



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

www.carylodge198.org

Cary Lodge 198 Continues to Grow

Inside this issue:

Cary Growth	1
Upcoming Events	1
Calendar	2
A Lesson	3

So far in 2004, Cary Lodge 198 has continued to swim against the current of declining membership tide by raising 7 new Master Masons. From 1999 to today, the Lodge has raised 39 new Master Masons. To put that in perspective, it only takes 20 Master Masons to form a new lodge and with the two Entered Apprentices we now have, statistically, since 1999, we have brought in enough Masons to form two lodges. This is a remarkable achievement and one that begs the question, "Why Cary Lodge and few of the others." I wish I had the answer to that question but I do not. Each and every time someone talks about our declining membership, I cringe a little, because the discussion invariably ends up as one where members begin searching for a single, all-encompassing, panacea answer IMHO (In my humble opinion) no such single answer exists. The answer has always been and, IMHO, will always be as varied and numerous as there are brothers in the fraternity. Regardless, the fact remains that Cary Lodge 198 is one of less than a hand full of lodges within this State that is holding or increasing its net membership from year to year. Whatever it is we are doing, it must be something right. So, join me in congratulating our continually growing **Class of 2004 Master Masons**. They are:

<u>Master Mason</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Wife</u>
Robert Bassett	4/20/2004	Tara
Aaron Sibley	8/3/2004	
Michael Sibley	8/3/2004	Margaret
Pedro Irazoqui	8/3/2004	Nicole
Kevin Carpenter	8/16/2004	Sandra
Rodney Scott	8/16/2004	Terry
Michael Paul	8/16/2004	

Again, we will hopefully add at least two more to this list. They are learning their Entered Apprentice catechism now and will soon be ready to be passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Congratulations new Master Masons! May your new Masonic career be as fulfilling as everything you dreamed it to be.

Grand Lodge Annual Communication Sep 24 & 25

On September 24 and 25, the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M. of North Carolina will meet in Winston Salem. All Master Masons are invited to attend and enter discussions and "noble" debates at this event, but only Principle Officers, their Proxies and G.L. officers may cast votes during the event. If you have never attended a Grand Lodge annual communication, you are missing out on one of the most important opportunities to help shape the future of Masonry in North Carolina. Many of us will be there this year and we invite you to attend with us. Again, this is a great opportunity and one that will further enhance your knowledge of the state of Masonry in North Carolina.

Cary Band Day Gate Volunteers Needed

On October 30, the Town of Cary will host the annual Cary Band Day. Last year, a small group, a very small group, of Lodge Volunteers assisted the organizers of the event by manning one of the gates for entrance and exit of bands into the performance field. We are doing the same thing this year and would like to drastically increase our labor contribution to this event. This is an excellent opportunity for the Lodge to give something back to our community and we need your assistance. Please consider volunteering for this event. The gate will be manned from the beginning of the day through to the end of the last band's performance that evening, so any block of time you can offer will be most appreciated. All you need do is let Brother Dave Milidonis know what time you will be there and it will be done. Please put your name on the list and join us for an exciting day of fun and friendship.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- ? Sep 6-7 School of Instruction
- ? Sep 24-25, 2004-GL Annual Communication, Winston Salem, NC
- ? Oct 30 Cary Band Day
- ? Nov. 5, 2004-Cary Lodge Fall BBQ

September 2004						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 York Rite	4
5	6 Cary Lodge School of Instruction	7 Fuquay Lodge School of Instruction	8	9 Scottish Rite	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Cary Lodge	21	22	23 GLNC Registration	24 GLNC 1st Session	25 GLNC 2nd Session
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2004						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 York Rite	2
3	4 Cary Lodge	5	6	7 Scottish Rite	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Cary Lodge	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Cary Band Day
31						



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Greetings from the West by Morty Jayson, Senior Warden

A LESSON IN HONESTY

At a local University, there were four sophomores taking Chemistry and all of them had an "A" so far. These four friends were so confident that the weekend before finals, they decided to visit some friends and have a big party. They had a great time, but after all the hearty partying, they slept all day Sunday and didn't make it back to campus until early Monday morning. Rather than taking the final then, they decided that after the final they would explain to their professor why they missed it. They said that they visited friends but on the way back they had a flat tire. As a result, they missed the final. The professor agreed they could make up the final the next day. The guys were excited and relieved. They studied that night for the exam. The Professor placed them in separate rooms and gave them a test booklet. They quickly answered the first problem worth 5 points. Cool, they thought! Each one in separate rooms, thinking this was going to be easy. then they turned the page. On the second page was written: For 95 points: Which tire?
Author Unknown

Those of you who subscribe to the Tarheel-Masons list probably saw that chronicle come across recently. I thought it was cute – and appropriate for our consideration as we prepare to travel to the upcoming Grand Lodge meeting in Winston Salem the end of September. The proposed Code changes have been published and hotly debated in Lodge meetings all across the State, including our own. Often Brothers rise during these debates and make strong arguments for or against the proposed change and as a result of these debates many want the Lodge Officers to commit to a specific position prior to going to Grand Lodge. By forcing the Officers to be bound one way or another they are caused to attend Grand Lodge, hear fresh new debate and ideas and not be able to respond accordingly. To quote Ric Carter in a recent article for the NC Mason: “Let them know the feelings of the Lodge, but instruct them to make the vote that is best for your Lodge and the institution of Freemasonry.” I have had the privilege of attending Grand Lodge each of the last three years. At each one I have had the opportunity to hear debate and discussions that brought forth information that had never been mentioned in our Lodge or District Meetings. Different perspectives, different experiences, different attitudes can, and often do alter ones views. By binding the Officers we are not allowing them to be honest with him self or our Lodge. We must trust them to represent our best interest, knowing our positions on the issues yet permitting them to formalize their position or vote after a complete debate has been fulfilled and a global understanding formulated.

For those of you who are new to our fraternity this is a time to see the wheels of Masonry in motion and I certainly encourage you to attend if only for a day. On Wednesday and Thursday there will be numerous Committee meetings and on Friday a formal opening of the Grand Lodge will take place. A majority of the votes, as well as the election of new Officers will occur on Saturday. This is an opportunity to meet Brothers from all across the State as well as the Grand Lodge Officers. From the newest Master Mason to the Most Worshipful Grand Master – everyone welcomes the opportunity to join in fellowship and camaraderie.

While several of us will be going up for the entire meeting I am sure that there will be a few who will travel up just for the day. If you would like to join us please let it be known. I am sure we can arrange for you catch a ride!

See you in Lodge!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Morty

York Rite and Scottish Rite Degrees

The York Rite and Scottish Rite are two appendant bodies of Freemasonry that continue the Mason's education and open a large world of knowledge and ritual to the brother seeking further light in Masonry. If you are not a member of either or both of these bodies, we encourage to become one among us.

The next Degree Festival of the York Rite Bodies of Raleigh will be held at the Raleigh Temple on Caswell Street, Friday evening, October 1 and Saturday daytime, October 2nd. If you are planning to join the York Rite, this is the time to prepare your petition and get it in. Petitions will continue to be accepted even on Friday the 1st of October.

The next Scottish Rite Reunion of the Valley of Raleigh will be held on Friday, October 29, and Saturday, October 30th, also at the Raleigh Temple. If you are planning to join the Scottish Rite, this is the time to prepare your petition and get it in. Petitions will continue to be accepted at least through Thursday, October 14th.