


The NORTH CAROLINA MASON



Official Publication of The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons of North Carolina

VOL. XCVIII, No. 11

Oxford, North Carolina 27565, November, 1973

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

District Meetings Wind Down In Colorful Land of the Sky



SWISS—Miss Patty Gibbs (center) poses with her Daddy and his Masonic boss. Grand Master Nathaniel C. Dean is on the left and Olen M. Gibbs is on the right. Gibbs is Master of Bald Creek Lodge 397.

Oxford Orphanage Alumni Centennial Homecoming

OXFORD—During the weekend of October 12-14 hundreds of Orphanage alumni and their families came back to the Oxford campus for their annual homecoming—bigger this year because of the Centennial Celebration.

The big event on Friday, October 12, was the dance at the local armory with music by Sudan Dance Orchestra.

On Saturday a multitude of old pictures (memory lane) were put on display in the gym and a "candy corner," reminiscent of past years, was also in operation there. (Orphanage youngsters *really* made out at the candy corner; all items were sold for the old penny-a-piece price and you could buy for a dime candy that would cost a dollar or more at today's prices.) Highlighting Saturday's activities was the big parade through downtown Oxford which featured alumni floats, marching units from Sudan Shrine Temple, and a motorcycle unit from South Carolina's Hejaz Shrine Temple. Joining alumni officials on the reviewing stand were Grand Master Nathaniel C. Dean, Deputy Grand Master William L. Mills, Jr., Grand Secretary Charles A. Harris (PGM), Grand Chaplain Boyd Hopkins, Sudan Potentate Robert N. Bass, Jr. (PGM), retired Orphanage Superintendent Leon Gray and

(Continued On Page Two)

The 1973 district meetings are now history, and it was somehow appropriate that the waning series of meetings should find Grand Master Nathaniel C. Dean and his traveling companions in the far west just as the magnificent fall colors were beginning to fade from our beautiful North Carolina mountains.

Coverage this month is of the meeting held in Bald Creek Lodge 397 at Swiss for District 62 on October 24 and the one in Clyde Lodge 453 at Clyde for District 63 on October 25. (See editorial on page four.)

At each location the host lodge had prevailed upon the ladies to allay the appetites of the Masons attending, at Swiss the meal being served in the lodge dining hall and at Clyde in the hall of the Methodist Church. The meals were fine.

Home Superintendent Troy Robbins was back on the Grand Master's team after recuperating from surgery he had in August. Grand Secretary Charles A. Harris (PGM) and Acting Orphanage Administrator Henry Flowers completed the foursome.

Each lodge was well prepared for the occasion and the established routine was followed; the Master opened the lodge and received the District Deputy Grand Master, the District Deputy received the Grand Master and then presided as the Grand Secretary called the roll, Robbins and Flowers reported for the Home and Orphanage and the Grand Secretary made brief remarks. Then the Grand Master delivered his address, "The Majesty of Masonry in North Carolina," and closed the lodge in Ample Form.

Code Amendments

RALEIGH—Copies of proposed amendments to THE CODE have been mailed to each lodge and to appropriate officials. The proposals involve matters of importance to North Carolina Masonry, including proposed changes in Chapters 12, 35, 43, 46, 47, 48, 50, 60, 83, 88.

Copies are mailed to lodges in order that the proposals may be discussed thoroughly in lodge, thus enabling delegates to the Grand Lodge Annual Communication next April to prepare themselves to vote intelligently on each proposal.

Waynesville Lodge No. 259 Dedicates New Temple

WAYNESVILLE — On September 29 an emergent communication of the Grand Lodge was held here to dedicate the new temple of Waynesville Lodge No. 259. Grand Master Nathaniel C. Dean conducted the ceremony,



**Stuart E. Scruggs,
Master, Waynesville 259**

assisted by Grand Secretary Charles A. Harris (PGM) acting as Grand Marshal. Following the dedication the Grand Master delivered the dedicatory address. The dedication was open to the public and musical selections were offered by Tom and Debra Welch, accompanied at the piano by Leigh Ann Underwood. Mrs. Welch was at the piano during the ceremony.

Past Masters of the lodge filled most of the Grand Lodge chairs during the ceremony, as follows: Paul L. Bryson as Deputy Grand Master, Carl McCracken, Jr. as Senior Grand Warden, Cornelius E. Morris as Junior Grand Warden, W. Herman Francis as Grand Treasurer, Robert C. Graybeal as Grand Secretary, Joe T. Russell as Senior Grand Deacon, Earl R. Scruggs as Junior Grand Deacon, Kenneth P. Lowe as Grand Steward, Robert H. Francis as Grand Tyler, and Robert H. Gibson as Grand Chaplain. Jack Sentelle, PM-453, filled the other Grand Steward's chair.

The Master, Stuart E. Scruggs, acted as Master in the ceremony and the following Past Masters filled parts as shown: Joseph Scruggs, Principal Architect; Joseph Davis, Bearer of the Taper; Frank Worthington, Bearer of the Constitution; and Paul Martin, Bearer of the Three Great Lights.

(Continued On Page Two)

Italian Masonry

Several readers have forwarded copies of an article appearing in *The New York Times* on September 23 in which was reported the healing of a split in Italian Masonry. The article reports that the reunited Italian Grand Lodge has a membership of 20,000 in 400 lodges and quotes leading Italian Masons as expecting the Vatican will soon lift its blanket excommunication of Freemasonry, first imposed by Pope Clement XII in 1738.