



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.
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HIRAM'S JOURNAL

August 2009 Supplement

Summary of August 17th stated communication

- The lodge received the 18th Masonic District Officers. Bro. Jim Dickerson responded.
- Brother Bob Harrison was presented a Certificate of Merit for his continued support of Freemasonry and the Masonic Home of Virginia.
- An Application for Membership was presented.
- 166 pounds of food was donated to the Food Bank.
- Brother Charlie Via won the Master's Hat Drawing, a "Friend to Friend Tie."
- Brother Carlos McReddie joined the Master in the East for the evening.
- Proposed changes to the Lodge By-Laws were approved raising the dues from \$40.00 plus the Grand Lodge Assessment to \$72.00 plus the Grand Lodge Assessment. This change is effective January 1, 2009.
- The lodge elected Worshipful William F. Baskerville to fill the office of Treasurer.
- The August Masonic Birthdays were recognized.

Lodge Announcements/Visits

September 20th, Lodge Picnic.

September 21st, Lodge Stated, 7:00 p.m. Community Builder's Award will be presented.

October 5th, Fraternal visit to Elkton Lodge No. 74. For car pooling contact Bro. Bob Simpson.

October 8th, Wilderness Lodge at historic Liberty Furnace. See details on page 2.

October 13th, 7:00 p.m., Lodge Open House and Bring A Friend Night.

October 24th, Grand Master's Official Visit to the Lodges of the 18th Masonic District. The visit will be held at the East Rivanna Volunteer Fire House.

November 6th and 7th, Grand Annual Communication in Richmond.

Widow's Sons' Lodge Picnic

You and your family are invited to a Lodge Picnic on Sunday, September 20, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. The location will be the shelter at the Elks Lodge (across from Towe Park). The menu will include hamburgers, hotdogs, brats, beer and soda pop. You are requested to bring a dessert to share.

There will be a nominal charge of \$5.00 per person, and reservations can be made by contacting Brother Andy Keller at 434-293-9973. Checks should be made payable to Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60. Brother Keller's address is: 1412 Oxford Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22903-1406. The dead line for reservations is September 14th.

You are requested to bring chairs.

Brethren, PLEASE make your reservation EARLY!



The Wilderness Lodge

Dear Brethren:

You are cordially invited on Thursday, October 8, 2009, to attend the third annual "Wilderness Lodge" sponsored by Mt. Jackson Lodge No. 103.

This special event will feature a picnic dinner beginning at 6:00 P.M., followed by a Stated Meeting of all attending Masons beginning at 7:30 P.M., and will be attended by Masons from all over the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our honored guests will include the Grand Master of Virginia, Dr. Jeffrey E. Hodges, as well as many other state Masonic dignitaries.

Those attending should bring with them a lawn chair, jacket, rain gear (just in case) and a flashlight.

Please be sure and R.S.V.P. no later than October 1, 2009, either by calling the following telephone number, 540-740-4480, or by e-mailing to mtjacksonlodge103@verizon.net

Thank you.

Craig Everett
Worshipful Master
Mt. Jackson Lodge No.103

Property owner not responsible for accidents.

Directions:

Driving north on I 81 (Coming from Harrisonburg, Staunton, Charlottesville

1. Take, EXIT 279, EDINBURG
2. Turn LEFT onto STONEY CREEK RD-RT 675 for 4.8 miles
3. Turn RIGHT onto VA-42- SENEDO ROAD. FOR 0.1 MILES
4. Turn LEFT on WOLF GAP RD-RT675,.
5. Cross Bridge and Turn LEFT to stay on WOLF GAP RD -RT 675 for 2.9 miles
6. Bear LEFT to go onto LIBERTY FURNACE RD-RT 717 Go 2.6 miles to destination on right.

THE LOST SYMBOL Dan Brown's new novel, the long awaited sequel to the Da Vinci Code, is scheduled to be released on September 15, 2009. The *Lost Symbol* according to Brown's US publisher Sonny Mehta is "a brilliant and compelling thriller" which was "well worth the wait." Dan Brown has been quoted as saying "This novel has been a strange and wonderful journey", and continued, "Weaving five years of research into the story's 12-hour timeframe was an exhilarating challenge. The Masonic Service Association reports that they do not have any idea of the plotline of the book and since it has been a very long time period between the release of the *Da Vinci Code* and what was then described as a forerunner of a later book to be set primarily in Washington, DC, no one knows how current that information may be.

As is the case with any long anticipated book rumors are abundant and the *Lost Symbol* is no exception. The most persistent rumor is that the book will involve George Washington, quite possibly in a negative way.

Centennial Celebration

On February 22, 2010, the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association will celebrate its 100th anniversary. To mark this historic event, the Association is commissioning a new portrait of George Washington as a Freemason, producing a book about the history of the Memorial, and issuing a Commemorative Medallion, Lapel Pin and Holiday Ornament. In addition, the Conference of Grand Masters of North America will be held in Virginia and the Association will hold its Annual Meeting at the Memorial. Other projects are underway to return the Memorial to the pristine condition it was in when it was dedicated so many years ago including new exhibits and structural restorations.

It is an exciting time and we are grateful to the many members and friends who have made a commitment to help continue our important mission to preserve, promote and celebrate the extraordinary life of our Brother, George Washington.