

Local Masonic Assembly Has Impressive History

In the spring of 1935 a Mason conceived the idea of a special Masonic outing in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. It was held on September 2, 1935 near Waynesville, and consisted of a fried chicken dinner served at Heintooga Bald which is 5050 feet high. After dinner the first Masonic Degree ever conferred in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park was awarded—that of Select Master.

On July 20, 1936 the second Special Assembly was held at Heintooga Bald. Thirteen states were represented. A picnic dinner was served and the Royal Masters Degree was conferred.

Next year, on July 5, the third Assembly deposited a Memorial Chest containing objects, typical of the times, at Back Camp Gap. The land on which the deposit was made had been donated by J. R. Boyd, Sr. The chest will be opened in 1972.

The fourth Assembly met on July 11, 1938, and dedicated a Masonic marker on the site of the chest. Masons from 21 states attended. In tribute to Waynesville, the 600 stones from all over the world that composed the marker were cemented together in the workshops of the town and then conveyed to the desired spot.

Assemblies continued to be held in 1939 and 1940, but were discontinued through the war years. In 1942, however, a flight of stairs were built leading up to the Masonic marker. It was paid for by Masonic bodies throughout the country.

The stairs were dedicated on September 19, 1948, during the seventh Assembly. Waynesville's army was the scene of the next Assembly. Much of the success of the Assemblies throughout the years was due to the Waynesville Chapter of The Order of The Eastern Star. The ladies served the dinners each year.

In the spring of 1950, a General Committee was appointed to carry on the work of the Masonic Assembly. F. G. Rippetoe, W. A. Abel, E. P. Martin, F. E. Worthington, and C. B. Hosaflook, all of Waynesville, made up the committee. Through its efforts the Masonic Assembly that year was the largest ever held. Eleven hundred Masons attended the play, "Unto These Hills".

The Assembly for 1951 will be

Happenings Along Upper Crabtree

PEGGY BRADSHAW
Mountaineer Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Johnson and small son Dale returned Sunday to their home in Siler City after a few days' visit with Mr. and Mrs. Gay Bradshaw. Mrs. Bradshaw and Ronny and Lynn Darlene Bradshaw are now visiting the Johnsons and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ferguson in Siler City.

Five young women were baptized Sunday afternoon at the Rock Springs Baptist Church. They were Jewel Dee Ferguson, Mary Ellen McElroy, Freda Ann Hill, Lorraine Sanford and Louise Frady. The Rev. Elmer P. Carter conducted the service.

Choir practice for the young people will be held at the Rock Springs Baptist Church every Thursday night. Everyone is urged to attend.

Miss Hilda Best, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Best, came home this week end. She is employed with the Bell Telephone Company in Charlotte.

Pvt. Billy Haywood Best was home on a week-end pass.

Miss Audrey Sanford visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer Sanford, this week end.

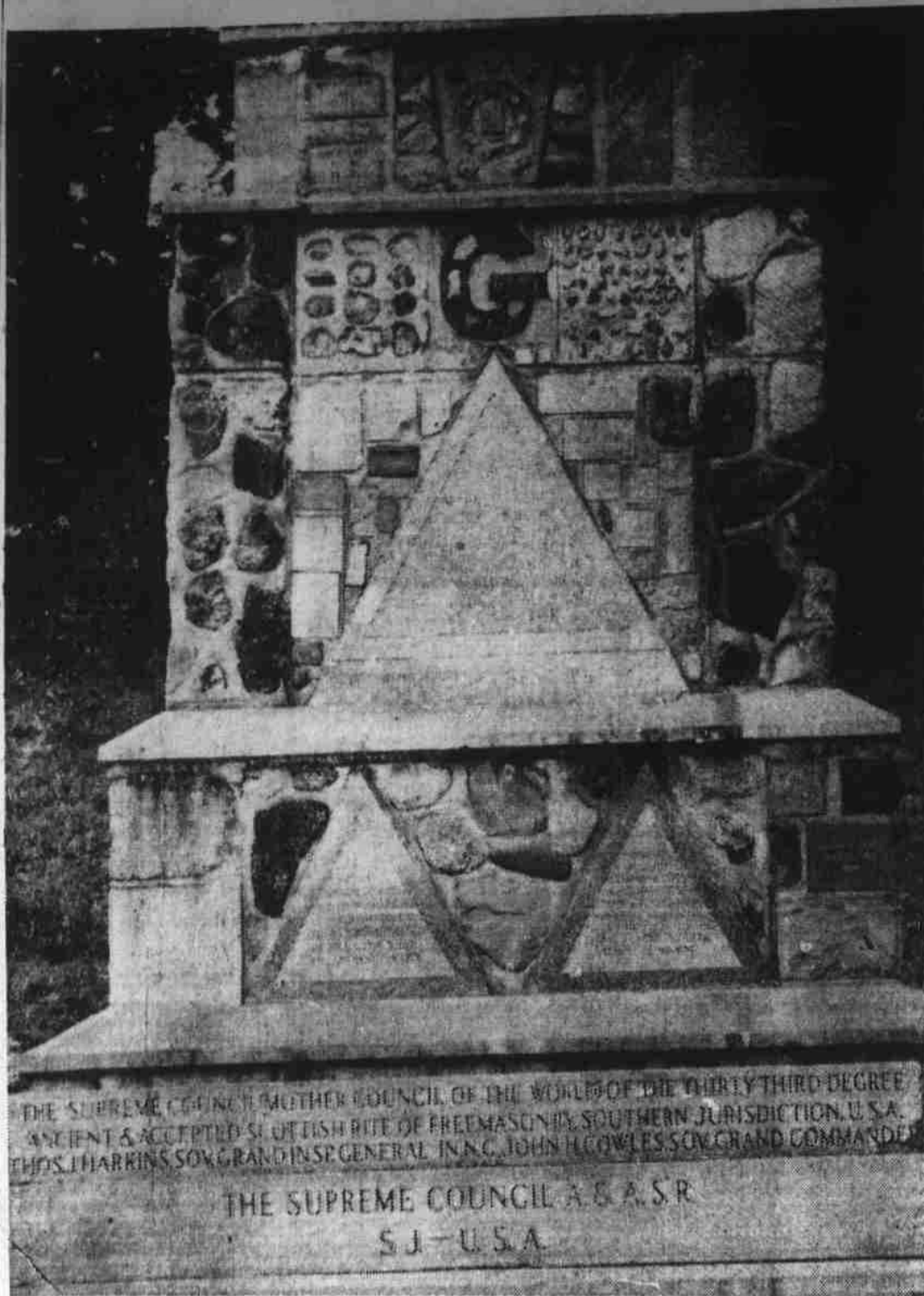
Pvt. Joseph McCracken, USMC, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. K. McCracken of Canton, has been visiting on Upper Crabtree.

Claude McCracken has had some bulldozing done on his road; and Blake McCracken is having his road graveled.

Next time you serve mince meat tarts, try putting a thin slice of quick-melting yellow cheese over each, then put the tarts in a moderate oven until the cheese is melted. Serve right away.

held August 19, 20, and 21. A most successful meeting is expected.

Historic Masonic Memorial Marker



This Masonic marker, at Black Camp Gap, will again this year be the scene of the annual pilgrimage of the Masonic Summer Assembly on August 20. The marker contains 687 stones from all over the world. Every continent is represented. The marker is about 12 feet high, 9 feet wide, and 24 steps with five landings lead up the hill to the marker. The masonry work is a thing of beauty.

Don Maurey and Joe Lemyre, varsity wrestlers at Penn State, both have brothers on the freshman mat team.

The Women's Golf Association of Northern California has 1,283 members. In 1950 it listed 67 teams.

Charlie Ridenour, freshman wrestling coach at Penn State, was defeated only once as an undergraduate grappler.

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2 Houses for inspection — 3rd house was sold to Dr. Hugh Daniel who plans to make it his permanent home.

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