

# Thomas M. Holt Lodge # 492 A.F. & A.M.

Regular Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month at 7:30pm

Address: 512 Johnson Avenue, Graham, NC, 27253

Website: [www.thomasmholt492.org](http://www.thomasmholt492.org)



## Upcoming Events

### October 1

**FUNDRAISER:** Pink Pancake Breakfast & Dinner for Breast Cancer Awareness  
Breakfast @ 7:30 AM – 10:30 AM  
Dinner @ 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

### October 6

Dinner @ 6:30 PM  
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

### October 20

Dinner @ 6:30 PM  
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

### November 3

Dinner @ 6:30 PM  
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

### November 4

**FUNDRAISER:** Boston Butts & Shoulders  
(Pick up the morning of Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>)

### November 17

Dinner @ 6:30 PM  
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

### December 1

Dinner @ 6:30 PM  
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM  
**Officer Elections for the 2017 Year.**

### December 9

**Thomas M. Holt # 492 - Ladies Night**  
**Burlington Shrine Club @ 6:30 PM**

### December 15

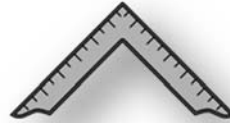
Dinner @ 6:30 PM  
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

## The Holler Log – Autumn 2016 Edition

### Messages from the East:

Brethren,

Greetings from the East!



As the last few months of 2016 are rapidly approaching, it is my pleasure to report to you that our lodge has had a very successful year! Due to the hard work and efforts of our brothers, the lodge has replaced the aging windows, refinished the front door and landscaped the yard. We have also had an excellent year with our fundraisers, allowing us to support our Masonic and local charities! All of this could not have been done without your assistance and support. **Well done Brothers!!**

Our shotgun raffle on Sept 1<sup>st</sup> was a huge success, raising over \$2300 for charity. A huge thanks again to everyone who helped sell tickets and to Brother Kevin Dean and his family for the donation of the shotgun! Congratulations to Brother Boyd Wright on having the winning ticket!

October 1<sup>st</sup> will be our next fundraiser, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pink Pancake Breakfast and Dinner. Tickets are \$7.00 per person and are available for pre-purchase or at the door. Let myself or another officer know if you need any! Flyers are available at the lodge and we need help spreading the word!! All proceeds are to support local breast cancer patients.

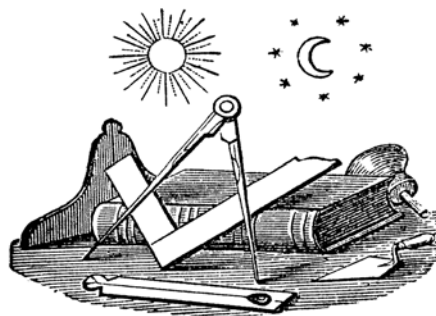
Our final fundraiser for the year will be the selling of Boston Butts and Shoulders. We will only be selling a limited number of tickets for this event, so if you are interested in purchasing one, please let one of the officers know ASAP before all the pre-orders are taken! Cooking will be on November 4<sup>th</sup>, with pick up the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup>. **All proceeds raised will be for the lodge!**

Also a reminder that Ladies night this year will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Burlington Shrine Club. Details and invitations will be mailed out shortly by the Senior Warden.

Lastly, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support this year. It has been my sincere pleasure serving as Master of our fine lodge. As this is my last newsletter, I want to wish everyone and their families a safe and happy holiday season and hope to see you all at the lodge!

Fraternally Yours,

**Mike Hunter**, Worshipful Master  
[mike.hunter.nc@gmail.com](mailto:mike.hunter.nc@gmail.com)



### Mark Your Calendar !!!

**Thomas M. Holt Ladies Night**  
Friday, December 9, 2016 - 6:30PM  
At the Burlington Shrine Club

## Lodge News:

- ❖ Congratulations to Brother Boyd Wright on winning the Shotgun Raffle!
- ❖ Pink Pancake Benefit – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016
- ❖ Boston Butts and Shoulders Fundraiser in November. We will have a Limited number of tickets, so if you would like one... Pre-order now!
- ❖ Congratulations to Brother Zach Stead on being our newest Master Mason!
- ❖ Congratulations and Welcome to our newest Entered Apprentices Brother Gary Overby and Brother Richard Honeycutt, initiated in September 2016

## Masonic Trivia:

- ❖ Masonic dates are written "A.L." for "Anno Lucis" or "In the year of Light" which is 4000 years plus the current year. i.e. the year 2016 written Masonically would be 6016. This is because the practice has followed the ancient belief that the world was created when God said "Let there be light", 4000 years before Christ.
- ❖ New Bern, the Colonial Capital of North Carolina, is said to be the smallest city in the USA in which one can obtain ALL the degrees of Freemasonry, Entered Apprentice through the Scottish Rite, York Rite, and the Shrine.
- ❖ The word "Worshipful" is used when addressing the Master of the Lodge. "Worship" is derived from the Old English "worchyppe" or "worchyp" meaning "greatly respected." In the Wycliffe Bible, "Honor thy father and thy mother" appears as "Worchyp thy fadir and thy modir." Grand Masters are called "Most Worshipful" meaning "Most greatly respected" (except in Pennsylvania where the Grand Master is "Right Worshipful")
- ❖ The two structures in the U.S. that have elevators which move sideways, in addition to up and down are the Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, and the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia.

## A Few Masonic Chuckles:

The Master of the lodge and his two wardens went golfing one day. As they were about to tee off the first hole the course marshal came and asked if a young woman could join their group. Being a charitable group, they all agreed. She turned out to be a pretty good golfer but on the 18th hole she drove the green in two and was about to putt for eagle. She then asked the three brothers if any one of them helped her make the putt she would be eternally grateful. Well then, the Junior Warden looked at the putt and told her it was uphill and broke to the right. Well the Senior Warden being a more expert workman looked at it second, and said "That is partially correct but five inches from the hole it breaks back to the left." Well the Worshipful Master of Lodge then took his turn. He looked at the putt carefully and then went over to the ball, picked it up and exclaimed **"It's a gimme !!!"**

As the story goes here in the east, two friends were riding the train to work. Harry said to Jim, "Did you ever notice the conductor never takes a ticket from that guy wearing that funny ring. I've seen those rings in the pawn shop in Hoboken, I think I'll get me one and see what happens".

The next day Harry was flashing his new ring when the conductor came up and asked him, "Will you be off or from?"

Harry thought for a moment then replied, "I'll be off".

The conductor told him he was right, he would be off at the next station.

## Upcoming Birthdays

### **October 2016**

02 – Royce Williams  
06 – John Fricks, Jr.  
09 – David Thompson  
10 – Leo Creech  
13 – Byron Neal  
24 – James Hendrix  
27 – Carl Kepley  
28 – Dewey Brown, III  
31 – Harry Smith  
31 – Tony Ivan Wood

### **November 2016**

02 – Jack Collins  
05 – Tim Taylor  
09 – Marcus Orr  
14 – David Snyder  
23 – Mark Bare  
25 – Max Way  
29 – Roy Duffer

### **December 2016**

12 – Jimmy Eller  
13 – Lewis Franklin



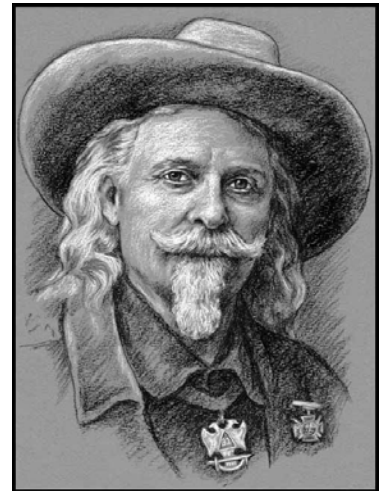
The Brothers of Thomas M. Holt  
Lodge would like to wish you all a  
Very Happy Birthday !!!

## **Famous Masons: Brother William Frederick “Buffalo Bill” Cody** – By Ernest J. Goppert, Jr., P.G.M.

A child, destined to great fame, he was born on a farm in LeClaire, Scott County, Iowa, on February 26, 1846 to Isaac Cody and Mary Leacock Cody. Isaac abandoned his farm to work as a stage driver and the family moved to the vicinity of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. At the age of eleven, Bill lost his father in the Kansas border war. Bill's mother was a woman of the highest character and developed in him nobility of soul, fortitude and courage, which endeared him to the hearts of all who were destined to meet and know him. She died when Bill, who was still in his teens was serving with the Kansas Cavalry.

Following his father's death, Bill secured employment as a carrier boy on a supply train. Later at age fourteen, he obtained a lucrative job as a rider for the Pony Express. Bill made some of the longest trips on record. Upon reaching Three Crossings, he learned that the rider at Sweetwater had been killed, and he was requested to ride the next leg. He made a trip of 321 miles without stopping except for meals and to change horses.

At seventeen, Bill enlisted in the 9th Kansas Cavalry. Later he served as a Scout in Tennessee and as a Trooper in Missouri. In 1866 he married Louisa Frederici in St. Louis. Bill contracted with the Goddard Brothers to furnish the Kansas Pacific Railroad with all the buffalo meat required to feed the laborers engaged in road construction and in eighteen months (1867-68) killed 4,280 buffalo which earned him the name by which he is best known.... **“Buffalo Bill”**.



From September, 1869, when he first caught the notice of General Phil Sheridan by some daring riding through Indian country, until December, 1872, when he resigned to go on the stage, Cody was continuously on army payrolls as a civilian scout. In July, 1869, he achieved some fame for guiding the 5th Cavalry to its spectacular victory at Summit Springs, Colorado. The troops returned in August, 1869, to Fort McPherson, Nebraska. Cody felt sure enough of his employment to send for his wife. According to Mrs. Cody, when she saw him at Fort McPherson, for the first time, he was wearing long hair, moustache and goatee the style of prairie scouts of those days. In September, while buffalo hunting with Major Frank North to supply the garrison with meat, Cody and North were surrounded by Indians and barely fought their way back to the command. With the 5th Cavalry, they then pursued the Indians for ninety miles to Standing Rock Agency, Dakota. Finally, the expedition returned to Fort McPherson on October 28.

Within less than three weeks, Captain W.B. Brown organized in his quarters the Platte Valley Lodge No. 32 of the A.F. & A.M. under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. Cody and Brown were close friends, and it is likely that Cody petitioned right away for membership. One of the officers of the Lodge was the posts physician, Dr. David Frank Powell. Powell, later known as White Beaver, became fast friends with Buffalo Bill and eventually died in Cody, Wyoming. On his 24th birthday, Cody was elected to membership. He was initiated March 6, 1870 and passed April 2, 1870.

During 1870, Cody was involved in only one official Indian fight. However, he was kept busy hunting and guiding visiting dignitaries. One of those dignitaries Professor Othniel Marsh, a Yale paleontologist, was on his way to the Big Horn Basin to do some dinosaur bone hunting. It is Marsh whom Cody credited for exciting his interest in the Big Horn Basin country. Cody also served in the capacity of Justice of the Peace at Fort McPherson. He had been appointed by the army commander because he was the most reliable of the local civilian employees. In addition to performing routine chores such as marriages (whom God and Buffalo Bill have joined together let no man put asunder). Cody also served as a sort of unofficial detective and police officer. Certainly one of the biggest events in his life was the birth late in the year of his only son, Kit Carson Cody.

On January 10, 1871, Cody was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Within a few months, he was cited for conspicuous and gallant conduct for a skirmish on Bird Wood Creek, Nebraska. He also began to achieve wider national fame as a guide for distinguished hunting parties. In September, 1871, he led the famous Bennett/Jerome hunt which resulted in an invitation to New York. General Sheridan was so pleased with his conduct of that and a subsequent hunt that he asked Cody to guide the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia in January, 1872. Three months later, in April, Cody was awarded the Medal of Honor for a skirmish while on detached duty with the 3rd Cavalry. Finally, in 1872, he accepted the invitation to go to New York. There he saw himself portrayed in a stage play and was persuaded by Ned Buntline to star in a drama written expressly for him. From that time forward, he and his partner, Texas Jack Omohundro, spent half their lives on the plains and half on the stages of all the major cities of the East.

Cody founded his famous Wild West Show in 1883. In 1887, he took the show to Europe for the first time to be the featured attraction during the celebration of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. Though he remained in England as the toast of British society through October he petitioned Euphrates Chapter No. 15, Royal Arch Masons of North Platte, Nebraska by mail in September. Within a month of the closing of the 1888 season on November 18th, he was advanced to the degree of Mark Master, inducted into the Oriental Chair and received and acknowledged a Most Excellent Master. On the following day he was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree. In addition to running the Wild West Show, which showed on Staten Island in 1888, Cody was running a stock ranch near North Platte and traveling back and forth between the East and Far West.

Thereafter, Cody petitioned Palestine Commandery No. 13, order of Knights Templar of North Platte, Nebraska, and duly elected and received the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross on April 1, 1889 and on the following day received the Order of Malta and was dubbed a

Knight Templar, just before sailing once again to Europe. This European tour, which began in Paris for the Centennial Exposition, lasted for three years. Cody was back and forth between Europe and America during that time.

Just before returning for another tour of England, he petitioned Tangier Temple of the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Omaha, Nebraska on March 22, 1892, and walked the burning sands three days later. In the meantime, he had found time to lead a hunting expedition through the Grand Canyon and into the Kaibab country of Utah, serve as a marshal during the inauguration of President Benjamin Harrison, and act as Chief of Scouts for General Miles in a futile attempt to head off what became the Wounded Knee Massacre.

1893 had been his most successful year in show business, perhaps the most successful year in history in outdoor show business. The season of 1894 in Brooklyn promised to be just as good. Cody by this time had been seen in person by millions of people on two continents, and his name was a household word. He was well on his way to being the most famous man, perhaps, in the world, and certainly the most photographed.

The Northern Jurisdiction of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the Valley of New York City honored Buffalo Bill by conferring all of its degrees in the Lodge of Perfection (4-14), the Council of Princes (1516), the Chapter of Rose Croix (17-18), and the Consistory (19-32) in the same day, April 4, 1894. This special action by this New York Body exemplified their desire and that of all Masons of the time to recognize not only Buffalo Bills dedication to his fraternal duties, but also to acknowledge the adherence to the principles of friendship, morality, and brotherly love.

By all accounts, Cody's life provided an exemplary model for Masons. He was a man of his word in his dealings with all people. He dealt with people of all races, religions, sexes, and occupations, as equals, and was always open handed in helping those less fortunate than himself.

Buffalo Bill gave the last performance of his Wild West Show at Portsmouth, Virginia where he became ill with a cold and headed for his Wyoming ranch. He stopped off at Denver to visit his sister and died suddenly from uremia on January 10, 1917. Although Buffalo Bill left a will stating he wished to be buried on top of Cedar Mountain about five miles west of his town, Cody, Wyoming, he was actually buried atop Lookout Mountain, 20 miles west of Denver. After his remains had lain in state, in a bronze casket, in the Capitol Rotunda in Denver, a service was held, and his body was placed in a temporary vault while a permanent tomb could be cut out of the solid granite atop Lookout Mountain.

At the request of Platte Valley Lodge of North Platte, Golden City Lodge No. 1, Golden, Colorado conferred Masonic burial rites on June 3, 1917, atop Lookout Mountain, at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon. Worshipful Master G.W. Parfet, Jr. of Golden City Lodge No. 1 appointed eight brother pallbearers who were dressed in their Knight Templar uniforms. At the request of Mrs. Cody, and almost five months after his death, the casket was opened and an estimated 10,000 viewed the dead pioneer and trailblazer. It was estimated that more than 20,000 persons visited the spot and 15,000 were present at the burial ceremony having walked or ridden to the top of Lookout Mountain. It was certainly one of the largest, if not the largest, Masonic burial ever. These words were said by the Masons over the grave:

*"His spirit ascends to God who gave it, His memory we cherish in our hearts, His body we consign to the earth."*

Before his burial, a group of friends and family members formed an organization to foster and perpetuate the memory of Buffalo Bill in Cody, Wyoming. From this timely but meager start the world famous Buffalo Bill Historical Center has developed.

**\*\*Please help the Lodge reduce costs: If you'd like to receive future editions of the Holler Log via email instead of paper copy, please email Mike Hunter at: mike.hunter.nc@gmail.com**

Lastly, Brothers, we hope you are continuing to enjoy this new format of the Holler Log and once again found it informative. If you have any comments, or have any items that you would like to see, or share in future Editions of the Holler Log please send an email to: [hollerlog@thomasmholt492.org](mailto:hollerlog@thomasmholt492.org)



## Masonic Anniversaries

(The number indicates years of service)

### October

04 – Al Layton  
30 – Mike Rogers  
43 – William Tyler

### November

03 – Kevin Dean  
07 – Mark Bare  
07 – Daniel Barnes  
10 – Max Way  
20 – Kenneth Dixon  
21 – Melvin Russell  
21 – Brice Turner, II  
31 – James Hendrix  
31 – Reid Myrick  
51 – Jerry Shields  
52 – Ralph Pike  
59 – Holland Thomas Pickard

### December

11 – Allen Wade Bean  
12 – Dewey Brown, III  
32 – Jerry Lane  
32 – Henry Park, III  
43 – Daniel Qualls

The Brothers of Thomas M. Holt Lodge would like to Thank You for your years of service and support of our Lodge !!!

