



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

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

# Bicentennial Year Concludes



Grand Lodge Officers dedicate the Masonic Historical Marker in the Town Common of Tarboro, N. C. This Marker commemorates the forming of the Grand Lodge in that town two hundred years ago.



North Carolina's living Grand Masters are received at the opening of the Emergent Communication in Raleigh. These men have amassed a combined seven hundred years of Masonic experience.

## Grand Lodge Dedicates Historic Marker In Tarboro Emergent Communication Celebrates Founding of Grand Lodge; Grand Master Stiles Consecrates Marker; Shriners Parade; Members and Guests Enjoy Barbecue and Fried Chicken

The founding of The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was celebrated with an Emergent Communication held in Tarboro on October 3rd. This event marked the two hundredth anniversary of the Grand Lodge, which was formed in Tarborough (as the town's name was then spelled) on December 9, 1787.

The Grand Lodge was opened at 11:00 a.m. in the gymnasium of Tarboro High School. Grand Master Eddie P. Stiles announced the purpose of the communication and the schedule

for the afternoon. High points of the meeting included the presentation of a plaque by the local lodge and the display of the Bible used at the organization of the Grand Lodge.

When the business of the meeting was finished, M. W. Eddie Stiles closed the lodge and the members joined their families for a lunch of barbecue, fried chicken and all the trimmings. A heavy overcast and light rain did not dampen the festive mood of the crowd. Some carried their plates into the high school. Others ate in their cars. But many braved the weather and turned the occasion into a real picnic.

After lunch, the group reassembled in downtown Tarboro to see a parade presented by North Carolina's three Shrine Temples—Amran, Oasis and Sudan. A band concert followed at the Town Commons, only a block from the parade route. The concert was performed by the Sudan Temple Brass Band.

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## Bicentennial Celebration Held In Raleigh 1,100 Delegates Attend Morning Session and Slide Show at Memorial Auditorium; Banquet Held at Civic Center; Mike Cross and Jimmy Farr Entertain

On December 5, the Grand Lodge held its long awaited Bicentennial Celebration in Raleigh. The morning session and evening banquet wrapped up a year long tribute to two hundred years of Grand Lodge activities in the state.

The celebration began when the Grand Lodge was called to order at 11:00 Saturday morning. Following the reception of the Grand Lodge officers, Grand Master Eddie P. Stiles opened the lodge, and several distinguished guests were received.

Among the dignitaries recognized were the twenty-one living Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. Grand Master Stiles lauded the state's Past Grand Masters, pointing out that they represent more than seven hundred years of combined Masonic knowledge.

Following an oration by Grand Orator H. Lloyd Wilkerson, addresses were given by Judge David B. Sentelle, of the United States Court of Appeals, and North Carolina Governor James G. Martin. Both told of the honorable history and tradition of the fraternity and of its contribution to our nation and state. And both expressed, very eloquently, their pride in Freemasonry.

Grand Master Stiles then presented a Montfort Medal to Judge Sentelle. The Grand Master cited Judge Sentelle's contribution to the Craft and his dedication to its principles.

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Visitors gather to view the Masonic Historical Marker in Tarboro.

## Grand Lodge Announces Two Emergent Communications

The Grand Lodge has announced the following Emergent Communications, both for the purpose of performing dedication ceremonies:

Granite Lodge No. 191 in Clayton at 7:30 p.m. on January 7

Clemmons Lodge No. 755 in Clemmons at 7:30 p.m. on February 6.

All Masons, their families and friends are invited to attend.

## A Message from the Grand Master

### Setting Goals For The Future

We have just held the Special Communication of Grand Lodge in observance of our 200th Anniversary as a Grand Lodge, the Bicentennial Celebration. The 200th Anniversary is of particular significance, but every anniversary is important to us. We are particularly reminded of this as our subordinate lodges bring their year to a close and new leadership is chosen through the election and appointment of officers and installation ceremonies. But for all of us there is the New Year and New Year's Resolutions. The Anniversary, Birthday, or New Year is a time for reflection . . . a time of looking back to beginnings . . . of looking at ourselves and thinking about where we were a year ago or twenty-five years ago or as a Grand Lodge, two hundred years ago and where we are today! Through this reflective process, we observe the progress that we have made over the year or over the years. And by extension, we can make plans, or set goals for the future.

The lodge system is so well organized that many of our members feel that all one need so is but to fill the chair to which he has been elected or appointed until the next year.

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## In This Issue

Coverage of the Bicentennial Celebrations continues on pages 2 and 8.

Reynold Davenport's Questions and Answers column appears on page 4.

The Order of the Eastern Star is helping the Grand Lodge celebrate its Bicentennial. See page 3 for details.

Several Masonic Bodies have sent year-end messages for our readers. See page 3.

The answer to last issue's Masonic Quiz is on page 4. Readers who are interested in the early days of Masonic history might enjoy looking at it.

Oxford Orphanage has fielded a state championship team. Pictures and text are on page 5.

News from the Home appears on page 6.

For news from the Shrine Bowl, please turn to page 7.