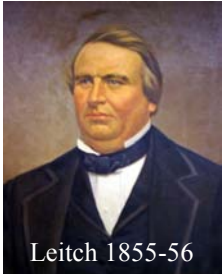
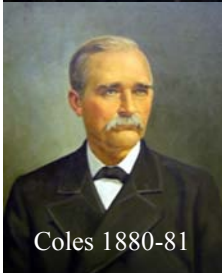


*Grand Master's
From
Widow's Sons'
No. 60*



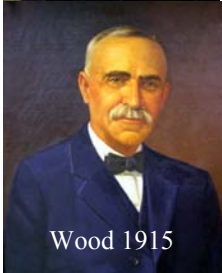
Leitch 1855-56



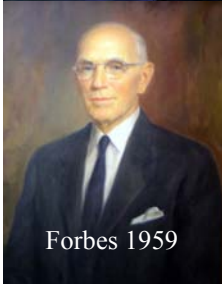
Coles 1880-81



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 December 17, 2012

[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Website](#)

[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Facebook Page](#)



Dear Brethren,
Time marches on, and for me this is my last newsletter. I've thoroughly enjoyed helping our lodge continue moving forward this year. We have a great group of officers who will

take the helm during our December Stated meeting. Please give them your support and encouragement. Telling someone how much you appreciate their effort is fuel for the fire.

We had a great November Stated meeting. Each officer moved up a chair and did a superb job. Our Senior Warden, Brother Tom Hill, lead the lodge from the East. I appreciate his efforts and look forward to his official year in the East. I also want to thank RW Baskerville for his program on Veteran's Day. Brother Bill is a great supporter of our lodge and our District.

I also want to thank the Bond family, RW Bill Bond and his lovely wife, Tracy, for their outstanding efforts supporting "Toys for Tots". Reflecting true Masonic charity, Tracy asked for "children's toys" during her birthday celebration this year, and her friends and family came through with boxes of toys. I am so proud of this Masonic family.

Finally, I want to give a big "shout-out" to RW Dickerson and his kitchen helpers, Brother's Bob Romanac, David Simpson and Pete Leone. The oyster stew was the best I've ever had, and the pinto beans were as tasty as ever. RW Dickerson has been a great help to me and our lodge this year. Well done, Brother Jim.

A few announcements:

We have a new Grand Master, Most Worshipful Louis Kerford Campbell. His theme this year: *Masonry's Youth, Masonry's Future*.

We received our new 2013 District Deputy Grand Master in the East, RW Peter Roland Thorsen, Jr. Please continue to support RW Thorsen and our Masonic District.

Our Secretary, Brother Mark Chapman, received his very own Scottish Master Mason's apron from several of the lodge brethren. His many efforts over the years on behalf of our lodge are greatly appreciated. We're fortunate to have Brother Mark in our ranks.

Please keep our sick and shut-in brethren in your thoughts. RW Keller organizes a monthly visit. Please let him know if you would like to assist with the visits.

We need a new editor for *Hiram's Journal*. RW Simpson is retiring after many years of managing the lodge newsletter. Brother Bob, thanks for your service. If you're interested in helping with the newsletter, please contact our SW, Brother Tom Hill (tomhill302@comcast.net or 434-465-9388).

And as always, please don't hesitate to contact me or our Secretary if you need assistance: MGriffin@TGBlaw.com, 434-981-5428 and Brother Mark Chapman, agw123@earthlink.net, 434-971-1332.

Fraternally and with great affection for all,
Bro. Mike Griffin, WM

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

Stephen R. Baird, 12/6/1993
 William L. Bickley, 12/6/1955
 Stephen R. Christianson, 12/8/2010
 W. Kirk Crady, 12/14/1994
 T. C. Dickerson, III, 12/6/1966
 Charles B. Goddin, 12/6/1960
 Michael A. Hayden, 12/5/1972
 David M. Kashmer, 12/12/2005
 Jason P. Lynch, 12/7/2006
 Virgil H. Marshall, 12/1/1952
 Walter D. Marshall, 12/27/1963
 Robert A. Murray, 12/10/1999
 William R. Nay, 12/17/1992
 James W. North, Sr., 12/5/1963
 James E. Patterson, III, 12/4/2007
 Steven E. Price, 12/7/2006
 Jonathan M. Shelton, 12/7/2006
 Charles A. Via, 12/6/1966
 Brian S. Weidman, 12/4/2007

Merry Christmas



Happy Chanukah



A Masonic Christmas Card

Clayton L. Wright

*Twas the Night before Christmas,
 And down at the lodge Not a gavel was stirring,
 And in the hodge podge Of aprons and jewels
 And chairs East and West You could savour the silence,
 Most gladly divest All metal and mineral,
 It mattered not, Since Christmas was nigh
 And the coals were still hot In the hearth of your home place,
 All Masons abed, As visions of trestleboards
 Danced in their head;
 When up on the roof there arose such a clatter
 Our Tyler jumped up to see what was the matter!
 He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,
 Three knocks shook the panels - he wondered "What for?"
 He answered the knocking with raps of his own,
 And once the door opened he saw, with a moan
 Of delight, it was Santa, all jolly and red
 Except for one notable feature instead!
 Upon his large finger he wore what we knew
 Was compass and square on a background of blue!
 "Why Santa!" he shouted and lowered his blade,
 "I see you're a Mason!" the Tyler relayed.
 He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair
 And said, voice near trembling, "Most Worshipful there
 Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!"
 The Master replied, "Let's allow him - but wait!
 You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see
 His apron beneath that red suit. Can it be
 Our visitor hasn't been properly raised?
 Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?"
 "I do beg your pardon," ol' Santa said quick
 As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick
 But a cane with engraving, two balls did appear
 And oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear!
 Adorned like the Master's, complete with a sign
 Of "Lodge Number One, the North Pole" on one line!
 "Now let this man enter," the Master declared,
 And once in the Lodge room, the Brethren all stared,
 For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen
 For many a century - there in between
 The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar
 Gleamed two golden reindeer that shone like a dollar!
 "It's Donner and Blitzen, who I must confess
 Are actually images brought from the West
 By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!"
 And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled
 An ear of fine corn, and some oil from the East,
 "My friend I have plenty. Tonight we will feast
 On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!"
 A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir,
 As presents and promises flew from his sack!
 This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack
 For making this Christmas the best you could glean,
 And soon even Deacons were laughing. They'd seen
 On this very night only happiness reigned!
 This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained
 That only a Mason could be so inclined
 To make all kids happy, make all people find
 A Christmas so special. Yes, Santa was right!
 Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!*

2013 Virginia Masonic Membership Directory

It will be a handy reference and a great resource for anyone in any type of leadership position. The current directory will be six years old and essentially obsolete due to changes in records during those years. The grand lodge has selected the same company, Harris Connect, to produce the new directory. In the past, Harris Connect, has proven reputable, reliable and good to work with.

The 2013 edition will be larger, slicker, in color, with more pictures and information, a product that will benefit from improved technologies for the last six years. Members will be listed alphabetically, by lodge, by community, by occupation. Each Mason will have a chance to supplement their listing to include spouse and even children's names, membership in other Masonic organizations, offices held, spouse's and even children's membership in other Masonic organizations.

This is just to let you know about the project and that it is coming in a few months. Harris Connect will first send out a card asking you to call them on a toll free number. If you do not respond, they will call you. Please know, that this program is all on the "up and up", that it is not a con, that it is approved by the Grand Lodge and that your information will not be stolen or sold.

Please do not call the grand lodge or the grand secretary with questions of its legitimacy. Harris Connect is the name of the company and it is ok to talk to them. You are not required to participate or buy anything but we hope you will. You can participate without buying anything, augmenting their information. If you opt to purchase a directory, you will find it to be a handsome and useful book, one you will be proud to own.

Harris Connect takes all the risk. The Grand Lodge can make some money but it cannot lose any. Any money made will go to charity: to the Outreach Fund of the Masonic Home—the charity with the potential to aid distressed Masons and their families from all over the Commonwealth.

Post cards and phone calls from Harris Connect should begin in January. We hope this brief message will help you to understand the program and know it is coming.

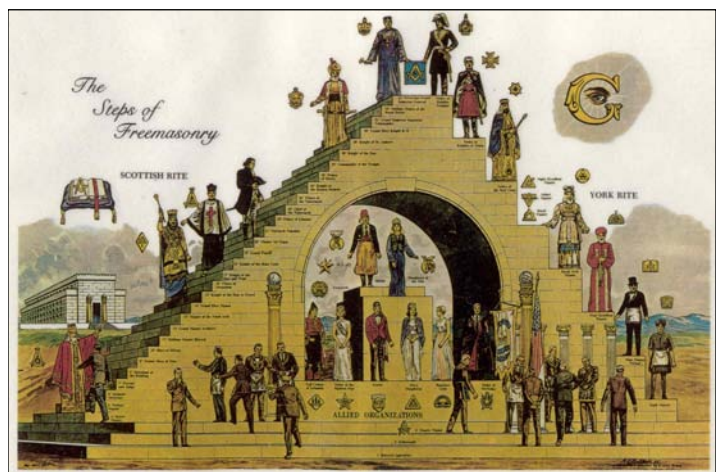
MASONIC RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

By DONALD F. YOUNG

1. To attend Lodge as often as I can.
2. To **not** leave my "Masonry" in the Lodge Room.
3. To make my Lodge a better Lodge in whatever way I can.
4. To support the Worshipful Master and the Officers of my Lodge in their plans and programs for the Lodge.
5. To serve my Lodge in whatever capacity I am able.
6. To give my full support to all of the Masonic youth groups.
7. To witness the conferral of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason's Degrees once each year.
8. To give whatever help I can to my Brethren who are in need of physical or financial assistance.
9. To visit two Lodges, other than my own, at least once each year.
10. To actively demonstrate a concern for those Brethren who are hospitalized, or who cannot attend Lodge functions.
11. To improve my knowledge of the Craft's principles, symbolism, and ritual by reading at least one book each year on Freemasonry.
12. To always remember that to some people—both friends and strangers—what I say and do is their sole basis for whatever opinion they will hold of Freemasonry.



Pictured at left, Brother Christopher Allan Ruffin who was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on October 18th. He is employed at the UVA Hospital.

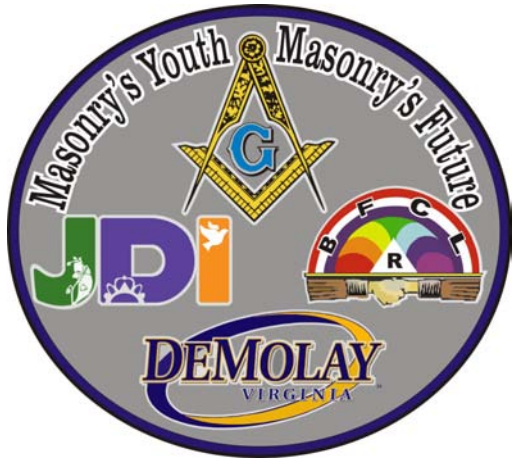


Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
A.F.&A.M.
P. O. Box 6262
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Grand Master Campbell's Logo

DATED MATERIAL PLEASE PROCESS

Hiram's Journal



Special recognition!

At the November 2012 stated communication, the Lodge Secretary, Brother Mark Chapman, was presented with a Scottish Apron from the Lodge for his dedication to community service and faithful service to the Lodge as Secretary.

Congratulations, Brother Mark Chapman!