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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

Grand Master Banks Dies



A shock went through the ranks of North Carolina Masonry January 2, when the news began to circulate that Grand Master Nelson Bryan Banks, 64, had passed away that afternoon in a Hickory hospital.

The Grand Master had left his New Bern home Tuesday, December 29, in order to handle Grand Lodge matters in Greensboro that afternoon and Wednesday, and to install the 1982 officers of Conover Lodge 709 on Wednesday evening, December 30. He arose feeling ill on Wednesday morning, but went on to Conover that afternoon to discharge his obligation there. In the lodge dining room, before the ceremony, he became so ill that two lodge members took him to the office of a local physician, where he suffered the first of what was to be a series of severe heart attacks. He was moved to the intensive care unit of Catawba Memorial Hospital, where the physicians and other staff members strove mightily to save him, but the recurring attacks were too many and too severe. The Grand Master passed away a little after 4:00 p.m. Saturday, January 2.

Grand Master Banks had suffered a serious heart attack in 1976, while traveling in the Kinston area, and was required then to spend a long period of rest and recuperation. In recent months, though, he had looked—and appeared to feel—quite well. He pushed himself relentlessly in the discharge of his duties as Grand Master and as Recorder of Sudan Shrine Temple.

Deputy Grand Master A. C. Honeycutt, who immediately became Acting Grand Master

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PGM A. A. Kafer Dies

New Bern—Past Grand Master Alfred Albrecht "Shorty" Kafer died in a local hospital November 23, 1981, following a long illness.

Born September 2, 1906 in New Bern, he grew up here, attending the public schools. From 1927 until 1949 he was engaged in the operation of the family bakery business. During part of those years he also coached football at New Bern High School. In more recent years he had operated the Masonic Theater beside the Scottish Rite Temple.

He served as an alderman for the city of New Bern for 12 years and was for many years

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Foundation Drive

Troy G. Robbins, former Superintendent of Masonic and Eastern Star Home, has been employed by the Grand Lodge to coordinate the recently begun drive to raise \$10,000,000.00 for the North Carolina Masonic Foundation.

Robbins is well known to most North Carolina Masons; they will remember all those years Troy and former Orphanage Superintendent Leon Gray traveled the state together, telling the story of the two institutions and raising funds for their support. He has operated a Florida landscape business since his retirement as Home Superintendent several years ago, but he recently sold that business and has purchased a home in Greensboro. He began his new duties January 4.

Lodges and Masons desiring to contact Robbins can do so through the Grand Lodge office, 919-787-2021, or P. O. Box 6506, Raleigh, NC 27628. He will be available to assist

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Reminder

Raleigh—Due to conflicts that could not be resolved, Grand Master Nelson B. Banks and the Board of General Purposes have authorized certain changes in the Grand Lodge Annual Communication for 1982.

The sessions will NOT be held at the Royal Villa; they will be held at the Raleigh Civic Center, on the Fayetteville Street Mall.

The sessions will NOT begin on the regular date of the third Tuesday in April, but will begin at 10 a.m. on the SECOND Tuesday, which will be April 13, 1982, and will continue through the sessions on April 14, 1982.

The Mission Valley Inn will be the official motel for the sessions, and it has rooms available for reservation. Members writing or calling the inn for reservations should make it known they are with the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and the rate will be \$38.00 for one or two persons using a room with two beds. The Mission Valley Inn is located on Avent Ferry Road at Western Boulevard. The phone number is 919-828-3173.

Members that have already made reservations, anticipating meetings on April 20-21, will need to change their reservations to conform to meetings on April 13-14. Also, some may wish to change to motels more convenient to the changed location of the Grand Lodge sessions.

List of N. C. Lodges

In response to numerous requests, we are again this year publishing a list of our North Carolina lodges—on page two.

Members report using this list for various purposes, so we suggest you tear off this page and put it where you can easily find it when the need arises. The list is arranged as follows:

In each column, read from the left: the number of the lodge is the first item and is followed by the lodge name. The number in parentheses is the Masonic District in which the lodge is located, and the final item is the city, town or community in which the lodge is located.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Annual returns of the lodges are now due in the Grand Secretary's office. Please make sure the return of your lodge is in the hands of the Grand Secretary by or before February 15: lodges that do not file their returns by or before March 1 become delinquent. Chapter 53 of THE CODE defines the duties and responsibilities of Masters and Secretaries with respect to preparing and filing lodge returns. The 1981 returns are the responsibility of those serving in those two offices in 1981 and in 1982.