

Saint John's Day Celebrated

Oxford — Oxford's a quiet kind of town. What's to do there on a Saturday at the beginning of summer?

Plenty, if that Saturday is the one set aside by North Carolina Masons for the celebration of Saint John's Day.

Lloyd Young, chairman of the St. John's Day Committee, estimated the turnout at 16,000. The day began with Lloyd's welcome to the throng at 9:45 on the morning of June 20. By the time things began to settle down it was nearly four in the afternoon.

The Oxford Orphanage Choir was the first feature. Their young voices helped the crowd stir for the coming celebration.

Next on the attraction list was the Annual Shrine Parade. More than 100 units participated. After offering the usual honors to Grand Lodge officers, i.e. a ride in a vintage convertible, the parade proceeded to those things more anticipated by the kids.

There was every manner of big-boy-toy. Precision driving was common. There were tiny

motorbikes and full dress motorcycles. Miniature trucks were followed by zooming stunt drivers in cars less than two feet high. There were even motorized turtles and land-roving boats on the parade route.

Music ranged from inspirational choir to raucous oriental bands (featuring some of the most unusual belly dancers one can imagine), from bag-pipe-playing, kilted marchers to good old community bands on trailers.

Clowns rushed the streets. Hillbilly units, comprised of flukes of a reduced gene pool, invaded an otherwise civilized society. Keystone Kops chased escaped criminals who flirted with the town's lady folk and children. The Ghostbusters even made an appearance.



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Some of the lookers and some of the looked-at are shown below and at right. Whichever group you were in, St. John's Day at Oxford Orphanage was a ton of fun. For a few more scenes see page three.

Cathey Named to Grand Lodge Line

April 22 was a big day for Charles Cathey. That was the day newly-elected Grand Master Ray Norris named him grand steward of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

He quoted a favorite poem to describe his joy upon his acceptance of the appointment, "I'm drinking from the saucer, for my cup has overflowed."

He made pledges in his comments. He promised continued trust in "Him who is the source of all wisdom, truth, and love," and his support for the Grand Masters he will serve.

"Finally, my Brethren, I will ever remember that it is from your ranks that I come, and that it is in your ranks that I will ever be. For as God and Masonry have made us Brothers, I will always respect and love each of you as my Brother."

Charles Edward Cathey was born to Hugh J. and Barbara Sheffield Cathey on April 19, 1938 at Waynesville, North Carolina. His first 12 years of education were at Bethel High School in Haywood County. After high school he attended Western Carolina College for a time before entering military service. After a tour of duty in the Army he was employed by Champion Papers International and studied in their mechanical apprentice program. In 1962 he left Champion and went to work for the Dayco Corporation in their Maintenance Department, he moved to the Research and Development Department in 1970. In 1975 he attended Haywood Community College for 2 years to study Business Administration. In 1980 he was promoted to his current position as Manager of the Prototype Shop of the R&D Tech Center. In March 1992 Cathey completed 30 years at Dayco.

Brother Cathey was raised by Sonoma Lodge 472 on April 28, 1967 and served as master in 1974. He has served as secretary since 1977. He was a district deputy grand master in 1980-82. He was elected by the Grand Lodge to serve on The Board of Directors of Oxford Orphanage for a three year term in 1989. He is a member of the



Grand Steward Charles Cathey, left, and Grand Master Ray Norris at Annual Communication.

Valley of Asheville Scottish Rite. He was invested with the rank and decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honor in 1987 and was coroneted Inspector General Honorary 33° on October 21, 1991. A member of The Waynesville York Rite Bodies, he has served as secretary-recorder for several years and is now serving as grand senior warden of Grand Commandery of North Carolina. He is a member and past patron of Sonoma Chapter 254, Order of The Eastern Star and served as grand chaplain of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina in 1990-91. In addition, he is active in several of the appendant bodies of Masonry.

Brother Cathey is a member of East Fork Baptist Church, where he served as a Sunday School teacher for many years. He is a deacon of the church and has served as chairman. He also has filled offices on various boards and committees.



Dan River to Collect and Distribute Clothes

Madison — Dan River 129 is planning a new service to the unfortunate in their community. They intend to operate a Saturday morning "clothes closet" out of the lodge. They will distribute, at no charge, clothing to those in need.

Good, clean clothes are needed. To start, clothes will be gathered from their local Brothers and Eastern Stars. They hope for wider community involvement in donating as the program continues.

Interest and need in the community may require a limit on the number of items claimed by clients. They will accept refer-

als from the local ministerial association and Social Services.

If you can help, give them a call and a bag of clothes. They aren't offering tax receipts at this time.

If you're too far away to donate, we don't expect the brothers at 129 will object to your stealing the idea. We'd predict a rise in the public image of your lodge and no small improvement in your own self-image for this practice of "friendship, morality, and brotherly love."

— from Gene Lewellyn, SW, Dan River 129.

A Message From the Grand Master

Builders of the Future

The challenges and opportunities, today, in Freemasonry are enormous. These forces apply to each Master Mason in North Carolina and demand the attention, effort, time, and resources of all 392 symbolic lodges and their total membership.

We love and take great pride in being called "Master Mason" and our association and identity with Freemasonry. Then, we enjoy the satisfaction of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Being a part of the greatest fraternal organization known to man has responsibilities and obligations that cannot be omitted or neglected. We must accept the fact that we are responsible to each other, our charities, and future generations.

We have and are enjoying the fruits of those who came before us. Our freedoms and liberties; our great structures and temples; shelter for our children; care for the needs of our senior citizens; the public school system; and the Masonic knowledge passed on to us are just a few of the gifts we have inherited. These talents and contributions have provided better citizens, husbands, fathers, church-

men and, yes, the greatest country ever known. All of this and more has been left for our enjoyment. Our forefathers were "Builders for the Future" and, without question, the same challenge is before us today. We, too, have a duty and responsibility to share with others and leave something for those who will follow in our footsteps.

Our accomplishments for tomorrow and years to come require and demand excellence in leadership. This quality can be obtained only through education. The wardens of our lodges have excellent tools available to prepare them for the East. Two booklets entitled "Think Tank for Junior Wardens" and "The Hat and Gavel for Senior Wardens" contain excellent suggestions and ideas for application in their preparation for that honorable and rewarding challenge and experience.

The educational process includes the candidate. The ritualistic work is paramount. "The Lodge System of Masonic Education" is vital in the learning process. "Every candidate is a stranger to Freemasonry and Freemasonry is a stranger to him". The candidate is becoming part of a fraternity. We have a responsibility to prepare him well for future challenges and opportunities.

Ray Norris
 Grand Master

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