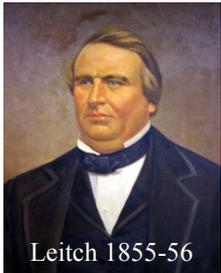
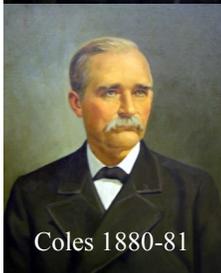


*Grand Master's
From
Widow's Sons'
No. 60*



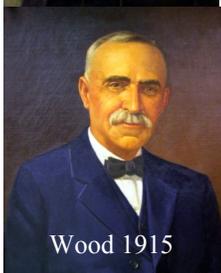
Leitch 1855-56



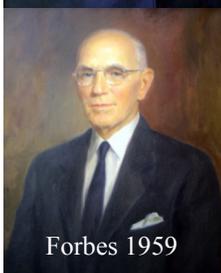
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60
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HIRAM'S JOURNAL

Stated Communication October 17, 2011



Message From The East... This month our Grand Junior Deacon RW Reese Edward Carroll, Jr will be with us to present the program for the Stated. Topic of his program will be Conflict in Masonry.

We currently have members who have not paid their 2011 dues. Please check your dues card and to see if it has dues paid through December 31, 2011. If not please send your check or get in touch with the Secretary to discuss any problem you may have with paying.

Wor. Ruedi Honegger who is from Libertas et Concordia Lodge No 11 in Chur, Switzerland presented an interesting talk at the September Stated on the differences in the Lodges between the USA and Switzerland.



L-R: Andy Keller, Ruedi Honegger and Hans Steiner

If any member is interested in one of the Lodge shirts I still have some and they are \$20 each. Please contact me.

Please remember to bring food for the Blue Ridge Food Barrels located next to the elevator on the first floor. They will also take checks made out to Blue Ridge Food Bank.

The Grand Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Virginia will be held in Richmond on Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th. If you are planning on attending please let me know so we put together a car pool.

Yours in Masonry,

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



Brother Honegger presented the lodge with plaque from Switzerland

The walk to end Alzheimer's was a success by all measures. The Team Captain reported that \$3000 was raised by the Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter members.

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

Everett S. Boggs, 10/24/1946
 Mark S. Chapman, 10/1/2007
 Anselmo Villagran Chua, 10/30/2010
 Richard D. Cook, 10/28/1974
 Harry D. Cooke, 10/24/1961
 Jay L. Cotner, 10/4/1989
 Gilbert W. Durrer, 10/23/1967
 James F. Ewing, 10/12/1996
 Mike D. Griffin, 10/30/1996
 D. Mitchell Hofecker, 10/16/1993
 Charles M. Long, 10/25/1976
 Charles E. Nunnally, Sr., 10/20/1967
 Charles E. Reinhold, 10/28/1998
 George P. Scouras, 10/9/1953
 Thomas L. Shelton, 10/30/1962
 Robert E. Simpson, 10/15/1965
 Clyde D. Snoddy, Jr., 10/19/1996
 Russel G. Snodgrass, 10/25/1976
 J. Seth Spivey, III, 10/28/1985
 Lindsay L. Spradlin, 10/25/1982
 Robert E. Stark, 10/8/1975
 Hans-Ulrich Steiner, 10/1/2007
 Donald Stoneburner, 10/15/1949
 Howard K. Trail, 10/19/1996
 J. H. VanderHorn, 10/28/1964
 Harry L. Walker, Jr., 10/3/2003
 James C. Wood, 10/15/1996
 John D. Zero, 10/28/1991

For the third time (2010), Widow's Sons' Lodge has received the John Powers Stokes Award. The award is given to lodges that contribute at least \$25.00 per member to the Masonic Home of Virginia.

Pictured L-R: Andy Keller, WM; David Goodwin, Lodge Masonic Home Ambassador; and Russ Snodgrass, District Masonic Home Ambassador.

Important Dates in 2011

October 8th, All Masonic Family Day, Masonic Home
 November 11th & 12th, Grand Lodge in Richmond
 November 11th, Delegate Banquet, \$35.00 prepaid in advance through the Grand Lodge Office
 November 12th, Grand Master's Ball, \$25.00 prepaid in advance through the Grand Lodge Office



The WM recognized the brethren with Masonic birthdays in September. Pictured L-R: Andy Keller; Tom Hill, 3 years; Philip Nelson, 12 years; Jim Dickerson, 16 years; Carlos McReddie, 27 years; and Jason Pattison, 1 year.



THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THE PRODUCT, BUT...

By Jack Riddell, Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54

At typical stated meetings of most Masonic Lodges, we might optimistically expect that fifteen percent of the members might be present. But where are the other eighty-five percent of those members? The answer to this question is not intended to be facetious; rather it represents a pragmatic view of a most serious problem slowly diminishing the vitality of our Fraternity and restricting its ability to function effectively. Those absent Brothers, the other eight-five percent are, except perhaps because of illness or job related activities, some other place that they would rather be. They are allocating their precious time to other activities more attractive, more interesting than lodge meetings.

We are living in a dynamic age, intensely competitive, an age of almost limitless demands on our time. We have become inundated with requests and opportunities to serve and to participate in a variety of such activities as scouting, charitable work, civic associations, little leagues, chambers of commerce, service clubs, churches, recreation associations, fraternal organizations, political campaigns—and the list goes on. Competition for our time and attention has become insatiable and even the most energetic, the supermen of our generation, couldn't possibly respond to more than just a few of these activities. We are thus faced with this perplexing dilemma: since we cannot accommodate all of the demands for our time, we are forced to either consciously or subconsciously develop priorities. We must determine what we will do with our time. This selecting process, not surprisingly, leads us to choose those activities that have the strongest appeal, those that are the most interesting, that offer some intellectual challenges. Attendance statistics dramatically confirm that Freemasonry today is just not competing effectively for the time and attention of many of its members. It is clearly evident that the Mason's obligation to regularly attend the meetings of his Lodge is being compromised by the unyielding reality of contemporary society.

It is inherently risky to suggest simplistic remedies for problems involving human emotions and the psychology of decision making. But correcting poor attendance is surely not a formidable task, nor does it require some intriguingly complex formula. We can reverse this trend, we can stem this exodus, and we can begin to increase attendance. HOW?—by simply recognizing the most conspicuous cause of poor attendance; the quality of our meetings which are often drab, colorless, and uninteresting. Programs rarely reflect any traces of individuality, freshness or creativity. It seems that we have developed a "Xerox Mentality"—we tend to copy almost everything. We copy programs, we copy speech and language characteristics of our Past Masters; the conduct of our meetings is frequently patterned after those of past years. We have even unwittingly adopted a sort of prefabricated vocabulary using almost identical words and expressions at most all of our meetings and in most Lodges. This often has the effect of a giant bromide lulling the Brethren into inattention and even to sleep if the meetings last too long. Our meetings have become quite predictable and we can, with uncanny accuracy, envision the content and conduct of the entire proceedings. There is no dark mystery why so many Masons avoid Lodge meetings.

It is not the intent of this article to persuade absentee Masons to return to their lodges; simple rhetorical phrases couldn't accomplish this objective. Rather, this article is to suggest to our Grand and Subordinate Lodge Officers that Freemasonry is a product, a most valuable product which regrettably is not always being attractively presented. Meetings are the means of packaging Freemasonry and presenting it to our members. These packages require no bright ribbon or tinsel. They do however demand; originality, enthusiasm, variety. Packages must be fresh and original, not merely copies and retreads. Officers should project their own styles and personalities, conduct meetings enthusiastically and forget all of the prefabrications and clichés, the stale and overused vocabularies—the bromides that invariably induce inattention or sleep. Above all, remember, that except where ritual requires it, we are not bound by tradition—even protocol, while useful and desirable, is not etched in granite. That interval between the opening and closing ceremonies is indeed precious. It provides a brief window of opportunity to present Freemasonry intelligently, enthusiastically, and with originality and style.

There's nothing wrong with the product; we merely need to spruce up and enhance the package.

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

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Hiram's Journal



RW Reese Edward Carroll, Jr. Grand Junior Deacon October 2011 Speaker

Reese Edward Carroll, Jr. was born on November 9, 1945, in Buckingham, Virginia and was educated in the public schools of Buckingham County. After graduation from Buckingham County High School, he joined the United States Air Force, where he was a teletype and crypto technician serving in Viet Nam. He was discharged in 1969 with the rank of Staff Sergeant. He worked for the Xerox Corporation, where he held several technical and management positions and was responsible for Xerox service in the Charlottesville, Roanoke, and western Virginia areas. He retired after thirty-four years of service.

Brother Carroll was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on May 12, 1992, in Buckingham Lodge No. 242. He is a Life Member in Perpetuity and served as its Worshipful Master in 1996, 1997, and 1998 and currently serves as Treasurer. He is also a member of George Lodge No. 32. He was District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 17 in 2005. He was Grand Marshal in 2009 and is currently the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Rio do Sul, Brasil, near Virginia.

He is a member of the Valleys of Lynchburg and Richmond, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. He is a member of Arvonian Royal Arch Chapter No. 64, ACCA Shrine Center and a member of the ACCA Mini Patrol, where he served as Director in 2002 and 2006 and Commander in 2005. Also, he is a member of the Shriners Hospital Transportation Team. He is a member of Richmond Court No. 16, Royal Order of Jesters, and Fork Union Chapter No. 111, Order of the Eastern Star. He holds life membership in James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners, and Post 8446, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Brother Carroll is married to the former Mary Inez Ashley. They have two sons, Michael Edward Carroll and Mark Daniel Carroll, both of whom are Life Members in Perpetuity in Buckingham Lodge No. 242 and reside in Charlottesville. Brother Carroll and his wife are active members of Mulberry Grove Baptist Church in Buckingham, Virginia.