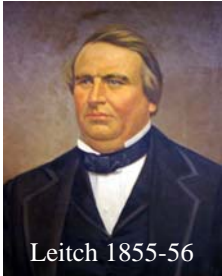


*Grand Master's
From
Widow's Sons'
No. 60*

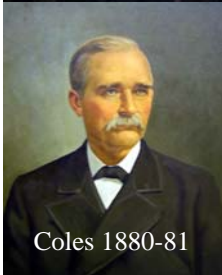
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.
CHARTERED DECEMBER 10TH, AD 1799, AL 5799

HIRAM'S JOURNAL

Stated Communication February 20, 2012



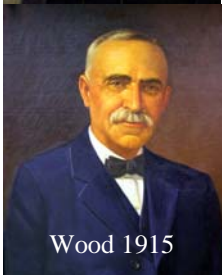
Leitch 1855-56



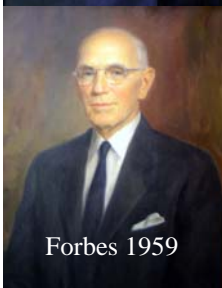
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009



Brethren,

What a great start to 2012. Brother Mark Chapman delivered a very insightful program during our January Stated, and the Stewards provided excellent refreshments afterwards. A lot of good Masonry took place that night. I also want to thank the officers and others who contributed on behalf of our lodge last month. Your efforts make a difference. Consider the following comment from one of our Widows, *"Many thanks for the birthday violet. It is a daily reminder of those Bill held so dear."*

And to top off the month, our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Ellison made his Official Visit to our District. I want to congratulate RW Mike Hollar on an outstanding night. The food was delicious, the fellowship most enjoyable and

the Grand Master's message timely. I also want to give a "shout-out" to the other District Worshipful Masters who occupied chairs. Well done.

Two important announcements: (1) Our DDGM, RW Hollar, will be making his Office Visit to our Lodge this month, and (2) Lodge scholarship applications have been delivered to our area High School counselors. For those who live outside our area, you can contact our Secretary for a copy of the scholarship application if you have a family member who wants to be considered.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me or our Secretary if you need assistance (MGriffin@TGBLaw.com, 434-981-5428; agw123@earthlink.net, 434-971-1332.)

Fraternally – Bro. Mike Griffin, WM



The WM thanked RW Russ Snodgrass for sharing several humorous stories that were enjoyed by all.

**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
Michael A. Haas, 2/12/1979
George G. Hocker, 2/3/1999
Nathan M. Hoffman, 2/26/1964
Lewis A. Martin, III, 2/21/1979
Donald H. Misner, 2/26/1957
Timothy P. O'Brien, 2/24/1994
Hollis T. Proffitt, 2/23/1954
William F. Reinhold, 2/23/1973
Edgar S. Robb, 2/8/1966
Kirk D. Soderlund, 2/15/2011
Oakley C. Straley, 2/4/1966
Thomas F. Wilson, 2/15/2011



The WM recognized two out of state visitors at the January stated. Pictured L-R: Wor. Eric Gosse, Maitland Lodge No. 33, Goderich, Ontario, Canada; Mike Griffin; and Bro. Clancy Coonrad, Morning Star Lodge No. 524, Marellus, New York.



Important Dates



March 16, 2012, DLC, Tinkling Springs Presbyterian Church. Registration 6:30 p.m.

March 7, 14, 15, C. A. Whitted Area Ritual School, Scottsville Lodge No. 45

March 24, Richard E. Loving Area Ritual School, Culpeper, 9:00 am

**Robert R. Kennedy, Jr.
Area Masonic School
18th & 19th Masonic Districts
Lee Lodge No. 209, Waynesboro**

April 13th, 7:00 p.m.

Entered Apprentice Degree,
Team from the 19th Masonic District

April 14th, 9:00 a.m.

Fellow Craft Degree,
Team from the 18th Masonic District

Master Mason Degree,
Team from the 18th and 19th Masonic Districts

Let us work together and make this school a lasting memory to Mt. Wor. Robert R. Kennedy, Jr.



DDGM Mike Hollar (L), GM Terry Ellison (R)

THE TRADITIONS

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that the fraternity is, above all else, an initiatic order whose main purpose is to teach good men to subdue their passions, become masters over themselves, and grow in life to be better men.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that only those who are duly and truly prepared are eligible to be admitted as members. In keeping with the Masonic statement "to make good men better," a man should only be initiated into a lodge if he is already good and capable of being made better. Determining the qualifications of men in seeking admission is an essential aspect of upholding the integrity of our ancient institution.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that its ceremonies should be conducted with the utmost reverence and solemnity. Masonic ritual ceremonies should always be performed in a solemn and dignified manner. All efforts pertaining to the presentation of the degrees of Craft Freemasonry should be focused on the candidate, providing each with the most profound and transformative initiatic experience possible.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that every Mason should be desirous to learn and apt to teach. Sufficient time between degrees should be given to each candidate so as to enhance his self-transformation through personal intellectual study, reflection and contemplation. It is incumbent on every lodge to be aware of the progressive nature of its teaching curriculum, and to provide its candidates with a ritual coach and the mentorship of well-informed brethren.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that each candidate should demonstrate his proficiency in learning at each individual stage or degree before he can be advanced to the next stage. Traditionally, Masonic learning includes a demonstration of the candidate's understanding of the journey from darkness to light, ignorance to knowledge; and his insight into the uses and applications of Masonic symbols, allegories and myths introduced by the ritual ceremonies. The aspirant should be able to articulate to his lodge brethren some positive changes in his character and demeanor as he advances in his understanding and proficiency. Every newly raised Master Mason should feel that he has grown intellectually and spiritually by his Masonic experience.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that members of Masonic Lodges should be actively engaged in Freemasonry. Historically, attendance at Masonic meetings and functions was mandatory, with fines paid for absences not excused by the lodge. Active participation in the business and purposes of Masonry by a large majority of those who belong is essential to the growth and vitality of a lodge, and in carrying out its role in improving society.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that Masons come together to seek fellowship and fraternity in a common pursuit of virtue and moral improvement. This has historically best been accomplished in small and intimate gatherings of fraternal association. Lodges should be large enough to be efficient, but small enough for all the brethren of the lodge to closely know each other. Fraternal ties must always be stronger than social ties. Masonic relationships are expected to be forged between members in the same way a brother grows close to a sibling.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that, through the exercise of genuine brotherly love, men become better enabled to regard humankind as one family. Charity, being the chief of all social virtues, encumbers Masons to aid, support and protect each other, relieve the distress and misfortune of family members, and consciously contribute to the betterment of society at large.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that Lodges should make regular time for feasting, communal dining, and embracing the social enjoyment of their members. Holding an Agape or Festive Board after meetings has long been a traditional element of Masonic evenings. Table Lodges and Feasts of St. John offer opportunities to observe this important Masonic tradition with the larger Masonic community. The fellowship of men is best embraced in the convivial environs of sociability.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that its formal and tyled assemblies should be dedicated to the attainment of a deeper knowledge and understanding of Freemasonry by all members. To this end, the presentation of lectures, poetry, and music; discussions of the arts, philosophy, and history; and the interpretation of symbols, allegories and myths of Masonic ritual all play an important role in furthering the aims and growth of a Masonic lodge and its members. Each tyled meeting should be devoted, at least in part, to the realization of this profound purpose.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that only the ablest among us should serve in an office of Masonry. Serving in a Masonic office is a privilege and not a right. Officers of Masonic lodges should be elected and appointed based solely on their merit. Officers who are invited to progress in the offices of Masonry should be able to demonstrate their qualifications to lead and execute the duties of their office.

It is a tradition of Freemasonry that the Master of a Masonic Lodge must be well versed in Masonic teachings and traditions; be a proven leader of men; possess a character worthy of respect; and be the kind of man who cultivates in all his undertakings the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Above all, the most important tradition of a Freemason is self improvement. The improvement of the individual is the most fundamental aspect of improving society. Thus, the most important tradition of Freemasonry is societal improvement made manifest through the best efforts and examples of its members.

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

1799—2012
The 213th Year of Service to the
Charlottesville Community and beyond.
"Freemasonry, a way of life"

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LINKS

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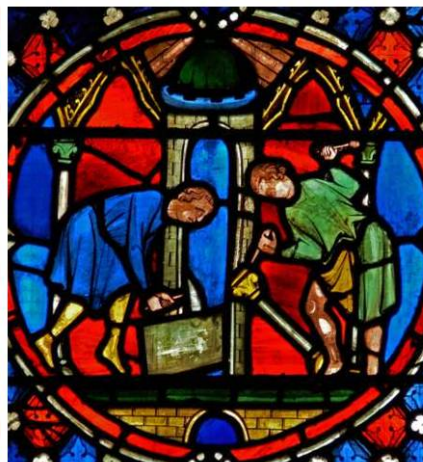


DATED MATERIAL PLEASE PROCESS

[Hiram's Journal](#)

Clermont Ferrand Cathedral, France 13th - 14th Century Stained Glass Windows

Images of Stone Masons Working



The Secretary, Bro. Mark Chapman was the speaker at the January stated communication. His topic was "The Gothic Stained Glass Guild's Influence on Freemasonry." Pictured at right, Mike Griffin and Mark Chapman.