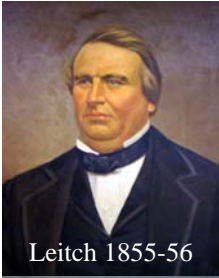
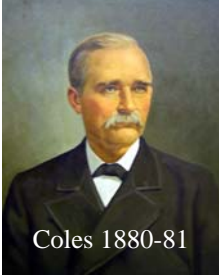


# HIRAM'S JOURNAL

Stated Communication February 21, 2011



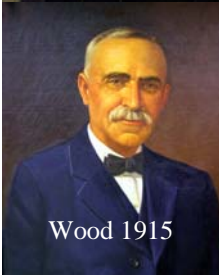
Leitch 1855-56



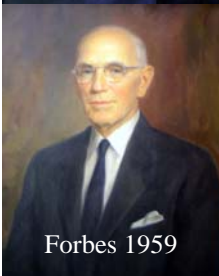
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

**Grand Master's  
From  
Widow's Sons'  
No. 60**

## Message From The East...

I will start this month newsletter with a change in plans for February. The C. A. Whitted School that was to be held on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> has been moved to March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.at the Scottsville Lodge. We will car pool from Food Lion next to Monticello High School. We will leave from there at 6:30.

The District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Lonnie E. Tuthill will be making his official visit to Widow's Sons' at the Stated this month. Please plan on attending and welcoming him to Widow's Sons' Lodge.

Would like to inform you of the new Librarian who is Brother Brady McLane. He has some ideas he will be implementing into the Library. He plans on listing the books that we have in the Library on the web site. This should be helpful in finding a book of interest by using your computer to search the files.

We will be having a lot of Degree work coming in the next couple months. We recently initiated Brother Carl William Stankwitz into the Entered Apprentice Degree. And we will be raising two Fellow Crafts to the Sublime degree of Master Masons during the month of February. So now is the right time for you to assist in this Degree work by calling the LIW R.W. Mike Griffin or myself to volunteer. We will be having practices and also there are a couple schools of instruction coming up in the near future to attend to learn various parts of the Degrees.

I need someone to step forward and volunteer to chair a sickness and distress committee. What is involved is keeping the Lodge informed of anyone who is unable to attend the Stated meetings and mails them cards, phone calls and making an occasional visit.

The Grand Master will be making his Official Tiled visit on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at Piedmont-Stella Lodge # 50 in Stanardsville. Please put this on your calendar and plan on attending.

Yours in Masonry,

Andy Keller, Worshipful Master  
434-293-9973 home or 540-290-4845 cell  
Andyk41@embarqmail.com

**Looking for a way to help your  
Lodge?**

**Learn a Lecture  
Take Part in a Degree  
Help with the Child ID Program  
Support the AHIP Program  
Visit other Lodges**

**Contact the Worshipful Master**

**February Masonic Birthdays!  
Call a Brother and wish him a  
Happy Masonic Birthday.**

- Samuel D. Caughron, 2/24/1992
- William H. Dorsey, 2/10/1961
- Wendell W. Drumheller, 2/24/1999
- Michael A. Haas, 2/12/1979
- George G. Hocker, 2/3/1999
- Nathan M. Hoffman, 2/26/1964
- Robert H. Kulman, 2/25/1980
- Lewis A. Martin, III, 2/21/1979
- Donald H. Misner, 2/26/1957
- Hollis T. Proffitt, 2/23/1954
- William F. Reinhold, 2/23/1973
- Edgar S. Robb, 2/8/1966
- Oakley C. Straley, 2/4/1966
- Charlie W. Wade, 2/18/1981



The Worshipful Master presents a Life Membership Certificate and Pin to Brother John R. Healey. Brother Healey became the 50th Life Member of Widow's Sons' Lodge. Congratulations!



**Important Dates in 2011**

**Area Masonic Schools**

March 2, 9, 17, C. A. Whitted School, Scottsville Lodge No. 45, 7:30 p.m. Lodges in Districts 17 and 18.

March 27, Richard E. Loving School, Fairfax Lodge No. 43, 9:00 a.m., Culpepper. Lodges in Districts 7 and 10.

April 15, 16, Robert R. Kennedy School, Lee Lodge No. 209, 7:00 p.m. Friday, 9:00 a.m. Saturday. Waynesboro. Lodges in Districts 18 and 19.

July 31st to August 3rd, Reid J. Simmons Academy, Fork Union Military Academy

October 22, O. B. Omohundro School, Waddell Lodge No. 228, 9:00 a.m., Gordonsville. Lodges in Districts 7 and 10.

**Division Leadership Conference**

March 5, 8:30 a.m., Waynesboro High School

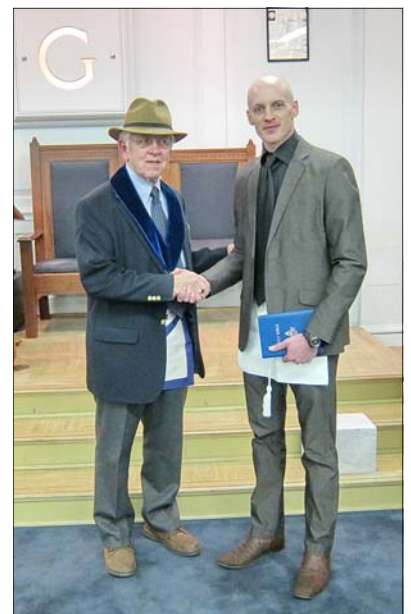
**DDGM's Visits**

- February 8th, King Solomon's Lodge
- February 14th, Alberene Lodge
- February 16th, Piedmont Stella Lodge
- February 21st, Widow's Sons'

**Other Important Dates**

- March 16th, GM tiled visit to Piedmont Stella No. 50
- June 3rd, GM visit to 18th District
- November 11th & 12th, Grand Lodge in Richmond

The Worshipful Master congratulates Bro. Jason B. Keefer who was examined on the Master Mason's Catechism. He was examined by Rt. Wor. Jay L. Cotner. Congratulations Brother Keefer.



## THE OBLIGATIONS WE TOOK

James Friend Dickerson, District Education Officer-18

Like Knights of yore, I'm on a quest! I've traded the trusty steed for an old GMC Yukon; the armor for a blue sport coat and khakis; and the bow and arrows for a quiver of questions. Perhaps we've encountered each other on my quest and questions flew through the air. What have you done with your Masonic Obligations since you knelt and took them as your own? What difference has your Fellow Craft's Obligation made in your life? Have you shared your Entered Apprentice's Obligation with a Brother so he could stand open examination in his Lodge, or explain Freemasonry to his sons? When you encounter a Brother not living up to his Master Mason's Obligation, how do you respond? Yes, my quest seeks Light on our Masonic Obligations!

My first stop involved asking Brothers how they viewed their Masonic obligations. At times I've become jaded and cynical, feeling we neglect our obligations. Often the Craft gets caught in the social side of Freemasonry (wearing rings, belt buckles & hats; putting a decal on the truck; or attending a cookout) and neglect the tenets found in our Obligations. Heck, many of us don't even attend Lodge once a year much less a degree to hear and reaffirm our Obligations, sadly leaving these duties to the Lodge Offices and too few faithful Brothers. Comments from new Masons particularly lifted my spirits. Several stated that Freemasonry and the commitments found in their Obligations provided just the facet missing in their lives. One new Brother quickly stated that he makes better decisions at work and in life thanks to his Masonic Obligations. Some provided examples of pairing the "to do's" and "not to do's" of their Obligation with the working tools in helping them to make decisions at work and home. Instead of just being words recited from rote memorization, their Obligations became an integral part of these Brothers lives, helping them to become better men and Freemasons. As Masons we should all be using our Obligations when making family, business and other decisions.

Last year this quest took me to Pittsylvania Lodge No. 24, in Chat-ham, Virginia (my grandfather's Lodge). Thanks to the efforts of

our Committee on Work, I found the same ritual and three Obligations as used in Central Virginia. I felt a much greater connection to my Grandfather, who went to be with the Great Architect in the 1960's, after Brothers (who sat in Lodge with him or remembered him from the nights they received their Masonic Obligations) shared their memories. Another Brother, whose father (also a Mason) died prior to his being born, shared that being Obligated into the Craft brought him closer to his father. These experiences provided more evidence that our Obligations serve to make us Freemasons, tying us together from Brother to Brother and generation to generation. Internalizing and making our Masonic Obligations a part of us makes us a Freemason, and as such a part of the greatest Fraternity in the world.

My travels provided plenty of observations of Masons living and not living their Masonic Obligations. None of us are perfect and able to live our Obligations 100% of the time. Our Masonic trials and the numerous actions our Grand Masters heal every year, bring our short comings to light. Fortunately, more often I see Freemasons helping a Brother to take appropriate corrective action when a shortfall arises than I see Masonic Charges being filed. For helping a Brother to live each of his three Obligations, remains an integral part of our Obligation. When you hear a Brother commenting inappropriately or see a Brother whose conduct provides less than the minimum for living his Obligations, how do you live your Obligation? Do you respond in a helpful or hurtful way?

With putting these thoughts on paper, my quest does not end. My Masonic Obligations make me a good husband and a good man, but I can do better. I continue the search for more knowledge to improve myself. But more importantly for you, how goes your quest for living your Masonic Obligations? Are you living your Obligations daily? Are you helping, aiding and assisting, or was your Obligation just random words repeated in a specific order without use or meaning? Hopefully we'll have the pleasure of sitting in Lodge together as I continue my quest. Best of success in keeping the commitments you made when kneeling at our sacred alter!

Brethren,

The next Winding Staircase discussion group will meet on Saturday, February 12th, 2011, at the home of Brother Maury Kingman, 374 Shepherds Ridge Circle, Charlottesville, Ph. 434.974.9626. The meeting will begin at 10:00 A.M. and a light lunch will be served afterward. The discussion topic for February will be the Knights Templar; a video on the subject previously broadcast on the History Channel will be shown first and discussion will follow.

If you're planning to attend, then please contact the lodge Secretary who is coordinating space and lunch requirements for the meeting.

Hope to see you there.

Mark S. Chapman  
Secretary WSL60  
434.971.1332

At the January stated communication, the WM received the Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Rt. Wor. Paul David Sleeper from Fin-castle.





Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60  
A.F.&A.M.  
P. O. Box 6262  
Charlottesville, VA 22906



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### Hiram's Journal



The Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge visited Widow's Sons' Lodge to announce members of the committee to assist him in 2014. Pictured L-R: Wor John F. Hartsock; Wor. D. L. Hansen; Rt. Wor. James F. Dickerson, and Rt. Wor. Paul D. Sleeper.



The Worshipful Master receives the Worshipful Master of Lee Lodge No. 209, Waynesboro in the person of RW Russel G. Snodgrass. Brother Snodgrass served WSL as WM in 1986.