

## MHCO Lodge Info Update

**Worshipful Master, Brother Secretary, my Good Brothers,  
We pray this report finds you happy, healthy, and safe.**

The census is currently at 53. MHCO has been able to place four homeless youth in the past few weeks. MHCO is currently onboarding two CCW couples, but anticipates the need to hire two more couples. The vacancies have limited admissions. If you know anyone who might be interested or a family in need of placement for their children, please have them call 919-693-5111.

The campus has been busy with several activities and events. Special events have taken place to include attending the Carolina Panther's Game thanks to Matthews and West Gate Lodges and the Alumni Association. MHCO was able to attend the UNC Game vs Campbell thanks to Lux Libertas Lodge. The children were also able to attend the Amran Shrine Circus. Thanks to all for helping create wonderful memories for the kids.

The Thanksgiving Luncheon was well attended by the children's family members and two youth shared their talent telling Dad Jokes. The Christmas Celebration was a wonderful event. The donors were again very pleased to bring Christmas Joy to the children. Several Orphan Friends were recognized and the first memorial tree was planted in memory of Brother Howell's father. Special thanks to Brother Kenneth Small for planting the tree with the family attending. One of the food trucks who has participated in our 150th activities donated a dinner for the campus. Special thanks to Smokin' Aces. The C.H.A.M.P.S. group visited Durham Rescue Mission and served a meal. Several students were able to participate in the Mayor's Installation held at Credle School.



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The students did well during the first quarter. Twelve earned Honorable Mention, eight earned Honor Roll, and three maintained a 90 plus average from their GPA last year. Ten students increased their GPA by five points plus from the last year. Two increasing by 16 GPA points, one being our only HS Senior. Two HS students' GPAs are 97 rounded up. The average GPA on campus is 80.

Our youth are also busy at work. ILP residents are currently working at Bojangles, Planet Fitness, Wendy's, Highway 55, Ribeyes, Universal Health Care, Mule Town Vet Clinic and as a Dental Assistant, Electrician Assistant, Manager at Smithfields, and CNA at a nursing home. ILP residents are enrolled in Truck Driving School, HVAC, and full Nursing. One plans to enlist in the National Guard upon graduation.

The York Rite Christmas Observance Service was the official end of the Sesquicentennial celebration. Special thanks to the NC Grand York Rite for once again providing a wonderfully Spiritual celebration.

At the York Rite Christmas Observance MHCO reported on the progress of the 150th Annual and Recurring giving campaign. As of November 30th, MHCO has received \$621,483 in 150th Campaign donations. This amount has since increased with the addition of two gifts totaling \$80,000. The GM Challenge results were shared. To date 28 lodges have met the challenge. Over the next three years, their pledged gifts will total \$63,000. This is wonderful and represents 140 Masons doing recurring giving. Yet this is only 8% of the lodges and only five members per lodge. As per the plan, MHCO will continue to promote the Annual and Recurring giving campaign in relation to the 150th Campaign through 2025.







**MHCO continues to deliver Aerial Photos to lodges who have made the commitment as we can coordinate with our travels. Please help coordinate with Alvin Billings and Kevin Otis to schedule delivery of your lodge's Aerial Photo.**

Plans for celebrations at MHCO include Ice Cream Social on 6/22 and Homecoming on 10/11 and 10/12. More information will be shared as plans develop. Of note WB Gene Purvis is retiring at the end of February, thus Homecoming coordination is in transition.

2023 was a year of celebration of your Beloved Home's past, present, and future. Today begins the celebration of building upon the 150-year foundation Masons have established. The memories and successes you help make for our children carry on for generations.

**Thank you for all your prayers, support, and encouragement Brethren.**

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