and mail it, with your check, into the Lodge Secretary, to the address listed on the card. These cards will appear in all remaining issues of the Trestle Board and contributions are accepted year round. Many of our brothers are not in the immediate area and are unable to attend our local fund raising events. This avenue provides them with an opportunity to make their contributions as well. Cary Lodge has a well known and well deserved tradition of supporting the Charities. We would like to continue that tradition. This can only be accomplished with the support of every Lodge brother where ever he may be.

15th Masonic District MHC and MESH Picnics

Plans are now underway for the District 15 MHC and MESH picnics. The next planning committee meeting will be held at Cary Lodge No. 198, on Wednesday, March 20th, at 7 pm.

If your lodge was not represented at the last planning meeting, do not despair, simply select someone to attend this meeting and get involved in planning the events.

This year, the MHC picnic at Oxford will be held on Saturday, May 4th. Grilled chicken, salads and desserts are on the menu. We need anyone wishing to volunteer to come and help in the preparations and enjoyment of this activity. If you have never been to our Home at Oxford, this is an excellent opportunity to visit our children and get a tour of the facilities, as well as the new construction taking place.

The MESH picnic at Greensboro is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th. Our resident brothers and family members enjoyed the event so much last year, that they have asked for a repeat performance! So, once again, BBQ and all the side dishes are on the menu as well as some wonderful entertainment. Because of the status of our residents, we need as many brothers and family members as possible to assist in serving meals and drinks. So, sign up now and get in the front of the line!

District 15 as a whole has been among the top contributors to both these facilities. Last year, some of our Lodges were ranked in the top 20 of all the lodges in the State jurisdiction, for their individual lodge contributions. These picnics are another way of showing our love and support for these two fine Homes and will fast become an unforgettable event.

These two events are also a wonderful opportunity to expose new brothers and potential new candidates to the active side of Masonry. Often we are asked what we as Masons do. Here are two excellent opportunities to show those who ask what Masonry is and what it does accomplish. So, mark your calendars and see if your cable tows can stretch to Oxford and Greensboro!

Over the last two years, Cary Lodge has averaged over \$16,000 in its contributions to these three wonderful charities. It is our hope to exceed that average and build on it in the ensuing years. With the new developments taking place at both the MHC and MESH, they need our help more than ever.

Cary Lodge Web Site Update!

Greetings Brethren! Our lodge website is doing well and we are nearing the completion of our third year with a presence on the internet. It has been a while since I have communicated to you the status of the site.

First, let me give you some statistical data on the site. During the month of January 2002, our site had 1,992 requests to it. I have a "hit counter" on the homepage that does not reflect all hits (visits) to the site. Many people just bookmark a particular page and their visit will not reflect on the hit counter.

Of those 1,992 visits to the website, the top five domain extensions that requested information were as follows: 1,169 with ".com" domains; 431 with a ".net" extension; 250 with a numerical address; 69 from Canada and 11 from France. We had other hits from domains existing from Taiwan, Belgium, United Kingdom, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Netherlands, Austria, Denmark and Japan.

Another statistic that is interesting is what time of day we get most of our traffic. The top three time periods are the hours of 7am ->10 am; 11am->2pm; and 7pm-> 9pm. Based on that, it looks like we are being looked at during peak times. Also, from the data I have seen, our website gets hit at all hours of the day and night.

Yes, brethren, Cary Lodge No.198 is being seen from around the world.

Second, this site is for your benefit in case you cannot make a meeting or if you live outside of Cary or North Carolina. Issues of our Newsletter are also attached for your download pleasure.

Stay on top of YOUR lodge events by visiting "www.carylodge198.org" on a regular basis. Events get added frequently and often, that may not have made the Newsletter printing. If you want to receive email of Emergent Communications or other special events, log on and click "Subscribe to Our Event Update Email Notification List" link to be added to the email list. Communication is the Key to a Successful organization!

Your Senior Warden
Brother Kevin Hall

