



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

www.carylodge198.org

Greetings From The East by Worshipful Brother Thomas Stephenson, Sr.

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Dear Brethren,

Words alone cannot express my gratitude for how great the turn out has been for our meetings this year. I deeply appreciate your confidence in allowing me to be Master this year and I want to thank everyone for attending the meetings and providing your help for our Spring BBQ. "Cook it and they will come!" I would like to have as many members as possible come and get involved in all of our Lodge activities this year and make it a year to truly remember. The degree works has been very good and each meeting has proven to be an exciting experience. See you at the Lodge!

Sincerely,
Brother Thomas



Brother Thomas displays his secret coffee brewing technique. This is believed to be the first time this well-kept mystery has ever been recorded. (April 19, 2002)

Brother Kevin "lovingly" and with greasy hands cleans one of the grills. Brother Jim Hetherington watches the expert at work. (Spring BBQ, April 19, 2002)



Tidings From the West by Brother Kevin Hall

The Spring Barbecue has past and we are waiting for the last of the ticket money to arrive before we get a final dollar amount. Our event ran smoothly and without incident. Many thanks to all that gave of their time and energy to pull this off. We had compliments from various people on the food.

My personal thanks to the "Captains" of the different stations who gathered their teams together for a smooth operation. It seemed that everyone who was working had a good time. With that in mind, let's do it again on October 4.

Fraternally,
Brother Kevin

May 2002

- SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**
- ? 15th Dist Oxford Picnic May 4th
 - ? St. John's Day June 29th
 - ? 15th Dist MESH Picnic Jul 13th
 - ? Fall BBQ Oct 4th

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Cary Shrine Club	3 York Rite	4
5	6 Cary 198 Dinner and 2nd Degree	7	8	9 Scottish Rite	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Cary 198 Dinner and Oxford Talk	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Cary 198 Dinner and MM Degree	4	5	6 Cary Shrine Club	7 York Rite	8
9	10	11	12	13 Scottish Rite	14	15
16	17 Cary 198 Dinner and SC	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 St. John's Day
30						



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15th Masonic Picnic at MHC Oxford May 4th

Dear Brethren,

The Second Annual 15th Masonic Picnic at MHC Oxford will be held on Saturday, May 4th, at Oxford, NC. Your planning committee has worked hard this year in bringing the activities together for what will prove to be a very enjoyable time. Every Lodge of the 15th District (all eleven) has contributed a great deal to this event. Not only will the day include an appetizing picnic meal, but entertainment and pure enjoyment. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring family, friends and prospective candidates together for a great day of Masonic Brotherly Lodge. All are invited.

Also mark your calendars for Saturday, July 13th! That day, the 15th Masonic District will be holding their 2nd Annual Picnic for the MESH at Greensboro, NC. Great food, great entertainment, great fun and great fellowship are the main menu items!



Brother Luther Renfro supervises the those unruly and undisciplined potatoes!!! (4/19/2002)



Our own five-star Chef, Brother Watts Ward, displaying his latest creation! (4/19/2002)

St. John's Day Celebration June 29th

Dear Brethren:

St. John's Day 2002 will be here before we realize it and as a way of making this special occasion bigger than ever, the children and staff of the Masonic Home for Children would like to invite you, your family, and friends to our St. John's Celebration on **Saturday, June 29, 2002**. The activities begin on Saturday morning at 9:20 a.m. with a performance from our Masonic Home Children's Choir. A wonderful parade involving our three Shrine Temples, Amran, Oasis, and Sudan will begin downtown Oxford at 10:00 a.m. and conclude on our campus. After the parade, you have the opportunity to enjoy an outstanding meal sponsored by our Shriners "under the Oaks." During the meal, **The Gospelaires**, a southern gospel group of Oasis Shriners, will begin the afternoon entertainment.

At 1:00, North Carolina's own **Embers** will perform and at 2:00, **The Kinleys**, a twin sister act of amazing harmony, will thrill you with their energetic renditions, to conclude our program.

As always, you are cordially invited to come and participate, knowing your admission is absolutely FREE. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, June 29, 2002.

David R. Grissom
Administrator

Lloyd Young, Chairman
St. John's Day Committee



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Brothers on a Mission!

If, as a Mason, you never thought you could make a difference as an individual, think again! This is a story of two individual Masons, not members of any Grand Line, not significant power brokers in the upper reaches of the fraternal hierarchy; just two brothers who decided to “just do it!” It is the story of a mission to see Freemasonry shown in a light few thought possible.

On April 12th, 2002, a most prestigious and unique event took place, in Raleigh, NC. The Honorable Michael F. Easley, Governor of the State of North Carolina, signed a Proclamation, proclaiming St. Johns Day, June 29th, 2002, as “**North Carolina Freemasonry Day 2002**”. This proclamation (see below) is the first of its kind by any presiding government body in North Carolina history and the story of its creation is still unfinished, but, quite astonishing.

In January 2002, two brothers, Jimmy Talaska of Garner Lodge 701 and Dave Milidonis of Cary Lodge 198 were discussing means by which Freemasonry, as an institution, might step out from behind the shadows many have thought it to be in, in recent years. Their idea was to strip away some of the myths that many non-masons (and some Masons) have about this honorable fraternity and perhaps breath new life into its entry into the 21st Century. Perhaps, just perhaps, by showing Freemasonry to the public in a Light where the whole Fraternity can be seen for its good, it would gain something positive. In this day, when thousands are asking where the institutions with high moral standards are, perhaps a recognition by the public at-large, would help answer the question. Brother Jimmy and Dave discussed a Proclamation of some type. At first, their thought was a proclamation by the Grand Master, but then boldness struck! Why not a proclamation by the Governor? Not waiting to hear the words “it’s never been done before”, or “it won’t work”, or “it can’t be done”, they knew that was the course to take. Brother Dave sat down at his PC and penned out the Proclamation you see below. Both Jimmy and Dave then met with Rt. Worshipful W. Clapp, Grand Secretary, NC Grand Lodge, AF&AM, seeking his support and advice. Brother Clapp readily took the Proclamation, made some editorial changes, and passed it on to Most Worshipful J. Tillet, Grand Master, NC Grand Lodge, AF&AM, for his approval. Once that was gained, Brother Jimmy hand-carried the Proclamation to the Governor’s office. Less than a week later, it was signed, with virtually no change from the original manuscript. How’s that for fast government work?!?

But, the story is not finished. Brother Jimmy and Dave and others are on their way to Washington, D.C. in May 2002, to knock on senator’s and congressman’s doors, in the attempt to have this Proclamation converted into a National Proclamation, attached to a bill, and signed by the President of the United States!!! We will let you know how the story ends.

FREEMASONRY DAY 2002 BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Freemasons have always revered St. John’s Day in dedication to their patron saint; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s Masons have, for many years, celebrated the occasion together on the Saturday nearest St. John’s Day at their Home for Children in Oxford; and

WHEREAS, that celebration is to be held June 29, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford is this year celebrating its 130th anniversary of providing deserving children in need a program of holistic care, which includes moral guidance, physical supervision, mental training and medical intervention, to the end that each child is provided a well-rounded basis for developing into a valuable citizen of the State of North Carolina and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Fraternity and the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina have supported this home continuously since 1872, and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina have long supported the Central Children’s Home; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Fraternity and the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina, and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina have made invaluable charitable contributions of service to the State of North Carolina, both individually and organizationally, throughout the history of the State of North Carolina, and in all walks of life, both professionally and personally; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Fraternity and the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina, and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina continue to provide for the charitable relief and education of the citizens of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Fraternity and the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina, and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina are deserving of formal recognition of their long history of care-giving for the citizenry and their example of high moral standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 29, 2002, as “**FREEMASONRY DAY**” in North Carolina, and commend this observance to all our citizens.

MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twelfth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

