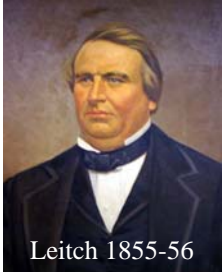
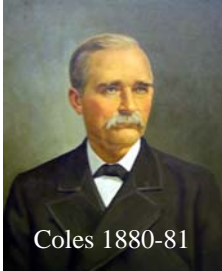


*Grand Master's  
From  
Widow's Sons'  
No. 60*



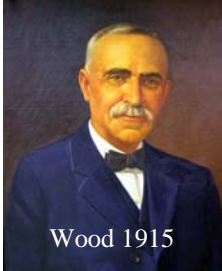
Leitch 1855-56



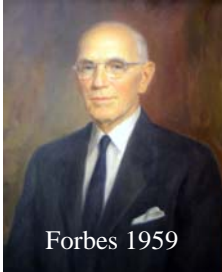
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60  
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.  
CHARTERED DECEMBER 10TH, AD 1799, AL 5799

# HIRAM'S JOURNAL

Stated Communication May 16, 2011



## Message From The East...

We have met with AHIP and are now ready to move this project forward. If you have any interest in working on this project please get in touch with David Simpson at 434-981-5431 or email at [clear-path02@embarqmail.com](mailto:clear-path02@embarqmail.com) and let him know if you would like to volunteer and what type of work that you are capable of doing. This is a very worthwhile project that the Lodge can make their presence known to the community. Please consider this project and give David or myself a call or email to let us know so we can get a plan in place with the AHIP people.

The Scholarship committee will be presenting three students each a \$3,000 scholarship before the meeting this month. We plan on making the presentations at 6:45. Please plan on being there early and showing your support to these students.

Yours in Masonry,

Andy Keller, Worshipful Master  
434-293-9973 home or 540-290-4845 cell  
[Andyk41@embarqmail.com](mailto:Andyk41@embarqmail.com)

## ***"The end of Alzheimer's disease starts here.***

*Join the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's™ and unite in a movement to reclaim the future for millions. Since 1989, we've mobilized millions of Americans in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk®; now, we ask you to register for Walk to End Alzheimer's, the nation's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer care, support and research. Together, we can end Alzheimer's disease the nation's sixth-leading cause of death. Visit [cvillewalktoendalz.org](http://cvillewalktoendalz.org) to learn more or to sign up your team. Or call (800) 272-3900.*

*Thank you,  
Brother/Companion Mark S. Chapman,  
WALK Team Captain (434) 971-1332"*

## **The Grand Master's Official Open Visit To District 18**

When: Friday, 3 June 2011  
Where: Olivet Presbyterian Church  
2575 Garth Road  
Charlottesville, Virginia

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Please send your reservations to:

Piedmont Stella Lodge No. 50  
P. O. Box 271  
Stanardsville, VA 22973

Or

Lonnie E. Tuthill  
B. O. Box 1  
Stanardsville, VA 22973

Or you may give to Lonnie E. Tuthill or RW Hunter Birkhead

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

James K. Anas, May 4, 1970

Thomas M. Burruss, May 31, 1960

A. Clayton Coleman, Jr., May 2, 1977

George W. Estes, May 29, 1967

John D. Fisher, May 4, 1987

Harry B. Green, May 1, 1964

Wallace N. Harding, May 7, 1956

J. Leonard Hartman, May 5, 1959

Carl E. Hollar, Jr., May 17, 1974

Charles M. Johnson, III, May 2, 1995

Andrew D. Keller, May 28, 1997

Gordon M. Kingman, May 24, 1951

Yale S. Landsberg, May 25, 1977

Joseph L. Lane, May 4, 1981

John R. Leavell, May 30, 2001

Robert J. Mariano, May 10, 2004

Ahmed Nafei, May 24, 2010

William N. Park, May 16, 1995

Earl L. Scruggs, May 31, 1960

James E. Shifflett, May 5, 1986

Ray W. Sites, May 23, 1966

Campbell Snowberger, May 6, 1968

Paul H. Wood, May 1, 1961

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

*Join the Officers and Degree  
Team as a new Masons is  
Raised to the Sublime Degree  
of Master Mason.*

*Mark you calendar for Thurs-  
day, May 5, beginning at 6:30  
p.m.*



The District Education Officer, Rt. Wor. J. F. Dickerson was invited to the East by the Worshipful Master whereupon Bro. Dickerson presented to the Lodge on behalf of Bro. T. C. Dickerson, III, cassette recordings on English Freemasonry. The Worshipful Master thanked Bro. J. F. Dickerson and will put these recordings in our lodge library for the brethren to borrow. He also gave brief remarks to the brethren on "Why do Masons Attend Lodge?" He reminded the brethren that our lodge will be hosting a Bring A Friend Night on April 21<sup>st</sup> and encouraged us to share our fraternity with them.



April Masonic Birthdays recognized. L-R: Andy Keller, WM; Bobby Cameron, 36 years; Matt Stimart, 2 years; Harlan Phelps, 34 years.

## Drawing on the Floor, Julian Rees Looks at the Development of Lodge Tracing Boards

Every lodge in the English Constitution has a tracing board for each of the three degrees. What is their point? Do they actually add anything to our study of Masonic symbols and allegories? Would the lessons imparted by each of the three degree ceremonies be any less complete without the tracing boards?

This is a complex question; on one level, it is true that we can learn all that the ritual book teaches without such visual aids. On another level however, the tracing boards contain clues; clues about aspects of the teachings of the three degrees that are not evident in the words of today's printed ritual.

We have to remember that the printing of clear text rituals is a fairly modern practice. There are signs that in the days when the ritual had to be learned from an oral tradition, much more was imparted to the student. This is the only way we can explain why, for instance, the Grand Principles on which masonry is founded, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, are only communicated to the Entered Apprentice when he learns the questions leading from the first to the second degree – they are mentioned nowhere at all in the first degree.

In London, 1762, an exposé of Freemasonry entitled *Jachin and Boaz* was published in which the following passage appears:

He [the candidate] is also learnt the Step, or how to advance to the Master upon the Drawing on the Floor, which in some Lodges resembles the grand Building, termed a Mosaic Palace, and is described with the utmost Exactness. They also draw other Figures, one of which is called the Laced Tuft, and the other the Throne beset with Stars ...

In some Lodges, the new-made Member is obliged to take a Mop out of a Pail of Water, and wash the Drawing on the Floor out, which puts him in some Confusion, and creates great Mirth among Brethren. In other words, they were exceedingly careful that the images they drew on the floor of the lodge should not be seen by the profane world.

From the middle of the eighteenth century in England the designs were being reproduced on floor-cloths, as it was becoming too laborious to wash away the design every time the lodge was closed. These practices were being copied on the continent, in France, Germany and Austria in the form of lodge cloths or carpets. A later exposure showing a French lodge at work was reproduced in an engraving, showing the Brethren ranged on either side of a floor cloth with symbols depicted on it.

Very few boards dating from before 1800 have survived, but after that year the names of certain English designers come to the fore, including John Cole, whose engravings appeared in 1801, and John Browne, the author of the famous *Master Key* (1798), who designed a set of boards in full color in about 1800.

With the advent of boards designed by Josiah Bowring, a portrait painter, we see an attempt to produce aesthetically pleasing boards, employing perspective, and to include more detail than his predecessors. Bowring's boards certainly raised the standard of those who came after him. Of these, by far the most accomplished was John Harris, whose prolific output leaves us sets of boards designed in 1820, 1825, 1845 and 1849. It was Harris' boards of 1845 which won for him a competition launched by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement in that year. These boards, 6 by 3 feet in size, are still in use by the lodge today.



Continental European lodges often have lodge carpets rather than rigid boards. Pilgrim Lodge, No. 238, in London, which has worked in the German language since 1779, uses such a carpet. Since the reestablishment of Freemasonry in countries previously under communism, lodges have been busy designing carpets in the twenty-first century idiom leading to a flowering of Masonic art. We see lodge carpets woven in Germany with vibrant colors and attention to detail which have pushed out the boundaries of the eighteenth and nineteenth century designs we are used to in England. We see boards designed by the Hungarian artist Ferec Sebök in which a form of Art Deco becomes transmuted in an almost surreal manner.

In the United States tracing boards are no longer used except in those lodges working English rituals, but there are some splendid examples of very elaborate and intricate painted boards and cloths which are now mostly the property of museums.

Freemasonry, after all, is about rendering in symbol and allegory that which words alone cannot express. And a visual image gives us a way of using our own insight to de-code the message. The tracing boards are there to do just that – from their original function of laying out the plan of the building, they have developed into a means for us to lay out the message, and then to profit by it.

The photo to the left is a copy of WSL floor cloth purchased in 1800.

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

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## DATED MATERIAL PLEASE PROCESS

### Hiram's Journal



Wor. David Simpson introduced AHIP (Albemarle Housing Improvement Program) to the lodge. WSL is becoming involved with by providing volunteer help to AHIP in rehabilitating homes for those that do not have the resources to do it themselves. AHIP is one of central Virginia's oldest, most effective and most respected non-profit housing organizations.

Since 1976, AHIP has worked to ensure safe and decent housing for our low-income neighbors. AHIP has assisted more than 3,500 people—thousands of households from close-in city streets to far-flung rural hollows—with housing rehabilitations, emergency repairs, a variety of support services and affordable rental units.

WSL will be providing volunteers to complete the following tasks: Helping construct brand-new houses; Installing laminate and wood flooring; Landscaping and repair projects at Park's Edge Apartments; Tearing off and putting up new siding; Installing windows and doors; Building a handicap access ramp; Making mobile home repairs; Roofing; Interior and exterior house painting; and Painting and repairing a trailer roof.

Please contact the WM, Andy Keller or Wor. David Simpson if you would like to assist in this worthy volunteer effort. Please volunteer NOW.