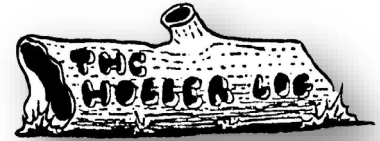


THOMAS M. HOLT LODGE # 492 A.F. & A.M.

Stated Communications - 1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month at 7:30pm

Address: 512 Johnson Avenue, Graham, NC, 27253

Websites: www.thomasmholt492.org or 492-nc.ourlodgepage.com



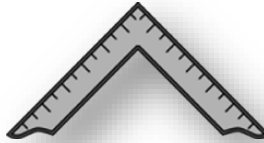
The Holler Log – Autumn 2019 Edition

Messages from the East:

Brethren,

Fraternal Greetings from the East!

It is hard to believe that we are entering into the last quarter of the year. The season will soon begin to change from the warm humid days of summer to the cool colorful days of Autumn. It is my pleasure and my privilege as your Worshipful Master to report to you that our Lodge has enjoyed another very successful year! We have had some really great meetings, some informative Guest Speakers, and we have also had excellent returns with our fundraisers and community projects!! All of this could not have been done without your participation, assistance, and support. So, for this, I thank you all!!



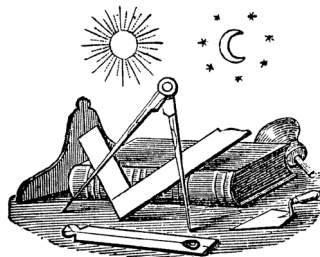
By the time you receive this newsletter, I will be just coming back from my fourth North Carolina Grand Lodge Annual Communication. It was such a pleasure to see so many brothers from all around the state coming together in unity, brotherly love, and harmony. Also, during the Annual Communication, Thomas M. Holt Lodge was recognized as one of the 37 Lodges who would receive the Lion and Pillar award for 2019. This was a proud moment for me, to be able to accept this award on behalf of our Lodge from Most Worshipful Grand Master Dwight "Mack" Sigmon. This marked our third consecutive year receiving this award, and I challenge us all to continue the streak for years to come. I thank you once again on the hard work required to make this happen and congratulate you all on this achievement, Brothers!

Before we close out of the year, we will be having a couple more fundraisers on the horizon. The first fundraiser will be 5th Annual Pink Ribbon Breakfast on Saturday October 19th. Funds raised from this event will benefit the Alamance Regional Charitable Foundation's Pink Ribbon Fund, which provides assistance to women in gaining access to diagnostics and therapy for breast cancer that they otherwise may not be able to afford. The second fundraiser in the works is a Putt-Putt Mini Golf Tournament planned for Saturday November 2nd. Funds raised from this event will help benefit the Lodge for some needed Lodge building maintenance. We will need everyone's participation to make these two fundraisers successful.

Brothers, join me in welcoming our newest Master Mason to the Lodge, Brother Kyle Ortman, who was raised in September. We also have a new Fellowcraft in our midst, Brother Andrew Williams. Degree work will still keep us busy before the year concludes with both a first and a third degree on the horizon this fall.

To wrap up the year we will be having our year-end Ladies Night \ Holiday Party. This year the date will be on Friday, December 13th, and will once again be at the Burlington Shrine Club. Details and invitations will be mailed out shortly by the Senior Warden.

So, before I close this newsletter out, I would like to take this final chance to remind you that if you haven't cashed in your "Free Meal" ticket, there is still time to do so, please check your Winter 2019 Edition of the Holler Log for the ticket. The tickets will continue to be honored until the end of the year. So far this year I have had the privilege to provide 16 Brothers with a free meal, and I would like to do the same for you!! So please take me up on the offer, we all would love to see you at the Lodge!!



(Messages from the East continues on next page)

Upcoming Events

October 3

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

October 17

Dinner @ 6:30 PM
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM
Guest Speaker: Brother Marc Fusco
Topic: Masonic Astronauts

October 19

5th Annual Pink Ribbon Breakfast
6:30 AM – 11:00 AM

November 7

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

November 21

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

November 28

Happy Thanksgiving Brethren !!!

December 5

Dinner @ 6:30 PM
Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM
Officer Elections for the 2020 Year.

December 13

Ladies Night & Holiday Party
Burlington Shrine Club @ 6:30 PM

December 19

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

December 25

Merry Christmas Brethren !!!

From the Secretaries Desk:

2020 Membership Dues Cards
will be arriving soon.

Please make plans to pay your dues
and pick up your new card for 2020.
Thank You !!-WB Todd Smith-Secretary

(Messages from the East continued)

Brethren, as this will be my last Holler Log to you as your Worshipful Master, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to all of you for the confidence and support you have given me throughout the past year. I would also like to thank those that mentored me and assisted me on each step of this journey ... As I look back to a younger version of myself as a newly initiated Entered Apprentice just starting my Masonic Journey, I never dreamed I would someday make it to the seat in the East, but with hard work and dedication, it came to fruition!! I have thoroughly enjoyed my time there. As we head to the end of the year, I want to wish everyone and their families a safe and happy upcoming holiday season. May your hearts be filled with gladness and your homes be filled with joy and happiness!!

In closing, always remember to meet on the **level**, act by the **plumb**, and part on the **square**. May Brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us. So, mote it be!

Fraternally Yours,

Jeff Lightcap, Worshipful Master aka "The Head Muckety Muck" ☺

Email: Worshipful_Master@thomasmholt492.org

Messages from the West:

Brethren,

As we head steadfastly into this final quarter of 2019, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on my year in the West before the sun sets for the final time in 2019. First let me say it has been a joy and privilege serving as your Senior Warden this year. I have enjoyed my time in the West. I have gained knowledge and insight as well as more light in masonry for sure.

Second, let me say under the leadership of Worshipful Master Jeff Lightcap we have seen great successes in our many labors. We have accomplished many tasks in our fundraisers for our charities and they have profited by all our hard work and dedication. Once again, we have achieved for the third straight year the coveted "Lion and Pillar" award for 2019. Without your dedication and support this would not have been possible. Hopefully with everyone's continued dedication to our lodge and charities we will be equally successful in 2020.

We have welcomed new brethren into the lodge this year as well. Our degree work has been steady with the addition of these new brothers. I had the honor of conferring a double second degree for two of our newest brothers. I could not have done it without your help and dedication. Hopefully more good men will offer themselves to our fraternity in the coming years.

Finally, brethren as the sun sets in west at the close of the day I wish each brother some very happy and joyous months ahead. As the seasons begin to change and the daylight gets shorter may the light of masonry continue to shine brightly in your hearts. May the joy of peace and brotherly love prevail in all we do!!

Fraternally Yours,

Kevin Dean, Senior Warden

Messages from the South:

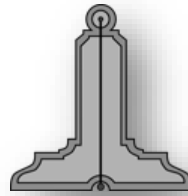
Brethren,

As seasons begin to change from summer to fall, I would like to take a moment to reflect on my year thus far in South as your Junior Warden.

First of all, I'd like to express my gratitude to all the brethren in our Lodge for the faith you entrusted in me as your Junior Warden this year. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to once again serve this Lodge, and to represent it, as your Junior Warden in 2019. I have really enjoyed my time in the South and the experience, knowledge, and more light that comes with it. The call from labor to refreshment is part of being in the South, and I will have to admit, as much as I enjoy cooking, I am looking forward to passing this and the bag to someone for next year.

Under the leadership and guidance of Worshipful Master Jeff Lightcap we have once again seen success in our Lodge growth, success in our fundraising, and our Lodge's outreach to the community.

(Messages from the South continues on next page)



Upcoming Birthdays

October 2019

- 01 – Joey Frye
- 06 – John Fricks, Jr.
- 09 – David Thompson
- 13 – Byron Neal
- 14 – Frank Stone
- 18 – James Paige Jr.
- 28 – Dewey Brown, III
- 31 – Harry Smith
- 31 – Tony Ivan Wood

November 2019

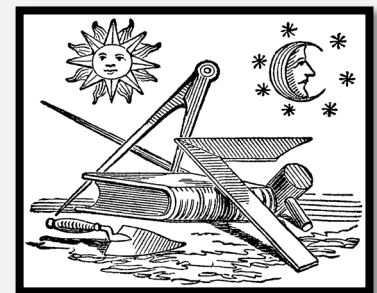
- 02 – Jack Collins
- 03 – Seth Norris
- 05 – Tim Taylor
- 09 – Marcus Orr
- 14 – David Snyder
- 23 – Mark Bare
- 25 – Max Way
- 29 – Roy Duffer

December 2019

- 05 – Jack Lawrence III
- 12 – Jimmy Eller
- 13 – Lewis Franklin
- 24 – Randy Vanderburg



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



(Messages from the South continued)

Together we all share in the many successes our lodge has achieved. Our charities have benefited from our hard work and dedication. As Brothers in the Lodge, we have continued to exemplify brotherly love among our communities, while showing: "Faith, Hope and Charity".

I'm looking forward to my 4th upcoming Grand Lodge communication. Our hard work has once again paid off as being selected to receive the "Lion and Pillar" award once again for 2019, Great Work Brethren! It will be a proud moment personally as a Mason when our lodge receives the Lion and Pillar Award for the 3rd consecutive year.

Our degree work, although not as busy as it has been in the past, has been moving on and we have had several new Brothers brought into the Lodge. I have been able to sit in the EAST and do my first ever 1st degree, and it looks as if I may get to do at least one more before moving on. Without your dedication and hard work, and the work of my coaches, this would not have been possible.

With my closing it is with sadness that I acknowledge the members of the Lodge who "forever dropped the working tools of life" in 2019, and I'm sure we will miss their wisdom and knowledge.

May brotherly love prevail in all we do as Masons. So Mote it Be.

Fraternally Yours,

Steven Craven, Junior Warden

Some Interesting Masonic Trivia:

- ❖ Winnedumah Lodge #287 of Bishop, CA holds its meetings at 270 feet below sea level, the lowest lodge in North America.
- ❖ In 1954 Martin's Station Lodge No. 188 of VA was opened 952 feet below the surface of Cumberland Mountain in Cudjo's Cave, which lies between Cumberland Gap, Tenn. and Middlesboro, KY. 345 Masons were present and a Master Mason degree was conferred.
- ❖ On November 10, 1928, the Grand Lodge of California held a special communication at Culver City, to lay the corner stone of the Masonic temple. The lodge room was so crowded that the Grand Lodge officers were unable to enter. They retired to the Ladies' powder room to open the grand lodge for the ceremony.
- ❖ On June 7, 1921, Mystic Lodge #21 of Red Bank, NJ had conferred half of the Master Mason degree on brother Lyman C. Van when the power went out. He didn't receive the rest of the degree for several weeks, making him for a time, a "two and half degree" mason.

Grand Lodge Annual Communication Amendment Voting Results – 09/27/2019

Amendment 1 – APPROVED

This amendment would raise the per capita rate owed to the Grand Lodge to \$25.00 from its current rate of \$20.00.

Substitute Amendment 1 – DEFEATED

This amendment would increase the Grand Lodge Per Capita \$5.00 effective December 31, 2019; \$5.00 effective December 31, 2022; \$5.00 effective December 31, 2025. – Submitted by the Grand Lodge Finance Committee.

Amendment 2 – APPROVED

This amendment would require the Grand Lodge to collect \$1.00 a year on all its Per Capita tax members on roll as of December 31, for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. – Submitted by Sophia Lodge # 767

Amendment 3 – APPROVED

This amendment would require brothers to immediately notify the Secretary of their Lodge of changes in contact information. – Submitted by Mount Holly Lodge # 544

Amendment 4 – DEFEATED

This amendment would require a majority vote to approve an Honorary Member. – Submitted by Stedman Lodge # 730

Amendment 5 – WITHDRAWN

This amendment would administratively suspend the membership of a member who has been charged with a felony. – Submitted by Oak Grove Lodge # 750



Masonic Education: The Level, Plumb, and Square

by Brother Jeff Young

The Lodge meeting is almost over, all the business has been conducted and everyone has had their opportunity to speak their concerns and revelations about our great fraternal order, and the impact it has on our wonderful Lodge. The Worshipful Master has made the last call for any comments from the assembled body and is proceeding to close the Lodge.

By this time, most of us are winding down from the meeting and getting ready to go home. After all, this is just the Lodge closing formalities that we have listened to hundreds of times and it is the same thing we heard at opening, just an hour ago.

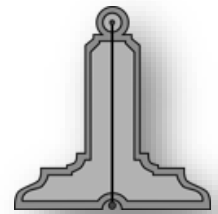
The next time you have the opportunity to witness the closing formalities of a Lodge, I challenge you to listen carefully to the last part – just before the closing charge and dismissal.

We meet upon the Level, act upon the Plumb, and part upon the Square. These are more than just words that are said before you get to go home. They are the very foundation and strength of how Masons should act – to all mankind. Think about those simple, yet significant words, and what they mean to you and how you conduct yourself in your day-to-day interactions with others.

WE MEET UPON THE LEVEL

All men are equal in the eyes of The Great Architect of the Universe and our fraternal order. Material wealth or station in life does not make a man a better Mason, one over another. The rich man leaves his wealth outside the Lodge and the poor man finds respect and brotherly love around our altar. And when we are finally called to that “house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens”, we are not sorted out based on status or stature, we are treated as equals, truly meeting upon the Level.

But do we really treat all men as equal? Do we have some unkind word or thought about a fellow man, be they a co-worker, friend, neighbor, or even Brother Mason? Dealing with problems can be very difficult, and we are but frail human beings that have many faults and deficiencies. Yet we can still meet upon the Level and solve any problem, yet still treating all men with respect and dignity, as we search for solutions together.



WE ACT UPON THE PLUMB

It is the rule and guide of a Mason to preserve an upright appearance before God, Mason and mankind; and that we honor our faith and give each man his due. We should walk upright in virtue's way, leaning to neither side, and remember that the Supreme Architect of the Universe reads what is in our hearts and bears witness to all that is true.

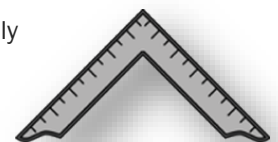
Do we benefit from this teaching? Do we truly maintain that upright appearance in our daily events? Do we speak ill of a fellow man or bring discredit upon him simply because he looks different that we do or believes in some idea we don't embrace? Being in Lodge should be an opportunity to refresh our minds and bodies by remembering the Masonic 'basics' and shrugging off the superfluities of life.



AND WE PART UPON THE SQUARE

Parting upon the Square reminds us to always square our actions with all mankind, treating each other with equal reverence and dignity. After all, no man is accepted as a Mason because of his worldly wealth or status; so why should we make that a standard for dealing with others?

Do we really treat all with equal reverence and dignity? I believe we all want to; and try to. But are we always successful? Do we look down on the penniless man on the street corner of life, or do we offer assistance at a level not to impede our own moral or financial stability?



These important reminders are given to us all, just before parting Lodge, in an attempt to remind us how we should deal with mankind. Reality and human nature can make meeting these goals difficult. But how hard do we **REALLY** try?

Masonic Education: Why do we say "Blue Lodge"??

We have always heard of the term "Blue Lodge". What does the term "Blue" mean, and why are we using the "Blue Lodge" in present conversation?

Some authorities think that as blue has, from ancient Biblical times, been associated with truth, with Diety, with wisdom and hope; that, as Mackey taught, the blue of the Old Testament is a translation of the Hebrew "tekelet", which is derived from a root meaning "perfection", and the color blue came into Masonry as its color by natural association. Others believe that as our ancient Brethren met on hills and in vales, over which the blue vault of heaven is a ceiling, that the covering of a lodge is the clouded canopy or starry decked heaven. These allusions seem to connote that blue, the color of the sky, is that of all celestial attributes for which Freemasons strive. "

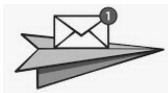
Brother Harry E. Heinkel from Henry L. Palmer Lodge No. 301, Milwaukee, asked the same question: "Why do we say 'Blue Lodge'?" His findings are most interesting. At the risk of being termed a Masonic symbologist, he questioned and criticized the propriety of the term "Blue Lodge" when Freemasons speak of the Masonic Lodge of symbolic degrees: The term is peculiarly American; it is found nowhere else in the Masonic world. Evidence does not support the conclusion that the color Blue is the symbol of the three symbolic degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, whether Operative or Speculative, in time immemorial or of the present. That "Blue" is a significant or characteristic symbol of Freemasonry is not supported by the ritual. No pointed reference is made to it " in the three symbolic degrees. "Blue is emphatically the color of Freemasonry," wrote one authority. But the color of the United Grand Lodge of England is Garter (Oxford) Blue, while that of private (subordinate) lodges is Cambridge Blue, and the Grand Steward's Lodges in London, known as the "Red Apron" Lodges use crimson, thought to be suggested by the color of the ribbon of the Order of the Bath. The color of the Grand Lodge of Scotland is thistle green, while daughter (subordinate) lodges adopt a color of their choice. The recently instituted Grand Lodge of India adopted three colors, the Garter Blue of England, the Thistle Green of Scotland and the Sky Blue of Ireland. This is in honor of the three Grand Lodges by whom it was instituted.

Could the color Blue have been adopted when Blue Ribbons were attached to the Aprons? Perhaps, but aprons which can be seen in the museum in Freemasons Hall, London are evidence that prior to and during the early years following the formation of the Grand Lodge in 1717, Aprons were white and of a considerable size. Rather than "Blue Lodge" Brother Heinkel prefers to proudly claim to be member of a "Masonic Lodge" which is understood by Freemasons and non-Masons throughout the world.

How and when the term "Blue Lodge" came to be known as the color of Freemasonry is yet to be discovered, but in present day usage, the term "Blue Lodge" identifies the membership and organization of Freemasons under the authority of the Grand Lodge.

*The WI Freemason, Vol XVIII Mar 1962 No 7 P 12 "Why do we say 'Blue Lodge'?"
The WI Freemason, Vol XVIII Jan 1962 No 5 P 11 "The 'Blue' Lodge".*

*Brethren, it is with sadness that I must announce that this will be my last issue of the Holler Log, and this will be the last issue distributed in its current form. I have enjoyed my time working on these newsletters for you in the last 4 years - 16 issues, and I hope that you have enjoyed reading them. I endeavored to keep you informed as best I could, and my only hope is that someone will pick it up and want to continue with it.
Thanks for the Memories !!! - Signing Off - Sincerely, Jeff Lightcap - Editor*



Comments or Suggestions are Welcome ...
Please email them to: hollerlog@thomasmholt492.org

Visit our websites for updated Lodge Information and Schedules @
www.thomasmholt492.org or 492-nc.ourlodgepage.com

Back Page Riddle Answers: 1) A Telephone 2) Your Name 3) A Coffin 4) A Bed
5) One - The Last One 6) Carpet



Masonic Anniversaries

(The number indicates years of service)

October

07 - Al Layton
33 - Mike Rogers
46 - William Tyler

November

02 - Aaron Slyter
06 - Kevin Dean
10 - Mark Bare
10 - Daniel Barnes
13 - Max Way
23 - Kenneth Dixon
24 - Brice Turner, II

December

14 - Allen Wade Bean
15 - Dewey Brown, III
35 - Jerry Lane
46 - Daniel Qualls

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



Mark Your Calendar !!!
Thomas M. Holt Ladies Night & Holiday Party
Friday, December 13, 2019 - 6:30PM
At the Burlington Shrine Club

The Holler Log - Autumn 2019 Edition



Contact Us via Email at: HollerLog@thomasmholt492.org
 Visit us on the Internet at: www.thomasmholt492.org or 492-nc-ourlodgedpage.com

Thomas M. Holt Lodge No. 492
 P.O. Box 892
 Graham, NC, 27253

Taking Good Men and Making Them Better Since 1897

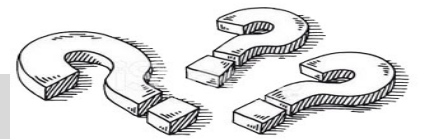
Thomas M. Holt Lodge No. 492 A.F. & A.M.

The Holler Log Back Page Brain Teasers

Do you remember these from the 3rd Degree Lecture ??
 See if you can find some of the Emblems and Symbols.

E K G O X B F Q K W T G N S E D W W G U
 W U F C L I G C K B K U I H R P S E U F
 J C E Y C E O F N S F O U Q O O H L U S
 A C J Q Y C Z B Z K V A V R G T D H N J
 E Z D O E U R E K A N R Y Q Y H K A M L
 G L L U X W H P V C A C A C I A R V S T
 C T G K R E Q O H B L Q S G K N A E N V
 K F N D T O H O U R G L A S S G S W O N
 X V N L R S R A Q X S U S E Y N P S I K
 D A W K Y K M M A H C U Z Q E P E M T Q
 C W B W M N C G X N R O J C F Y R V U V
 M Q H T C D U A Z E Y C N N G T G Y T M
 O E V I H E E B M D T I P C E A S M I B
 S D I L C U E J Q A C B O Z T Q B D T X
 B W P Y L F A Q W P P F F W C H S B S S
 A T Q M Q J W K Z S F X O T K T A P N V
 N E K W O L T N Q I P B C R Z C A T O G
 W E P Y K V D F N V U O M S C K V J C J
 E B O X M N P R O C G O A R A H P K G P
 F F H R Z W P D T X Z K G L E T D S E J

WORD LIST: Incense, Beehive, Book, Constitutions, Anchor, Ark, Euclid, Eureka, Hourglass, Scythe, Spade, Coffin, Acacia



Riddles

- 1) What needs an answer but doesn't ask a question?
- 2) What belongs to you but is used more by others?
- 3) The one who made it didn't want it. The one who bought it didn't need it. The one who used it never saw it. What is it?
- 4) What has one head, one foot and four legs?
- 5) How many bricks does it take to complete a building made from bricks?
- 6) What is bought by the yard and worn by the foot?

See Page 5 of the Holler Log
 for the Riddle Answers.