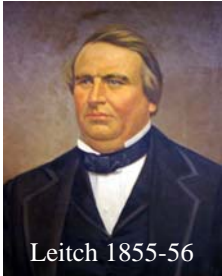
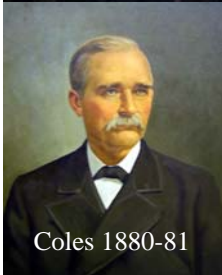


HIRAM'S JOURNAL

Stated Communication March 19, 2012



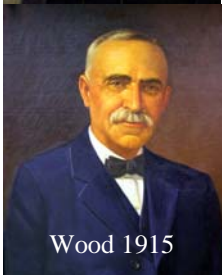
Leitch 1855-56



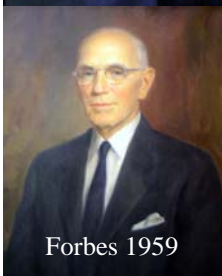
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009



Brethren,

I want to thank everyone who supported our lodge last month. There was a lot of activity going on behind the scene: (1) The Flower commit-

tee was busy delivering birthday flowers to our Widows, (2) The Masonic Corp was continuing progress on upgrading/cleaning our Temple, (3) The Charitable Corp was fine tuning our investments to ensure scholarships and other endeavors will continue to be funded into the future, (4) The Scholarship committee was delivering applications to our area high schools, (5) our Degree Teams were initiating new candidates, (6) our members were saying "farewell" to departed brethren in our ancient manner, and there was the constant work being conducted by our lodge officers and Past Masters.

I'm truly humbled by the efforts of our brethren – men who quietly go about their duties without thought of reward or glory. May the Great Architect bless all of our lodge members.

Please plan to attend our March Stated. You'll enjoy the fellowship and have a chance to visit with our first chaplain. I think it's been a while since he's been to lodge. March will also include our Division Leadership Conference and the C. A. Whitted Area Ritual School. Details are published in the "Important Dates" section of the newsletter.

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

Fraternally, Bro. Mike Griffin, WM

French Legion of Honor



On February 15, 2012, at the French Embassy in Washington, DC, Brother Carl D. "Chubby"

Proffitt was

presented the Knights Badge of the French Legion of Honor by the French government.. Brother Proffitt landed with Company K of the 116th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division, that landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944. For his actions that day, he was awarded the U. S. Army Distinguished Service Cross.

The French award, the "Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur", was created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte. The order is generally although not exclusively awarded for military service. It is the highest decoration bestowed by the France.

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

William F. Baskerville, 3/4/1985

Richard L. Bradley, 3/25/1986

Anthony Z. Cole, 3/31/1980

Gregory J. Cooley, 3/4/1975

William J. Douglas, 3/24/1976

J. Stevens Hall, 3/25/1966

Mark J. Hall, 3/22/1999

Kerry L. Harlow, 3/23/1987

John R. Healey, 3/30/2005

Walter A. Hedzik, 3/7/1977

Dale W. Horton, 3/26/2003

John L. James, 3/9/1965

Christopher R. Kintner, 3/30/2009

Clifford N. Miller, 3/24/1969

Bernard A. Newcombe, 3/18/1950

Michael T. Rose, 3/26/1997

Donald L. Shelton, 3/26/1951

Bruce Thompson, Jr., 3/6/1954

Bland M. Wade, 3/14/1960

F. E. Wellman, 3/10/2004

In Memoriam

The lodge was saddened at the death of **Brother James Almarin Nottingham** on February 7, 2012. in the 95th year of his life. He was made a Master Mason on November 15, 1949 having received the degrees in Lodge No. 1025, New York. Bro. Nottingham was elected to membership in Charlottesville Lodge No. 55 on January 10, 1966, which consolidated with No. 60 on January 1, 1990. He was an Honorary Member of Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60. Masonic Rites were conducted on February 10th.

Also, **Brother James Francis Ewing** who died on January 30, 2012 in the 76th year of his life. He was made a Master Mason in Widow's Sons' Lodge on October 12, 1996.

Important Dates in 2012



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

Breakfast is being served by the Eastern Star in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 8:00 am.



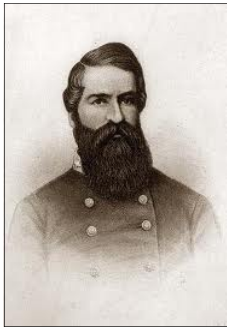
The WM recognized those with Masonic Birthdays in February, the following were present. WM Griffin; Fred Hoffman, 48 years; Bill Reinhold, 39 years; DDGM Hollar.



The Charlottesville-Albemarle area escaped many of the large Civil War engagements that were ever so common in Virginia. However, despite the lack of any major battlefield, the area has a strong narrative pertaining to the Civil War.

Within the borders of Albemarle County, the Confederate war effort was aided with a large contingent of enlistees, the production of uniforms, the production of some sword weaponry and the manufacture of artificial limbs.

Recognizing the central location of Charlottesville with its two major rail lines, the Confederate authorities established a hospital in Charlottesville to tend to the war wounded. This hospital opened in July 1861, just in time to receive the wounded by railroad from the 1st Battle of Manassas. Treating nearly 23,000 patients during the course of the war, the deceased soldiers were laid to rest in a cemetery that still sits within the grounds of the University of Virginia. Just south of Charlottesville, Scottsville was the site of a hospital from 1862-1863 and still houses a Confederate cemetery.



On June 6, 1862, General and Brother Turner Ashby was killed. His horse was shot from under him and a bullet pierced his heart. Brother Ashby's body was moved by train to Charlottesville, where a delegation from Widow's Sons' Lodge met the train. Masonic Rites were offer, but the officers accompanying the remains declined the offer. Brother Ashby was buried at the Confederate Cemetery at the University of Virginia on June 7, 1862. Four years later, his remains were disinterred and taken to Winchester, where it was to find its final rest in the Stonewall Cemetery, October 25, 1866 with Masonic Rites while 10,000 people looked on.

While Confederate forces were in and around the area, sometimes using Charlottesville-Albemarle to establish winter camps, the first incursion of Union forces occurred in February 1864 when a cavalry raid was directed toward Charlottesville with 1500 men under the command of Union General George A. Custer. This raid resulted in the Battle of Rio Hill. Mistaking the true strength of the Confederate presence, Custer decided to withdraw after initially capturing a Confederate encampment.

The second incursion occurred with just a month left before the end of the war. Union General Philip H. Sheridan along with Custer, made a raid through Albemarle County in March 1865. In this raid, they accepted the surrender of Charlottesville and proceeded with the destruction of mills, major bridges, and railroads leading in and out of the city. Further actions included the disruption of the James River Canal and the destruction of industry along the canal.



Pictured L-R: Confederate Monument at University of Virginia Cemetery; Robert E. Lee Statue in Lee Park; and Stonewall Jackson Statue in Jackson Park

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

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Hiram's Journal



Visiting WM's received. Pictured L-R: WM Griffin; Bill Baskerville, WM of King Solomon's No. 194; Allan Anderson, WM of Piedmont Stella No. 50; and DDGM Hollar.



MW Jeffery E. Hodges, pictured right, was received in the east. Also pictured, WM Griffin, and DDGM Hollar.