

Along The Way



By Emily Killete

St. John's Lodge No. 13 in Kenansville was one of the first orders of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons established in North Carolina and in 1941 they celebrated their 150th anniversary.

During the celebration, lodge members heard the history of their organization. The history was written by Faison McGowen and read during the celebration by A.T. Outlaw. Along The Way continues this week with the fourth of a five-part series featuring the history of St. John's Lodge as recorded in the DUPLIN TIMES of 1941. The fourth part of the history was published in the July 17, 1941 issue of THE DUPLIN TIMES.

History of St. John's Lodge No. 13

The Lodge was deeded to Brother W.B. Middleton in 1873 due to the fact that the members were not able to pay the debt on the building.

In 1873 there were 75 members of Warren Lodge No. 101.

The Lodge was repurchased from Brother W.B. Middleton in 1875.

During 1882 the Lodge became dormant again.

In 1897 the following made application to the Grand Lodge for the restoration of the Charter of Warren Lodge No. 101: Isaac B. Kelly, Albert F. Williams, James M. Archer, Jas. W. Blount, S.O. Middleton, T.M. Lee, B.C. Bowden, Henry C. Moore, D.J. Middleton, L. Hussey, J.D. Stanford and J.D. Southerland.

May 3, 1897, Walter E. Moore, Grand Master, disissued dispensation restoring to Warren Lodge 101, its charter, its jewels, books, furniture, and all property it was entitled at time of its forfeiture of charter.

By virtue of the foregoing dispensation to the brethren therein named met in their hall in Kenansville on the 21st day of May 1897, and organized with the following officers: T.M. Lee, W.M.; James W. Blount, S.W.; J.D. Southerland, J.W.; S.O. Middleton, treasurer; A.F. Williams, secretary. The Worshipful Master then appointed the following officers: James M. Archer, D.C.; I.B. Kelly, J.D.; B.C. Bowden, tyler.

At a special communication of the Lodge Dec. 16, 1897, the following visiting brethren were present: C.B. Aycock (later Governor of North Carolina); I.G. Lee and A.J. Harvell from Wayne Lodge No. 112, Goldsboro; H.E. Faison, Hiram Lodge No. 98, Clinton; and J.C. McMillan of Rehobeth Lodge No. 279 of Rose Hill.

Aug. 21, 1903, the lodge donated \$15,000 to the Warsaw Lodge. This was just after the organization of the Warsaw Lodge. Members who demitted to form Warsaw Lodge were: H.G. Owens, E.J. Hill, S.A. Strickland, D.E. Best, J.A. Powell, H.S. Boyette, J.F. Bell and S.R. Bowden.

Nov. 21, 1911, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved that permission is hereby given Rehobeth Lodge No. 279 AF and AM at Teachey's, N.C. to move their lodge to Rose Hill, N.C."

Warren Lodge became dormant again in 1918 and was reorganized as Warren Lodge No. 639 in December of 1919.

On Feb. 17, 1919, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina met in special communication in Kenansville and instituted Warren Lodge

No. 639, and installed officers. Grand officers were as follows: M.W., Henry J. Grady, G.M.; R.W., J.E. Williams, D.G.; R.W., J.L. Nelson, S.G.W.; R.W., R.D. Johnson, J.G.W.; R.W., Geo. R. Ward, G. treasurer; R.W., E.D. Williams, G. secretary; R.W., C.D.

Chestnutt, G. Chaplain; J.L. Nelson, Grand Lecturer; H.W. Williams, S.G. Deacon; W.G. Korngay, J.G. Deacon; J.E. Westbrook, Grand Marshall; N.B. Grady, G. Sword Bearer; Rufus Stroud, G. Pursuitant; J.J. Bowden, G. Steward; and W.D. Terry, Grand Tyler. All officers were serving pro tempore except the M.W. Grand Master and Grand Tyler.

The officers of the new Lodge were: A.F. Williams, W.M.; H.D. Williams, S.W.; N.B. Brady, J.W.; M.F. Westbrook, treasurer; J.J. Bowden, secretary; W.G. Korngay, S.D.; C.D. Chestnutt, J.D.; W.F.

Smith and S.R. Chestnutt, stewards; Henry W. Dail, Tyler.

A district meeting was held with our Lodge, Oct. 26, 1926, with D.D.G.M., L. Southerland of Wallace presiding.

During the masonic year 1932-33 permission was given Beulaville Lodge to get a charter.

The Ninth District meeting was held with our Lodge, Dec. 3, 1931, which was presided over by one of our members, Brother D.M. Jolly, D.D.G.M. After Brother Jolly's death in 1932, Brother James E. Jerritt was appointed to fill out his unexpired term the next year.

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9.3 OZ.
2/79¢

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48 OZ.
\$2.09

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5 LB.
79¢

Bassmasters Meeting in Kenansville

The newly-formed Duplin County Bassmasters fishing club, a local affiliate of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society, will hold its first general membership meeting at Brown's Restaurant in Kenansville March 22nd at 7 p.m.

Anyone interested in joining is urged to attend.

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